

MEDIA RELEASE



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Royals

The True History of the Child Queen Isabella

Ten year-old Kalliope Rice stars as a medieval queen in ROYALS, a play for adults premiering 24-27 September at Mechanics Institute Brunswick. Award-winning playwright Kate Rice dramatises the life of Isabella de Valois - married to Richard II of England when she was six and he was thirty. It's a story of stolen innocence and exploitation, in a playful and provocative 'pièce de théâtre'.

Playwright Kate Rice says, "I want to explore a child character's struggle for identity in a world where some adults are fixated on "protecting" an idealised view of childhood innocence, while others exploit their beauty and powerlessness."

Kalliope Rice is a talented actress, with credits in short films and television commercials, including campaigns for Unions Australia and Victorian Transport Accident Commission.

Angourie Rice, the thirteen year old star of the new Australian pre-apocalyptic movie These Final Hours, plays Queen Isabelle as a teenager.

Emma Hall and Tom Heath, both graduates of Victorian College of the Arts, play the adult roles, and Luca Pascucci, who trains at Drama with a Difference in Northcote, plays prince Hal.

The production is a family affair, with NIDA graduate Jeremy Rice co-directing with Cassie Vaglivello, a specialist in directing child actors.

The simple production design references the sumptuous court of Richard II - the first Englishman to eat soup with a spoon - with echoes of Game of Thrones.

"Rice's words feel all too real and made me shudder to listen. But I loved it." - Meredith McLean, XS Entertainment

<http://www.alwaysworkingartists.com.au>
<http://www.metanoiatheatre.com.au>

Royals

VENUE
Mechanics Institute
270 Sydney Road
Brunswick, Victoria 3056

DATES: 24-27 Sept
TIME: 7.00pm, Sat 2.00pm and 7.00pm (60min)

TICKETS
Full: \$23
Concession: \$18
Preview: \$18
Group: \$20
TO BOOK visit melbournefringe.com.au or call (03) 9660 9666

SHOW PUBLICIST
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