

Report of staging of VM2019 at 16 Price Street, Torquay

13th and 14th September 2019

Bump In: Tuesday Sunday 10th September

Bump Out: Sunday 15th September

BACKGROUND: Stagecoach Productions entered into a collaborative agreement with Torquay Theatre Troupe to present its VM2019 programme comprising the staging of “The Vagina Monologues” by Eve Ensler in Torquay after 4 performances in Melbourne (5th-7th Sept at The Basin Theatre Group TBTG). VM2019 was developed as a charity fund raiser to support services for victims of domestic violence in Victoria. Eastern Domestic Violence Services (EDVOS) was the nominated beneficiary in Melbourne whilst in Torquay VM2019 nominated Bethany.org.

SPONSORS: The VM2019 team invited people and organisations to support the EDVOS programme with cash donations/sponsorship. TBTG kindly waived one days rental fee as its charitable contribution to the cause. EDVOS will provide tax receipts in due course.

SET: Stagecoach Productions used TTT’s free-standing curtain rails, Stagecoach dressing drapes and props (red-lip sofa -courtesy Melbourne Theatre Company / MTC- and small furnishings). TBTG kindly provided two large and three small wooden plinths recycled from the previous set which were transported to Torquay and returned.

LIGHTS: Stagecoach was supported by LeBlonde Lighting Productions (LBLP) and 1812 Theatre for lighting design and supply of feature lights (respectively) to complement TTT standard set. LBLP operated its own light ETC control console. TTT light assets were left in place undisturbed at bump out

SOUND: Foyer music and two music pieces for audience entrance and exit of the auditorium were played using TBTG and TTT sound systems.

FOYER: The Senior Citizens “foyer” styled to convey the VM2019 messages for community awareness of the issues surrounding victims of domestic violence and to display the PR material from Bethany Organisation. A tree comprised of 142 red hearts symbolised the number of Australian women and children that have died as a result of Domestic Violence (2018-September 2019)

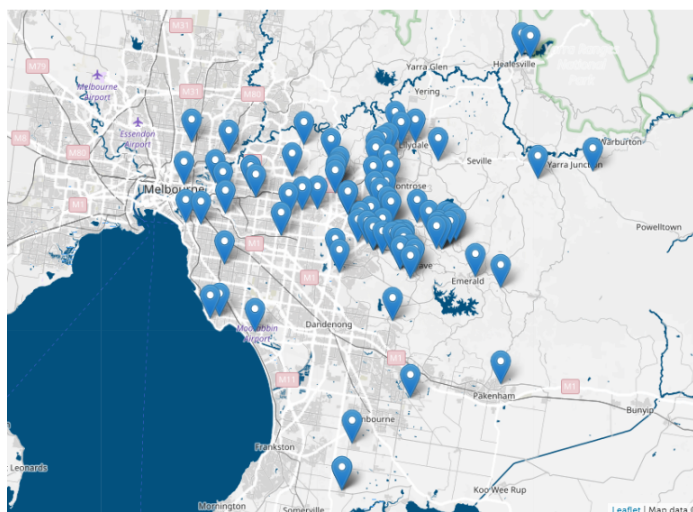
ADVERTISING was principally through TTT’s social media (facebook and emails) and word-of mouth in the theatre community and SurfCoast Council circulated a special bulletin through their Art Matters publication.

BOOKINGS were made through Trybooking.com for both venues. Trybooking.com is TTT’s normal method of booking management.

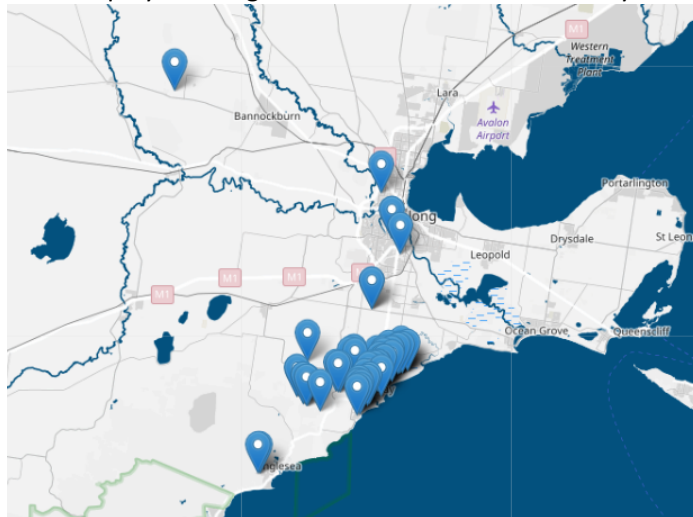
TICKETING : sales at Torquay were competing with the football finals- ironic since both EDVOS and Bethany report Domestic Violence increases dramatically during the football season. TBTG were >220 and the TryBooking map report shows these audiences were drawn predominantly from the foothills suburbs but also a significant proportion from locations from Healesville to Cranbourne to St Kilda (see map)



Stagecoach Productions



The Torquay Bookings were more local from broadly the Torquay Geelong corridor



CONCLUSIONS

VM2019 was smoothly bumped in and out TBTG in 8 days and 5 days in Torquay. The project raised a total of \$10,900 funds which were allocated \$3300 to Bethany in Geelong and \$7600 to EDVOS in Ringwood. Stagecoach Productions is delighted with the results and would be happy to consider other ventures with TBTG in the future. The review by Entertainment Geelong sums up the production

<https://entertainmentgeelong.com/reviews-2019-1>

George & Zina Carman



Stagecoach Productions

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26th September 2019



Tree of Hearts representative of women and children killed in Australia as result of domestic violence (2018-Sept 2019)



VM2019 set Torquay



Presentation of cheque to Bethany organisation 25th September 2019
(l-r) Grant Boyd (CEO Bethany), Zina Carman VM2019 Director, George Carman (Stagecoach Productions)
Fred Preston (Torquay Theatre Troupe).