

MEDIA RELEASE



WHITEHORSE MUSICAL THEATRE PRESENTS
THE TONY AWARD WINNING

RENT

SPECIAL 'RENT' TICKET OFFER – FOLLOWING THE TRADITION

RENT - the multi award winning smash musical hit opened at The Besen Centre 87-89 Station Street, Burwood last Thursday night and audiences are raving about the cast, their performances and the brilliant voices discovered.

To follow in the tradition of RENT, Whitehorse Musical Theatre is offering a Special Ticket Offer for the remainder of the season **\$30 DRESS CIRCLE TICKETS**. This special ticket offer is only available for purchases at THE BOX OFFICE prior to each performance. Although the tradition is to queue, we suggest patrons turn up at the box office 45 minutes prior to the performance to avoid waiting too long to purchase your tickets.

On Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 October, Victorian AIDS Council – Gay Men's Health Centre will be fundraising in the foyer after each performance. Cast in RENT who are playing characters affected by AIDS will be there in costume for a meet and greet and take donations.

Victorian AIDS Council – Gay Men's Health Centre (VAC/GMHC) is leading our community in the fight against HIV and STIs. The organisation works to confront the continuing challenges of the HIV epidemic and, increasingly, the overall health and wellbeing of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered (GLBT) community.

Sian Syddall, Fundraising & Communications Coordinator for VAC/GMHC said: *"We are extremely grateful to the Whitehorse Musical Theatre for their fundraising efforts. As a charity, we are always in need of support to assist in funding our vital projects and services, that improve the quality of life for people living with HIV locally"*.

Rent – the Musical tells the story of a group of impoverished young people living in New York and trying to survive while dealing with their own and their friends' mortality at a time when the world was first coming to terms with the impact of HIV/AIDS.

Director **Paul Watson** believes *"RENT completely changed the face of contemporary music theatre. After having performed in and admiring this show for some time, I still find the focus more on the single word "living" than "living with". A show about life! Something we can all relate to. Viva La Vie Boheme! Translation... live the bohemian life!"*

The play revolves around three couples: Collins and the cross-dressing Angel, the often-fighting Mimi and Roger, and the always-fighting Joanne and Maureen. The final member of the group is Mark, a filmmaker who spends more time taping the lives of his friends than he spends living his own life.

Rent The Musical features **Daniel Benge** in the role of Mark; with **Steve Simmons** as Roger; **Katie Wood** as Mimi; **Katie Weston** as Maureen; **Zuleika Khan** as Joanne; **Leigh Barker** as Angel; **Christian Cavallo** as Benny and **Phil Haby** as Collins and is Directed by **Paul Watson** with Musical Direction by **Andrew Leach** and Choreography by **Scott Ponsford**.

RENT

UNTIL SUNDAY 17 OCTOBER

Besen Centre 87-89 Station Street, Burwood

www.rentatwhitehorse.com.au

Ticket Prices

Adult \$42, Concession/Group (15+) \$38, \$30 Dress Circle Tickets

Date & Time

Wed 13 Oct-8pm, Thurs 14 Oct-8pm Fri 15 Oct-8pm, Sat 16 Oct-8pm, Sun 17 Oct-2pm

Bookings

Phone Whitehorse Centre on **9262 6555**

or online www.rentatwhitehorse.com.au

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