



- *A Room of One's Own* was written by Virginia Woolf and adapted for the stage by Carissa Licciardello and Tom Wright. This production is directed by Carissa Licciardello and opened at Belvoir on Wednesday 16 September 2020.
- *A Room of One's Own* runs for approximately 75 minutes with no interval.
- The play is not set in a specific place or time, but references the time in which Virginia Woolf lived. There is some imaginative action that takes place in Oxford University and London, England.
- There are two actors in this production. Anita Hegh portrays The Narrator and Ella Prince plays The Woman in the Room. The Woman in the Room embodies various characters mentioned by The Narrator including Judith Shakespeare – William Shakespeare's fictitious sister, Mary – a fictitious novelist, Chloe & Olivia - two characters from a novel and other portrayals of women referenced by The Narrator.
- This play is a faithful adaptation of Virginia Woolf's extended essay, *A Room of One's Own*. The essay is based on two lectures that were delivered by Woolf at the University of Cambridge in 1928. The essay is known to be an important feminist text and argues for both a literal and figurative space for women writers.
- The play contains one act which transitions through six scenes, mirroring the six chapters of the essay. The Narrator delivers all the dialogue in the play as a monologue and The Woman in The Room represents many of the spoken concepts visually through a series of vignettes in The Room, made of Perspex, upstage.
- The production requires a lot of listening. Students attending the production will need to have the ability to concentrate on spoken word and intellectual ideas. The images created in The Room and by the second performer highlight particular elements, people and concepts The Narrator is speaking about and uses production elements to complement the ideas of the text.
- This production includes a brief moment of female nudity. Upstage in The Room, The Woman appears for 30 seconds in very dim, low-light, sitting on her knees, her torso is bare and she wears skin-toned underwear. She leans forward into a small pool in front of her.
- The play contains a reference to suicide in a retelling of a hypothetical woman's story. The Narrator recounts the life and death of Judith Shakespeare, who takes her own life after a failed career as a performer in London. The Narrator concludes the imaginative journey stating "[she] killed herself one winter's night and lies buried at some cross-roads".
- The play contains references to domestic violence and violence against women in the context of historical references to women's place in society. In one example on the study of the inequalities of the sexes, The Narrator draws on literature where "wife beating was common practice" and in another example where a fictional daughter refuses to marry The Narrator says she was "severely beaten by her father" and another was "locked up, beaten and flung about the room".
- The play has no strong language, however there is one use of the word abortion as a metaphor and in reference to a biology museum display.
- Some students may need to be briefed about theatre etiquette. Please turn mobile phones off completely and refrain from eating in the theatre. Students need to know that the performance is live and that the actors see and hear them in the audience. We encourage laughter and natural reactions. Taking notes shouldn't happen during performances.
- Schools shows are followed by a Question and Answer session with the cast. Let students know they can ask questions about aspects of the play that they don't fully understand afterwards.

Schools performance tickets are not sent out beforehand, please collect your tickets from the Box Office in the foyer of the theatre upon arrival on the day.

Phone our box office on 02 9699 3444 if you need to check your booking.