

# QUEENSLAND THEATRE

8 October 2021

## 2021 Season updates

\* *Robyn Archer: An Australian Songbook* postponed to 2022 \*  
\* *Othello* to premiere in Cairns this November \*

Queensland Theatre has confirmed new dates for two of its 2021 Season productions recently impacted by COVID-19 restrictions.

The world premiere season of [Robyn Archer: An Australian Songbook](#) will now be performed at the Bille Brown Theatre from 25 June – 9 July 2022.

Artistic Director Lee Lewis said that she “absolutely shares the audience’s disappointment that we won’t see Robyn Archer on stage in Brisbane this year. I can’t wait for us to experience her fearless and personal celebration of the way song has shaped Australian identity.”

Tickets to this intimate production from one of Australia’s true icons of the stage are now on sale. Existing ticket holders have been contacted with their new performance details.

*Robyn Archer: An Australian Songbook* will be available to stream online anywhere in Australia in 2022 as part of Queensland Theatre at Home, with dates to be advised.

In more positive news, the long-awaited production of Shakespeare’s *Othello* adapted by Jimi Bani and Jason Klarwein, will resume rehearsals shortly in preparation for the world premiere season to take place in Cairns from 12–13 November at Bulmba-ja Arts Centre as part of the postponed Cairns Indigenous Art Fair 2021.

“This astounding adaptation is going to blow audiences away,” Lewis said. “Melding Shakespeare with the Torres Strait’s unique Wagadagam culture in a production employing three languages (Kala Lagaw Ya, Yumpla Tok and English) elevates the classic tale of jealousy and betrayal to extraordinary heights.”

This weekend Queensland Theatre and co-production partners Brisbane Festival and QPAC bid farewell to Eli Bell when Trent Dalton’s *Boy Swallows Universe* adapted for the stage by Tim McGarry and directed by Sam Strong closes on Saturday 9 October, after six phenomenal weeks on the Playhouse, QPAC stage.

The Company, which recently revealed the eight productions for its Brisbane [2022 Season](#), will now see out this year with Steve Pirie’s [Return to the Dirt](#). The Queensland Premier’s Drama Award 2020–21 winner is a refreshing, honest and uplifting new work from the former funeral director who explores what it means to live through the eyes of a young man who spends a year tending to the dead.

Hailed by Lewis as “one the best Australian plays I have read in the last five years”, *Return to the Dirt* runs at the Bille Brown Theatre from 16 October — 6 November. The production will also be available to stream online from 29 November — 5 December as part of Queensland Theatre at Home.

For more information and ticket bookings visit [queenslandtheatre.com.au](https://queenslandtheatre.com.au)

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For further information, imagery or interviews, please contact Amanda Lawson, Queensland Theatre via [publicity@queenslandtheatre.com.au](mailto:publicity@queenslandtheatre.com.au) or phone 07 3010 7669

Queensland Theatre acknowledges the Jagera and Turrbal people who are the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work, and their unique relationship with the lands, seas and waterways. We pay our respects to their Elders both past and present, and to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples