

# MEDIA RELEASE

THE  
COURT  
THEATRE

8 April 2019

For immediate release

[Open House Festival](#)

10 – 27 April 2019

The Court Theatre's mainstage

## FESTIVAL OF COMEDY, MUSIC AND DRAMA COMES TO THE COURT THEATRE THIS APRIL

Kicking off with sold-out comedy fundraiser *Stand Up for Peace*, The Court Theatre is hosting a festival packed full of laughter, theatre and music; bringing some of New Zealand's best talent together in Canterbury.

"The *Open House Festival* is an opportunity for The Court Theatre, which usually operates as a producing house, to open its doors to acts around the country," says Acting Artistic Director Dan Bain.

Starting on the 10<sup>th</sup> April, the *Open House Festival* will showcase a generous heaping of comedy, music and drama, including hilarious shows from Billy T James nominee Li'i Alaimoana (*SeriousLi'i?*); Fred Award winner Rhys Mathewson (*I've Heard He's Good*); an innovative hour of poetry, jokes and storytelling from My Accomplice (*Uther Dean Reads 300 Haiku*) and Chris Parker's award-winning comedy *Camp Binch*. There will also be some very special showings of *Scared Scriptless* throughout the festival, starting with two early performance on the 12 & 13<sup>th</sup> April (*Scared Scriptless: Better Bedtimes*), followed by themed performances at the show's usual late-night running time of 10:15pm.

Musical highlights in the festival include a showcase of songs highlighting women's contribution to Broadway (*Bechdel Test: An Evening of Women in Theatre*) created by local theatre company, Blackboard Theatre Collective, and Ali Harper's popular one-woman show, *Legendary Divas*. Harper's show, which has travelled around the country, will donate all profits to St John Ambulance for this one-off event.

For those looking for a bit of drama, The Court will be hosting a free rehearsed reading of Aroha Awarau's glitzy comedy *Luncheon*, with Pasifika drama *Matai*, which performed to sold-out audiences in the 2017 Christchurch Arts Festival, returning for one night only in the last week of the festival.

For most performances, BASE @ The Court will be operating their popular wood-fired pizza oven, with The Court's bar open and serving drinks.

Principal Sponsor



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The Court Theatre

PO Box 268

Christchurch 8140

New Zealand

Email: [admin@courtheatre.org.nz](mailto:admin@courtheatre.org.nz)

[www.courtheatre.org.nz](http://www.courtheatre.org.nz)

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“It’s really exciting to have new artists in the building,” says Bain. “I think Court audiences will really love the opportunity to see these different style acts in the theatre that they know and love.”

[You can find more information on the full Open House Festival line-up here](#)

## Ticket Prices

All tickets \$16 - \$40

## Show Times

- Stand Up for Peace 10 April, 7:30pm
- Scared Scriptless: Better Bedtimes 12 & 13 April, 7:30pm
- Special Scared Scriptless 12 & 13 April, 10:15pm
- Fresh Ink: Luncheon 14 April, 4pm
- Bechdel Test: An Evening of Women in Theatre 16 April, 7:30pm
- Li’i Alaimoana: Seriousli’i? 18 April, 6:30pm
- Rhys Mathewson: I’ve Heard He’s Good 18 April, 8:00pm
- Scared Scriptless 20 April, 10:15pm
- Matai 24 April, 6:30pm
- Uther Dean Reads 300 Haiku 24 April, 8:00pm
- Camp Binch 26 April, 7:30pm
- Scared Scriptless 26 & 27 April, 10:15pm
- Legendary Divas 27 April, 7:30pm

Bookings: phone 03 963 0870 or visit [courttheatre.org.nz](http://courttheatre.org.nz)

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

For more information please contact:

Mally Goldberg, Marketing Manager

The Court Theatre, 03 963 0884

[mally.goldberg@courttheatre.org.nz](mailto:mally.goldberg@courttheatre.org.nz)

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