

Media Release

The Hon Colin Brooks MP
Minister for Development Victoria
Minister for Precincts
Minister for Creative Industries



Friday, 10 May 2024

ICONIC INDIE ST KILDA THEATRE KICKS OFF REDEVELOPMENT

St Kilda's iconic performance venue Theatre Works will be enjoyed by audiences for years to come with construction kicking off on a game-changing redevelopment, thanks to the Allan Labor Government.

Minister for Creative Industries Colin Brooks today joined Member for Albert Park Nina Taylor and the Theatre Works team to tour the site as work that will transform the Acland Street site commences.

A much-loved Melbourne institution, Theatre Works has presented quality independent productions since 1980, with a proud history as a breeding ground for performing arts talent.

The project will honour the 1914 Parish Hall theatre space's heritage, replacing and repairing the slate tile roof, while new lighting, sound equipment, stage rigging technology will be installed inside the theatre.

A brand-new dressing room, much-needed rehearsal space and workshop will ensure more creative projects can be held onsite.

Works at ground level will improve wheelchair accessibility to the theatre and the stage while all site entrances will feature new accessible doors.

Landscaping and a new accessible car park will also benefit the outdoor spaces.

This redevelopment has been supported with \$1.1 million from the Labor Government, while Theatre Works also receives multi-year funding through the Government's Creative Enterprises Program.

The 2024 Theatre Works season will continue throughout the construction period, with the completion expected in early 2025.

Explore the program at theatreworks.org.au

Quote attributable to Minister for Creative Industries Colin Brooks

"A jewel of St Kilda, Theatre Works has presented quality independent theatre for over four decades, supporting thousands of artists careers, and this project will set it up for the future."

Quote attributable to Member for Albert Park Nina Taylor

"We're thrilled to see these upgrades begin at Theatre Works thanks to the Allan Labor Government, ensuring that this iconic St Kilda venue continues to be a vibrant hub for independent performing arts, accessible to all members of our community."

Quote attributable to Theatre Works Executive Director Dianne Toulson

"This initiative will support the vibrant independent theatre community in Victoria by providing them with relevant and accessible facilities."

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