

Victorian College of the Arts
Media Release 2007
Friday 31 August

VCA PRODUCTION presents:

Master of Puppetry Performance Season:

Dispatch by Penelope Bartlau & *Idja* by Jacob Boehme

Tuesday 25 - Saturday 29 September

Witness the latest works of puppetry to emerge from VCA Production. This performance season will serve up two courses of magical puppetry and unique soundscapes featuring the work of Penelope Bartlau and Jacob Boehme, passionate performers and talented Master of Puppetry students at the VCA.

DISPATCH

by Penelope Bartlau

*From nothingness we come
By nothingness we are sustained
To nothingness we return*

Dispatch is about a puppet character Sorrel, a girl who arrives in a leaky boat at "the middle place" - an island. Keeper of the island is Maman Brigitte. On the island are abandoned suitcases - Sorrel goes through these seeking shelter and refuge. She receives stories and lessons from the contents she finds within. *Dispatch* is a performance with puppets, live electronic improvised music and song.

Dates/times: Tue 25 - Fri 28 Sept, 7pm,
Sat 29 Sept, 2pm

Venue: The Shed, VCA Campus, behind
the Wilin Centre, enter via Grant Street

IDJA

by Jacob Boehme

*Body as puppet, skin as playboard, voice
as soundscape.*

Idja is a contemporary Indigenous story presenting a personal journey toward home, belonging and accepting the skin you're in. Dialogue and lyrics spoken and sung in Narangga with local choir *FIRST CHORUS* providing the soundscape live on stage.

Dates/times: Tue 25 - Fri 28 Sept, 8pm,
Sat 29 Sept, 3pm

Venue: Grant Street Theatre, VCA Drama,
Grant Street, Southbank

Penelope Bartlau, Jacob Boehme, Peter Wilson, Head of Puppetry at the VCA, and Gilly McInnes, Lecturer VCA Puppetry, are available for interview.

Cost: FREE (limited seating)

Bookings: vca-puppetry@unimelb.edu.au or 03 9685 9256

Media Information, interviews: Jon Myer: 03/ 9685 9385 or jmyer@unimelb.edu.au