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MEDIA RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ARTS ACCESS VICTORIA PRESENTS 'DIANE DOESN'T SLEEP'

In a twilight place where the forest sings and strange masked visitors keep knocking at the door comes Diane Doesn't Sleep – an engaging, surreal performance featuring art, stories, music and sculpture from an extraordinary group of local artists with disabilities.

Arts Access Victoria, in association with Arts Access – Frankston Arts Centre, is delighted to present ***Diane Doesn't Sleep***, a new theatre work by artists with disabilities, at the Frankston Arts Centre, 16 & 17 October 2009.

Diane Doesn't Sleep is the culmination of 18 months of creative development by a small and dedicated band of young artists, actors and theatre makers with disabilities. ***Diane Doesn't Sleep*** is a whimsical, surreal performance work that blurs the lines between the artists' unique, if not curious, tales and the realities of a living with an intellectual disability 'down the peninsula'.

Beyond fulfilling the vital role offering respite to family and voluntary carers living in the Frankston and Mornington Peninsula regions, *Get Out!* has evolved into a dynamic, cross-disciplinary arts project. Developed over the last five years in response to the interests, needs and skills of participants, *Get Out!* has steadily gained momentum with such projects as its 2007 short film *Blue-Bye-You*, melding physical theatre, puppet performance, visual art and projection, and touching upon themes of longing, loss and love.

Diane Doesn't Sleep, an installation, performance and multi media piece, has emerged from the extraordinary art and imagination of the *Get Out!* participants in collaboration with mentor artists Zoë Barry and Leonie van Eyk. Zoe, a classically trained cellist, works in a range of fields including music performance, community art projects, theatre, dance, film and devised collaborative performance projects, while Leonie, a graduate of VCA's theatre program, is a filmmaker, puppeteer and theatre maker who has performed and run workshops at Polyglot Theatre, Art Play, Melbourne Fringe Festival and ACMI.

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Diane Doesn't Sleep also marks a new partnership with co-presenter Frankston Arts Centre. Adam Rozsa, Arts Access Victoria's Artistic Program Coordinator, states that "We hope that this production will serve as a model for inclusive arts practice and accessibility. For example, we are thrilled that all performances of ***Diane Doesn't Sleep*** will be both Audio described and Auslan interpreted, addressing the needs of two major disability sectors for which limited opportunities exist to engage with live performance."

The performance will be preceded by the premiere of *Head Case*, a film by participants of Arts Access Victoria's Art Day South program.

Performance Details

Dates/ times 16 October @ 1pm / 17 October @ 3pm & 7pm

Venue Cube 37, Frankston Arts Centre, Davey Street, Frankston

Cost Adults \$7, Concession & Children \$5, Group 10+ \$60/ \$45, Family (2Ad + 2Child) \$20

Carers Free

All sessions will be Audio described and Auslan interpreted

Bookings Frankston Arts Centre Box Office 03 9784 1060

www.artscentre.frankston.vic.gov.au/whats_on

Arts Access Victoria's Get Out! program is supported by the Department of Human Services - Southern Region, Disability Services.

Arts Access Victoria is supported by Arts Victoria, Australia Council for the Arts and Department of Human Services



**ARTS
VICTORIA**



MEDIA ENQUIRIES

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