

# PHILIP PARSONS MEMORIAL LECTURE 2009

A forum discussion led by a panel of distinguished women

## on the question of 'Where are the Women?'

Followed by the announcement of  
the 2009 recipient of the  
Philip Parsons Young Playwright's Award.

**SUNDAY 6 DECEMBER AT 2PM**

Belvoir St Theatre 25 Belvoir St, Surry Hills

Tickets \$10

Call Box Office on 02 9699 3444 or [belvoir.com.au](http://belvoir.com.au)

Tickets also available at the door

There has been much discussion recently about the lack of women in key creative roles in theatre and much speculation around why this is the case. Are enough female creative voices being nurtured? Do audiences notice? What could and should be done to rectify the gender imbalance in the creative landscape?

Following the launch of the 2010 season there was a lot of discussion about Company B Belvoir "running a theatrical boys' club" (SMH), which in turn has spurred a much bigger debate about the representation of women in key creative positions industry wide. The Philip Parsons Lecture was established to stir debate, confront problems and urge for change. With this in mind and with a focus on directorial roles in this forum, Company B Belvoir hopes to provide a platform to continue the conversation and look at where we go from here.

Rachel Healy, Director Performing Arts at Sydney Opera House and former long-term General Manager at Company B Belvoir will deliver a short opening address giving an

introduction to the debate. She will then join the panel of distinguished women including: theatre notes blogger and critic Alison Croggon; emerging director Shannon Murphy; Marion Potts, Associate Artistic Director at Bell Shakespeare; and Gil Appleton who will provide an historical overview. The panel will share their perspectives, pathways, experiences and thoughts for the future. Moderated by ABC Journalist Monica Attard we will then open the discussion to the floor for debate.

This event has been designed as an open access forum to help facilitate discussion in the community around this issue – come along and be part of it.

The Philip Parsons Young Playwright's Award is awarded annually to a playwright under 35 years of age, whose work demonstrates an original and compelling theatrical voice. The winner will receive a writer's commission supported by Company B Belvoir. The 2009 shortlisted writers are Tamara Asmar, Van Badham, Tahli Corin, Nick Coyle and Caleb Lewis.

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