

Helen's Hill Estate & Present Tense
Present
THE MAJOR BRUCE SESSIONS



Celebrated for its handcrafted boutique wines, **Helen's Hill Estate** is renowned for thinking 'outside the box.' That innovative thinking has led to a new collaboration, with an unlikely partner - the maverick theatre ensemble **Present Tense**. Together they present **The Major Bruce Sessions** on March 5, an evening spectacular at the award-winning **Helen's Hill Estate**.

"People have asked us to stage something on our beautiful lawn for as long as I can remember. But we think differently. Grape grazing is a thing of the past and the mass-produced winery type events would never fit our company culture. Instead, we yearned for a bespoke event, hand-made with love, reflecting what we do with our wine," says Helen's Hill owner **Allan Nalder**.

Enter Present Tense Artistic Directors **Nathan Gilkes & Bryce Ives**. Known for their glorious vocal arrangements, their eclectic mixture of rock with opera, their energetic and passionate live performances; Alan had found the perfect artistic collaborators for his unique vision.

"The Major Bruce Sessions is designed to be a bloody good time. Fresh from our critically acclaimed season of RICERCAR at Theatre Works, we want to take an audience on a journey for classic pop and rock, to create a rocking event," says Present Tense Artistic Director Nathan Gilkes.

Helen's Hill Estate, located just 45 minutes from Melbourne at the start of the Yarra Valley, will provide a gorgeous backdrop for the evening spectacular. Audience members can purchase a picnic hamper while sampling award-winning wines of Helen's Hill Wines and Ingram Estate from the cellar door.

Featuring tantalising music from Present Tense artists include: the internationally acclaimed singer, songwriter and performer **Mikelangelo**; star of the musical Once **Jane Patterson**; a favourite of the Melbourne theatre and cabaret scene **Laura Burzacott**; music legend **Rosie Westbrook** on double bass; and a swinging rock band led by **Nathan Gilkes**.

"The artists assembled are fabulously funny and charismatic. They will reimagine an epic array of artists from Neil Diamond to Nick Cave, Madonna to Sia, Tina Turner to ACDC. Part game-show, part concert, and part interactive musical; we promise an uplifting, intimate, and inspiring occasion," says Mikelangelo.

Venue: Helen's Hill Estate. 16 Ingram Road, Coldstream, 3770
Dates: Saturday the 5th of March 2016.
Tickets: Various from \$30 Adult / \$25 Concession / \$15 Kids/ \$110 Family Pass
Times: Gates open at 5pm for a 6.30pm show
Bookings: www.helenshill.com.au/shop

PRESS CONTACT: Emma Roberts, Event Producer
0409 701 354 // eroberts@ptensemble.com