

**DATECH HEALTHCARE & DISABILITY EXPO**  
**EXPO 95**  
 AUSTRALIA'S LARGEST EXHIBITION OF  
 HEALTHCARE AND DISABILITY EQUIPMENT  
 FOR HOME, HOSPITAL AND REHABILITATION

OLYMPIC PARK ☆ Thursday 19th October 10am - 6pm  
 SWAN STREET, MELBOURNE ☆ Friday 20th October 10am - 6pm  
 Saturday 21st October 10am - 4pm

Information: ParaQuad Victoria 1 800 805 384

## Booking with EASE

**Booking Office Hours**  
 Monday to Thursday  
 10am - 4pm only

### What's On?

First check your daily papers, free entertainment guides and other sources of information, then check EASE dates in the *EASE Ticket Update* before booking.

### Bookings

Phone Lisa on 699 8497  
 or TTY 699 8497

### Access Information

EASE can provide information about access and facilities at venues in and around Melbourne.

### Method of Payment

Pay at the EASE office or by posting a cheque or money order made out to ARTS ACCESS. Payment is never made at the venue. Please note Items 4 and 7 of the Conditions of Sale.

## Conditions of Sale

1. Tickets are sold only to EASE subscribers and are not transferable.
2. Tickets are sold to staff members of an organisation on the understanding that they are attending an event as a support person for the clients of that organisation, and under no other circumstances.
3. There is no exchange or refund of tickets. A booking cannot be cancelled.
4. Tickets must be paid for within 14 days.
5. EASE will purchase tickets, where possible, to suit a subscriber's particular requirements.
6. The EASE quoted price varies from the price printed on tickets because an EASE commission is added to each sale.
7. EASE staff reserve the right to cancel or suspend membership if conditions of sale are breached.

# Ease

## Entertainment Access Service

109-111 Sturt Street  
 SOUTH MELBOURNE VIC 3205

Bookings & TTY: 9699 8497  
 Administration: 9699 7636  
 Fax: 9699 8868

### EASE Staff

Dean Michael, EASE Program Manager  
 Lisa McKoy, EASE Ticketing Coordinator

### Trainees

Roisin Johnson  
 Rochelle Brown

### Volunteers

Mary Brogan, NADRASCA volunteers,  
 John Pidd, Gaye Walsh.

EASE is a project of Arts Access and is funded from a range of sources, particularly the Federal Department of Community Services and Health (Disability Services) and Sport & Recreation Victoria. Income earned through service fees, subscriptions and ticket commissions also support the EASE program.

Arts Access is assisted by the Commonwealth Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body; Arts Victoria and Sport & Recreation Victoria, which are divisions of the Department of Arts, Sport & Tourism; and Health & Community Services.



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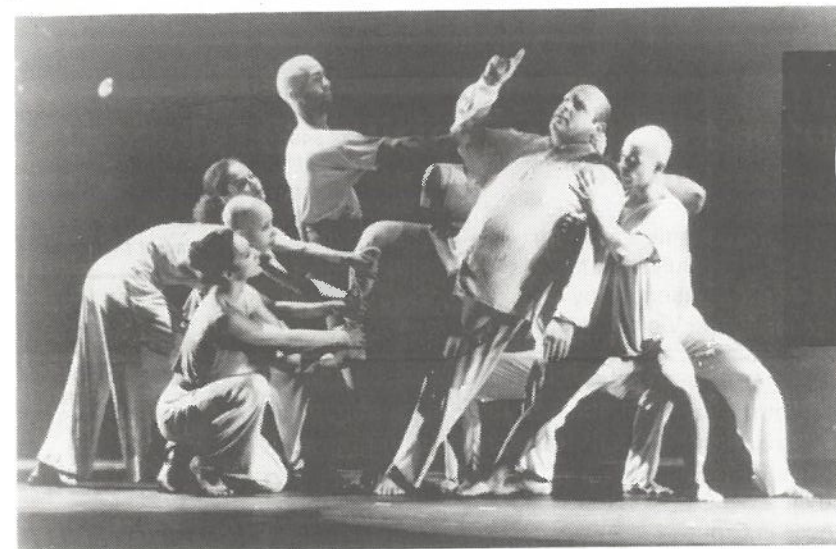
# Ease



## ARTS Access

21st Anniversary  
 A key to cultural participation since 1974

Newsletter of the Entertainment Access Service - a program of Arts Access ISSN 1038-2879 Spring 1995



MELBOURNE  
 INTERNATIONAL  
 FESTIVAL

Left: The Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company perform the controversial, *Still/Here*. Pic: Johann Elbers.  
 Below: Lilo Baur, as Lucie, in *The Three Lives of Lucie Cabrol*, performed by Theatre de Complicite, based on the story by John Berger.



## Enjoy Melbourne's biggest arts festival yet with EASE

Once again EASE can provide to members, tickets to some of the best performing arts events in the world through the Melbourne International Festival of the Arts.

This year's line-up is the biggest yet for MIFA and EASE is proud to be playing a greater role in the festival during MIFA's 10th birthday and Arts Access' 21st Anniversary year.

You may have noticed the listing for Arts Access/EASE on the ticket booking page of the official festival program. We hope this will bring EASE to the attention of more festival patrons who are eligible for EASE services. EASE is also negotiating for inclusion of access information for the handy MIFA *What's On Guide*, to be available during the festival.

For EASE's MIFA show details see the monthly *EASE Ticket Update*.

### Win a 'Great Sights' Tour

Each month, courtesy of Great Sites Tours, one tour will be won by an EASE member.

See your monthly *EASE Ticket Update* for entry details. If you sign up a new member you are automatically entered in the draw for three months. Congratulations to our recent winners: Young Christian Workers and Judy Carlson.

## EASE Industry Development Program recognised in first Arts 21 Leadership Fund grants

Arts Access has received funding for EASE to present training programs that increase arts industry awareness of best management practices and planning requirements in relation to disability issues.

The announcement, on July 11, at the launch of the inaugural Arts Victoria, Arts 21 Leadership Fund awards, gives recognition to the need for greater disability awareness within Victoria's cultural industries and the benefits good access policies bring to arts venues and promoters.

EASE Program Manager, Dean Michael says the Leadership Fund is a welcome and timely initiative.

"With the advent of the Disability Discrimination Act, EASE is providing a valuable training and consultancy service to assist the entertainment industry to meet new legal obligations."

"The funding will enable EASE to present six metropolitan and two regional training seminars for venue staff."

EASE is currently presenting two seminars - the *Disability Awareness Seminar* aimed at front-of-house, ticketing and bar/cafe staff, and *Developing an Action Plan*, which is aimed at management staff who wish to develop strategies to introduce better access policies for their venues.

Page 2: Report of the first 1995 EASE Disability Awareness Seminar

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- \* Abilympics & EASE
- \* Kino Cinema Access Update

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EASE Bookings: Phone & TTY 9699 8497 10am to 4pm Monday - Thursday

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## EDITORIAL

### It's Melbourne International Festival time again!

EASE has low cost tickets to fourteen events in the Festival, covering dance, theatre and music, and this year the Festival has increased its allocation of money for outdoor and FREE events. The venues for these events range from Southgate and the Concert Hall to Swanston Street Walk and many galleries.

With the Festival moved to October to avoid the unpredictable weather of September, there should be lots to see and do, even if you don't have much money to spend.

Don't forget the other great events we have on sale as well, including four musicals for the army of EASE members who enjoy musical theatre.

EASE memberships have grown considerably over the last few months since our launch with Andrew Denton, and as you may be aware our training seminars have started. In addition, we are about to begin a major update and revamp of our Venue Guides. So business is brisk in the EASE office.

For any of you who may be interested in finding out more about Arts Access and its other programs - the Artistic Program and the Resource Unit - you can ring Arts Access direct on 9699 8299.

Have a great MIFA!

*Dean & Lisa*

## EASE Ramps

EASE has two ramps for hiring out to venues that need to improve their access for particular events.

The ramps are aluminium and measure about 1 metre long. They are useful for overcoming one or two steps at the most.

Hiring fees:  
\$10 per day; \$7 half day; \$40 per week, with refundable \$20 deposit.

All enquiries to Dean Michael on Telephone 9699 7636



### EASE Disability Awareness Seminar

The first Disability Awareness Seminar was held on Thursday 6 July at St Martins Theatre. This was well attended by twenty-two staff from: the Victorian Arts Centre, The Princess Theatre, The Sidney Myer Music Bowl, Olympic Park, The Sandybeach Centre, The Malthouse, The Alexander Theatre, Circus Oz, St Martin's Theatre, Flinders Park, Save Time Services and the East Gippsland Arts and Recreation Access Group.

The seminar broadens people's understanding of what disability means; discusses the Disability Discrimination Act in detail and its implications; and covers strategies of how to best service the customer with a disability.

Comments from those attending included "Very instructive and informative" and "Bloody brilliant".

EASE will continue these for the rest of the year, and is planning to present a regional seminar later in the year.

### Abilympians will hear of EASE success

The fourth International Abilympics Conference, under the theme "Towards Global Achievement of Valued Roles for People with Disabilities" will take place between September 1 and 3 in Perth, Western Australia.

Dean Michael, EASE Program Manager will be a speaker at the conference.

The conference will address issues relevant to people with disabilities in the areas of employment, equity and empowerment, legislation and policy, and recreation and leisure.

Dean will give a presentation in the recreation stream of the conference, on the EASE program of Arts Access. He will present EASE as an excellent model for the development of similar services elsewhere in the world.

With keynote speakers such as Moira Rayner and Dr Donald Grimes, this is a great opportunity to profile the work that



ABOVE, Left: A wide cross section of arts and entertainment industry staff attended the first Disability Awareness seminar at St. Martin's Theatre. Right: EASE Member Jan Doran speaking at the seminar.

EASE undertakes and to make worldwide connections that may impact upon future directions for EASE.

### Accessible events and the City of Port Phillip

After speaking at a recent Festival and Events Conference held on July 22 and 23. Dean Michael, EASE Programme Manager, has had a meeting with a representative from the City of Port Phillip as to how they can make the many festivals now held within the City more accessible to people with disabilities.

The discussions covered everything from parking to toilets to signage, and future arrangements for ticketing through EASE for such events as the St Kilda Flim Festival.

The City of Port Phillip will keep EASE informed about the Festivals and access arrangements, so keep a look out for these in this newsletter and the Ticket Update. The City of Port Phillip is to be commended for its initiative in this area.

### Audio Description

EASE members book for Audio Description performances through EASE on 9699 8497 and are advised to book well in advance. Non-EASE patrons should book through the Association for the Blind. Telephone 9822 1111 and ask for Marjorie West.

#### Hamlet

The Playhouse  
Saturday, September 30, 1pm  
Thursday, October 5, 2.30pm

#### Disney's Beauty & the Beast

Princess Theatre  
Wednesday, October 18 and 25, 1pm  
Wednesday, November 1 and 8, 1pm

## Venue Profile

### Access and looping improvements at the Kino Cinema

According to many EASE members, the access to many Melbourne cinemas ranges from just all right, to terrible. So it's good to see that some cinemas are looking at access and making some improvements.

The Kino Cinema at 45 Collins Street, Melbourne, has wheelchair access to all its cinemas, has ramps to the box office and will have audio loops in place in early September.

There is wheelchair access in the newest of the cinemas - Cinema 3, in the back row. However, as there two rows with no steps in this cinema people can also transfer from their chairs. In the other two cinemas, which have steps, seats can be taken out of the back row.

It is possible to accommodate two to three wheelchairs in these areas. Kino staff prefer that patrons notify them first thing in the morning if people in wheelchairs are attending.

For people in wheelchairs or with mobility difficulties, ramps provide the main access to the cinemas from the shopping plaza at the Exhibition Street level. One large ramp leads down from the shopping plaza to the bar and eating level. Then there are two ramps from this area down to the box office.

Some feedback suggests that the first ramp down is quite steep. It is worthwhile ringing the cinemas to ask about the gradient of these ramps.

Audio loops are in place in all the cinemas and cover all the seats. Loops in Cinemas 1 and 2 will be operational in early September. The audio loop in Cinema 3 is now fully operational.

The accessible toilet is found via the ramps at the back of the chemist shop.

While there are possibly still some difficulties when attending the Kino Cinemas, access has visibly improved in some areas and further plans are being considered.

Obviously it is important for all venues to publicise their access features as much as possible and EASE will continue to update you on access information as it comes to hand.

If you need more information telephone the Kino Cinemas direct on 9650 2100.

## EASE Ticket Highlights

### DANCE

STATE THEATRE  
\* *Australia Triple Bill*  
The Australian Ballet  
Sept 16-26

### CHILDREN'S EVENTS

OLYMPIC PARK  
\* *Mighty Morphin Power Rangers*  
Sept 23 & 25

### COMEDY

THE LAST LAUGH  
\* *Waiter There's a Circus in My Soup*  
Wednesdays and Thursdays

### THEATRE

THE PLAYHOUSE  
\* *Hamlet*  
by William Shakespeare  
Melbourne Theatre Company  
Sept 14 - Oct 14

THE ALEXANDER THEATRE  
\* *Les Parents Terribles*  
Sydney Theatre Company  
Sept 13 - 16

### CUB MALTHOUSE

\* *Head of Mary* (MIFA)  
Playbox Theatre Company  
October 26 to November 5

### MUSICALS

STATE THEATRE  
\* *The Secret Garden*  
From December 20

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE  
\* *The Mikado*  
Now Playing

### MUSIC

FITZROY TOWN HALL  
\* *Geminiani Chamber Orchestra*  
Shostakovich, Grainger, Dvorak  
Sunday, Sept 17, 3pm

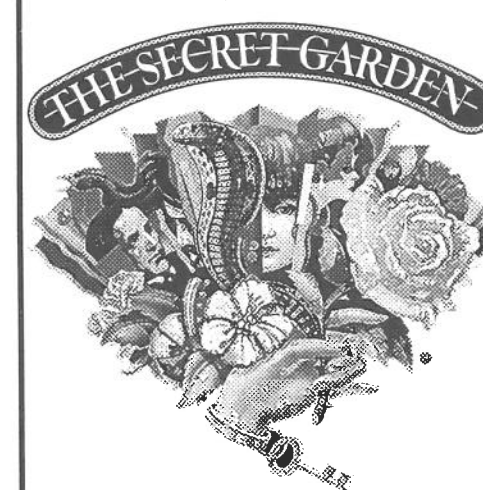
MELBOURNE CONCERT HALL  
\* *Handel's Messiah*  
Melbourne Symphony Orchestra  
December 15 & 16

### TOURS

\* *Fairy Penguin Parade*  
Great Sights Tours . Daily. Departs  
2pm returns 10.30 pm.

Above: See Pacific Northwest Ballet's *Carmina Burana* at MIFA . Pic: David Cooper

### SEE



with EASE

For more shows and details check the EASE Ticket Update

The LARGE PRINT edition of the *EASE Ticket Update*

is now available from Lisa on Phone or TTY 9699 8497