

# Wolf Heidecker Arts Management

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## MEDIA RELEASE

### **VIVID** by Hoa Pham

**Footscray Community Arts Centre from 21 to 25 November 2017**  
**Presented as part of FCAC's Call to Create Program.**

Trying to stay sane in an insane world...**VIVID** is a play about KHANH a Vietnamese girl with schizophrenia who sees the ghost of her grandmother BA. Together with Khoi, her boyfriend, and her Psychiatric Nurse Craig she explores the greater meanings behind her life and those around her from Melbourne to the Marble Mountains in Vietnam.

**VIVID** was inspired by playwright Hoa Pham's grandmother Ba who had schizophrenia and saw her deceased husband, Hoa's grandfather, and choruses of cats. Through her client work as a psychologist Hoa has seen some spectacular psychoses including delusions concerning refugees. *"Ironically, the way Australia treats refugees is like that of a paranoid delusion - the government is persecutory and is out to get them"* says playwright Hoa Pham and hopes that **VIVID** portrays a new experience for the audience and generates compassion for those of us in need.

**Hoa Pham** is an author, playwright and psychologist. Her play "Silence" about three generations of Vietnamese women was on the VCE Drama list in 2010. Her novella "Wave" has been translated into Vietnamese, and "The Other Shore" won the Vive La Novella prize.

Director **Wolf Heidecker** who has worked with Chinese, Indian, Vietnamese and Maori performance organisations in Melbourne for many years intends to not only tell another story of non-Anglo Australians but to point out that an interest in, the recognition and acceptance of cultural, religious, racial and/or ethnic differences are an important aspect of maintaining and furthering the social cohesion within the multicultural society we are living in. *"What may look as an illness to some may be spiritual sophistication to others"*, he says.

Cast: Chi Nguyen (Khanh), Moni Lai Storz (Ba), Jamie Vu (Khoi) and Joshua Monaghan (Nurse Craig). Lighting and sound-scape created by Richard Lyford-Pike.

The production is supported by Creative Victoria, Victorian College of the Arts, Footscray Community Arts Centre and Wyndham Art Works.

#### **PREVIEW:**

Tuesday 21 November, 7:30pm

#### **SEASON:**

Wednesday 22 November to Saturday 25 November 2017 at 7:30 pm

**Tickets** - \$22 full / \$18 concession and preview show

**Booking:** <https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=324878>

More info about Hoa Pham: [www.hoapham.net](http://www.hoapham.net)

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<http://wolfsperformingartsmanagement.webs.com/>

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When Winston Churchill was asked to cut arts funding in favour of the war effort, he simply replied, "then what are we fighting for?"