

# MEDIA RELEASE

Melbourne  
Fringe



15 September 2011

## A Donkey and a Parrot

**A family's survival. A donkey's pilgrimage. A parrot's flight.**

**A Donkey and a Parrot is an epic tale of escape, secret plots, swashbuckling adventure, dizzy first love, negotiations, potions and humanity. In this one woman show directed by Justine Campbell, Sarah Hamilton tells a family story that has been passed down for over 300 years. As part of the Fringe Hub, this lyrical play comes to life in the intimate setting of Upstairs at Errol's.**

As a child, Sarah was told the story of her French ancestors' escape to England. Gobsnacked by their bravery, she wondered what she would have done to escape from terrifying soldiers hunting her down. Recent investigations into these childhood stories revealed a thickened plot, curly and delicious. A Donkey and a Parrot is the result of generations of family members passing down what they have known, heard, read and imagined.

Sarah Hamilton studied Acting at the University of Ballarat Arts Academy. Theatre credits as an actor include Oasis, Oasis at fortyfivedownstairs and The Killing Fever at La Mama, both written and directed by Adam Cass. She played Princess Di in the Ridiculusmus reading of Goodbye Princess at La Mama. This year she performed in Brighter Whiter/The Gift by Anthony Noack (Melbourne International Comedy Festival). Sarah's development of A Donkey and a Parrot is supported by Fringe's Outside Eye program. She is working under the mentorship of Ansuya Nathan (A Porthole into the Minds of the Vanquished, Long Live the King).

Justine Campbell is a graduate of the VCA Directing Program. Recent projects as director include: Simone De Beauvoir (Stork), Back From The Dead Red (Writ/Dir Melbourne Fringe 2010), The Possibilities (Directors Collective: Sidetrack Theatre, Sydney), Gulf War (VCA), Any Body's Cool (MIEACT), Breathing Corpses (Co Dir: The Street), Mad Forest (VCA Assistant Dir: Dir Tanya Gerstle), The Drowsy Chaperone (Directorial Attachment MTC Dir: Simon Phillips). Justine was awarded the 2010 Green Room Award for Best Female Performer Independent for her role as Lady Jane in "The Fate of Franklin" (Four Larks).

### A Donkey and a Parrot

#### VENUE

Fringe Hub - Errol's Cafe Upstairs  
69-71 Errol St  
North Melbourne, Victoria 3051

DATES: 23-25 Sept and 27-30 Sept  
TIME: Sept 23-25, 27-30, 7.15pm, Sun 6.15pm  
Oct 1-2, 4-8, 7.45pm, Sun 6.45pm (55min)

#### TICKETS

Full: \$18.00  
Concession: \$14.00  
Tightarse Tuesday: \$12.00  
Group: \$16.00  
TO BOOK visit [melbournefringe.com.au](http://melbournefringe.com.au) or call (03) 9660 9666

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