

L A M A M A P R E S E N T S
THE BUSINESS OF GOD

as a part of the melbourne international comedy festival 2021



Set in a version of Heaven that we rarely see, **The Business of God** explores the issues of religion, mortality, and being the best possible version of yourself - even after death - in a place that is far from a paradise

Michelle, a passionate atheist, arrives in Heaven, quite disappointed. She meets St Peta, who is unhappy about being misrepresented in the Bible, Jesus, who is a depressed stoner, and Satan, who wants everyone to know he's actually a nice guy. Together, they decide to challenge the business of God.

The Business of God came about due to the writers' personal experiences with religion many years ago, infused with the reasons why they turned their backs on it and the effect they see it having on societies throughout history. By staging the production, they hope it will get people thinking about how they can still lead a full and rich life without religion.

Brendan Black and Martin Chellew have been making short films together since 2009, on topics such as politics, clerical child abuse and asexuality. After Brendan had success with *Trotsky and Friends* at the 2016 and 2017 Melbourne International Comedy Festivals, the theatre bug had well and truly bitten, and Martin came along for the ride this time, adapting their unproduced short film *The Business of God* into a project of which they could both be very proud.

"You don't get to where I am through love".
– (God, *The Business of God*, 2021)

Written & Directed by:

Brendan Black (*Trotsky and Friends*)and **Martin Chellew**

Performed by:

Heather Valentine, Sarah Bliss, Ruth Gilmour,**Zachary Kazepis, Max Gettler**

Image by:

Ruby Culley**SEASON** 6 - 11 April, 2021**TIMES** Tues 6.30pm; Wed - Sat 7.30pm; Sun 4pm**LENGTH** Approx. 80 minutes**VENUE** La Mama Courthouse, 349 Drummond St, Carlton**TICKETS** \$30 Adult | \$20 Concession**BOOKINGS** 03 9347 6948 or www.lamama.com.au**La Mama Theatre, 349 Drummond Street Carlton VIC 3053 Australia | info@lamama.com.au | +613 9347 6948 | www.lamama.com.au**

La Mama is financially assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council – its arts funding and advisory body, Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund - an Australian Government initiative, the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria, and the City of Melbourne through the *Arts and Creative Partnerships Program*. We are grateful to all our philanthropic partners and donors, advocates, volunteers, audiences, artists and our entire community as we work towards the La Mama rebuild. Thank you!