

La Mama Theatre presents a WHAM production of
FAREWELL LADY AUTUMN by Melka Stansah

“Farewell Lady Autumn” opens a brief window into the social life of Chinese women in the early 20th Century. It is the story of Qiu Jin, the woman who prepared the foundation of feminism in modern China that paved the pathway. Her media portrayals contribute to her reputation as a revolutionary, however only a few commemorate her vision and work as a feminist.



The year is 1903, Qiu Jin, a woman ahead of her time moves to Beijing. Dreaming of liberating Chinese women from foot binding, arranged marriage practices as well as fighting for equality in education for men and women she finds her days filled with looking after her children together with her naïve and illiterate maid and dealing with her conservative husband. Not until she forges a sworn sisterhood with a fellow writer who harbours a secret past, the fight to realise her dream has just begun. Yet, her acquaintance with a charismatic and ambitious revolutionary leader might lead her to another direction.

The play depicts Qiu Jin’s feminist visions and struggles, explores her vulnerabilities, and brings her literary work as a poet and writer into the spotlight. For the last imperial dynasty ruling China, the Manchurian Qing dynasty, the name Qiu Jin will always remain in their history one of the most dangerous rebel experts in martial arts and firing pistols. Following her execution in 1907 for her involvement in a failed assassination attempt on a high ranking officer of the Qing Dynasty and the successful 1911 revolution a few years later, she is hailed as a Republican – and later – a Communist martyr.

Playwright Melka Stansah is an Australian writer/playwright of Chinese-Indonesian background.
Performed by Isabelle Wang, Fanny Hanusin, Lansy Feng and Jamie Vu - all professional cast members have ancestral links to China.
Directed by Wolf Heidecker
Lighting/Sound/Visual Design/Head Tech Operations Richard Lyford-Pike
Image by Darren Gill

AT LA MAMA HQ: MARCH 20 – 28, 2024

Bookings, full dates, times & details can be found on La Mama’s [website](#)

For Media-Tickets, Interview requests or images please contact: Wolf Heidecker (WHAM)
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La Mama is financially assisted by Creative Victoria (Creative Enterprises Program), and the City of Melbourne (Arts and Creative Partnership Program). We are grateful to all our philanthropic partners and donors, advocates, volunteers, audiences, artists and our entire community. Thank you!