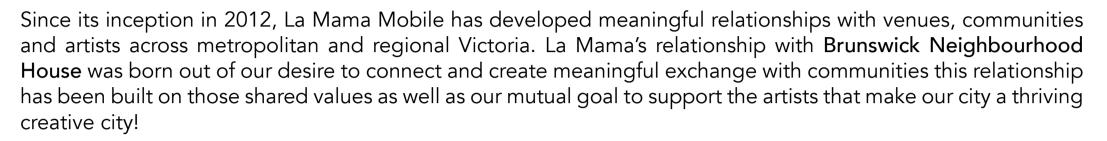
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Brunswick Neighbourhood House For immediate release For Media Enquiries: Sophia Constantine La Mama Marketing & Communications Coordinator P: 03 9347 6948 E: <u>sophia@lamama.com.au</u>

THE FALL OF THE ROMAN UMPIRE AT BRUNSWICK NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE



Brunswick Neighbourhood House Assistant Manager, Rebecca Sanders, has been really impressed with the La Mama Mobile program. -"It has been fantastic to partner with La Mama to make cutting edge theatre more accessible to our community. The combination of a relaxed setting and such an exciting selection of plays has been incredibly successful. We love it."

We are thrilled to announce that next up at Brunswick Neighbourhood House we have 'The Fall of the Roman Umpire'.

The setting is Ireland, 1956 - a wee boy puts on his Da's shirt and his Ma's tea-cosy. Holding up a mop he informs his family that he's a centurion in The Fall of the Roman Umpire.

This hilarious and personal tale follows Dennis through his childhood migration from Ireland to Australia via the Suez Canal, schooling in a new country, mishaps and false starts, career changes and life lessons from his wise old Ma.

- "The Fall of the Roman Umpire is magnificently performed by Dennis Coard. His play is witty, poignant and hilarious with superb timing. The huge repertoire covered is testament to Dennis' immense talent." Wendy McMahon, MRSS.
- "...with impressive acting ability, Coard captivates the audience... he fascinates and delights, weaving magic from everyday existence." Jeff Northam, The Age.
 - "...a charming and cheeky one-man show... his characters are delightful and believable... Coard is a consummate comic performer." Kate Herbert, Herald Sun.

Dennis is delighted to be bringing 'The Fall of the Roman Umpire' to Brunswick Neighbourhood House. "I wrote and first performed this play over 20 years ago... long before Kenneth Branagh had even thought about making his movie Belfast." Dennis says.

Since his graduation from the VCA, Irish-born actor Dennis Coard has enjoyed a rich and varied career on stage, screen and television. Screen work includes the leading role in the AFI award-winning 'Return Home'. Most recent work includes roles in 'San Andreas', 'Noise' and 'Ride Like A Girl. Television work includes roles on most TV dramas. Including 6 years on 'Home and Away'. Most recent work includes roles on 'The Newsreader', 'The Weekly with Charlie Pickering', 'Rosehaven' and 'Five Bedrooms'. On stage, Dennis has performed in the UK and Australia, including over a dozen productions with the MTC. Recent work at La Mama includes 'Wild Cherries', 'Three Sisters', 'Fire in the Head' and 'The Fall of the Roman Umpire'. ('Fire in the Head' was performed at Brunswick Neighbourhood House in May.) Dennis is currently working on 'Turn up the Volume' for the ABC. He is also working on 'The Poetry of Grief' and a new one-person play 'Everyman and his Dog'.

Written and performed by Dennis Coard Image by Adrian Prosen Photo of Boy: By Joseph Coard (circa 1956) Photo of Man: By Rudi Jass (circa 2020) Painting of "Fairsky": unknown (circa 1960) DATE: Friday 26 August, 7PM (Bar Opens 6.30PM)
VENUE: Brunswick Neighbourhood House 43A De Carle Street, Brunswick
LENGTH: Approx. 55 minutes
ALL TICKETS \$15 | BOOKINGS (CLICK HERE)

La Mama Theatre, 205 Faraday 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 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. Thank you!





