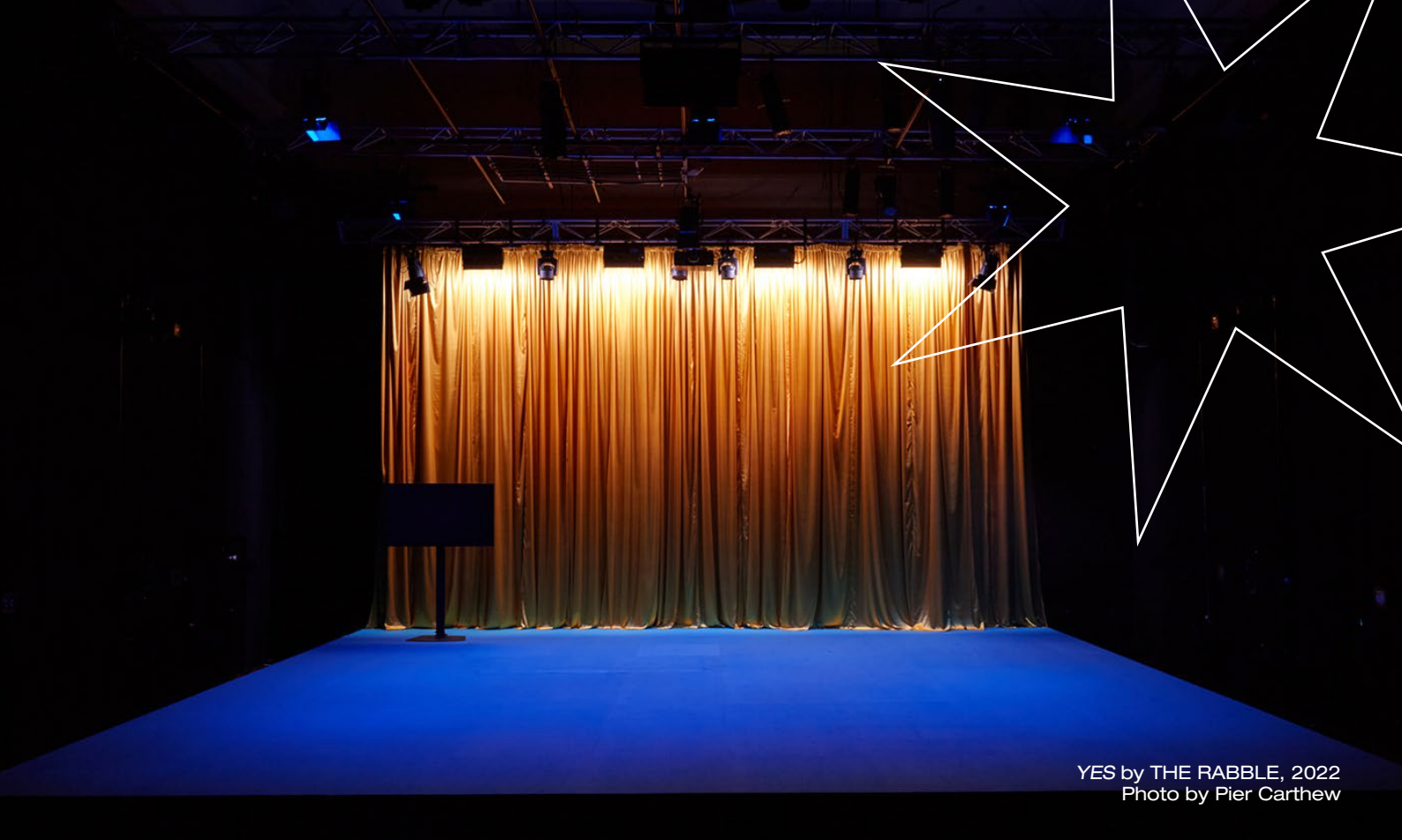


spark

**Igniting new & bold
South Australian theatre**

ARTIST INFORMATION PACK



YES by THE RABBLE, 2022
Photo by Pier Carthew

Are you ready to break the rules, push the form, and ignite something entirely new?

SPARK is a space for **fearless, unfiltered, electric** theatre. We're searching for theatre-makers: playwrights, devisors, directors, and performers who **refuse to play it safe**.

If your work **lives on the edges**, thrives in the **unexpected**, and demands to be **seen, felt, and heard**, we want you. From 2026-2028, State Theatre Company South Australia is supporting an all-new program of independent work, presented in the Main Theatre at the Adelaide College of the Arts.

SPARK will extend and elevate the support previously offered for independent South Australian artists, including the addition of a performance venue, full ticketing services, and extended time with the Company's pre-production resources.

The SPARK program will produce two seasons of independent work per year from 2026 – 2028.

Expressions of interest for 2026 SPARK Program are now open from 12 May – 16 June 2025.

THE OFFER

The State Theatre Company South Australia will provide the following services and support to each programmed SPARK participant in-kind:



Hibernation by Finegan Kruckemeyer, 2021
Photo by Matt Byrne

Artistic

- Artistic support, advice and mentorship
- Dramaturgy and outside eye feedback
- Resources to support best-practice independent theatre-making

Venue

- Rehearsal venue (4 weeks)
- Performance venue (2 weeks, Main Theatre approx. 200 pax, Adelaide College of the Arts), including hire of in-venue technical equipment
- Venue labour for performance including duty technician, front of house, cleaning, bar staff and security

Production

- Production and technical advice
- \$3,500 fund for design materials
- Pre-production support
 - 2 weeks of set build resources (labour and workshop)
 - 2 weeks of costume build resources (labour and wardrobe, including access to Company costume store)
 - Access to prop store

Ticketing & Box office

- Full ticketing service with inclusion in the subscription season package for Company subscribers, as well as sales for single ticket buyers, customer service, and correspondence for all patrons:
 - Ticket prices will be standardised for the SPARK season with a top tier price of \$60 single tickets (subject to change)
- Box office staff at venue for performance season
- SPARK participants will retain 100% of net box office receipts (gross box office less GST, merchant services fees and inside charges)

Marketing

- Inclusion in the State Theatre Company South Australia annual program, season hero photoshoot, and season brochure
- Publicity and marketing advice
- Still production photography

THE OFFER cont.

Participants for SPARK will provide:

Artistic

- The idea/script/work, including any required licencing
- The cast and creative team
- Stage management

Venue

- Any additional technical hires required to realise the vision
- Volunteers to support front of house, pending show requirements

Production

- Production management and show operators as required
- The materials required for set and costume build
- PLI Insurance

Marketing

- Marketing and publicity plan
- Delivery on an independent single ticket publicity campaign
- Archive filming if required

The Questions by Van Badham & Richard Wise, 2021
Photo by Matt Byrne

THE SEASON

There are two seasons held at Adelaide College of the Arts for SPARK in the 2026 Company Calendar:

- Slot 1: Monday 6 July – Saturday 18 July
- Slot 2: Monday 28 September – Saturday 10 October

* No shows on Sundays / public holidays

** Options for matinee / school shows can be negotiated

Applicants must be available and able to present at a minimum of one of the SPARK season date slots. In addition to the performance season, applicants must be available to attend a series of production meetings – schedule to be mutually set.

Model season structure:

		DAY	ACTIVITY
WEEK 1		Monday	Bump In
		Tuesday	Bump In
		Wednesday	Bump In/Tech
		Thursday	Performance – Preview 1
		Friday	Performance – Preview 2
		Saturday	Performance – Opening Night
		Sunday	No Shows
WEEK 2		Monday	Performance
		Tuesday	Performance
		Wednesday	Performance
		Thursday	Performance
		Friday	Performance
		Saturday	Performance
		Sunday	No Shows, Bump Out

CRITERIA

To be eligible, project applications must be:

- from a South Australian based artist, collective or company, or for a production predominantly generated by and featuring South Australian artists
- from an artist, collective or company not in receipt of CreateSA Arts Organisations Program (AOP) or Creative Australia NPAPF funding
- an unproduced script or work
- committed to delivering the production according to best-practice
- committed to providing the personnel required to deliver the production
- able to meet deadlines relating to 2026 season launch and available for SPARK production timelines and season



Eligible projects will be assessed against of the following criteria:

Artistic Risk & Vision

- The project demonstrates bold thinking and a distinctive voice. It should challenge convention, provoke thought, break form, or move with urgency.

Clarity of Concept

- The work has a clear premise, strong creative foundation, and a compelling synopsis. It shows potential for impactful development and presentation.

Artistic Motivation

- The application outlines what the key creatives hope to explore, learn, or achieve through the SPARK experience, both personally and professionally.

Project Relevance & Timing

- A strong case is made for why this work should happen now—and why this platform is the right home for it.



HOW TO APPLY

Expressions of Interest for
the 2026 SPARK Program
are open from

12 May – 16 June 2025

Applicants may submit their interest via a written form or video submission that speaks to the selection criteria via **THIS FORM** on the SPARK webpage, with support material requirements outlined below:

- **Required**

- For scripted work: one full copy of the script
- For partially scripted/devised works: a detailed synopsis and timeline for the development process
- Short biographies of the team (100 words each)
- Marketing Draft Plan

- **Additional creative support material**

(up to 10 pages) which may include:

- Directors/Writers statement
- Design drawings
- Documentation of previous work

There is a limit of one application per person/company.

Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their expression of interest by 11 July 2025*.

Following this notification, successful participants will be required to attend a marketing meeting the week of **14 July, and will be required to provide marketing information for the Company brochure and launch by **8 August**.*

*Antigone by Elena Carapetis (After Sophocles), 2022
Photo by Matt Byrne*