

Sydney Theatre Company Presents

Lethal Indifference

By Anna Barnes

17 Feb to 10 Mar 2018. Opening Night: Thu 22 Feb at 8pm. Wharf 1 Theatre.

Lethal Indifference opens Sydney Theatre Company's Wharf 1 in February, bringing together three Australian rising stars – playwright Anna Barnes, director Jessica Arthur and actor Emily Barclay.

Told through a single actor, *Lethal Indifference* explores society's complicity in domestic violence – an issue which in Australia affects one in three women and sees one woman each week killed by their current or former partner.

However this play explores domestic violence beyond the statistics. Emily Barclay (ABC's *Please Like Me*) plays a young writer in Melbourne's inner suburbs who quits her day job in a clothing store to find something new, something with a stronger sense of purpose. She lands a role in public relations for a family violence legal service. She visits the coroner's court to hear the inquest into the death of a woman around the same age as her. As witnesses testify and the coroner's findings mount up, she leads us through the case's decisive turning points, drawing a portrait of how our institutions of justice can fail to protect vulnerable women.

Lethal Indifference will be Sydney Theatre Company Directing Associate Jessica Arthur's STC directing debut.

"I have always been drawn to plays that make a comment on society and hold a mirror up to themes and ideas that are usually shied away from," Jessica said. "This play is important because it shows that domestic violence does not discriminate, it can happen to anyone. It proves that even if you are ticking all the boxes to protect yourself, the system can still fail you. Too many women are dying, the statistics don't change and the cycle continues."

Lethal Indifference is one of three plays in the STC 2018 season which were developed through the STC Rough Drafts program along with *Still Point Turning: The Catherine McGregor Story* by Priscilla Jackman and *The Long Forgotten Dream* by H Lawrence Sumner. Rough Drafts are a week-long creative development which gives theatre-makers the opportunity to try out new ideas, new ways of working and new collaborations.

SYDNEY THEATRE COMPANY
THE WHARF
PIER 4 HICKSON ROAD
WALSH BAY NSW 2000
AUSTRALIA

PO BOX 777
MILLERS POINT NSW 2000
AUSTRALIA

BOX OFFICE
PHONE +61 (2) 9250 1777
FAX +61 (2) 9251 3687
BOXOFFICE@SYDNEYTHEATRE.COM.AU

ADMINISTRATION
PHONE +61 (2) 9250 1700

SYDNEYTHEATRE.COM.AU

#ENDS#

Director Jessica Arthur. **Designer** Mel Page. **Lighting Designer** Alexander Berlage. **Composer & Sound Designer** Clemence Williams.

With: Emily Barclay.

Pricing and ticket information:

2018 Season Tickets (packs of 6 - 14 plays) on sale now: Save at least 20% on full price single tickets, access the best available seats and get a lot of exclusive benefits all year.

Single ticket prices: Saturday evening \$60. Adult \$60. Seniors cardholder \$60. Concession \$60. Under 30 \$54. Preview \$54. Group bookings (10+ people) \$51

Insight events:

Pre-season Briefing: Mon 5 Feb 7pm Richard Wherrett Studio.

Night with the Actors: Mon 26 Feb post-show.

For more information: Katherine Stevenson (02 9250 1705 kstevenson@sydneytheatre.com.au) or Angelina Grien (02 9250 1703 agrien@sydneytheatre.com.au)

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