

LA MAMA REBUILD ANNOUNCEMENT AND UPDATE!



La Mama Rebuild team on site. Photo by **Glenn Hester**

THANK YOU!

La Mama is overjoyed to share news of the very generous \$1 million dollar contribution from the Victorian State Labor Government to help us rebuild our precious theatre. We thank deeply Minister Martin Foley, advisor Holly Cooper and the team at Creative Victoria for this extraordinary contribution.

La Mama is very grateful for Heritage Victoria's support to get us going with the rebuild, Creative Victoria and Australia Council for their financial relief packages, numerous wonderful individuals for supporting us financially, and with all the in-kind donations received which aided in setting up our temporary office and temporary theatre at Trades Hall. Thank you also to all the theatres and organisations who hosted us and our community in the immediate wake of the fire. You all gave us strength in our time of need.

REBUILD UPDATE

It has been a busy time since fire ravaged La Mama's home at 205 Faraday Street, and the plans for rebuilding our iconic venue are progressing!

We are in the final stages of the insurance claim with QBE insurance, working harmoniously with broker Local Community Insurance Scheme and major and complex loss adjusters Cunningham and Lindsey. We are working towards a settlement that will significantly contribute to the restoration of La Mama. We are indebted to the generosity of Allan Willingham for providing the scope of works.

As a heritage listed building, our intention is to restore our beloved theatre to its humble, intimate self, honouring our rich past and preparing for a fruitful future. The size of the performance space will not change and we are aspiring to recreate its mood, simplicity and magic. Despite the tragedy of the fire, there is a significant opportunity for La Mama to make some adjustments and improvements - One very clear example is we now know that we will be able to realise a long-held ambition, to make La Mama an accessible space, which delights us greatly. We're in the process of dreaming, reflecting and considering all these possibilities and will continue to do this over the coming months.

THE REBUILD TEAM

La Mama has engaged architect Meg White to lead the restoration. As well as being an architect, Meg has worked for more than 25 years in theatre as both a performer and a designer. Her first show at La Mama was *The Fighters* in 1993 and her most recent contribution was the set for *Hallowed Ground*, which was on at the Courthouse in August 2018. She was also a Front Of House staff member in the mid 1990's, became the House Manager in 1997 and coordinated La Mama's 30th Birthday celebrations in 1997.

Meg's intimate knowledge of La Mama brings us great confidence that the spirit of La Mama will not be lost. She will be working alongside Cottey Parker, Architects for Documentation and Construction Services.

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The Rebuild management team is made up of La Mama CEOs Liz Jones and Caitlin Dullard and lead architect Meg White. This team is meeting regularly, engaging the La Mama staff and community members, and reporting to La Mama's Committee of Management at key stages of design and development.

We have a team of talented consultants who have been engaged for the project:

Architects for Documentation and Construction Services:

Cottee Parker

Planning Advice: Ethos Urban

Heritage Advice: GJM Heritage

Building Compliance & Accessibility Advice: Philip Chun

Cost Consultant: Rider Levett Bucknall

Structural Engineer: Irwin Consultant

Construction Advice & Support: Far East Consortium

Photographer: Glenn Hester Photography

Surveyor: Landair Surveys

REBUILD LA MAMA FUNDRAISING

Acknowledging the generosity of our State Government, La Mama will still need to call on our community to help raise the necessary funds. As ever, we are a community-led organisation and the Rebuild La Mama project continues this tradition. To rebuild the La Mama of the 21st century and beyond, we will be launching a public fundraising campaign in early 2019 and we hope our loyal supporters and champions will help spread the word when the time comes. Stay tuned!

To this end and made possible through some of our relief funds, we have been able to employ the excellent Tim Stitz in the role of Fundraising Manager. He will be heading up the public campaign early next year. For any queries or about fundraising generally please contact Tim: tim@lamama.com.au, (03) 9347 6948.

TIMELINE

The rebuild is expected to be complete by the middle of 2020. Until this time, our offices will be at La Mama Courthouse. Thank you to Working Heritage for their support in this.

Until our new space at Faraday Street is built all of our programming will take place at the La Mama Courthouse, with the exception of our Explorations 2019 season, which will be held at a nearby venue; yet to be finalised.

We will continue to add updates to our website.

Please contact Caitlin Dullard for further information
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COTTEEPARKER 

ETHOS
URBAN



PHILIP
CHUN 
Building Compliance



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