

**WE MAKE
FRIENDS** with
KARL MARX

ACCESS GUIDE

**for Relaxed and Low Sensory
Performance**

Saturday 11th October, 4PM

MELBOURNE
FRINGE
FESTIVAL

**WE MAKE
FRIENDS** with
KARL MARX

ACCESS GUIDE

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Our Venue

We Make Friends with Karl Marx is being performed at the **Festival Hub: Trades Hall, in the Meeting Room.**

The Meeting Room at the Festival Hub is on the ground floor of Trades Hall.

Trades Hall is located on the corner of Lygon Street and Victoria Street in Carlton. There are two entrances, one on Victoria Street, and one on Lygon Street.

The main entrance to the venue is on **Lygon St.** You can head up the front stairs and through the main doors, from there head right to get to the Loading Dock. Continue straight through the Loading Dock and into the Victoria Street Building, where the Meeting Room will be on your left.

If you need step-free access, there is a lift at the main Lygon Street entrance. This can be operated by one person, or if you need assistance while the lift is unattended -- please call the phone number attached to the lift and a staff member will come to assist. You can then enter the doorway, turn right, and continue down the hallway towards the Loading Dock. Continue straight through the Loading Dock and into the Victoria Street Building, where the Meeting Room will be on your left.

Volunteers will be available along the route to assist you if needed. **Please don't hesitate to ask for help.**

The venue is wheelchair accessible and has accessible toilets available. Service animals are welcome inside the venue. There is also accessible parking located in the carpark at the rear of our venue.

If you would like more specific information about getting to Trades Hall, please visit here!

<https://www.melbournefringe.com.au/whats-on/venues/festival-hub-trades-hall-meeting-room>

This Performance

This performance of *We Make Friends with Karl Marx* is **Relaxed** and **Low Sensory**. We have also halved the capacity for the audience, so there is plenty of space to make yourself comfortable.

We encourage you to also wear masks during this performance. We will have some N95s and regular masks available for you.

The show will go for approximately **55 minutes with no interval**. However if you need to step out you can come back in whenever!

Our show contains some sustained bright lights and loud noises. These will be adjusted for this performance.

Please look over the following content warnings. If anything may be upsetting to you, please speak to **Henry** before the show. He will be introduced later on in this document, and will be around before and during the show.

CONTENT WARNINGS

Staged violence, mentions of sexual harassment, simulated drug use, drug references, misogyny, bullying, sexual references, death, war, mental health, war, body image, capitalism, strong supernatural themes including Ouija boards, seances, spiritualism, aliens.

Our Show

We Make Friends with Karl Marx is about three high school girls named **Katie**, **Mia**, and **Hannah**, who have a group presentation on **Karl Marx**.

Katie and Mia have been away from school for the last two weeks, so Hannah has had to do the entire assignment by herself, as she doesn't want to fail. They are meeting in the school library to rehearse their group presentation the night before it is due. Hannah has created a very elaborate presentation that doesn't really meet the assessment criteria. Katie and Mia suggest having a sleepover so that they can pull an all-nighter and redo the assignment. Katie really wants to win an academic award at the end of the year, and this project is worth big marks. Reluctantly, Hannah agrees to restart.

As they begin their redraft, there is a very sudden thunder storm that cuts the power, and more importantly, the internet. They discover that they are locked in the school, with no internet to research, or to call for help. However, Mia spies a ouija board at the back of a shelf, and suggests that they use it to summon Karl Marx so that they can ask him questions for their assignment.

They successfully summon the spirit of Karl Marx, however, he struggles to communicate on the ouija board as it takes too long. Mia offers to let Karl Marx possess her, so that he can communicate. He does so, but Katie becomes afraid, and banishes him from Mia's body.

Karl Marx is suddenly gone.

They try once more to summon him, and realise that he needs an offering. They create a sacred space, and invite Karl to join them. This reflects the special place sleepovers hold to adolescent girls. This connection to Karl is now much stronger, and he is able to speak and appear in the room to them, without possessing anybody.

Katie, Mia, and Hannah begin to be very honest with Karl about their fears and dreams. He encourages them to be more involved in shaping the world they want. Together, they conjure the image of their futures, and the play becomes more surrealist, to make it feel like a dream. In this vision for the future, they are dancing together at a club. The text is more poetic and the movement is more stylised. They continue to speak honestly about themselves.

They return to the sacred space and the vision ends. They thank Karl for showing them how important it is to build each other and others up in a capitalist world. Suddenly, the power comes back on, and Karl is nowhere to be seen.

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Our Team

There are four actors in this play.

This is **Myf**.
Myf uses **they/them**
pronouns.
Myf plays **Karl Marx**.
Karl Marx uses
he/him pronouns.



This is **Meg**.
Meg uses **they/she**
pronouns.
Meg plays **Katie**.
Katie uses **she/her**
pronouns.

This is **Lakyn**.
Lakyn uses
she/they pronouns.
Lakyn plays **Mia**.
Mia uses **she/they**
pronouns.



This is **Jahnavi**.
Jahnavi uses
she/her pronouns.
Jahnavi plays
Hannah.
Hannah uses
she/her pronouns.



This is **Henry**.
Henry uses
he/they
pronouns.

Henry is the Writer and Director.

You will see Henry **in the foyer** and **in the audience** when you come to see *We Make Friends with Karl Marx*.

Henry will be able to assist you during the Relaxed and Low Sensory performance, should you need it.

Henry has Autism, and strobe lighting gives him migraines.

He will introduce himself at the beginning of the show, and if at any point you need to step out of the theatre, **he will help you in doing so**.

Trades Hall will have a quiet room set up during this performance if you need a place to relax.

That's all folks!

Enjoy the show!