We are delighted to present our Access programme for ANZFA the 2024 Aotearoa New Zealand Festival2024.

We recognise the many gifts that diversity brings, how it enhances our mahi when we are able to include more people in what we do, when we really come together to experience art.

We are working hard to listen more closely to and consult with our d/Deaf, Disabled and neurodiverse communities to make sure we are taking the right steps, in the right direction. We are working with our partners, our performers and producers, and our audiences to let them know why we are enthusiastic about access and how we can work together to create more accessible events across our Festival.

This year, we have shows which are Audio Described and shows which are NZSL interpreted. We have created an easy-to-read grid for shows to let audiences know the sensory content, giving them the information to decide whether a show is accessible to them or not. We have also created short walkthrough ﬁlms of our main venues, to allow you to see where shows are happening and what to expect when you get to a venue. All this will be available on our website by mid- January.

We welcome feedback on what we are doing well, and what more we could be doing as we continue our journey to realise the ideal. Access is an ongoing process; when we know better, we can do better.

Nā tō rourou nā taku rourou ka ora ai te iwi

Good to know…

Most access tickets are $20

If an event has a lower ticket price, the lower price will apply. Some shows have higher, fixed ticket prices. Contact us for more information.

Companion tickets are free, although they are limited and subject to availability for some events.

email access@festival.nz phone 04 473 0149

to buy your access tickets or to discuss your access requirements

Hearing loops are available at

Michael Fowler Centre and TSB Arena and St James Theatre

If you would like a large print word document of this programme, or our full Festival programme, contact us to request a copy, or download it directly from our website.

Full details are available at festival.nz/access

ACKNOWLEDGE EXTERNAL PARTNERS

Arts Access Aotearoa

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Theresa Cooper- Deaf Consultant.

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# CROSSING THRESHOLDS

Crossing Thresholds is a day to enjoy extraordinary art created by disabled and neurodiverse artists, relax and chill in our sensory friendly spaces, and hang out with friends and whānau at the new, purpose built Tāwhiri warehouse in Newtown.

Everyone is welcome and it is free to attend.

SHADOW

Sun 10 Mar, 2.30pm Close captioned

Duration 1 hr

AD preshow notes available online

Based on Back to Back Theatre’s award winning stage production, Shadow blends ﬁction and documentary elements to tell the story of a group of activists who hold a public meeting only to discover their own prejudices are their biggest obstacles in creating change. With 95% of the cast identifying as having a disability and a crew made up of mentored interns with disabilities, the ﬁlm’s themes and philosophical approach to creation are intrinsically linked.

THE AIR BETWEEN US

A captivating outdoor aerial dance event performed mid-air. From diverse backgrounds and life experiences, critically acclaimed choreographer Chloe Loftus and multi-award-winning Māori artist Rodney Bell (Ngāti Maniopoto)- who performs in his wheelchair- explore our innate capacity to exist in symbiotic harmony with each other and our environment.

Sun 10 Mar, 2.30pm Duration 20 mins Audio Described

Accessible without NZSL

JUNGLE BOOK REIMAGINED

Akram Khan Company

Experience this timeless tale like never before, as one of the most innovative dance companies in the world, Akram Khan Company (UK), travels to Aotearoa with their latest production: a thought provoking but magical retelling of Kipling’s much loved classic.

Jungle Book reimagined is a beautifully compelling and vital piece of storytelling about our need to belong and bond with others, and to connect with and respect our natural world.

AD Sat 24 Feb, 7pm. Touch Tour 6.15pm NZSL Sat 24 Feb, 1pm

Duration 2 hrs 10 mins (includes an interval)

St James Theatre

LOST LEAR

by Dan Colley

A moving and darkly comic interpretation of Shakespeare’s play, told from the point of view of Joy, a person with dementia who is living in an old memory of rehearsing King Lear.

Critically acclaimed Irish theatre maker Dan Colley’s visually stunning production uses puppetry, projection and live video to create multiple layers of Joy’s world as past and present, ﬁc<on and reality overlap and distort.

AD Sat 16 Mar, 7.30pm Touch Tour 6.45pm NZSL Fri 15 Mar, 7.30pm

Duration 1 hr 20 mins (no interval)

Tāwhiri Warehouse

THE SAVAGE COLONISER SHOW

by Tusiata Avia

FCC Theatre company is back, bringing to ferocious life Tusiata Avia’s book *The Savage Coloniser*, for which she became the ﬁrst female Pasiﬁka poet to win the Ockham Award for poetry. Under the artful direction of the equally formidable Anapela Polata’ivao, Avia’s unapologetic and clear eyed examination of race and racism, the colonised and the coloniser, is full of bold humour, courage and lacerating truths.

AD Sat 2 March, 4pm. Touch Tour 3.15pm Duration 1 hr 10 mins (no interval)

Circa 1

WITI’S WĀHINE

by Nancy Brunning

The extraordinary and much loved wāhine from Witi Ihimaera’s groundbreaking books are brought to life by a powerful cast in this theatrical masterpiece tenderly crafted by the late Nancy Brunning. Following adored seasons in its original iteration, this new production was conceived to bring Nancy Brunning’s ﬁnal work to the big stage.

AD Sat 2 Mar, 7pm. Touch Tour 6.15pm NZSL Fri 1 Mar, 7pm

Duration 1 hr 20 mins (no interval) St James Theatre.

TANIWHA TIME MACHINE

Dreamgirls Art Collective

Renowned for their ‘breathtaking and purposeful’ (*Ensemble*) artworks across Aotearoa, Dreamgirls Arts Collective will transform the Wellington Waterfront, bringing kōrero tuku iho

(stories of the past) of Ngake and Whātaitai to life in a way only they can- larger than life, burs<ng with colour, complete with a disco dance ﬂoor. And that’s not all- a sparkling phone booth created by cameo Dreamgirl Coco Solid (Ngāouhi/Samoa) beckons- lift the receiver, dial into the ‘Hotline to the Divine’ and see what happens… you could ﬁnd yourself connecting to a whole new dimension.

Audio Described walkthroughs will be available on

Sun 18 Feb 1-4pm

Sun 25 Feb 11am- 2pm Sat 2 Mar 2-5pm

The walkthrough should take about 15-20 minutes. Just turn up; not need to make a booking. When you arrive, mention that you would like an audio described tour through the space, and one of our trained volunteers will guide you through the Taniwhā Time Machine.

WHENUA

The New Zealand Dance Company

Celebrated indigenous artist Rodney Bell (Ngāti Maniapoto) and acclaimed choreographer and Creative Director of World of Wearable Art (WOW) Maria Johnston collaborate to create *Imprint*. Prepare to be entranced by their innovative choreography combined with captivating soundscape and design.

This new work will be paired with Eddie Elliot’s (Ngāti Maniapoto) *Uku- Behind the Canvas*, inspired by the Māori pūrākau (mythology of Hineahuone, the ﬁrst woman created by Tāne-Mahuta from clay).

AD Sat 9 Mar, 7.30 pm. Touch Tour 6.45pm Tāwhiri Warehouse

Duration 1hr 35 mins (includes an interval)

HOW TO READ MY POEM

NZSL Sat 24 Feb, 1.30pm Deluxe 2, The Embassy Duration 1 hr

Let four poets myth-bust their own work by showing you what their poems mean to them, why they were written, and how. This is a chance to delve deep into four recent collections and let the power of poetry set you up for life. With Tusiata Avia, Hannah Meter, Morgan Bach, Arihia Latham and our host, poet laureate Chris Tse.

ARTICULATING THE ARTIST: RUBY SOLLY WITH HENRIETTA BOLLINGER

NZSL Sun 25 Feb, 1pm

The Black Sparrow, The Embassy Duration 1 hr

How does art enrich our lives? What are the challenges? Can art change the world? Does the world change art? Friends and artists Ruby Solly (The Artist) and Henrietta Bollinger (Articulations) discuss the intricacies of moving through the world as artists, how the world impacts what they have to say, and why.

Accessible to blind/visually impaired patrons without Audio Description

Arooj Aftab

Thu 14 Mar, 8pm Michael Fowler Centre

Beyond Words Sat 9 Mar, 7.30pm

Michael Fowler Centre

Barton & Brodsky Fri 15 Mar, 7.30pm

Michael Fowler Centre

Bird Like Men (Tararua) Fri 1 Mar, 7.30pm, Māoriland Hub, Ōtaki

Hope- Soweto Gospel Choir, Wed 28 Feb, 6.30pm Michael Fowler Centre

Johnny Gandelsman Wed 6 Mar, 6.30pm St Mary of the Angels

Meow Meow’s Pandemonium Sat 24 Feb, 8pm

Michael Fowler Centre

Sounds of the Sanctuary

Sun 3 Mar, 7.30pm. Sun 10 Mar, 4pm. Rata Café, Zealandia

The King’s Singers (Songbirds) Wed 13 Mar, 6.30pm

Michael Fowler Centre

The National Sun 25 Feb, 8pm TSB Arena

Tim Minchin

Fri 8 and Sat 9 Mar, 8pm St James Theatre

Accessible TO D/Deaf and hard of hearing patrons without NZSL

Belle

Thu 14 - Sat 16 Mar, 7pm & Sun 17 Mar, 5pm St James Theatre

Whenua

Fri 8 and Sat 9 Mar, 7.30pm Tāwhiri Warehouse