But, soft, what light through yonder window breaks? It is the east, and Juliet is the sun.

Romeo and Juliet (Romeo, Act 2 Scene 1)



24/04/2018-05/04/2018 STRATFORD, VICTORIA

To develop an interactive town walking trail using mainly existing paths and infrastructure to provide a means of festival rediscovery for locals and encourage visitors to dwell and take time to appreciate the creative art and festival culture of our fascinating town.

The submission deadline is Wednesday 11 April 2018 so it's time to get working - remember it's "better a witty fool than a foolish whit"
-William Shakespeare.

Launched in 2014, the Shakespeare on the River short story competition is dedicated to one of the festival's longest standing members and inaugural judge to the competition: Sheila Malady, who sadly

judge to the competition: Sh died in September that year.

For more information on Faire Day, head to our dedicated Faire Day page at http://www.stratfordshakespeare.com.au/faire-day

EVENT HAPPENING ON HOBSON ST, STRATFORD 06/05/2018 @ 10am-3pm FREE EVENT

EVENT HAPPENING AT THE STRATFORD COURT-House & Segue Gallery

21/04/2018 @ 6pm FREE EVENT

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For more information on entry rules and how submit a piece, please refer to our website.

STRATFORD ARTS TRAIL

The idea for this came from a task set in a writing group - write a short story inspired by one of the plays written by Shakespeare. And why not? Shakespeare's plays have been adapted, re-envisioned, and re-cast throughout time. Characters dearly beloved can take on a new life in the hands of another writer; likewise as time old tales can be staged in a modern context. At its heart, this competition is about celebrating and breathing new life into the works of Shakespeare by inviting writers to send us

Evensong at the Holy Trinity Church is a Shake-speare on the River Festival tradition. Come along and celebrate this ecumenical service with us.

TRADITIONAL EVENSONG

EARE'S BIRTHDAY

SHAKESPEARE'S BII Party in the park

EVENT HAPPENING AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, 25 McFarlane ST, Stratford 22/04/2018 @ 4pm Free Event

Children of all ages are invited to Stratford's Medieval Apex Park for a Shakespearean Birthday Bash. Come and support Stratford's Courthouse Kids as they perform snippets of some of Shakespeare's most famous plays. Activities will include games, puzzles, a scavenger hunt and of course a giant birthday cake.

EVENT HAPPENING AT APEX PARK 22/04/2018 @ 10am FREE EVENT

The official opening of the 2018 Art Exhibition will be held on Saturday 21st April at 6pm. Please invite friends and family to join you at the opening.

THE SHEILA MALADY SHORT STORY COMPETITION "FOR THE LOVE OF SHAKESPEARE"

A grand variety of traditional arts and crafts, food and beverages, fresh produce, together with exhibitions, lost trade displays, theatre, kids games and workshops.

Come and celebrate the opening of our 2018 Shakespeare on the River Festival with us at the Stratford Courthouse Theatre and Segue Gallery. Enjoy the opening of the 2018 Art Exhibition 'The Tempest', live performances, the announcement of the 2018 Sheila Malady Short Story Competition winners, and the presentation of the 2018 Janice Jones Youth Award.

MEDIEVAL FAIRE DAY & MAKERS MARKET

OFFICIAL FESTIVAL OPENING

By forming this trail, we are uniting many community groups through story, song, history, art, drama and nature whilst simultaneously giving our festival an interactive presence 365 days of the year. This trail is a central link in moving the festival through the town helping incorporate local businesses during the festival.

Competition in 2018 are now yet available. Head to our website to learn more about entering and to read previous winners entries.

At the beginning of your walk you will be given a complementary map/postcard and rented an MP4 to narrate your walk through town. Your walk can be commentated through either Artist statements, Theatrical Drama, Music, Story, or History:

At the begin

2018 ART EXHIBITION "THE TEMPEST"

depending on your preference.

The possibilities are truly endless for the 2018 Stratford Shakespeare on the River festival Art Exhibition. This Exhibition is open to artists of all styles and mediums and is now in its 8th year with growing momentum. The past years have seen works by renowned and upcoming artists with a people choice award and opportunity to sell your works during one of Stratford's busiest months.

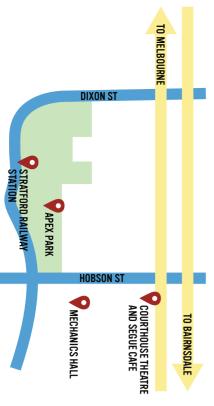
TO BUY TICKETS AND GET MORE INFORMATION ON THE

FESTIVAL, GO TO:

http://www.stratfordshakespeare.com.au

For more information, please visit our website or enquire at the Stratford on the River Caravan Park or Shakespeare's Segue Cafe.

take you on a culturally engaging journey back in time.



community, professional theatre and the broader arts scene.

from around the region, and guest professional companies will

of Stratford, The Festival management team, the best artists being performed over a two-and-a-half week period. The people

The Festival has grown to include over twenty different events

28/04/2018

"The Bard's Banquet" Under The Sea

neal, the great Shakespe Ye Olde Rusty Rockers

"The Tempest" Com

unity Play

Courthouse Theatre

5:00pm

Adult:\$25, Con.:\$15

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	-	COURTHOUSE THEATRE AND SEGUE CAFE	

ur annual Shakespeare On The River Festival runs each April/May in Stratford, Australia. The festival has created an enduring arts legacy for Stratford that showcases

27/04/2018

"The Tempest" Community Play

23/04/2018

"Completely Improvised Shakespeare" Soothplayers

Courthouse Theatre

7:30pm

Adult:\$25, Con.:\$15

Courthouse Theatre

7:30pm

Adult:\$25, Con.:\$15

22/04/2018

"Comedy of Errors" Groundwork Youth Theatre Shakespeare's Birthday Party in the Park "Comedy of Errors" Groundwork Youth Theatre

Traditional Evensong

21/04/2018

Official Festival Opening Event

Stratford Courthouse & Segue Arts

Café & Gallery

VENUE

TIME

PRICE

Courthouse Theatre

Courthouse Theatre **Holy Trinity Church**

4:30pm

Free \$15 Free

Apex Park

10:00am

1:00pm

8:00pm

\$15

6:00pm

DATE

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06/05/2018 05/05/2018 04/05/2018 03/05/2018 01/05/2018 29/04/2018

PERFORMANCES

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OTHER

Medieval Faire Day & Makers Market Family day with faire games, children's acting workshops live music and food

"Shakespeare in Therapy" 24 Carrot Productions

"The Tempest" Comm

nunity Play

"Romeo & Juliet" Combined Schools Grade 6 Play

"The Tempest" Con

unity Play

Courthouse Theatre

7:30pm

Adult:\$25, Con.:\$15

Mechanics Hall

6:00pm

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Mechanics Hall

2:00pm

Adult:\$25, Con.:\$15

"Romeo & Juliet" Combined Schools Grade 6 Play "Romeo & Juliet" Combined Schools Grade 6 Play

"Vocal Nosh" Led by Eva Gruden

"The Tempest" Cor

unity Play

Courthouse Theatre

7:30pm

Adult:\$25, Con.:\$15

Mechanics Hall Mechanics Hall

1:30pm 1:30pm

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Mechanics Hall

12:00pm

\$15

Mechanics Hall

7:00pm

\$55

"Shakespeare in Therapy" 24 Carrot Productions

Mechanics Hall

2:00pm

Adult:\$25, Con.:\$15

Hobson Street

10:00am-

7:30pm

Adult:\$25, Con.:\$15

www.stratfordshakespeare.com.au

PERFORMANCES

COMEDY OF ERRORS"

Antiopholus and Dromio travel where another servant called Dromio tells Antipholus he has to be home for dinner, he beats up the second Dromio. Another Antipholus then beats up the first Dromio for being a snarky back chat. Then Antipholus goes to dinner with his wife and takes Dromio (the first one that the second Antipholus beat up) Did I mention they are all twin brothers? Confused yet? Come along to "The Comedy of Errors". You'll be treated to hilarious confusion, slapstick humour, cross dressing and the occasional fart joke all set in the Wild Wort

DIRECTED BY LAUREN REID https://www.facebook.com/gr

SHOWING AT COURTHOUSE THEATRE 21/04/2018 @ 8pm, 22/04/2018 @ 1pm ALL TICKETS \$15

THE TEMPEST"

For Prospero, Time does not heal all wounds.

After being usurped as the Duke of Milan by his brother, Prospero and his daughter Miranda found refuge in a small harsh and exotic land. Twelve years later, with the arrival of some unexpected shipwrecked visitors, Prospero is ripe for

The time has come to settle an age old grudge so Prospero magics up a storm - an array of mystical events causing havoc. Meanwhile, a love-at-first-sight romance blossoms between his island-raised daughter and King Alonso's son Ferdinand - an unfortunate island captor. The past meets the present with Gonzalo, the former Duke's trusted

companion who helped him escape a decade earlier, finding himself shipwrecked on the island with the King of Naples and his party. A tale of revenge, forgiveness, mutiny and magic ensues. Love, in the end, restoring the wrongs of the past.

DIRECTED BY JOANNE WATT

SHOWING AT COURTHOUSE THEATRE 27/04/2018 @ 7.30pm, 28/04/2018 @ 5pm, 03/04/2018 @ 7.30pm, 04/04/2018 @ 7.30pm, 05/04/2018 @ 7.30pm ADULT TICKETS: \$25, CONCESSION TICKETS: \$15

ROMEO AND JULIET" Combined Schools Grade 6 Play

Two schools both alike in dignity. In fair Verona where we set our scene. Stratford Primary School and St Patrick's Primary School invite you all to Verona's party of the year. Expect the unexpected; Brawling, Brides and Bloodshed.

Host: The Capulets
Place: Capulet mansion (Stratford Mechanics Hall)

PS: If you are a Montague do not bother

SHOWING AT THE MECHANICS HALL 01/05/2018 @ 1.30pm, 03/05/2018 1.30pm, 04/05/2018 @ 6pm ALL TICKETS \$5 DIRECTED BY RACHAEL NICHOLLS

SHAKESPEARE IN THERAPY" 24 Carrot Productions

the after-life group therapy session for people who have been traumatised by their playwright. There will be tears, tantrums and some insight as Desdemona, Romeo, Ophelia and others process their feelings and actions. Death might be the end of the story for many Shakespearean characters, but it doesn't mean the end of their emotional baggage. Welcome to

Join them for instant coffee, cheap name tags, and

SHOWING AT THE MECHANICS HALL "It's about time these people got to work out some of their issues." - SHARMINI KUMAR (Writer/Director)

05/05/2018 @ 2pm, 06/05/2018 @ 2pm ADULT TICKETS: \$25, CONCESSION TICKETS: \$15

THE BARD'S BANQUET: Under The Sea"

A long standing festival tradition; revellers come together to eat, drink, be merry and be entertained. We know festival goers love the chance to dress up, so we want you to embrace our seafaring theme. From the sailors of The Tempest, to pirates of Pericles and shipwrecked twins aplenty The Bard gives ample inspiration. From media show us your fanciest costumes yet From medieval to modern

The night will also herald the return of another Shakespeare on the River Festival tradition - The Great Shakespearean Debate. Two teams featuring local, well known personalities will attempt to persuade and sway your opinion in a Shakespearean inspired debate. With Ye Olde Rusty Rockers to fill the dancefloor and The Bards Bar selling local craft

'COMPLETELEY IMPROVISED SHAKSPEARE" Soothplayers

Soothplayers improvise a hilarious Shakespearean play from nothing but a suggested title from the audience. No plans. No scripts. They guarantee you will laugh or your money back. Really!

Comedy? Tragedy? History? Soothplayers can do it all, completely on the spot! Did you hate Shakespeare in school? Prepare thyself. The show is fast-paced and action-packed, promising laughs and gasps for Bard lovers and haters alike. The cast includes members of Melbourne's premier improvisation troupes, including The Improv Conspiracy, Impro Melbourne, The Big Hoo-Haal, and Impromptunes.

SHOWING AT COURTHOUSE THEATRE 23/04/2018 @ 7:30pm Adult Tickets: \$25, concession tickets: \$15

beer and wines, it is a night not to be missed. Book early for this popular event.

HELD AT THE MECHANICS HALL 28/04/2018 @ 7:30pm ALL TICKETS \$55

"VOCAL NOSH" Led by Eva Gruden

Come for an afternoon of soup and song led by Bruthen local Eva Grunden. This is a popular event for those who love to sing. It is a warm and welcoming place for those who are yet to find their voice! Please book as it is a catered event.

AT THE MECHANICS HALL 30/04/2018 @ 12pm ALL TICKETS \$15