

# How to Book

**Ticketing information:** To find out what's on and how to book, call Lisa.

**How to book with EASE:** To book tickets with EASE, phone 699 8497 and discuss with Lisa what you would like to see, when and any special seating requirements.

**Access Information:** We also provide information about bookings, access and facilities at venues in and around Melbourne – over the phone, in the *EASE Newsletter* and via the *Melbourne Venue Guide – Editions 1 & 2*.

**Free or Cheap Tickets:** EASE keeps a list of people who are interested in free or cheap tickets which are usually available at short notice. If you can use this service please call Lisa and join our list.

**Method of Payment:** Payment can be made at the EASE office or by posting a cheque or money order made out to ARTS ACCESS. Payment is NEVER made at the venue as EASE pays for all tickets at the time of booking. **PROMPT PAYMENT FOR TICKETS IS ESSENTIAL.** Tickets must be paid for within two weeks of receiving your tickets and invoice. Please enclose **COMPLETE** invoice or details with your payment otherwise it is difficult to match up cheques with bookings.

**Ticket Requests:** EASE will, where possible, negotiate for tickets to any event at your request. Your name will be placed on a waiting list and EASE staff will contact you should we be successful. Sometimes we do not receive an allocation until a few days before the event so if you really want tickets for a full price, it is best to book with BASS or the venue. EASE will assist with full price tickets only if you have special seating requirements.

**Exchange and Refund Policy:** There is NO exchange and NO refund on tickets booked with EASE so please be certain of your requirements and the number of tickets before you make a booking. Both BASS and VISA have a NO REFUND, NO EXCHANGE POLICY. Please remember that a booking is a financial commitment and that EASE must pay for all tickets at the time of booking in order to get you the best seats or the seats you need. If your payment is delayed it means that we cannot continue to make bookings and it puts the service in jeopardy for everyone.

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Thursday  
10.00am-4.00pm only  
Bookings & TTY:  
699 8497  
Admin & Accounts:  
699 7636

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State Library Of Victoria  
328 Swanston Street  
MELBOURNE 3000

If undelivered return to:  
Arts Access Society Inc.  
109-111 Sturt Street, South Melbourne, VIC 3205 Australia

# Ease

## Entertainment Access Service

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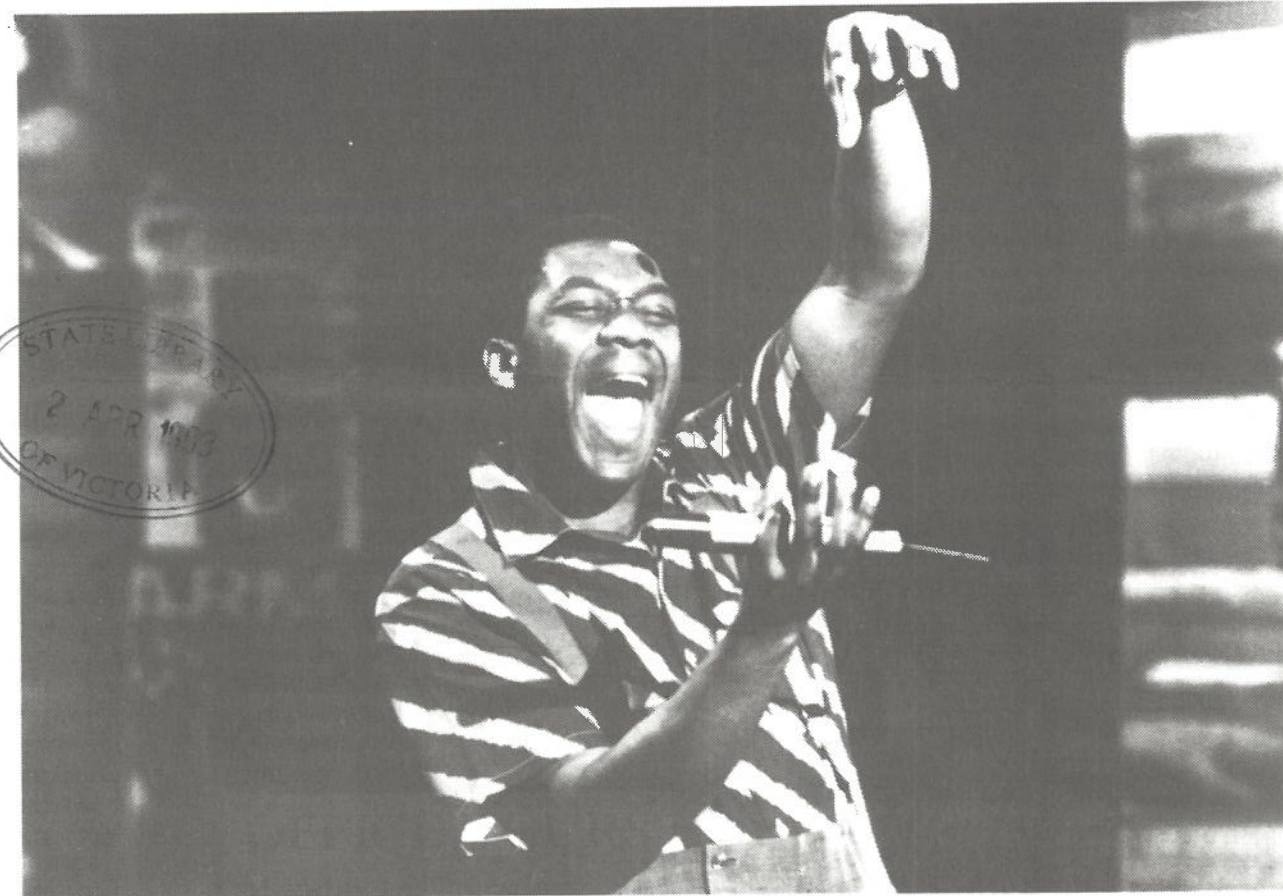
# Ease

EASE Newsletter – Arts Access Society Inc.

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March-May 1993

ARTS  
Access



Britain's Lenny Henry - Live and (about to be) Unleashed at the Melbourne Comedy Festival.

## Melbourne Comedy Festival 1993

**April Fools Day is the kick off date for the 7th Melbourne International Comedy Festival (April 1-24) with a program that's big on laughs and variety and includes some great low cost shows for around \$12-15 and less.**

This year's special international guest artist is the extraordinary **Lenny Henry**, one of Britain's favourite contemporary comedians. EASE has tickets to Lenny's Melbourne concerts on April 5th, 8.00pm at the Melbourne Concert Hall. Lenny has risen from cult status on British children's television to international acclaim as a progressive adult comedian, appearing in night-clubs, TV series and films. Lenny's tour, *Live and Unleashed in Australia* will feature his popular family of outrageous characters including Brixton's favourite 'wideboy' Delbert

Wilkins, the 'one man sex machine' Theophilus P Wildebeeste and the Guinness-sipping Grandpa Deakus.

EASE also has tickets for:  
**Celebrity Theatre Sports** – see them battle for the fabulous Peter Cook Cup; the wild **Marty Putz** at The Last Laugh; **Circus Oz** – under the big top in the City Square. Attractions EASE hope to secure tickets for include:  
**The 4th Annual Comedy Festival Debate** features the highly debateable moderator, **Campbell McComas** who will trade black humour and white lies with all star teams led by **Andrew Denton** and **Wendy Harmer**. See them debate the motion: 'TV is bad for you' at the Athenaeum Theatre 1 on April 4 at 3.00pm. **Wogarama** – with **Nick Giannopoulos** and **Mary Coustas (Effie)**; **State of Bewilderment** – a

tribute to **Michael Leunig**; the return of **Stomp** – the hit from last year; **Hal Roach** – Ireland's 'King of the Blarney'; **The Brady Bunch Live** – based on the original TV scripts; **Sean Hughes** – the toast of the 1990 Edinburgh Festival returns; **Humourists Read Humourists** at the Athenaeum; **The Girl's Gotta Eat** – at the Universal Theatre; and the **Melbourne University Review** – see the comedians of the future. For further details see the EASE Update or contact EASE on 699 8497.

### INSIDE:

- Nova Cinema Access Assessment
- Accessibility Survey

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# Melbourne Symphony Orchestra – EASE offer

EASE members can purchase the best available seats for all Melbourne Symphony Orchestra (MSO) concerts for \$13 per seat. Be early for performances beginning from March 22. Even greater savings can be made by subscribing to a set of concerts. For example, if you subscribe to the Melbourne Town Hall Series you can buy tickets for as little as \$6.75 each.

Other advantages of subscribing include:

*Ticket Exchanges* – if you can't go to a concert you can exchange your tickets for any other MSO concert.

*One Step* – your tickets for the year are fixed with just one phone call.

*Subscriber Discounts* – your Subscriber priority Card will entitle you to a 10% discount at all ABC Shops.

*Free Pre-Concert Talks* – an entertaining half hour guide to the evening's music.

Subscriptions to the following MSO concert series are available now – but be quick:

## Great Classics

Six Monday nights at the Melbourne Concert Hall: March 22, May 3, June 28, July 26, August 16, October 25 at 8.00pm. Includes Mozart, Beethoven, Berlioz, Brahms, Elgar and Rachmaninov. Special EASE price: \$59 for 6 tickets (1 for each night).

## All Beethoven, All Tchaikovsky, All Grainger, All Gershwin

Four Friday nights at the Melbourne Town Hall. March 26, May 28, July 2, July 30 at 7.00pm. Special EASE price: \$47 (A Reserve) \$38 (B Reserve) \$27 (C Reserve) for 4 tickets (1 for each night).

For full program details for these special offer series or the MSO's other series, contact Lisa at EASE on 699 8497 or the MSO on 524 2855. To book phone EASE.

## EASE Accessibility Survey

Enclosed with this issue of EASE is a copy of our Accessibility Survey. The survey also appears on the reverse side of EASE invoices. If you have not completed a survey form, please use the one supplied and return it to our office as soon as possible. EASE

will use the information you provide to assist in the ongoing development of EASE services and the improvement of access and facilities at entertainment venues. Our thanks go to everyone who has participated in the survey so far.

## THE MELBOURNE VENUE GUIDE Editions 1 & 2

Contains information on access and facilities at over 30 major entertainment and sporting venues in and around Melbourne, including information on:

• BASS • EASE bookings • wheel chair and special requirement bookings • telephone numbers for assistance • venue seating and access plans • notes on parking • special arrangements required by particular venues prior to attendance.

Editions 1 & 2 form a set – each edition contains different venue listings.

Copies of both editions of the *Melbourne Venue Guide* are available from:

EASE – ARTS ACCESS

109-111 Sturt Street, South Melbourne 3205

(Cheques payable to: Arts Access)

# Bharatam's exciting Jungle Book

The Bharatam Dance Company has re-energised the colourful characters of Rudyard Kipling's classic tale, ***The Jungle Book***, the story of Mowgli, a boy raised by a maternal wolf. Under the artistic direction of the extraordinary dancer, **Chandrabanu**, the production uses stunning dance, live music, sound effects and exotic Asian costumes to present Kipling's beautiful and humorous blend of natural history, fable, heroism and romance. Mowgli struggles for acceptance amongst the wolf pack, but is abducted by the Bandar Log monkeys. He is rescued by Kaa the giant python, but faces danger from his eternal enemy, Khan the tiger. Finally Mowgli leads the wolves into battle with the marauding red dogs, exhibiting a cunning and understanding of nature that makes him Prince of the wolves. ***The Jungle Book*** is theatre for the whole family. March 25-27 & 31 and April 1-3. Youth matinee at 2.00pm on April 3. At the George Fairfax Studio, Victorian Arts Centre. Further information 417 6777. Bookings 699 8497.

## CINEMA TICKET UPDATE

- Independent cinema tickets can now be used at all the following venues: Balwyn Cinema, Belgrave Cameo, Croydon Twin, Elsternwick Classic, Melton Twin, Reservoir Cinema, Sale Twin, Trak Cinema Toorak, Warragul.
- Greater Union/Village tickets can now be used at the Village Twin, Geelong.

## VENUE ASSESSMENT Nova Cinemas

Inserted in this issue of the *EASE Newsletter* is a copy of the EASE venue assessment of the Nova Cinemas in Carlton. We've produced it in a similar format to the venue assessments in the *Melbourne Venue Guide* so that you can store it in your copy of the *Guide* for easy reference.



Marilyn Richardson as *The Merry Widow*.

## Australian Opera in '93

Richard Strauss' ***Salome*** and Richard Wagner's ***Tristan & Isolde*** are two classic operas to be staged during the Australian Opera's 1993 season that will receive the unique treatment of two visionary Australian directors – Graham Murphy and Neil Armfield. Murphy's much awaited production of ***Salome*** will play at the State Theatre from May 5-21 and stars American soprano Cynthia Makris in the title role. Armfield's celebrated production of Wagner's masterpiece of love and death, which features sets by Brian Thompson, returns to the State Theatre from April 8-24. The season opens with Lindy Humes production of Mozart's ***Don Giovanni*** from March 20-April 17 starring Australian baritone, Peter Coleman-Wright.

EASE members can enjoy any Australian Opera production this year at the special price of \$25 per ticket (for either A, B, or C Reserve seats) – that's less than half price!

## Playbox 1993 Season

EASE has tickets for all Playbox productions during its 1993 season at the CUB Malthouse.

Coming up are three Australian plays of diverse style: ***Levad***, by Yoni Prior and Barrie Kosky; ***The Garden of Granddaughters*** by Stephen Sewell; and ***Big Toys***, by Patrick White. *Levad* examines the fractured and disintegrating memories of a dead Jewish actress. As she voyages the underworld she reconstructs her performances, her loves, her family and her heritage into a theatrical necropolis based on her recollections of Warsaw, Jerusalem and Melbourne. March 20 to April 18.

In ***The Garden of Granddaughters***, Sewell's most recent play, an international conductor and his wife swoop back into Melbourne unannounced to tend to the chaotic lives of their daughters and granddaughters. They gently nurture their family and uproot a few family secrets along the way. April 16-May 8.

***Big Toys*** is Patrick White's morality tale about the style of the rich and not so ethical, putting Trades Hall politics on the Point Piper pillow, and where emeralds, Ferraris, penthouses and uranium are 'big toys'. A timely revival of a witty, insightful play. May 28-June 19.

But be quick, only a limited number of tickets are available for each performance.

New to Melbourne is the Elijah Moshinsky production of Humperdinck's ***Hansel and Gretel***, based on the Grimm brothers fairy tale, starring Suzanne Johnston and Kirsti Harms sharing the role of Hansel, and Christine Douglas as Gretel. Franz Lehar's popular ***The Merry Widow*** returns from March 22-May 22 with Marilyn Richardson and Christa Leahmann sharing the title role, and with Dobbs Franks conducting.

Verdi lovers are in for a treat with his great opera ***A Masked Ball***, which runs from April 1-May 1, and a special production of Verdi's ***Requiem Mass***, featuring soloists Joan Carden, Kerry Elizabeth Brown, Kenneth Collins and Donald Shanks with the Australian Opera Chorus. One performance only on May 19.

## Geelong Theatre Season

Once again the Geelong Performing Arts Centre Trust is presenting some of the best productions available from Australia's top theatre companies and EASE has tickets to all the shows.

### April 6 & 7

***Death and the Maiden*** by Ariel Dorfman. Starring **Helen Morse** and **John Gaden**. From the Sydney Theatre Company (STC) and Melbourne Theatre Company.

### May 14 & 15

***The Garden of Granddaughters*** by Stephen Sewell. Starring **Janet Andrewartha**, **Daphne Grey**, **Ron Haddrick**. From Playbox and the STC.

## Audio Description Dates

### Phantom of the Opera

Princess Theatre  
Wednesdays, March 24; April 21; May 5; May 19 – all at 1.00pm.  
NOTE: EASE no longer has tickets available to sell to these dates but we can book audio description units for most of these dates for people who already have tickets.

### M Butterfly

The Playhouse Theatre, Arts Centre.  
Wed April 14, 1.00pm; Sat April 17, 4.00pm; Mon April 26, 6.30pm; Thur April 29, 8.00pm.  
All bookings for audio description performances are made through EASE 699 8497.

## IMPORTANT EASE Ticketing Requirements

The EASE ticketing service works on an honour system. For individuals we book your tickets on the assumption that the person who is attending the event has EASE membership and that they meet EASE membership criteria.

For organisations receiving tickets, we assume that persons who attend an event with EASE tickets do so as a support to EASE members attending.

EASE staff appreciate prompt payment for bookings made.