

25A EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST OPEN

In 2026-2027, we are offering nine teams the opportunity to present ambitious independent theatre. Belvoir was founded on "rough magic", so we are looking for projects that are ready to meet the theatre-making provocation of this program.

Expressions of Interest are open until Friday 26 June.

WHAT IS 25A?



- 25A is a way for artists to grow and practise their craft. It is designed to limit the costs of putting on and presenting a show. The goal is that the maximum share of profit goes to people not overheads, and that teams can put their energy into making the work not the demands of producing.
- It is a key part of our job here at Belvoir: to keep this brilliant and wayward art form going for the next generation.
- 25A mirrors the nature of Belvoir, where our means of production are constrained and our resources are funnelled into the people and the work.

WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR

We are looking for teams of artists that are excited about the task of putting on a show for \$2500 or less. We want to support teams that are eager to grapple with the unique nature of the Downstairs Theatre, and hold the same theatrical values we hold ourselves to:

- **Boldness.** We test the limits of our artform to discover new possibilities, for art and for life.
- **Playfulness.** Chair + Boot = Horse. Belvoir does a lot with a little, the audience being the final puzzle piece. Same for 25A.
- **Collaboration.** More is possible together than alone.
- **Openness.** Everyone deserves a place in our society. How do we make space for people to join in and find their place?
- **Love of theatre.** Rigour, craft, technique, knowhow. Theatre is about what it does, not what it says.

WHAT WE ARE OFFERING

- A season in our Downstairs Theatre. Rent free.
- Audience members will have the option to pay \$25 or \$35 across the season. You will receive all the box office income for your season, excluding Belvoir's standard box office fee per ticket.
- Access to free rehearsal space.
- Use of our standard LX and SND rig.
- 25A marketing guidelines and basic support.
- Website hosting of your event and ticketing infrastructure as part of the 25A season.

OUR EXPECTATIONS

- You spend no more than \$2500 in total. This is inclusive of design, tech, marketing, APRA etc. We expect transparency on this front.
- Audience members will have the option to pay \$25 or \$35 across the season.
- All points of the profit share must be equally distributed across the team.
- The project makes sense of the context of Belvoir and the Downstairs Theatre. That means it will be a piece of theatre, that it will be acting-based - a play, a re-imagined classic, a devised theatre show. Music and movement are welcome as elements in the show, but dance pieces, hybrid or cross-art form works, performance art, and physical theatre shows are not a natural fit for the Downstairs Theatre.
- Productions that are in their first Sydney season. No transfers or remounts from metropolitan Sydney.
- Collaborations. No solo works. The purpose of 25A is to support as many artists as possible, and to practice collaboration.
- You will be responsible for the creation and posting of your own marketing.

WHAT WE NEED FROM YOU

A written pitch document (max three pages) or a short video (max 5 minutes)

AND

Any supporting documentation (this could be five pages of the script and artist bios, max 5 pages)

- What is it? Give a short description of the theatrical form and the "story" or content of the show.
- Which elements or qualities of the artform are you investigating with this show and how will you go about exploring them? (eg. the nature of ensemble, how to marry dramatic action and plot, how action articulates theme, how performativity works in theatre, the relationship between process and outcome, what is naturalism, what is the epic etc.)
- Why this show? Why this space?
- What has been your favourite 25A or Belvoir show? If you haven't seen a show at 25A or Belvoir, tell us about a show you've seen recently that has made you excited.
- Who are the key creatives? Please note who's confirmed in brackets after their name.
- What is the proposed running time? Does it have an interval? (Even if it's an approximation for a new work!)
- Preference three months in order of availability (i.e 1) March 2) December 3) February). Please note the slot dates are not fixed and will be finalised later in the process.

Please send EOI's to 25a@belvoir.com.au by Friday 26 June.

HOW WE PROGRAM 25A

- Each season is programmed by a committee of resident artists from Belvoir's Artistic and Programming team. The committee will create a shortlist based on your pitch. Shortlisted teams will then be invited to discuss their idea with the committee.
- The program is competitive, and we receive an average of 150 pitches each year, so we are led by the artistic and cultural ambitions of the work as well as how well the project fits into the 25A remit.
- Belvoir's Artistic Director has no involvement in the programming of 25A other than any slot that is reserved for the Andrew Cameron Fellow.

If you have any questions about the application, don't hesitate to reach out to the team at 25A@belvoir.com.au

