

MALTHOUSE

COMEDY

MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL
COMEDY FESTIVAL

25 MAR – 18 APR 2027

**MALTHOUSE THEATRE
ACKNOWLEDGES THE UNCEDED
LANDS OF THE KULIN NATION.
WE ACKNOWLEDGE THEIR
SOVEREIGNTY AND THEIR
SONGLINES. WE PAY RESPECT
TO THEIR ELDERS AND THEIR
CHILDREN. WE EMBRACE AND
CELEBRATE THE OLDEST
CULTURE IN THE WORLD.**

4
STAGES

29K
AUDIENCES

22
NIGHTS

220
PERFORMANCES

\$32
AVG TICKET
PRICE

1
ICONIC
HUB

BE PART OF THE BIGGEST YEAR OF COMEDY

Malthouse Theatre is proud to produce a massive comedy program right here at the centre of our buzzing arts precinct. In 2026, we delivered our biggest year yet, becoming one of the major hubs of the festival. We brought some of the most exciting names in comedy as well as emerging, local artists to our packed-out venues – and this year is set to be even bigger!

KEY DATES

MON 5 OCT

EOIs close

19 OCT

Offers sent

4 DEC

Early on sale

14 JAN

Full program on sale

25 MAR — 18 APR 2027

Melbourne International Comedy Festival

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

EOIs to be part of Malthouse Comedy Festival at Malthouse are now open. Fill out the form via **this link** (<https://form.jotform.com/252531152047852>) before **Monday 5 October 2026**.

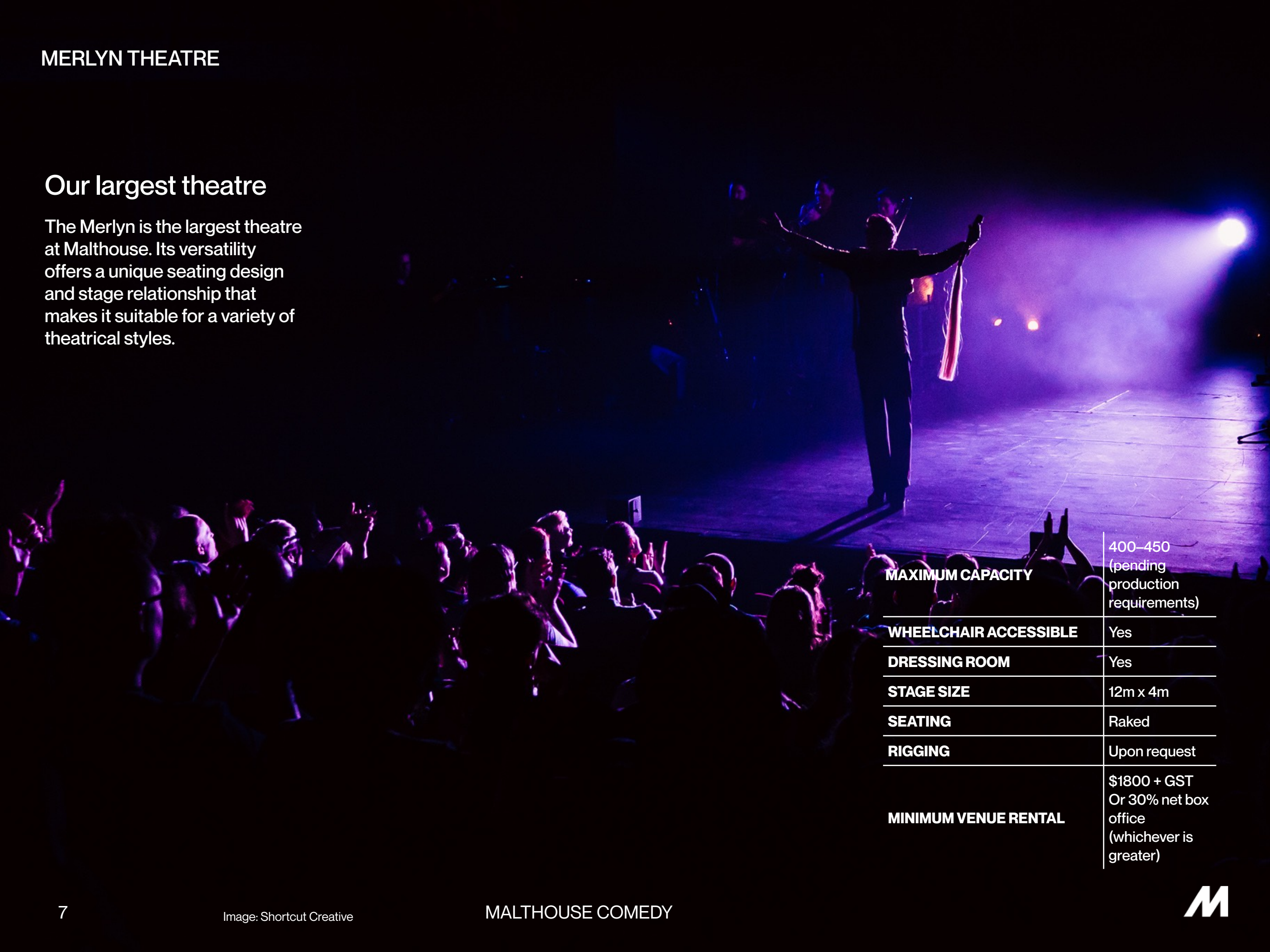
Malthouse is committed to making the application process and festival experience accessible and inclusive for artists of all backgrounds. We invite submissions from all people and strongly encourage those who identify as Indigenous, Bla(c)k People of Colour (IBPOC), Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD), neurodiverse, LGBTQIA+, and gender diverse to apply.

HOW TO APPLY

1. Read this document in full and make sure your event is suitable to be included in the Melbourne International Comedy Festival
2. Compile information about your show, including:
 - Title
 - Description
 - Duration
 - Preferred season length/dates
 - Preferred venue
 - Previous seasons (if applicable)
 - Target audience
 - A little bit about any other members of your team
 - Any links to archival footage, your website, social media
- Technical information (general overview is ok if you don't know specifics yet)
- Anything else we should know (such as content warnings, storage requirements)
3. Fill out the EOI form [here](https://form.jotform.com/252531152047852) (<https://form.jotform.com/252531152047852>)
4. Email Laura Milke Garner (Program Producer) if you have any questions at lmilkegarner@malthousetheatre.com.au
5. We will be in touch mid-October about the outcome of your submission

Our largest theatre

The Merlyn is the largest theatre at Malthouse. Its versatility offers a unique seating design and stage relationship that makes it suitable for a variety of theatrical styles.



MAXIMUM CAPACITY	400–450 (pending production requirements)
WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE	Yes
DRESSING ROOM	Yes
STAGE SIZE	12m x 4m
SEATING	Raked
RIGGING	Upon request
MINIMUM VENUE RENTAL	\$1800 + GST Or 30% net box office (whichever is greater)





Our medium-sized theatre

The Beckett is our medium-sized theatre and is ideally suited for intimate and engaging performances. This venue boasts a warm atmosphere retaining many of the original features of the building.

MAXIMUM CAPACITY	175
WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE	Yes
DRESSING ROOM	Yes
STAGE SIZE	9.5m x 7.8m
SEATING	Raked
RIGGING	Upon request
MINIMUM VENUE RENTAL	\$600 + GST Or 30% net box office (whichever is greater)

Our most versatile space

A dynamic performance space, the Tower has become a highly sought-after venue for bespoke events and performances. During Malthouse Comedy Festival, the Tower is in end-on configuration.

MAXIMUM CAPACITY	90
WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE	Yes
DRESSING ROOM	Yes
STAGE SIZE	7m x 6.5m
SEATING	Raked
RIGGING	No
MINIMUM VENUE RENTAL	\$330 + GST Or 30% net box office (whichever is greater)



PLAYBOX ROOM

Our space for connection

This is our most intimate space and well suited to stand-up comedy. During Malthouse Comedy Festival, there is a raised stage and flat floor audience seating.

MAXIMUM CAPACITY	40
WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE	No
DRESSING ROOM	Upon request
STAGE SIZE	4m x 2m
SEATING	Flat
RIGGING	No
MINIMUM VENUE RENTAL	\$180 + GST Or 30% net box office (whichever is greater)





MINIMUM HIRE FEES

We charge a minimum fee per performance based on the venue, or a percentage of gross box office, whichever is greater. These fees cover costs such as staffing and production that are incurred no matter how many people buy tickets. Beyond that, the better you do the better we do, so we are invested in making sure that you do well!

Malthouse is responsible for venue operations and will provide front of house, box office, hospitality staff, and technical operators as required. Additional technical support and/or equipment beyond what Malthouse considers standard can be arranged upon request.

TICKETING

All tickets will be sold exclusively by Malthouse Theatre. Inside ticketing fees and credit card charges will be included in your offer.

TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT

All venues are fitted with a basic lighting rig (colour washes and a selection of specials), standard PA with the facility for playback, vocal microphones and stands. A limited number of foldback speakers are also available upon request.

Technical elements such as moving lights, radio mics, smoke machine or projector are not provided as part of the standard venue setup. Malthouse can facilitate the hire off such additional elements upon request.

PERFORMANCE TIMES

Shows run Tuesday–Sunday (there are no shows on Mondays), with performance times 1 hour earlier on Sundays. Show durations should be between 50–60 minutes unless otherwise arranged. Changeover times vary between venues and are either 15, 30 or 60 minutes.

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Our Marketing and Communications team will support Malthouse Comedy events with an integrated marketing campaign in the lead up to and during the festival. All productions will be featured on the Malthouse website, in eDM communications and across social media as part of the overarching campaign.

More information on available marketing support and advertising opportunities will be provided with your offer.



**IF YOU HAVE ANY
QUESTIONS ABOUT
MALTHOUSE COMEDY,
PLEASE CONTACT:**

Laura Milke Garner, Program Producer
lmilkegarner@malthousetheatre.com.au