

EMERGENT 2023: PERFORMING ARTS SHOWCASE



EMERGENT

Sunday 17 March
2.00 pm
Bunjil Place Theatre



We proudly acknowledge the Traditional Owners, Casey's Aboriginal communities and their rich culture and pay respect to their Elders past, present and future.

We acknowledge Aboriginal people as Australia's First Peoples and as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which we work and live.

This year's Emergent performing artists are bold in their expression, exploring themes that are critical and relevant to our current world. They include love, desire and vulnerability, embodiment of new life, action, impact and dynamics affecting relationships, social change and individual responsibility, boundaries and beliefs and states of grief.

Performances include, contemporary dance, acting and directing and devised ensemble performances, contemporary voice and instrumental music including violin and trombone.

We are deeply proud of their journey to arrive at this point.

We hope you enjoy the show.

VCE Music Performance

Claire Anderson

Voice

St Margaret's Berwick Grammar

***Requiem* by Benj Pasek and Justin Paul**

This song is from the musical *Dear Evan Hansen* and is performed originally by Laura Dreyfuss who played the character Zoe. This song follows Zoe's story as she expresses her thoughts and her emotions regarding the death of her older brother. The song speaks about the struggles of grief and in Zoe's case, she is not sure how to handle her feelings as she had a rocky relationship with her brother.

Claire presented a 20-minute program of works, chosen to fit the criteria of the VCAA study design for music performance. Her program included works from contemporary, swing, acapella, rock ballad, and musical theatre genres.



Claire has completed her Grade 8 singing for leisure exam with the Australian Music Examinations Board and has had experience performing in concerts as well as lead roles in *Shrek the musical*, *The Little Mermaid the musical* and *The Wiz musical*. Claire has enjoyed many aspects of performance including acting and dance along with singing.

VCE Music Performance

Chloe Liew

Violin

St Margaret's
Berwick Grammar

It Ain't Necessarily So by George Gershwin

It Ain't Necessarily So was originally a song from the Gershwin Brothers' opera *Porgy and Bess* (1935), with song by George Gershwin and lyrics by his brother Ira Gershwin.

This song was sung by the character Sportin' Life, a drug dealer expressing his doubts about some things in the Bible. Later adapted for violin by Jascha Heifetz, this is a playful piece with varying characters and themes that recur throughout.



Chloe is currently undertaking Year 12 and has been learning violin for nearly 12 years. She completed her LMusA with distinction in violin in 2022 and has extensive experience in solo and ensemble playing, having had membership in the Melbourne String Ensemble for eight years and being the concertmaster of St Margaret's Senior School Orchestra since 2020.

VCE Music Performance

Rachel Jayawardene

Voice

St. Peter's College

Dancing Queen by ABBA

This unique rendition of *Dancing Queen* offers a charming twist, blending folk melodies with the iconic anthem.



Rachel recently finished the Australian Girls Choir, which led her to sing in the 2022 AFL Grand Final and Carols by Candlelight. She is undertaking university at Collarts studying a Bachelor Music Performance.

VET Certificate III Music Industry

Kaylah Hancock

Voice

Hallam Secondary
College

Young and Beautiful by Lana Del Rey

Young and Beautiful by Lana Del Rey is a hauntingly beautiful song that captures the vulnerability and longing of youth within a relationship. It reveals the desire to be seen as beautiful and worthy of love. The lyrics along with the ethereal melody create a melancholic atmosphere and can evoke strong emotions for the listener.



Kaylah is a passionate singer/songwriter who has been taking vocal lessons since the age of six. During her last year of high school, Kaylah was accepted into JMC Academy's Bachelor of Music course with early entry. She went on to complete her VCE certificate while studying part time at university.

VCE Music Performance

Aleksandr Tabensky

Trombone

St Margaret's
Berwick Grammar

Cheeky by Wycliffe Gordon

Cheeky is a lively and spirited jazz composition by trombonist and composer Wycliffe Gordon.

With its playful melody and infectious rhythm, the piece plays around with a sense of mischief, yet delight. The work's name, *Cheeky*, embodies that sense of humour and pushes the 'traditional' jazz boundaries.



Aleksandr loves music and has been playing the piano from the age of four and trombone from age eleven. He recently completed Suzuki Music Grade 8 piano certification, and is working towards Grade 8 AMEB trombone certification.

VCE Dance Performance

Ee En Lim

Dance Solo Waverley Christian College

Cohesive Composition Binary Structure (A, B)

Section A: Paper folding in the origami process. This section highlights the intricate art of origami paper folding. I employed transposition, precisely illustrating the act through the coordinated movements of my limbs, encompassing arms, legs, and torso.

Section B: Embodying the crane bird as the final product of the origami process. In this section, a recurring motif characterised by bird gestures are established. Commencing with a graceful contortion of the neck and head, and then transitioning into a distinct motif depicting the elegant flight of crane bird wings.



Ee En is currently undertaking Year 12 and is preparing for her university studies while also exploring several dance opportunities.

VCE Theatre Studies

Mackenzie O'Connor

Acting and Directing Monologue Beaconhills College, Pakenham

Philoctetes, Paradise by Kae Tempest

A monologue of struggle and anger fuelled by ten years of isolation. The play is a modern version of Sophocles' 'Philoctetes' (409BC) now written by Kae Tempest during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The monologue references both the past and present in outbursts of anger towards the world, which emphasises both Philoctetes' internal struggle and serves as a criticism of the world we are currently in.

Content Warning: Paradise

Contains themes of despair and societal breakdown, including fascism, genocide, racism and digital intimacy.



Mackenzie has had a long love for the performing arts in both music and drama, and is currently studying a double degree in Primary Education and Music Composition at Monash University.

VCE Drama

Natalie Afaj Rachael Borg Max Corby Peter Mitousis Kothe

**Devised
Ensemble
Performance**
Dandenong
High School

On Death and Dying

Written and composed by Natalie Afaj, Rachael Borg, Peter Mitousis Kothe, with the addition of Year 11 performer Max Corby.

A grief support group welcomes four individuals who present their experiences to each other as well as the audience. They discuss their own stage of grief, the cause of their grief and attempt to connect with the audience by sharing. Each of the stories highlights how grief connects everyone and how grief isn't always caused by the death of a loved one. In doing so, the characters validate their own stories, and the stories personal to those in the audience, achieved through the use of satire and serious themes. As the story progresses, we see how grief connects us all, no matter how different the experiences.

**Content Warning:
On Death and Dying**

Contains themes of chronic disease, death, relationship breakdown and flashing lights.

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VCE Drama



Natalie Afaj's traditional name is Nyajur. She was born in Australia and her family comes from South Sudan. For a long time she felt she didn't have a connection to her culture and by extension, family. Now she strives to have that connection and display it in her art. She hopes to one day become an artist and own her own gallery.



Rachael Borg is a recent graduate of Dandenong High School and current member of Monash University. This year she is studying a Bachelor of Design, with a specialisation in spatial design. She has been part of the performing arts community for eight years, and is highly passionate about theatre and stage. For the future, she would love to work as an interior designer at a residential company and own her own small theatre company.



Max Corby is actively involved in the performing arts including VCE drama, school productions, music bands and the house chorales competition. Max has won the Dandenong High School drama subject award every year since attending secondary school. In the future Max is interested in continuing to perform in drama and music, alongside a career in paramedicine.



Peter Mitrousis-Kothe has been doing theatre since he was nine and has loved every second of it. He played the lead in 'War of the World' and hopes to continue theatre studies. He is currently completing a Bachelor in Acting at Collarts.

VCE VET Dance

Ella Peters Handasyde

Dance Solo Berwick College

Lyrical *A Place That I Don't Know*

This lyrical solo, choreographed by Benjamin Cure, explores the theme of change. It demonstrates how even a minor action can alter the dynamics of a relationship with a loved one.

This alteration leads to an unfamiliar atmosphere between oneself and their partner. Hence the title, *A Place That I Don't Know*. The solo highlights the dancer's flexibility, relationship with gravity and artistry.



Ella is currently undertaking year 12 as well as the Young Actors Studio course at NIDA this year. She is also preparing for auditions for performing arts institutions across Australia.

VET Cert III Music Performance

Christian Tanielu

Voice

Hallam Secondary College

***Man in the Mirror* by Michael Jackson**

Man in the Mirror speaks directly to these issues by emphasizing the importance of individual responsibility in creating social change. He writes about how society today needs to be changed because of the way the world is working. Looking at himself and saying 'the man in the mirror', he's referring to all humans who need to stand up and do something about it.

I'm inspired by black artists and gospel church music. I create my unique style by adding runs and riffs.



Christian's stage name is 'Tino Letele'. He is 18 years old and loves to sing! Having successfully completed his VET Cert III Music Performance in 2023, Christian has started making and producing his own music. He is looking forward to one day attending music academy and undertaking a bachelors in songwriting and music production.

Thanks to the performers, co-producers, teachers, family and friends.



Max Corby, Dandenong High School

Max is actively involved in performing arts including VCE drama, school productions, music bands and the house chorales competition. Max has won the Dandenong High School drama subject award every year since attending secondary school. In the future Max is interested in continuing to perform in drama and music, alongside a career in paramedicine.



Charlotte Moseley, Beaconhills College

Charlotte attends Beaconhills College Berwick and has a keen interest in architecture, literature, and film. She is currently studying Visual Communication and Design and Media as part of VCE. Charlotte is an accomplished pianist, having achieved her Grade 8 Classical Piano qualification and recently started jazz lessons. She also loves singing in school musicals, bands, and solo performances, especially in the genres of jazz, soul and indie.



Talia Mudalige, Gleneagles Secondary College

Talia is currently studying VCE at Gleneagles Secondary College and has a great passion for the arts. She has been a member of the Australian Girls Choir since 2019 and is active in school performing arts programs including the school choir and pop band. Talia is an accomplished pianist having played classical piano since age 11. Her interest in the arts has expanded to include rnb and indie music styles.



Tahlia Ziino, Beaconhills College

Tahlia attends Beaconhills College Berwick and is highly active in the performing arts fields including music, dance, theatre and screen acting. She enjoys expressing herself through different mediums and collaborating alongside people with the same passions and interests. Tahlia is a year 12 school captain and recently won an award for SEISA Theatre Sports.

