

# LA MAMA'S BANKSIA FESTIVAL CALL TO CREATIVES

## ***Epicormic***

*for La Mama, by Andy Jackson*

When the ashen news descends, your mind  
throws you back to the staircase – you're leaning  
stunned against the wall, black with seasons of paint.  
The flames have taken even the sweat and breath  
that seeped into the old bones of the theatre.

O bones, our world...

The ruins underfoot, the smoke in the air, remind  
you there are things that fire can't reach – meaning,  
lines, images, held as light in our bones. So that faint  
acid smell you can't escape is not, in fact, death,  
but one of the raw materials with which you'll rebuild.

O world, our bones...

After fire, the Banksia flower comes back stronger and more beautiful than ever. Inspired by the theme 'Rebirth', La Mama's BANKSIA FESTIVAL seeks artists to welcome, commemorate and celebrate the return of our iconic home.

In 2018 La Mama Theatre was ravaged by fire; a devastating and profoundly sad moment for our community of supporters, audience, artists, and staff. With the richest of histories spanning more than half a century, this was an enormous blow to both the past and the future of La Mama. Undaunted, however, and after an extraordinary effort of camaraderie, hard work, fundraising efforts and lobbying, we raised our goal of \$3.2 million to rebuild our beloved La Mama.

From 21 – 24 October 2021 La Mama Theatre will reopen her doors to her friends, supporters, audiences, allies, new and old theatre-goers, artists, hecklers, patrons and regulars. We are so ready to bring you performances of every imaginable shape and size, created by all kinds of artists, for all kinds of audiences. La Mama will be back, and she will be bigger, stronger and more accessible than ever. She will re-open with BANKSIA FESTIVAL.

# DO YOU HAVE A GREAT IDEA FOR LA MAMA'S BANKSIA FESTIVAL 2021?

BANKSIA FESTIVAL will be a free to attend, four-day celebration to mark the reopening of La Mama on Faraday Street, an institution of the Australian cultural landscape and a safe and welcoming environment for all. This is a festival for young and old, for the uninitiated and the seasoned. Celebrating creativity in all its possibilities and people from all walks of life, we are inviting expressions of interest from the diversity of artists that our community represents.

This is a call to creatives to submit proposals to the BANKSIA FESTIVAL 2021. If you're a director, actor, performance artist, animator, musician, dancer, artisan, production company or creative contemplator, La Mama wants you to share your creative brilliance! Do you work with children? Or lead a community group? Are you still at school, ready to dive in or have you been sitting on an idea for decades? Does the reinstated trapdoor excite you? Or the brand-new lift provoke? We want to hear from you!

The theme is Rebirth, and we hope this will inspire artists working across all mediums to create an experience unlike anything we've seen before, and which launches the new La Mama right back into the very core of the most exciting work happening throughout Australia's cultural landscape.

Performers and creatives are free to propose works across all disciplines, including: performances, dance, live music, visual and site-specific art, film, multi-media and interactive, light, animation, workshops as well as ideas and talks.

## HOW TO APPLY FOR BANKSIA FESTIVAL:

Read and ponder the poem *Epicormic*, by Andy Jackson.

Consider the theme 'Rebirth.'

Explore the Rebuild La Mama design: <https://lamama.com.au/rebuild-la-mama/>

Consider whether your idea fits best in the theatre, or in one of the many other nooks and crannies throughout the exciting new design.

Write a concept proposal.

Include text/images/sound/support material as inspires.

Include any needs you have to realise your vision. This might include materials, personnel, rehearsal space, etc.

Include an artist CV/biography and anything else which will give us an idea of your previous work.

Submit your concept to Caitlin Dullard: [caitlin@lamama.com.au](mailto:caitlin@lamama.com.au).

A Production Budget will be awarded to each creative individual or team.

The Banksia Festival is planned for 21 – 24 October 2021.

## DEADLINE FOR PROPOSALS: MONDAY 5TH APRIL, 2021

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