



Belvoir presents

The Dark Room

By **ANGELA BETZIEN**
Director **LETICIA CÁCERES**
Set & Costume Designer **MICHAEL HANKIN**
Lighting Designer **CHRISTOPHER PAGE**
Composer & Sound Designer
PETE GOODWIN (THE SWEATS)

With
BRENDAN COWELL
ANNA LISE PHILLIPS
BILLIE ROSE PRICHARD
LEAH PURCELL
BJORN STEWART
CAMERON STEWART

BELVOIR ST THEATRE | DOWNSTAIRS

3 NOVEMBER – 11 DECEMBER

SEASON EXTENDED DUE TO DEMAND

How do we protect the vulnerable? How do we support the people whose job it is to offer protection? And whose responsibility is it when the system fails? These are the central questions that drive **Angela Betzien's** tense and unsettling thriller *The Dark Room*.

Three narratives converge and intertwine in the same cheap motel room over the course of a year. Grace (**Billie Rose Prichard**) is a disturbed teenager in the care of Anni (**Leah Purcell**), a social worker. Constable Stephen Collins (**Brendan Cowell**) is taking his wife, Emma (**Anna Lise Phillips**), back to the hotel after his best mate's wedding. Craig (**Cameron Stewart**) is awaiting the inquest into a prisoner's death when he is visited by Joseph (**Bjorn Stewart**).

As these stories interweave and collide, dark mysteries are revealed, demons are faced, and six lost souls play out a small, distant tragedy of social breakdown.

Betzien is an internationally recognised writer for children and young people. Her play *Hoods* was awarded a 2007 **Australian Writers Guild Award for Theatre for Young Audiences** as well as the inaugural **Richard Wherrett Prize for Excellence in Playwriting**. Leticia Cáceres is an acclaimed theatre director who has worked extensively with **Queensland Theatre Company, La Boite** and **Sydney Opera House**. Betzien and Cáceres formed **Real TV** in 2000; their trademark work is a fusion of physical performance, electronic music and new writing. Real TV creates compelling work that deals with issues directly relevant to young people's experiences.

Betzien has a natural understanding of theatre's unique ability to tell multiple stories simultaneously – stories of complexity and emotional rawness. Cáceres realises ambitious concepts on stage by the simplest means possible. Together with the talented and compelling cast, in the intimate confines of our Downstairs Theatre, *The Dark Room* creates a world we rarely see and an experience that will leave a haunting stain long after it is over.

NOTES FOR EDITORS

SEASON INFORMATION

Dates 3 November to 11 December 2011

Preview Thursday 2 November 2011

Opening night Friday 3 November 2011

Times Tuesday 7pm | Wednesday to Friday 8.15pm | Saturday 2.15pm & 8.15pm | Sunday 5.15pm

Tickets Full \$42 | Seniors (excluding Fri/Sat evenings) \$36 | Concession \$32

Venue Belvoir St Theatre | 25 Belvoir St, Surry Hills

Bookings 02 9699 3444 or www.belvoir.com.au

BELVOIR INFORMATION

The name of our company is **Belvoir**, not the Belvoir, Belvoir Theatre or Belvoir Theatre Company. Belvoir St Theatre is our venue.