2027

BROWN'S MART

WELCOME
TO THE HOME OF TERRITORY PERFORMING ARTS







LIVE SHOWS ON SALE NOW

brownsmart.com.au

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the Larrakia People, the custodians of the land on which we work. We pay our respect to their elders, past, present and future, and to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. We acknowledge that this always was and always will be Aboriginal land.

FROM THE MINISTER FOR THE ARTS

The arts are at the heart of the Territory lifestyle, reflecting the creativity, culture and unique stories that make our home unlike anywhere else. That's why the Finocchiaro CLP Government is committed to a thriving arts sector as we work to restore what makes Territory life so special.

Brown's Mart's 2027 program is a celebration of that spirit, showcasing outstanding local talent, powerful storytelling and unforgettable live experiences. From acclaimed theatre productions and community events to major festivals that bring people together, there is something for everyone.

Congratulations to Brown's Mart on another exceptional season. I encourage all Territorians to get involved and experience the best our arts community has to offer.

HON JINSON CHARLS MLA
MINISTER FOR ARTS

FROM THE BOARD

Brown's Mart's 2027 season feels true to who we are and full of possibility. Shaped by Artistic Director Yvette Walker, it honours the stories and people who built this place, welcomes emerging and unheard voices, and brings artists and audiences of different generations together. Above all, it celebrates the creativity and cultural richness of the Top End.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I want to thank Yvette and General Manager Liz Rogers, our Co-CEOs, for their leadership. I'm excited about this season, and know it be a special one for all.

None of it happens alone. To our funders, sponsors and donors; to our artists, crew, staff and volunteers; and to everyone who joins us in the audience: thank you. Your generosity and belief make Brown's Mart the Home of Territory Performing Arts.

HAMISH McDONALD
CHAIR OF BOARD

WELCOME TO 2027
STRONGER TOGETHER

As Brown's Mart turns 55 this year, we are thrilled to share the 2027 Brown's Mart's season with you! The second annual artistic program from Artistic Director, Yvette Walker is marked by its spirit of collaboration, radical fierce joy, and courageous story-telling. This season champions, excites, inspires and has a little of something for everyone, celebrating the communities and people that call the NT home whilst presenting and producing shows and events that shine on home soil, and beyond.

Mainstage explodes with award-winning playwright and theatre production Brother's Wreck by Jada Alberts who pulls back the curtain on the power of family to bring healing and hope; Followed by the makers of Pod, Luminous Productions with the world-premiere of Future Real, a magical show about creative climate solutions for the whole family; and closing off the year with the internationally acclaimed Hot Brown Honey with Hive City Legacy: the Garramilla Darwin Chapter, cast with an outstanding local ensemble debuting powerful and eclectic personal stories.

We are excited to continue our legacy partnerships with Darwin Fringe Festival, Darwin Festival and Happy Yess with their programming that packs a punch this year with music, cabaret, dance and theatre! And bringing you another unforgettable NAIDOC Week venue takeover, a youth festival with ATYP and Corrugated Iron; and a Brown's Mart Fete driven by community that breathes life into our rich 55-year history.

Now in our third year of Leadership of the organisation, we are beyond proud of the impact that Brown's Mart has on individuals and communities, and acknowledge the shared success of our tenure with all, including our wonderful and passionate staff, volunteers and driven Board of Director's.

Get amongst the year-round energy at our much-loved precinct, and we look forward to seeing you in our iconic theatre, courtyard or studio!

YVETTE WALKER
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

LIZ ROGERS
GENERAL MANAGER

Brothers Wreck

Written and directed by Jada Alberts

8–19 June
Civic Park

THIS STORY IS ABOUT LIFE. IT BEGINS WITH A DEATH.

On a hot Darwin morning, Ruben wakes to find his best friend, Joey, has died by suicide just metres from where he was sleeping. In the days and months that follow, Ruben begins to spiral. He won't talk to anyone, but his distress, and his desperate need to outrun his grief, is clear for everyone to see. His family try everything they can to pull him back from the brink, but so much is beyond their control. Ruben's family do their best to to share in his grief, to remind him of the loving forces that still link him to this world - but Ruben must face himself too, and the devastation of what it means to lose someone.

Brothers Wreck is a raw and deeply human story about the ways family and community can hold us. It's a story of hope and of First Nations resilience in the darkest of times.

This award-winning work puts Darwin life and First Nations families centre stage. It's had seasons in Sydney at Belvoir, and in Melbourne and Adelaide in a co-production between Malthouse Theatre and the State Theatre Company of South Australia. Brothers Wreck received the Balnaves Foundation Indigenous Playwrights Award in 2013 and a Mona Brand Award in 2016. It was shortlisted for the Nick Enright Prize for Playwriting, a Sydney Theatre Award (Best New Australian Work) and an AWGIE Award (Best Stage Play).

Brothers Wreck is long overdue for Northern Territory audiences and this will be the first time it's produced on Larrakia land. Jada Alberts returns to Brown's Mart to direct their play with a whole new Territory creative team. Equal parts uplifting, funny and heartbreaking, Brothers Wreck is a no-holds-barred emotional journey set to become a contemporary Australian classic.



BUY TICKETS

Brothers Wreck contains strong coarse language and adult themes, including references to suicide and alcohol abuse. Recommended for mature audiences, ages 15+.

Image credit: Charlie Bliss



Image credit:
Charlie Bliss

FUTURE REAL

Created by
Luminous Theatre

Presented with
Darwin Festival

August
Brown's Mart Theatre

WHEN THE WORLD WE'VE BUILT STARTS COLLAPSING UNDER EXCESS, WHAT DO WE KEEP, REPAIR, SHARE, OR LET GO?

Deep in the basement of a futuristic recycling centre, three workers sort through the waste of the world above. Cardboard piles up, plastic bottles spill and broken machines refuse to behave. As mutant objects take on lives of their own, routine work gives way to chaos, unexpected tenderness and glorious play.

Funny, tactile and visually inventive, *Future Real* is a non-verbal theatre adventure where discarded things become objects of wonder–affection and empathy.

The audience become co-workers, co-players and co-authors, helping shape what happens next. Join in or watch as this strange world comes to life.

An immersive theatre experience for adults and children aged 8+.

*Created by **Luminous Theatre** in partnership with Darwin Community Arts. Luminous Theatre is an all abilities theatre company making bold contemporary performance through disability leadership, artistic collaboration and inclusive creative practice.*

DARWIN FESTIVAL

luminous productions

DCA DARWIN COMMUNITY ARTS

BUY TICKETS

HIVE CITY LEGACY: THE GARRAMILLA DARWIN CHAPTER

By Hot Brown Honey

12-23 October
Brown's Mart Theatre

ACTIVATE!
POLLINATE!
LIBERATE!

A global movement lands at Brown's Mart.

This powerful new production, created by internationally acclaimed sensations Hot Brown Honey, is set to explode on stage with a genre-defying fusion of theatre, movement, comedy, circus and music.

More than a show, *Hive City Legacy* is a movement of Joyous Rage and Radical Fierce Love. Through intensive mentorship, professional development, collaboration and skill-sharing, each chapter uplifts local BIPOC Femmes and Thems and brings their stories centre stage, challenging systems, celebrating visibility and reclaiming space through the power of performance, decolonising one stage at a time.

After London, Dublin and Naarm, *Hive City Legacy: Garramilla Darwin Chapter* will create with six local BIPOC Femmes and Thems, welcoming the Hive's newest members direct from the Top End in an unforgettable, high-energy show.

Want to join the Hive? This could be YOU!

Applications open in 2027.

BUY TICKETS



Image credit: Charlie Bliss

ENGAGE : ROOT ADVENTURE
THE SEED STORIES

By Teghan Hughes, Dr Shellie Morris AO and Pxpkxrn

25–27 February
Brown's Mart Theatre

Australian by culture with bloodlines that span the globe, *ROOT ADVENTURE: The Seed Stories* features Yanyuwa/Wardaman Singer Dr Shellie Morris AO, Chilean/Australian Sound Engineer and Comedian Teghan Hughes and Thai/Australian Rapper/Producer Pxpkxrn, as they share their unique and wild stories that lead to their adoptions and lives that have followed.

This isn't high-end theatre, it's 3 Aussies hanging out on stage and telling the incredible true stories of how their lives all took a very drastic turn, not long after being born. Tears and laughs guaranteed.



NAIDOC WEEK

4–11 July

A FAMILY FESTIVAL OF EVENTS CELEBRATING WHAT'S SPECIAL ABOUT OUR HOME

Brown's Mart presents their second annual celebration of the NAIDOC week under the stewardship of Uncle Richard Fejo, Honorary Elder in Resident. Curated by Balla Neba and Tahlia Biggs, the community is invited into a week that celebrates the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



Stay tuned for the release of the week-long program that will be filled with fun activities for the whole family, film, education and live performance gatherings.

Image credit: Grace Perry

DEADLY FUNNY

Melbourne International Comedy Festival

9 July



Who is Darwin's deadliest and funniest comedian in 2027? It could be you!

Melbourne International Comedy Festival are on the hunt for the funniest Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander storytellers from across the country, and Brown's Mart is here to shine a light on the talent in Darwin!

Can you spin a tale that has people rolling with laughter? Register for the event and invite everyone you know! You'll be supported by experienced headline MCs who help to raise the roof and expectations.

Participants are encouraged to apply for the free workshop held from 4.30 – 6.30pm before the show.

brownsmart.com.au/deadlyfunny

Image credit: Kevin Kropinyeri, Deadly Funny captured by Tiffany Garvie

BUY TICKETS



Image credit: Helen Orr

LIVE ON FRIDAYS

May to June
Brown's Mart Courtyard

YOUR AFTER-HOURS SOUNDTRACK TO THE DRY SEASON

Enjoy free live music from 5-7pm at our iconic heritage listed venue. This annual Friday afternoon dry season program links in with other activities happening on site throughout the year. Audiences could plan a full evening out starting with the chill afternoon soundtrack after work, dinner from the food vans, followed by a show!

Come for the music, stay for the atmosphere and experience why Brown's Mart has been loved for 55 years!

FREE ENTRY



Image credit: Kacie Austin

DARWIN FRINGE FESTIVAL

16–25 July

The biggest platform for emerging, independent and experimental arts, Darwin Fringe is your community arts festival with bite.

Brown's Mart is a proud major supporter of Fringe, acting as the hub and office space for this fierce celebration of culture and creativity.

Multi artform, spread out across a range of venues with more than 100 events in 10 days there's plenty to sink your teeth into.

Tickets on sale 1 May 2027.

darwinfringe.com.au



Image credit: Anna Kucera

INTERSECTION FESTIVAL

7 September

Where writing, education and performance meet – ATYP Intersection Festival gives school students and teachers the opportunity to rehearse and perform brand-new Australian plays, written specifically for young actors through ATYP's National Studio program.

Corrugated Iron and Brown's Mart team up to bring this exciting Festival to the young people of Darwin.

YOUR BROWN'S MART OG FETE

CELEBRATING 55 YEARS OF THEATRE IN THE TOP END!

21 October

Celebrating 55 years, the OG's Collective archival project will create a family fun day for the whole community.

You can expect a full day filled with artists talks, displays, stalls, playreadings and demonstrations of current works in development. Audiences will jump into this unexpected living time capsule that spans 55 years of legacy.

Keep your eye out for the program to be released.

WET SEASON WORKSHOPS

Interactive and transformative workshops for aspiring actors and writers held during the shoulder season. Brown's Mart will work with leading Territory talent to provide access to training opportunities for artists in Darwin and Alice Springs. Keep up to date with the action through our socials, newsletters and website.

FOR THE ARTISTS

BUILD UP

BUILD UP supports the development of bold, urgent and relevant performance work from a range of artforms, artists and cultural practices, offering funding, time and space to develop ideas into a script. Projects can be submitted at any stage in their development.

BUILD UP applicants receive up to $10,000 in financial support towards the development of a work, plus additional in-kind office and rehearsal space, project mentoring, peer-support, professional advice and advocacy, and other resources as required.

This is not your typical 'funding application' it is a bespoke project and relationship development tool for you, your work and Brown's Mart.

Applications open in March.

ENGAGE 2.0

ENGAGE has been updated. It's still you and your show, on stage in the Brown's Mart Theatre, this time, however you're applying to be programmed in 2028. What does this mean? It means a timeline that you can work with to secure funding; marketing support from Brown's Mart and a place in our printed program, as well as your place in the 2028 Program Launch. ENGAGE offers 2 places for a sponsored one-week booking in the Brown's Mart Theatre or Studio. Successful applications receive up to $10,000 of in-kind support through venue, staffing and marketing for their show, and take home 80% of the NET box office income.

If you are a Territorian artist, community group, theatre collective, or variety troupe looking to secure a three-night season in our iconic venue, we'll partner with you to provide the venue and the expertise to make it happen.

This is your show, done your way, with a bit of extra support from Brown's Mart

Applications will open in May to secure your spot in Brown's Mart in 2028.







FRESH INK

Produced by ATYP, this year-long program provides a significant investment in young theatre makers and includes public presentations of staged readings of their new plays at Brown's Mart.

ATYP's Fresh Ink National Mentoring Program for emerging writers runs annually from March – December in selected states across Australia. The initiative has been running for over 18 years in varying forms and engages industry professionals to mentor our young writers.

Applications open in November 2026.

AUSPICE

Have you tried applying for money but are capped by the amount you can apply for because you're an individual and not an organisation? Having an Auspice body will open up your eligibility for that larger sum.

Brown's Mart provides grant auspicing services for NT performing arts projects year-round. This service means that Brown's Mart works with the artist to assure the funding body that the artist can be trusted with that larger amount of money. Fees for this service are determined on a project-by-project basis, never exceeding 10% of the grant amount, and we assist you with the applications where appropriate.

2028 PROGRAM & BEYOND

Do you have a show that you believe is ready for the mainstage season at Brown's Mart? There are now two call outs per year. Round 1 is due in February and Round 2 is due in June.

Send your scripts to admin@brownsmart.com.au to be considered.

Programming decisions are informed by our strategic plan (available on the website), quality and viability.

We are here to help support your work and share the strategic pathways that we can recommend for the success of Northern Territory theatre.

Images credit: Kacie Austin

PUT ON YOUR OWN SHOW

INSIDE OR OUTSIDE OF THE BROWN'S MART PRECINCT, WE ARE READY TO MAKE YOUR EVENT A SUCCESS

VENUE HIRE

Brown's Mart precinct holds 4 spaces that could be perfect for your event: the Theatre, Studio, Courtyard and Rehearsal Room.

From theatre productions, live music, comedy and film screenings to workshops, talks, corporate functions, and team parties we have the creativity to support a range of needs. We offer commercial and community pricing with our Rehearsal Room being available for free hire under the right conditions.

We'd love to hear from you about your ideas and encourage you to reach out to our Venue Hire manager.

▷ venue@brownsmart.com.au

ACCESSIBILITY

We are a multi-performance space in the heart of Darwin CBD. Accessibility varies across the venue and for different events, and we offer a plain text version of this document available on our website or by request.

You can access companion card tickets for all Brown's Mart shows and events.

We always welcome feedback about your experience and appreciate recommendations and ideas for how we can improve.

▶ **brownsmart.com.au/accessibility**

EQUIPMENT HIRE

Brown's Mart Equipment Hires have been supporting events around Darwin and as far as Numbulwar!

Are you putting on an event and you need lighting, sound, AV equipment, technicians or even bean bags? We have a range of AV, staging and technical equipment that you can utilise to create the best show possible, wherever you are. Brown's Mart is ready to listen to your ideas and help you create your dream event with your budget.

Chat to our hires department today.

▷ hires@brownsmart.com.au

YEAR AT A GLANCE

FEBRUARY	
25-27	ENGAGE: Root Adventures – The Seed Stories
MAY	
Dates TBA	Live on Fridays
JUNE	
8–19	Brothers Wreck
Dates TBA	Live on Fridays
JULY	
4-11	NAIDOC Week
9	Deadly Funny
16–25	Darwin Fringe Festival
AUGUST	
4-22	Darwin Festival
Dates TBA	Future Real
SEPTEMBER	
7	Intersection Festival
OCTOBER	
12-23	Hive City Legacy
21	OG's Fete

WHAT'S ON

In addition to putting on our own shows and opportunities, our venue can be hired so there's so much more happening all of the time.

Head to our What's On page on the website to see what's coming up.

brownsmart.com.au/whats-on











THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

SALLY THOMAS CIRCLE $3,000+

The Honourable Sally Thomas AC
Jeff Pinkerton OAM & Marilyn Pinkerton
Prof. Louise Maple-Brown and Simon Niblock
Deborah & Dominic Fracaro
Vicki Krause & Bart Currie
Elizabeth Rogers

BENEFACTORS $1,500+

Gabbert Designs
Gillian McDonald
Hamish McDonald

COLLABORATORS $500+

Alistair & Kate Wyvill
Christine Millowick
Mark Teakle
Susan & Andrew Cameron
Lesley Merrett
Cherilyn Burns

SUPPORTERS $2+

To all the supporters, thank you
for answering the call to the arts!
We cannot do this without you.

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

CORE FUNDERS

Australian Government | Creative Australia

Proudly sponsored by NORTHERN TERRITORY GOVERNMENT

Brown's Mart Arts Limited is assisted by the Australian Government through Creative Australia, its principal arts funding and advisory body.

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