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CELEBRATING THE SECRET LIVES OF MUMS

Mama Stitch
Whiskey & Boots



Image: Fionn Mulholland

'The unique format of theatre, writing, poetry, song and installation, with community participation at its core works incredibly well.' Vancouver Arts Centre, Albany

Perth Festival 2021 heads to Weeip (Midland) with a special storytelling experience celebrating mums by Perth-based performance company **Whiskey & Boots**.

Mama Stitch, featuring performer-actor **Georgia King**, performer-musician **Mark Storen** and musicians **Holly Garvey** and **Tom Garvey**, is a heart-warming and intimate experience that everyone can relate to.

Stories about mums are collected by Whiskey & Boots from the people of Midland, distilled and brought to life as headphone verbatim performance. Each story is underscored with an original music response inspired by the stories shared.

Audiences are invited to have a hot cup of tea and a slice of toast with homemade jam as they listen to stories and music reflecting on the mothers of Midland. At the end of the performance audiences can contribute to the project by writing their own anonymous 'Dear Mum' letter to be displayed in the space.

'Our relationships with our mums are probably the biggest influence on who we become as people,' **Georgia King** said. 'While there are shows about the experience of being a mum, there aren't many shows exploring the experience of being mothered, which is surprising given how much material is there that is funny, tragic, frustrating and very relatable. So we created Mama Stitch.'

Perth Festival Artistic Director Iain Grandage said *Mama Stitch* was a beautiful and tender way of thinking about and reconnecting with someone most special to you – your mum.

‘Given the separation thrust upon many families by border closures and the needs of public health, now – more than ever – works like this remind us of the strength of histories, families and the affirmative power of storytelling,’ he said.

Whiskey & Boots is a Perth based performance company, which makes headphone verbatim performance work that examines the challenges and contradictions of the human condition. Using storytelling with music, the team takes real stories gathered from a community and shares them publicly. They illuminate moments that are familiar, expose common challenges and secret fears, and remind audiences that we are all complex, ugly, beautiful, brave, funny, flawed and vulnerable.

‘Our work is low-fi, stripped back and welcoming, the fourth wall doesn’t exist. Through the sharing of honest moments in intimate spaces we can try to understand each other better, boldly, honestly, playfully,’ King says.

WHAT: Mama Stitch

WHERE: Midland Junction Arts Centre / Weeip / Midland

WHEN: 18 - 21 Feb (Thurs – Sat 6.30pm, Sun – 5.30pm) Audience are invited to arrive 30min before the start time to enjoy tea and toast with the artists

HOW MUCH: \$29

BOOKINGS AND FESTIVAL INFO: perthfestival.com.au

Click here for a [media kit](#) and [images](#). For further information, interviews or images please contact:

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Perth Festival acknowledges the Noongar people who continue to practise their values, language, beliefs and knowledge on their kwobidak boodjar. They remain the spiritual and cultural birdiyangara of this place and we honour and respect their caretakers and custodians and the vital role Noongar people play for our community and our Festival to flourish.

Perth Festival

Founded in 1953 by The University of Western Australia, Perth Festival is the longest running international arts festival in Australia and Western Australia’s premier cultural event. The Festival has developed a worldwide reputation for excellence in its international program, the presentation of new works and the highest quality artistic experiences for its audience. For 67 years, the Festival has welcomed to Perth some of the world’s greatest living artists and now connects with hundreds of thousands of people each year.

Iain Grandage is the Artistic Director 2020 – 23.