



*pip*  
Theatre

# THE HEARTBREAK CHOIR

BY AIDAN FENNESSY

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TOURING PRODUCTION

A joyful, uplifting play with songs that brings professional artists and local choirs together in a shared live experience.

At the end of each performance, a local community choir joins the cast on stage – transforming the show into a powerful event driven by the people of your town.

FIRST QUEENSLAND SEASON: BRISBANE SEPTEMBER 2026



DIRECTED BY  
**SHERRYL-LEE  
SECOMB**



STARRING  
**MICHEAL ENRIGHT**  
2024 MATILDA AWARD WINNER

**MUSICAL  
SUPERVISOR**  
DR JACQUI HALL CUNY



**IGNITE CHOIR**  
CHOIR DIRECTOR  
**HARMONY WOOLLETT**



ORIGINAL MUSIC BY  
**BRADLEY MCCAWE**



DISABILITY INCLUSION PARTNER  
**INDELARTS**

# A CELEBRATION OF MUSIC, FRIENDSHIP AND COMMUNITY

Tender, funny and deeply human, The Heartbreak Choir explores the courage it takes to find your voice — and the connection that comes from sharing it.

This is not just a touring production — it's a participatory event.

Each season:

- A local choir performs in the finale
- The community becomes part of the story
- Every performance is unique to that location

The result:

- A full house atmosphere
- A genuine sense of occasion
- A shared emotional experience audiences remember



# PERFORMANCE DETAILS

## DURATION

100 mins + 20-minute interval

## AUDIENCE

General, Families 15+, Year 10+

## ARTFORM

Full length drama/ comedy play with songs

## PERFORMANCES

flexible (typically up to 8/week)

## AVAILABILITY

April to July 2027-2028

## FEE

\$8,000–\$10,000 per performance (scale dependent)

# TECHNICAL OVERVIEW

## TOURING PARTY

9-10 (7 cast + stage manager + operator + choir liaison)

## LOCAL CHOIR

20-30 participants

## STAGING

- Minimum 6m x 4m (adaptable)
- Works in theatres, halls, and found spaces (indoor)

## SET

- Lightweight, modular (touring-friendly)

## SOUND

- Basic PA + choir capture mics

## LIGHTING

- Simple wash + optional effects
- No complex rig required

## BUMP IN/OUT

- Same day
- 1 hr bump in/ 2 hr tech/ 1 hr bump out

# ABOUT PIP THEATRE

“A key part of Revive is valuing and supporting the work our artists do. - That’s exactly what organisations like PIP Theatre do so well. Local organisations like PIP Theatre are at the heart of Brisbane’s arts scene and make a huge contribution to the vibrancy and diversity of our community.”  
- Tony Burke, Minister for the Arts

PIP Theatre is a Brisbane-based independent venue and production company creating high-quality, community-connected work.

- 240+ productions presented
- 30,000+ audience members
- Strong track record in accessible, inclusive performance
- Proven ability to deliver touring-ready work

We specialise in projects that combine artistic quality with genuine community impact.

## MEDIA REVIEWS

PIP Theatre’s polished presentation of this groundbreaking musical is respectful and true, resulting in tears within many audience member eyes as we consider what makes for a hero.”  
- Blue Curtains, Meredith Walker (Fun Home 2024)

“All the elements were spot on; this production had me fully invested in the story and in tears by the end. PIP Theatre have produced a fabulous piece of theatre with a distinctly local flavour that Brisbane audiences are already raving about.”  
- The Blurb, Sarah Skubala (Prospect Tce 2024)

## AUDIENCE FEEDBACK

Such high quality production and performances. Could easily have been on any major stage.”

“I have never experienced anything like this before.”

“The acting was nothing short of a masterclass and the set was next level.”

“I’m 76 yrs old and very excited. Loved it”



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This production is proudly sponsored by industrial wholesaler, People in Plastic



# MARKETING

We provide a full suite of materials and strategy support:

- Digital campaign (Facebook + Instagram)
- Localised Facebook Events per venue
- Rehearsal and behind-the-scenes content
- Media-ready assets and press materials
- Education Pack

## KEY DRIVER

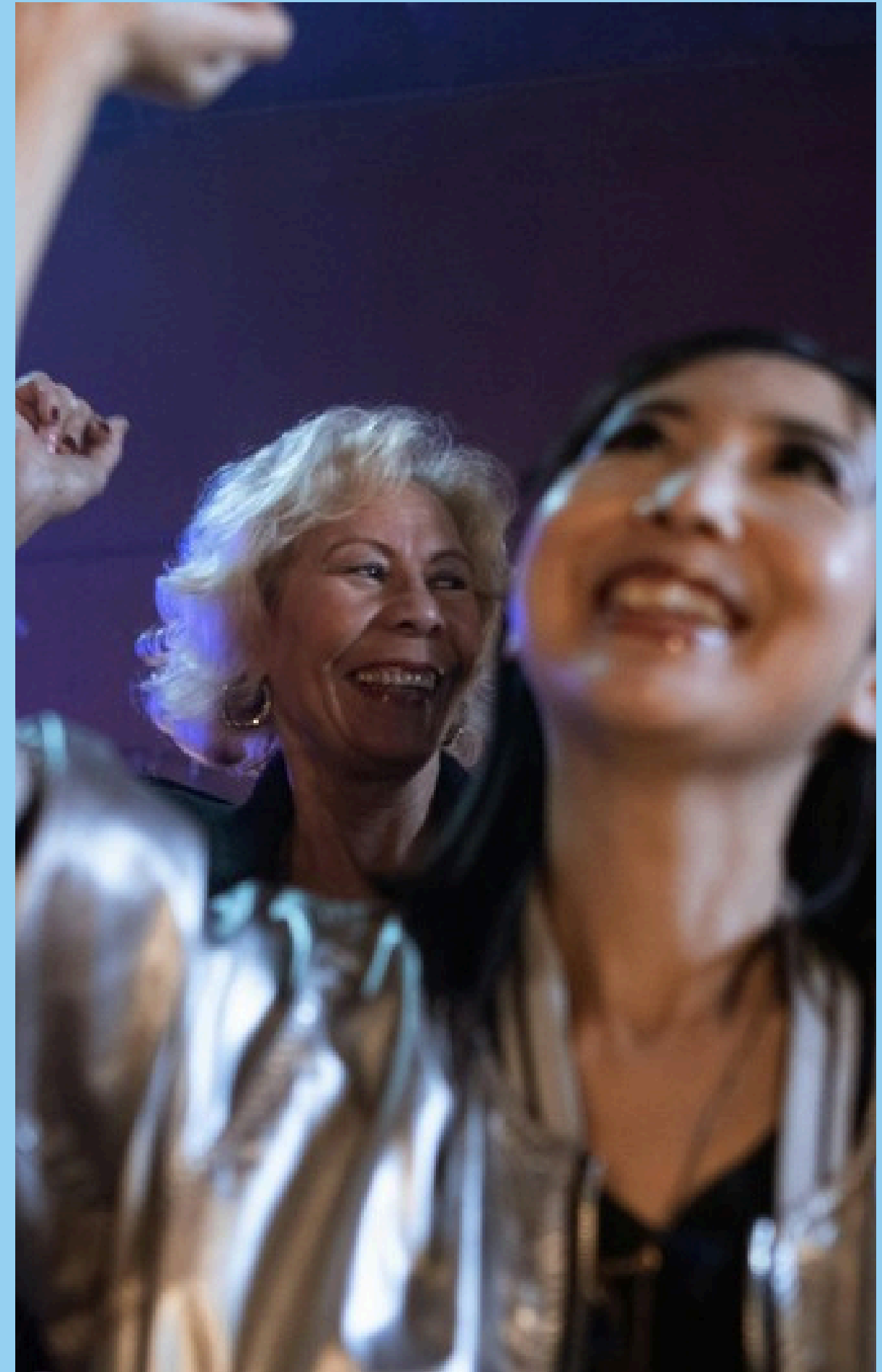
Local choir involvement =  
powerful word-of-mouth marketing

## CONTENT NOTE

This production contains mature themes including:

- References to sexual abuse and suicide
- Mental health themes
- Coarse language

Recommended for audiences 15+



# TOURING OPPORTUNITIES

Suitable for:

- Regional theatres
- Community venues
- Black box / studio spaces

## TARGET CIRCUITS

Target circuits include:

- South East Queensland
- Central Queensland
- Western touring circuit
- North Queensland

Each location supported by local choir engagement and community partnerships

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

**Simple, scalable, and well-supported**

## LEAD TIME

- Local Community Choir engaged approx. 6 months prior
- Presenter introductions welcome (or we source locally)

## REHEARSAL PROCESS

- Choir learns one finale song within their regular rehearsals
- Materials and support provided early
- Ongoing check-ins on-line

## ON-THE-GROUND

- Musical Director onsite 1 week prior
- 1-hour rehearsal during bump-in

## ACCESSIBILITY & INCLUSION

- Open to choirs of all abilities and experience levels
- Non-audition based participation
- Inclusive of intergenerational and culturally diverse groups
- Opportunities for performers with disability within the production

This is about participation, connection and shared experience — not perfection.

## OUTCOME

- Seamless integration into performance
- Accessible for choirs of all skill levels
- High impact with minimal burden on presenter

# AUDIENCE EXPERIENCE

Audiences don't just watch — they feel part of something.

- A full theatre with strong local presence
- A shared sense of anticipation
- A finale where cast, choir and community unite

The result is an atmosphere of joy, connection and collective release.



FOR INQUIRIES OR MORE INFO  
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