

MEDIA ALERT

25 February 2020 | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Truth, Justice and the Redfern Way: Redfern Legal Centre's
comedy FUN-raiser is back!**

Get ready for a huge night of laughs when Sydney's hottest comedians stand up for social justice at Giant Dwarf Theatre on **Thursday 5 March**. All funds raised will support Redfern Legal Centre, ensuring that urgently-needed legal help remains accessible and free.

This is the third year Redfern Legal Centre has teamed up with Giant Dwarf to present a diverse line up of Sydney's best stand up acts. Local comedy stars coming out in support of the iconic legal centre include Matt Okine (*The Other Guy*, *Legally Brown*), Michael Hing (*The Feed*, *Triple J*) Nikki Britton (*Comedy Up Late*, *The Project*), Radha La Bia (*The Set*), AJ Lamarque (*Kweens of Comedy*) and many more.

"For over forty years, Redfern Legal Centre has been supporting people in crisis through life-changing legal services," RLC CEO Joanna Shulman said.

"This fundraiser is a fabulous way the community can come together to support the important work of our centre, enjoy some big laughs with a wonderfully diverse comedy line up and ensure that free legal help remains available to all those who need it most."

Details:

WHAT: Truth Justice and the Redfern Way: A Comedy Fundraiser for Redfern Legal Centre

WHEN: Thursday 5 March 2020, 7:30pm - 10:00pm

WHERE: Giant Dwarf Theatre, 199 Cleveland Street, Redfern

BOOKINGS: <https://giantdwarf.com.au/events/rlc-2020>

Courtyard bar opens at 6:30pm for a 7:30pm start. Pop in before the show for a drink and a mingle!

The full line up is below:

- Concetta Caristo (MC)
- Matt Okine
- Nikki Britton
- Shahmen Suku (Radha La Bia)
- Michael Hing
- Bec Melrose
- AJ Lamarque
- Brendan Hancock

Performer bios are overleaf. For media inquiries contact RLC Communications Manager Finn O'Keefe: finn@rlc.org.au, 0424 548 019, [02 9698 7277](tel:0296987277).

Performer bios (download images here: <http://bit.ly/2TfHANT>)



CONCETTA CARISTO (MC) is a feisty Italian woman who combines improv and stand-up to hilarious effect. You've seen her on *Pedestrian TV*, *JUNKEE*, *ABC's Fresh Blood* and heard her on 2RRR, *The Thinker Girls* and as host of *FBI's 'Shits & Gigs'* segment. Concetta's powerful one-woman play, *'Loose'* played to sold-out crowds and critical acclaim at the 2019 *Sydney Fringe Comedy Festival*. Now she's taking to the stage for RLC!

MATT OKINE is one of Australia's favourite comedians, with over 15 years of appearances on TV, film and stage. Okine has won many awards including the ARIA Award for Best Comedy Release, The Melbourne Comedy Festival's Director's Choice Award, and Best Newcomer Award at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival. Matt hosted Triple J Breakfast for 3 years and then produced the award-winning TV adaption of his stand up show, *The Other Guy*. He's also appeared on SBS's *Legally Brown*, Ch 7's *Orange Is The New Brown* and Ch 9's *Doctor Doctor* and many other TV shows. Matt's debut novel *Being Black N Chicken & Chips* has just been published, and he is currently working on a film adaptation.

NIKKI BRITTON exploded onto the comedy scene in 2011 with her warm, lightning-paced style, that has seen tour nationally and internationally for the last 6 years, including with The Melbourne Comedy Festival Roadshow, as well as performing at LA's Laugh Factory, The Hollywood Improv and The Edinburgh Festival Fringe. Nikki has also featured on many Australian TV productions including ABC's *Comedy Up Late*, Matt Okine's *The Other Guy* and Network 10's *The Project*.

SHAHMEN SUKU (Radha La Bia) is a performance artist based in Sydney. Growing up in a modern matriarchal Indian family in Singapore, Suku processes his feelings of displacement from home as Radha La Bia, the Diva from India, who entered the country by dubious means. Radha has presented works for *Liveworks* at Performance Space, *Liquid Architecture* and *Cement Fondu*, and appears on ABC TV's *'The Set'* as a recurring host in the kitchen.

BEC MELROSE is a writer and comedian who mixes stand-up, storytelling, improvised comedy and sketch. Winner of *RAW Comedy* (2018), Bec has written for *Tonightly with Tom Ballard* and has appeared at *Comedy Bites*, *Story Club*, Triple J's *Good Az Friday*, Nova's *Hits & Giggles* and *Comedy Up Late*. Selected for Melbourne International Comedy Festival, and a finalist at Edinburgh Fringe, Bec also performs regularly with her best friends as the improv group, Snake Pit and hosts the popular comedy podcast, *'Get Over It'* with John Robles.

AJ LAMARQUE is a Sydney-based comedian, podcaster, and producer whose natural charm and charisma has made a well-known performer in the LGBTIQ+ community. AJ performs regularly at events including *Kween's of Comedy*, *Queerstories*, *The Comedy Lounge*, *Bondi Feast Festival*, *Sydney Fringe* and Comedy Festivals, *Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Festival* plus much more. He was also a finalist in the Young Achiever category of the 2019 Honour Awards.

BRENDAN HANCOCK is a comedian and improviser. One-half of Sydney's *Two Queers Walk Into A Bar*, Brendan has made a name for himself telling stories (mainly unsubstantiated gossip) around Sydney and on the old radio telephone at 2ser and FBi radio. Brendan will be debuting his solo show *'Horsing Around'* at this years' Sydney Comedy Festival.

MICHAEL HING is a comedian, actor and terrible party guest. He has performed to sold-out audiences at the Sydney Comedy Festival, Melbourne Comedy Festival & Sydney Fringe. His political comedy features often on SBS Viceland's *The Feed*, and he's a regular on Triple j.