



LISSAJANE DANCE
PRESENTS



"VINCENT"
WWW.VINCENTTHESHOW.COM



SEASON INFORMATION

Artistic Director & Choreographer: **Melissa Lanham**
Executive Producer: **Daniel "Goz" Gosling**
Set & Costume Designer: **Daniel Ampuero**
Lighting Designer: **Phil Lethlean**
Original Composer: **Sean Tinnion**
Head of Wardrobe: **Wendy Findlater**
Wig & Makeup Designer: **Melanie Jeffers**
With: **Tobiah Booth-Remmers, Chloe Lanham & Michael Smith**

SHOW DATES

Day	Date	Time
Wednesday	9 th March	19:30
Thursday*	10 th March	10:00
Thursday*	10 th March	13:00
Thursday	10 th March	19:30
Friday*	11 th March	10:00
Friday*	11 th March	13:00
Friday	11 th March	19:30
Saturday	12 th March	10:30
Saturday**	12 th March	15:30
Saturday**	12 th March	19:30
Sunday	13 th March	10:30
Sunday**	13 th March	15:30
Sunday**	13 th March	19:30
Monday	14 th March	10:30
Monday	14 th March	15:30
Monday	14 th March	19:30

*Denotes private school show performances

**Shows shown as "Vincent – Counter World" in fringe guide

TICKET PRICES

Student Prices: \$20 for private show bookings (*above)
\$25 for all other shows booked through
FringeTix (www.adelaidefringe.com.au)

Teacher Prices: One complimentary teacher ticket with
every 10 students
\$30 per additional teacher

Booking Fee: \$12 per booking

SHOW WARNINGS

Smoke Effects

Lissajane Dance Pty Ltd presents "Vincent" | Odeon Theatre, 57a Queens Street, Norwood, SA
Post 11/84 Mount Pleasant Road, Nunawading VIC 3131 | W www.vincenttheshow.com
P (+61) 0402 297 220 E production@vincenttheshow.com | ACN 609 170 050

LISSAJANE DANCE – THE COMPANY

We strive to educate, illustrate and appreciate the social issues of today's world by unifying rich visual design, original scores and world-class performance. In highlighting that theatre works in both directions; we hope to empower young and old to challenge existing mentalities and express themselves in new and exciting ways, on and off the stage.

CORE SUBJECT MATTER

PURPOSE

To offer a unique view on some of the social issues of today through dance and the life of an artist's legacy.

THEMES

- Expressing emotions, fears, triumphs
- Loss and grief
- Love, compassion and brotherhood

CONTEXT

- Dramatic
- Historical
- Geographical

CHOREOGRAPHIC FORMS & STYLES

- Partnering & improvisation
- Task work & safe work practice
- Choreographic exploration and expression

SKILLS & ELEMENTS OF DANCE & DRAMA

- Contemporary dance
- Physical theatre & dialogue
- Visual arts & personal expression

SOCIAL THEMES

- Depression
- Suicide
- Abandonment
- Refugeeism [from self or country]

DIRECTORS NOTES

In the National Gallery in London is a painting of Sunflowers by Van Gogh. For some reason, it was the first painting that I always gravitated to whenever I visited. Looking at the painting in real life is a sight to behold; He leaves the edges raw so that you see the underlying canvas, the painting moves you inwards to the centre with its broad and strong brush strokes, thick



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with paint. Looking at his work up close is quite an emotional experience and forced me to see this man's life and its reality in its entirety.

Van Gogh was a man of far-reaching and titanic emotions that he then poured into his paintings, which naturally overflowed into his personal life. Never fully at ease in others company, his closest and dearest friend was his younger brother Theo who supported him to the best of his ability. Vincent painted over 900 paintings in the space of 8 years and wrote over 1000 letters, mostly to his brother, before finally committing suicide at the age of 37. It was believed that he was bipolar and suffered from frightening delusions that would sometimes continue for weeks at a time. These only really stopped when he stood and painted.

This work is my interpretation of how I see the internal workings of his mind – from the female voices in his head, to the guilt-ridden reactions of his words to Theo.

SYNOPSIS

'*Vincent*' – is a dance theatre work about the life, loss and love of Vincent Van Gogh and the mental illness that plagued a man that would become one of the most revered artists in history. The work is set within Van Gogh's mind, therefore his heart & emotional state is a tangible presence within the space. '*Vincent*' has a strong narrative base running throughout the show and uses techniques of contemporary dance, physical theatre, partnering, improvisation and dialogue.

All of the dialogue used is found within the published letters that the brothers wrote to each other and looks at the strength of their bond. '*Vincent*' explores the role that depression and creative genius played in Van Gogh's life and how it affected all his relationships, finally culminating in the devastating mourning that Theo experienced upon the death of his brother. The work seeks to address the impacts of mental health issues within society by illustrating that even with them, life is still possible. The show explores the euphoria and sheer joy that this artist must have experienced whilst painting through his darkest times.

THE CHARACTERS

Vincent – Fragile, tired, yearning for recognition, nervous, depressive, cantankerous, sensitive;

Movement portrayal – heavy, organic, grounded, facial tic, hands in constant motion, jagged.

Theo – kind hearted, faithful, reliable, devoted, calm, contained, loyal;

Movement portrayal – light, fluid, circular, strong, sustained – the opposite of Vincent.

The Psyche – doll like, resemblance of an oil painting, broken, shattered, fractured;

Movement Portrayal – organic, manic, tense & rigid as opposed to abandoned & free.

POST PERFORMANCE QUESTIONS

As a class discuss:

- What are the main themes of the work?
- Are these themes still prevalent in society today?
- Discuss the different characters and their portrayal of their character (mannerisms, habits, body language etc)
- How did they change their physicality to portray their character?
- Were there changing environments throughout the show and if so, where and how?
- How did the dancers move, sound, react and respond to their changing environments?
- Was this the first time you've experienced contemporary dance? Did you enjoy it? How does it differ to other forms of theatre and performance?

Identify and discuss:

- How the space was used to show the inner workings of Vincent's mind.
- How important was the set to the work?
- What was the significance of the performers interaction with the set? Was there a significance?
- How did the production elements of score, lighting and set play a major role in telling the story?
- Discuss the mood of each scene and how did they changed during the course of the work.
- How important was the score in showing each scenes message? Did the mood change with the music?
- Did you relate to any of the characters? If so, who, why and how?
- Did you think you were able to see the far ranging depths of depression and its consequences in Vincent and his brother Theo?
- The Psyche was the physical manifestation of Vincent's mind - was this portrayal clear?
- Did Vincent keep you engaged as a narrative driven dance theatre work?