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**FRINGE  
WORLD**  
Festival

22nd  
JAN



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MEDIA RELEASE // Monday 22 February 2016

## Fringe-uary draws to a close with the FRINGE WORLD Awards

31 days of chillaxed summer entertainment came to a Fringe-tastic conclusion last night, as Perth's FRINGE WORLD celebrated the best of the best at the Festival's Award ceremony.

Western Australia's largest annual arts event, FRINGE WORLD Festival played host to 700+ shows at over 150 venues and performance spaces spread across Perth and further afield in local communities and neighbourhoods.

With the 2016 Festival recording over 350,000 tickets sold, valued at more than \$9 million, it is little wonder FRINGE WORLD is the third largest Fringe in the world. Attendance at free and ticketed events topped a staggering 900,000 and proves that Perth's appetite for everything Fringe shows no signs of abating.

Amber Hasler, FRINGE WORLD Festival Director said "Fringe is a time when there's so much to choose from and the weather and atmosphere is just Perthect. Fringe only comes around once a year and it's wonderful to see audiences members from all cross-sections of the community enjoying the Festival and welcoming it with open arms."

This year, the Festival outdoor activation of the Perth Cultural Centre, The Pleasure Garden and Noodle Palace in Northbridge were heaving and Fringe bingers were treated to a bumper program of events presented beyond the Perth CBD including Fremantle, Midland, Scarborough, Mandurah and Geraldton.

2016 welcomed some new additions to the Fringe family - the WA Museum Gardens hosted smash-hit sensation La Soirée, the State Library forecourt embraced The Shambles and the FRINGE WORLD Fairground offered families and fun-seekers loads of entertainment at Elizabeth Quay.

FRINGE WORLD Fairground has been home to a premier line-up of events including LIMBO, the world-wide smash hit cabaret show, pop-up outdoor roller rink The Urban Roller Club plus vintage sideshow rides and amusements, treats and frivolity for all ages. The Fairground fun isn't quite over yet and will continue through to

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March 6 plus La Soirée at The Museum Gardens is playing til March 13.

Regionally the Festival has recorded strong crowds with packed houses in Kalgoorlie, Esperance, Mullewa, Northam and Ravensthorpe.

Ms Hasler singled out the enormous group of artists who brought shows from every genre to audiences of every type at this year's Fringe.

"Over 3,400 artists brought their brand of entertainment to Perth for this year's Fringe, presenting a wonderful opportunity for audiences to enjoy the incredible talent of Fringe artists from our own backyard, the country and around the world".

"Over 71% of FRINGE WORLD artists call Westralia home," Ms Hasler said. "Our wonderful homegrown heroes really are the heartbeat of the Festival."

The Festival also gratefully acknowledges the support of its partners including Community Partner Lotterywest, Woodside and the Metropolitan Redevelopment Authority.

The Festival Awards round out what has been an incredible program of events.

FRINGE WORLD Awards are given to the best shows in each of the 10 genre categories. Award winners get cash, development support and direct touring opportunities as part of their award.

The Martin Sims Award for Best WA Production is the Festival's top-tier prize and the winning show receives \$10,000 and support to tour their show to festivals that are part of the World Fringe Alliance.

The 2016 Martin Sims Award winner is The Great Ridolphi, presented by The Last Great Hunt. This one man show dances the line of mysticism and wonder. In a world of smoke and mirrors, in search of a man built around trickery and illusions, Victor unravels the mystery behind the identity of illusionist extraordinaire The Great Ridolphi.

A new Award was presented this year, the Blaz Award, for the best writing for performance by a WA writer. The Award honours Perth playwright George Blazeovich who passed away last week.



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A full list of award winners for 2016 follows.

For the nominees and more information on the shows visit  
<https://www.fringeworld.com.au/awards>

### Martin Sims Award

Winner: The Great Ridolphi

### Blaz Award

Winner: Chris Isaacs

### Cabaret Award

Presented by Howling Wolves Margaret River

Winner: LIMBO

WA Winner: Perth Cabaret Collective: Blues in the Night

First Runner Up: This Boy's in Love

Second Runner Up (Joint):

These Things Take Wine

Skinny Dip at Scarborough Beach

### Children's Event Award

Presented by Discus Digital Print

Winner: The Road That Wasn't There

WA Winner: Famous Sharron: Make Your Own Adventures

First Runner Up: Aaand Now For...Kiddo Kaos!

Second Runner Up: Arr we there yet?

### Circus Award

Presented by APN Outdoor

Winner (Joint):

That Man Indoors!

Undertone

WA Winner: She Dances

### Comedy Award

Presented by Little Creatures Brewing

Winner: Paul Culliver – The Honeypot

WA Winner and Second Runner Up: Sami Shah - Islamofarcist

First Runner Up (Joint):



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Tom Ballard – The World Keeps Happening  
A Little Less Conversation 2

**Dance & Physical Theatre Award**  
Presented by BDO

Winner: Awkward Con-nections  
WA Winner: Brainchild

**Film & Multimedia Award**  
Presented by Curtin University

Winner (Joint):  
THIS IS ROCK! Decline of Western Civilization Pt 1, 2 and 3  
THIS IS ROCK! We are Twisted Fucking Sister

**Free & Community Event Award**  
Presented by Lotterywest

Winner: Streetside  
First Runner Up (Joint):  
Chinese New Year Fair Day  
Pride Fairday

**Music & Musicals Award**  
Presented by Nova 93.7

Winner: Dirty Blues: The Sinning Edition  
First Runner Up: The Point of Light  
Second Runner Up: Tubular Bells for Two

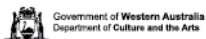
**Theatre Award**  
Presented by 720 ABC Perth

Winner (Joint):  
Piece for Person and Ghetto Blaster By Nicola Gunn  
Staggeringly Epic - LUDWIG  
WA Winner: Dr. Felicity Rickshaw's Celebrity Sex Party  
First Runner Up: 17 BORDER CROSSINGS  
Second Runner Up: We didn't come to hell for the croissants

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### Visual Arts Award

Presented by Brookfield

**Winner:** Christine de Middel, The Afronauts

**First Runner Up:** We're not dead yet

**Second Runner Up (Joint):**

Chromatic Alchemy

Hairy Maclary

### WA Emerging Artist Award

Presented by Woodside

**Winner:** Rorschach Beast for Girl in the Woods

### Melbourne Tour Ready Award

Presented by Melbourne Fringe

**Winner:** Girl in the Woods

### The West Australian Arts Editor Award

**Winner:** 17 BORDER CROSSINGS

**WA Winner:** The Great Ridolphi

### Spirit of the Fringe Award

Presented by Metropolitan Redevelopment Authority

**Winner:** Frank Moloney

### Independent Program and Venue Award

Presented by RTRFM 92.1

### Independent Venue

**Winner:** Noodle Palace

**Best New Venue:** Funtavia

### Independent Program

**Winner:** The Blue Room Summer Nights

**Best New Program:** The Flaming Locomotive

- ENDS -