

RECONCILIATION THEATRE AT ITS VERY BEST

Brisbane Powerhouse presents

Bindjareb Pinjarra

Created by Nyoongar and Wadjella (white fella) actors, *Bindjareb Pinjarra* by the **Pinjarra Project** is a clever fusion of history, outrageous comedy and physical theatre and will change the way you view history when it comes to Brisbane Powerhouse from **Tuesday 15 to Thursday 17 June**.

Performing in Brisbane for the very first time, this brilliant play about Western Australia's 1834 Pinjarra Massacre and its contemporary reverberations is being restaged for the 175th anniversary of the contentious Pinjarra 'incident'. Created and performed by an equal mix of indigenous and non-indigenous actors (Isaac Drandic, Geoff Kelso, Sam Longley, Frank Nannup, Kelton Pell and Phil Thompson), this exuberant work was originally produced in the early 1990's.

Although this play recounts one of the bloodiest days in Western Australian history, the actors break out of their 1834 characters to remind us of how the 'Battle of Pinjarra' still resonates today. From the actions of Governor Sterling, to a hip-hopper's emerging awareness of his culture; from a tribal hunting party's first encounter with a settler, to a motorcycle with a boomerang as handlebars, *Bindjareb Pinjarra* is comical and heartfelt – a wonderful fusion of the comic with the tragic.

The creators of this work researched the incident from Nyoongar and colonial sources to present a reading of events from an indigenous perspective, which sees the "battle" as a premeditated slaughter of up to 750 indigenous men, women and children – many more than the twenty or thirty warriors said to be killed in the 'official' colonial version of events.

The comedy comes commedia dell'arte style, from the satire of official pomposity, preconceptions and human folly but the play does not shy away from the terror of what happened. Pell, whose extensive stage and screen credits include *Jandamarra*, *The Circuit* and *One Night the Moon*, says the lack of script for *Bindjareb Pinjarra* has allowed the play to be passed on 'black fella' style to the younger actors, Drandic and Longley, who are sworn to perform the play for the 200th anniversary.

This is a powerful and moving performance that will make you laugh as much as it will horrify you and make you think and it mustn't be missed.

Tickets available through **Box Office** on **07 3358 8600** or online at brisbanepowerhouse.org

Brisbane Powerhouse is a not-for-profit organisation owned and supported by Brisbane City Council.

-ENDS-

Date	Tue 15 – Thu 17 June 2010
Time	Tue & Thu 8pm, Wed 12 midday & 8pm
Venue	Visy Theatre, Brisbane Powerhouse.
Tickets	Full \$26, Concession \$22, School (group 10+) \$16
Bookings	07 3358 8600 or brisbanepowerhouse.org

**For more information, images and interviews please contact
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