

THE END OF WINTER

Siren Theatre Co (Australia)

The End of Winter is a rich imaginative story which asks: will climate change erase winter leaving it to exist only in fairy tales, paintings, and historical accounts?

SIREN THEATRE CO

THE END OF WINTER

BY NOELLE JANASZEWSKA PERFORMED BY JANE PHEGAN

DIRECTOR KATE GAUL COMPOSER NATE EDMONDSON

PRODUCTION DESIGN SOHAM APTE LIGHTING DESIGN BECKY RUSSELL

BEST NEW PLAY
NSW PREMIERS LITERARY AWARDS

BEST PLAY
NSW PREMIERS LITERARY AWARD SHORTLIST

BEST ACTOR
SYDNEY THEATRE CRITICS AWARDS

BEST NEW PLAY
AWGIE AWARDS SHORTLIST

BEST SOUND DESIGN
BROADWAY WORLD



★★★★★
"a bravura performance from Jane Phegan ... a theatrical experience of bonewarming depth and hope" Reviews by Judith

★★★★★
"a masterclass in storytelling ... a breathtaking work of theatre that feels urgent" Bakchormeeboy

★★★★★
"a masterclass in acting and performing" Theatre Travels

★★★★★
"enlightening ... sobering ... Recommended" Stage Noise

★★★★★
"exquisitely written ... an articulate howl of rage against climate change" The List

★★★★★
"seeing Phegan perform is enough reason to add this to your list of must-see Fringe shows" AU Review

ADELAIDE FRINGE WINNER 2024

Contact

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★★★★★★ "Australia's Siren Theatre Co. has set a high bar ... Phegan's performance is phenomenal ... a production that leaves one spellbound from start to end, a masterclass in storytelling that knows exactly how to shape the imagination and bring us on a journey that is both personal and universal. A breathtaking work of theatre that feels urgent, important and hits hard, as this one-woman force of nature pores over histories and archives, traveling from place to place to save herself and the winter of her mind." [Bakchormeeboy](#)

★★★★★★ "The "performance essay-cum-monologue" is beautifully realised by Jane Phegan. Her clear-eyed calm and gentle humour undercut the ferocious messages and discoveries revealed in less than an hour of intense and engrossing mind travel. *The End of Winter* is often enlightening, often sobering, and occasionally laugh-out-loud funny. Recommended." [Diana Simmonds, Stage Noise](#)

★★★★★★ "It's a bravura performance from Jane Phegan...a complex final image and the ghostly sway of the curtains on occasion, leads to a mimetic and stringed conclusion which creeps those icy fingers towards the heart. Too much to take away from *The End of Winter*, too much for one viewing yet not a play for reading. As crisp and clear as a frosty night, it is a theatrical experience of bone-warming depth and of hope." [Reviews by Judith](#)

★★★★★★ "Jane Phegan's excellent performance is an articulate howl of rage against climate change." [The List, UK](#)

★★★★★★ "It is a celebration of winter and cold as well as a warning about climate change. It is also, most movingly, a reflection on the nature of loss itself." [Ned Hirst, Arts Hub](#)

"Exquisitely written ... directed with light touch by Kate Gaul, it is one woman's cerebral, deeply personal, eco-poetic odyssey, in which she travels through the realms of childhood memories and forgotten histories, science and art, folklore and myth to present a paean to winter, sung in the key of anticipatory loss." [Kate Pendergast, Audrey Journal](#)

"Jane Phegan is undeniably the right actor to give life to this role with her excellent emotional range and obvious compassion. This work is complex but entertaining, emotionally varied but crystal clear, as well as a masterclass in acting and performing. *The End of Winter* is both monologue and elegy - a poetic meditation on the personal situated within global considerations and delivered with warmth, humour, and perhaps a small degree of hope for this world." [Lisa Lanzi, Theatre Travels, SA](#)

"Winter doesn't need to be your favourite season ...seeing Phegan perform is enough of a reason to add this to your list of must-see Fringe shows." [Arts Reviews, SA](#)

“Summer may seem to define us in Australia, but Noelle Janaczewska’s new play is a moving, even joyous paean to all things wintry. But it comes with a mournful bite: climate change will make her winter a mere memory.”

[Martin Portus, Stage Whispers](#)

“Janaczewska’s script is part sensory, part scientific, part history, totally literate and humongously heartfelt. The history is fascinating, arctic and Antarctic anecdote cutting a swathe through the story’s arc.

[Richard Cotter, Sydney Arts Guide](#)

“The facts of climate change are brutal and can easily become paralysing but this gentle rumination on the past offers a reconciliation of grief and speculation. Perhaps, sadly, the future unifying force will be loss underpinning the love.”

[Julia Clark, NightWrites](#)

“...an elegy for the imminent loss of seasons and a love letter to the cold..”

[Cassie Tongue, SMH](#)



EPISODE 268

STAGES

THE END OF WINTER - BUILDING A PLAY

STAGES chronicle the evolution of the production. Hearing from the creative personnel - performer, director, designers, playwright - over a 4-week period, the podcast explores how they construct this piece for the theatre.



Articles & Interviews

Audrey journal

<https://www.audreyjournal.com.au/arts/the-end-of-winter/>

<https://www.audreyjournal.com.au/arts/the-end-of-winter-viewing-the-other-side/>

Judith and Friends

<https://reviewsbyjudith.com/review/the-end-of-winter-interview>

Broadway World

<https://www.broadwayworld.com/sydney/article/Siren-Theatre-Company-to-Stage-THE-END-OF-WINTER-20220123>

[Interview with Regina Botros](#)

<https://redvelvetproductions.podbean.com/e/kate-gaul/>