

Circa Foyer renovations

As part of Circa Theatre and Te Papa's shared goals to develop a vibrant and dynamic cultural precinct, a freshly renovated bar and foyer have opened at Circa Theatre. This shared project between Circa and Te Papa has been in the planning stage since May 2017, and the first phase of renovations for the building has been completed.

Circa Theatre moved from its small but popular converted office space on Harris Street to a purpose-built space on the Wellington waterfront in 1994. Since that time, Circa and Te Papa Museum have been neighbours, and as two cornerstones of the arts and culture capital, they signed a memorandum of understanding to foster and develop a closer working relationship in May 2017.

For Circa Theatre co-founder and council member, Carolyn Henwood CNZM, the newly refurbished bar and foyer have been a long time in the planning, and are just the beginning. "We have a dream to redesign the building allowing more rehearsal space and a room upstairs. The completion of the structural phase of renovations has revealed the extraordinary potential of the building as a resource for Wellington."

The newly finished renovations are the first major change driven by the partnership of the two organizations, and Wellington audiences will see their forces unite in 2018 with their first co-production as part of the New Zealand Festival (23 February – 18 March).

Rushes will see Circa opens its doors, corridors, theatres and rehearsal spaces to be explored in this fresh, innovative production. This multi-award-winning, immersive experience created by Movement of the Human and presented as a co-production by Circa Theatre and Te Papa perfectly showcases the newly revitalised building, transforming the space into a gallery-like playground for the senses, as audience members are invited to explore the space at their leisure. The new open plan bar will remain open throughout the performance.

Since small beginnings Circa Theatre has strived to showcase the highest quality New Zealand and international work. The partnership between Circa Theatre and Te Papa invites a new era for the theatre, as part of the cultural hub of the Wellington waterfront.



Photo Credit: Stephn A'Court

Congratulations to our **Friends of Circa Winners Jayne Staple and Rosemary Bradford**. You have been selected as our Winners of the monthly prize draw! You will be receiving a double pass to an upcoming Circa Theatre production.



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