



The STATUS Consortium proudly presents

## STATUS

*Let's start the discussion...*

**23 – 27 July, 2014**

**Arts Centre Melbourne: *Fairfax Studio***

**[www.statustheplay.com](http://www.statustheplay.com)**

Premiering this year as a part of the **[20th International AIDS Conference](#)**, **STATUS** is a powerful performance exploring the complexities of HIV stigma in our current day and age.

**STATUS** has been developed from the real experiences of people living with, affected by and associated with HIV/AIDS in 2014. The play was inspired and created here in Melbourne through interviews with 45 individuals (from all over the world), and the canvassing of their life experiences. The work is designed to change negative attitudes towards HIV, celebrate the individual and **start the discussion** to overcome HIV-related stigma.

*“Our aim is for this production to improve awareness of HIV and challenge the stigma that we know exists towards people living with HIV.”, says **Stephen and Michelle Barber (Executive Producers; STATUS)**. “AIDS 2014 was the perfect opportunity to bring these stories to a truly international audience, and we hope **STATUS** will touch the minds and hearts of everyone who sees the show.”*

Running from **23 - 27 July** in the **Fairfax Studio** at **Arts Centre Melbourne**, **STATUS** will feature performers **Kath Gordon, Will Conyers, Brigid Gallacher, and Matt Hickey** with award-winning director **Cameron Menzies (Opera Australia, Victorian Opera, Malthouse, STC)** at the helm. It is a groundbreaking theatrical experience, proudly presented as part of the **20th International AIDS Conference**.

**STATUS** exposes the continued, debilitating stigma that positive people endure on a daily basis, and presents it for discussion and reflection. The work addresses HIV and AIDS as a global epidemic and brings the uniqueness of each individual (and their community) to life, in an intimate and provocative hour-long performance.

**STATUS** IS real-life stories exploring HIV stigma. It is a celebration of life, full of bravery, love, humour, pain, and compassion.

**STATUS** is proudly supported by *Arts Centre Melbourne, Living Positive Victoria, Straight Arrows, the AIDS Trust of Australia, Victorian AIDS Council/Gay Men's Health Centre, and Alfred Health.*

**23 – 27 July, 2014**

**Wed – Sat 9pm, Sat and Sun 3pm, Wed 2pm**

**Tickets: \$40 Full, \$37 Concession (FT Students, Pensioners, Seniors)**

**Bookings: 1300 182 183 and [www.artscentremelbourne.com.au](http://www.artscentremelbourne.com.au)**

**Venue: Arts Centre Melbourne – *Fairfax Studio***

**[www.statustheplay.com](http://www.statustheplay.com)**

**Sassy Red PR**



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