

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 21 August, 2019

Wise Owl Theatre proudly presents

The Window Outside

Written by Belinda Lopez

Directed by Liz Connors

Starring Ian Rooney, Carrie Moczynski, Julie-Anna Evans,
and Antonia Mochan

1 - 13 October, 2019

Northcote Town Hall: 189 High St, Northcote

www.wiseowltheatre.com.au



Supported by **Dying With Dignity Victoria**, this October **Wise Owl Theatre** bring Melbourne audiences a powerful and moving tale of love, as a part of the 2019 **Victorian Seniors Festival**. The story of Frank and Evelyn and their daughters Sharon and Miranda, **The Window Outside** is a compelling new Australian work exploring how one family negotiate the tender pathway of ageing, illness, and end of life care.

After a profound stroke, Frank is wheelchair bound, cannot speak and totally dependent on someone to care for him. At the same time his beloved wife Evelyn is showing early signs of dementia and is a high risk of hurting herself or someone else. With their eldest daughter Sharon physically, emotionally and mentally exhausted as the primary caregiver for her parents, while younger sister Miranda enjoys a celebrated life as an artist in London, **The Window Outside** invites audiences to join this family as they tread the unknown terrain of end of life choices.

“The Window Outside is a story about choice”, explains producer and actor Liz Connors. “But further, this is a story about family and where “home” is. So many elderly people pass away lonely and isolated in huge constructs called Nursing homes, desperate for family, desperate for “home”. Home and displacement are major themes of the play and Frank and Evelyn’s home is everyone’s home - they are everyone’s family, mother, father. The work questions cultural perspectives, existential suffering and who burdens the responsibility. It contributes greatly to the very public and political conversation about end of life choices and shines a light on the voluntary assisted dying laws. Do they go far enough?”

Playing as a part of the 2019 **Victorian Seniors Festival** at the **Northcote Town Hall**, **The Window Outside** also tours **Geelong**, **Moorabbin** and **Warragul** throughout October. Funny, pertinent and incredibly moving, this new Australian work is not to be missed.

Wise Owl Theatre is a Melbourne-based independent theatre company that celebrate older people, their stories, and their lives. They produce both new and published works that reflect the richness and experience of older people and strive to encourage inter-generational relationships by providing opportunities for young artists to work and collaborate with experienced older theatre professionals.

*This season is proudly supported by **Victorian Seniors Festival**, **Dying with Dignity Victoria**, **Dr Rodney Syme** (Opening Night Key Guest Speaker and advocate for assisted-dying for over 40 years) and **Auspicious Arts Inc.***

1 - 13 October, 2019

Wed - Sun 2pm and 7:30pm (Times vary, please see booking link for full details)

Previews Tues 1 October 7:30pm and Wed 2 October 2pm

Tickets: \$35 Full, \$26 Concession, \$25 Grps 10+, \$22 Preview and Senior's Week

Bookings: 03 9481 9500 or online at www.wiseowltheatre.com.au/the-window-outside

Venue: Northcote Town Hall (Studio One), 189 High St, Northcote

Tour dates and venues:

Shenton Theatre, Geelong (16-19 October)

Kingston Performing Arts Centre, Moorabbin (26-27 October)

West Gippsland Arts Centre, Warragul (29-30 October)