

MEDIA RELEASE

THE
COURT
THEATRE

10 April 2019

For immediate release

[Hedwig and the Angry Inch](#)

Text by John Cameron Mitchell

Music and lyrics by Stephen Trask

11 May – 1 June 2019

The Court Theatre's mainstage

Show Sponsor: Harmans Lawyers

Short show description:

Described as “the best rock musical ever” by *Rolling Stone*, *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* is a four-time Tony Award winner making its New Zealand premiere at The Court Theatre. A darkly humorous tale about sacrifice, identity and love in all its form, this electrifying, glam-rock musical shouldn't be missed.

BROADWAY HIT MAKES ITS NEW ZEALAND DEBUT AT THE COURT THEATRE

IN-BRIEF:

Broadway hit and four-time Tony Award winner *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* is coming to The Court Theatre this May, with leading lady Hedwig bringing her incredible band – and collection of wigs – with her.

Coming to New Zealand for the very first time, this electrifying production, called “the best rock musical ever,” by *Rolling Stone*, follows ‘international ignored song stylist’ Hedwig as she tells her personal history of sacrifice and struggle – and her botched sex-change operation - against a glam-rock soundtrack reminiscent of David Bowie and Iggy Pop.

“Hedwig is taking over The Court Theatre with her punk/glam-rock cabaret,” says director Michael Lee Porter.

Known as being one of the toughest musical theatre roles in existence, New York based Australian actor Adam Rennie is taking on the challenge of portraying Hedwig, an opportunity that he calls a dream come true. Joining Rennie on-stage is co-star Phoebe Hurst (*That Bloody Woman*) and a group of four musicians making up the Angry Inch band.

Porter and musical director Luke Di Somma are creating a dynamic, exciting and irreverent musical that offers one hell of a night out.

Audiences can expect a show-stopping production, complete with awe-inspiring costumes and thrilling effects – but Hedwig's story is what gives the production so much heart.

Principal Sponsor



Core Funder



Season Sponsor



The Court Theatre

PO Box 268

Christchurch 8140

New Zealand

Email: admin@courtheatre.org.nz

www.courtheatre.org.nz

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“It’s not every day a musical comes along that resonates with so many different people on so many different levels,” says Porter. “It’s an honour to be representing the LGBTQIA community with this beautifully tragic, strong willed and talented genderqueer character telling us her story.”

Hedwig and the Angry Inch runs at The Court Theatre from the 11 May – 1 June.

IN-DEPTH:

Broadway hit and four-time Tony Award winner *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* is coming to The Court Theatre this May, with leading lady Hedwig bringing her incredible band – and collection of wigs – with her.

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“Hedwig is taking over The Court Theatre with her punk/glam-rock cabaret,” says director Michael Lee Porter.

Porter and musical director Luke Di Somma are creating a dynamic, exciting and irreverent musical that offers Canterbury audiences one hell of a night out.

Di Somma, who was one of the co-creators of national musical hit, *That Bloody Woman* says, “If you liked *That Bloody Woman*, you’ll be in for a great time with *Hedwig!*”

New York based Australian actor Adam Rennie is taking on the challenge of portraying Hedwig, known as being one of the toughest musical theatre roles in existence and an opportunity that he calls a dream come true. Rennie is best known for his role in the 2018 Australian production of *The Rocky Horror Show*, when he saved the day by taking on the role of Frank N Furter after just one day’s notice.

“Adam is going to blow Christchurch away,” says Di Somma.

Rennie has been preparing for months with accent and dialect coaching, make-up trials and, of course, getting ready to stomp around stage in Hedwig’s iconic high heels!

“What I find most striking about Hedwig is how relatable she is,” says Rennie. “The show is a high octane, rock concert, led by a punk rock goddess who has had a botched sex change operation, but you also get to spend a very raw evening with a human who is craving connection. Through all the humour and bravado, you fall in love with her. You want to see her win. The explosion of empathy for a character so unlike the audience is what I love the most.”

Joining Rennie on-stage is co-star Phoebe Hurst (*That Bloody Woman*), playing Hedwig’s husband, Croatian immigrant and ex-drag queen, Yitzhak.

A group of four musicians will be joining the duo to complete the Angry Inch band and bring this renowned story to life.

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Rennie, in bringing this beloved character to life, feels a real responsibility in his portrayal of Hedwig. “For me, if people leave the theatre thinking about how different & strange a character Hedwig is - even if they love her - I haven’t done my job. I want the audience to see how much they have in common with her and see themselves underneath the glitter and makeup.”

Hedwig and the Angry Inch runs at The Court Theatre from the 11 May – 1 June.

Cast

Hedwig [Adam Rennie](#)
Yitzhak [Phoebe Hurst](#)

Band

Drums/Asst. Musical Director [Cameron Burnett](#)
Guitar 1 [Tim Heeringa](#)
Guitar 2/Keys [Tyler Robbins](#)
Bass [Emily Farrell](#)

Creatives

Director [Michael Lee Porter](#)
Musical Director [Luke Di Somma](#)
Set Designer [Julian Southgate](#)
Costume Designer [Stephen Robertson](#)
Lighting Designer/Operator [Giles Tanner](#)
Sound Designer/Operator Tane Hipango
AV Designer [Andrew Todd](#)
Stage Manager [Erica Browne](#)
Assistant Stage Manager [Scott Leighton](#)

Ticket Prices

Adult	\$55 - \$63
Senior (65+)	\$48 - \$56
Child	\$26 - \$30
Group (6+)	\$48 - \$53
Supporter	\$46 - \$54

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30 Below (limited numbers)

\$30

Show Times

- Monday & Thursday 6:30pm
- Tue/Wed/Fri/Sa 7:30pm
- Forum 6:30pm Monday 13 May
Discuss the play with cast & creative team after the performance
- Matinee 2:00pm Saturday 25 May

Bookings: phone 03 963 0870 or visit www.courttheatre.org.nz

Images can be found at The Court Theatre's [Media Centre](#)

For more information or to arrange an interview please contact:

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