

INNER WEST LIVE MUSIC AND PERFORMANCE CENSUS 2019

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INTRODUCTION



Darcy Byrne - Mayor, Inner West Council

Creativity and culture are essential to the Inner West's community, identity and economy. We are home to literally hundreds of studios, production houses, artist initiatives, galleries and performance spaces.

The COVID-19 crisis has taken a huge toll on our creative industries, with performance spaces and live venues bearing the brunt of public health restrictions and a flaccid financial response from the Federal Government disappointing many in the industry.

This has forced many creatives to either mothball their productions, or cancel them completely. This has been devastating for everyone.

This Census provides us with a snapshot of how vibrant the arts and live music scene was in the Inner West pre-COVID, and it gives us the tools to breathe life into the live music and performance sector.

John Wardle - Live Music Office

There's a lot to learn about the cultural and night time economy in Sydney through the findings of this research.

What is readily apparent from the census findings is the broad diversity of venues, art-forms and genres that provide many many jobs and opportunities on a weekly basis. There are hundreds of events happening each and every week, in theatres, pubs, clubs, restaurants, small bars, markets, cafes, community centres and bookshops, and including live music, theatre, circus, comedy, live art, dance, storytelling and magic.

It's encouraging to see the growing awareness that the Inner West is now again a driving hub and beacon for the cultural life of Sydney and NSW as life returns after COVID lockdowns and restrictions. Many venues in the census are back presenting performances, some are operating with reduced conditions, and some have closed. But as the greater city navigates the challenges from COVID-19 and works to adapt, the Inner West will increasingly play a leading role as a live music and performance destination for locals and visitors, and be a crucible for ideas, participation, creativity, and fun.



Kerri Glasscock - CEO and Festival Director Sydney Fringe Festival

Many of us Inner Westies have known for a long time that this LGA is the cultural capital of NSW, it is so fantastic to see that claim backed up by hard data in this detailed census.

The Sydney Fringe has long championed the development and promotion of the area, our venues and artists. We started out in 2009 with a governing mandate to promote the local venues of Newtown as a destination entertainment precinct. Eleven years on what started as a small community event is now the largest Independent arts festival in NSW, and the Inner West is still our home. Each year we present the work of over 2500 local artists all across the city, but the majority of our activity still takes place in the venues, halls, parks and pubs of the Inner West. Each year over 30,000 people attend Sydney Fringe events in the Inner West, with a huge portion of our \$12million economic impact flowing to the area.

We are immensely proud to see in this census the 40+% lift in activity in existing venues when comparing Sydney Fringe in September to usual activity in October. There is strength in numbers, and as we enter the recovery phase of the current crisis we are all enduring, having this benchmarking document to utilise as we create strategies to safeguard our cultural capital for the future is incredibly valuable.



ABOUT THE INNER WEST LIVE MUSIC AND PERFORMANCE CENSUS 2019

The Inner West Live Music Census 2019 project was undertaken by the Live Music Office in partnership with [The Sydney Fringe Festival](#) and mapped live music and performance across art-forms and comedy through September and October 2019.

This research was undertaken through monitoring available programs, gig guides, social media, connecting with industry participants across the music and hospitality industry, as well as events programmers and Council. Census data was collected by venue and date. A large sample of venues were contacted in writing to confirm the accuracy of the census data collected. Where multiple performances were held on a single day, such as for comedy events at the Factory Theatre for Sydney Fringe, these were counted as individual events, rather than as a single event.

A common objective for night time economy and music strategies is to nurture the ever elusive vibrancy. For this project, it was felt important to map both art-forms and performance practice, as collectively, diversity and vibrancy are more accurately evaluated and communicated by grouping participation in our view.

The Live Music Office has worked in recent years to support the development of strategic plans and projects across the states and territories (including the Leichhardt and Marrickville live music strategies from Council in the Inner West in previous years). As part of this work, the Live Music Office has undertaken or provided assistance for similar live music census projects for the City of Wollongong Live Music Taskforce Live Music Census (2013), Music SA Adelaide Live Music Census ([2015](#) / [2016](#) / [2017](#)), The City of Gold Coast Live Music Taskforce Live Music Census, [The Northern Territory Live Music Census \(2017\)](#) and the [Newcastle Live Music Taskforce Census \(2018\)](#).

The Inner West Live Music Census 2019 was produced independently by John Wardle, supported by an Inner West Council Independent Artists Grant. The Inner West Live Music and Performance Census 2019 data collection were by John Wardle and The Sydney Fringe Festival. Report content and design are by John Wardle from the Live Music Office.

Photo Credits: We acknowledge the assistance of the venues included in the census who also provided their photos for the report. These include: Century Venues, Sydney Fringe Festival, Lazybones Lounge Restaurant and Bar Marrickville, The Red Rattler Marrickville, The Gasoline Pony Marrickville, The Marrickville Bowling Club, The Newsagency Annandale, Camelot Lounge and Django Bar Marrickville, and also photographers Seiya Taguchi and Tania Smith.

Google Maps: The maps created for the census across art-forms and live music precincts were created using Google Maps.

Disclaimer: Every effort was made to ensure that as many events and performances were included across the survey period.

Many venues have up to date and comprehensive event listings on their websites, social media, and gig guides, however, others aren't always current, events change and listings need to be altered on occasion. If you feel any venues or performances have been missed or need to be re-framed, the report can be updated if required and any reasonable corrections are welcome. You can email the author at john@livemusicoffice.com.au

Acknowledgement of Country: Inner West Council acknowledges the traditional Aboriginal custodian of this land, their living culture and unique role in the life of this region.

We acknowledge this is a country of which the members and Elders of the local Aboriginal communities have been custodians for many centuries, and on which these people have performed age-old ceremonies.

The traditional Aboriginal groups of the Inner West Council area are the Gadigal and Wangal peoples of the Eora Nation.



OVERVIEW

The Inner West Live Music and Performance Census 2019 mapped live music and performance across venues, festivals, and art-forms through September and October 2019, with census data identifying a remarkable amount of live music and performance happening weekly in the Inner West Local Government Area (LGA).

Key findings of the Inner West Live Music and Performance Census 2019 include:

- 2,496 performances and 1,842 events in the Inner West across September (1485 performances / 1124 events) and October (1011 performances / 718 events)
- 88 venues in September and 87 venues in October regularly presenting live music and performance
- The Factory Theatre in Marrickville had the most performances of any venue at 278 separate performances in September
- Hotels provided the most live music venues with 30 individual venues in both September and October, along with Clubs 14/15, Bars 12/13 and Theatres 12/8
- Lazybones Lounge, Gasoline Pony and Butchers Brew, all in the Marrickville/Dulwich Hill precinct are presenting a lot of music, as is the Bridge Hotel in Rozelle

Census data indicates a number of live music and performance areas or clusters in the Inner West LGA, comprising:

- Marrickville / Dulwich Hill - 25 venues presenting 497 events / 573 performances in September and 264 events / 364 performances in October
- Newtown / Enmore / St Peters - 20 venues presenting 239 events / 350 performances in September and 145 events / 231 performances in October
- Balmain / Rozelle - 17 venues presenting 103 events / 166 performances in September and 94 events / 115 performances in October
- Lilyfield / Annandale / Leichhardt - 15 venues presenting 148 events / 166 performances in September and 137 events / 163 performances in October
- Stanmore / Petersham / Lewisham / Summer Hill / Ashfield - 16 venues presenting 112 events / 154 performances in September and 104 events / 134 performances in October

Other findings include the significant contribution of [Sydney Fringe Festival](#) to the Inner West in September, with:

- 505 separate performances in September
- 19 venues presenting events including small bars, medium and large theatres as well as galleries and hotels.
- 34,008 attendances at Fringe events in the Inner West including an estimated 15,000 people for the [King St Crawl](#) (*presented in partnership with the City of Sydney*).

The Inner West Council EDGE and Festivals Program greatly supports the local venue scene and community participation in arts and culture in the Inner West, through:

- Providing 122 separate performances across 25 events and 5 festivals in September and October 2019
- Providing 41 performance opportunities for young people to perform in profile events in their local community
- Strong cultural and linguistically diverse (CALD) programming with 38 separate performances and events in September and October 2019
- Supporting local venues to curate live music stages featuring local artists across

Diversity is a strong theme in The Inner West. CALD events feature in many venues and are strong components of festivals. LGBTIQ events feature in the Sydney Fringe Festival and in venues in the Newtown/Enmore and Marrickville precincts. Many of the leading performance venues are either owned, managed or curated by Women, and there's important opportunities to encourage participation by young people in the EDGE program in particular as well as the Sydney Fringe Festival.

Live music genre diversity is also a strong characteristic of the Inner West, with a great variety of live music presented to cater to diverse tastes, including: International and Touring Artists / Contemporary Performances / Country / Blues / Rock / Jazz / Electronic / Metal / Funk and Soul / Singer Songwriters / LGBTIQ / CALD Events / All Ages Gigs / Instrumental Music / Community Choirs and Open Mic Nights.

Whilst the 2018 NSW Parliamentary inquiry into the Music and Arts Economy found a dramatic drop in live music venues in Sydney, the Inner West Live Music and Performance Census 2019 also shows that the Inner West has robust live music and performance participation - much of it at the grass-roots level - across all art-forms, with music, theatre, dance, literature, visual arts and comedy all represented in the census findings.



Photo: Marrickville Bowling Club

Please note: The Newsagency is no longer open in Annandale and has now relocated with a new venue called The Great Club in Marrickville, which is located at 160-164 Livingstone Rd, Marrickville, See website <http://www.thegreatclubsydney.com/>



Census Findings

Photo: The Newsagency Annandale

CENSUS FINDINGS

Census data was captured across September and October in 2019, where venues and festivals were assessed on how many events they had on any one day and then subsequently if there were instances of multiple performances, these were captured also.

Recognising that Sydney Fringe Festival programs a great deal of live music and performance in September, the census was carried over into October to investigate further arts and cultural activity outside of a major festival event, and to provide a truer reflection of standard cultural activity across the year.

Live Music and Performance	Sept Events	Performances	Oct Events	Performances
Total	1124	1485	718	1011

The number of venues remained reasonably static over each month with programming greater in September due to Fringe and Council festival activity. A number of dedicated music venues present a series of shows often with multiple artists on the same day - for example venues like Butchers Brew in Dulwich Hill and Gasoline Pony in Marrickville usually have a matinee show on a Saturday afternoon and then an evening show later on which would mean two separate events on the same day for the census data. Both Camelot Lounge / Django Bar and Lazybones Lounge Restaurant and Bar have two levels often presenting music simultaneously.

Venues	Sept Venues	Sept Events	Performances	Oct Venues	Oct Events	Performances
Total	88	1108	1409	87	712	965

The EDGE Festival from Inner West Council presented a series of events across the second half of 2019 including EDGE Ashfield in September. Other Council events in September and October including the Summer Hill Neighbourhood Feast, the Dulwich Hill Village Fair, and Marrickville Festival presented live music and performances alongside the Sydney Fringe Festival in September.

Festivals	Sept Festivals	Sept Events	Sept Acts	Oct Festivals	Oct Events	Oct Acts
Total	5	385	698	1	6	46



Photo: Gasoline Pony Marrickville

LIVE MUSIC AND PERFORMANCE BY VENUE TYPE

Venue events and performances were assessed over 14 individual categories across primary purpose venues such as theatres and galleries as well as the hospitality industry, retail and community centres and town halls.

Theatres and hotels provided the most live music and performance across the respective months with registered and licensed clubs, small bars and restaurants also making the top 5 venue categories for both September and October 2019.

Venue	September Venues	Events	Performances	October Venues	Events	Performances
Arts Centre	2	26	26	1	6	6
Bookshop	2	18	20	2	18	18
Brewery				1	1	1
Cafe	1	5	5	1	4	4
Church				1	1	1
Community Centre	1	3	3	2	9	15
Gallery	4	20	25	3	13	15
Hotel	30	202	346	30	194	267
Markets	3	17	17	3	16	16
Registered and Licensed Clubs	14	98	136	15	98	131
Restaurant	5	61	82	5	66	86
Small Bars	12	183	263	13	201	280
Theatre	12	469	480	8	79	119
Town Hall	2	6	6	2	6	6
Total	88	1,108	1,409	87	712	965



LIVE MUSIC AND PERFORMANCE BY LOCATION

There are 16 suburbs within the Inner West Council LGA. Whilst there are live music and performance venues across most suburbs, areas with strong night-time economies provide the most live music and performance in the LGA. Lead by Marrickville, Newtown and Leichhardt, Balmain, Enmore and Rozelle also have strong venue numbers within their suburbs.

Suburb	September Venues	Events	Performances	October Venues	Events	Performances
Annandale	4	42	42	4	16	16
Ashfield	6	35	45	6	32	36
Balmain	10	44	48	10	44	46
Dulwich Hill	1	29	30	2	33	35
Enmore	7	88	151	6	80	111
Leichhardt	11	73	91	9	51	64
Lewisham	1	5	5	1	1	1
Lilyfield	1	33	33	2	2	2
Marrickville	20	468	543	22	235	331
Newtown	11	147	195	11	88	144
Petersham	5	52	80	4	49	75
Rozelle	7	59	118	6	54	73
St Peters	1	4	4			
Stanmore	2	12	16	2	17	17
Summer Hill	1	8	8	1	10	10
Total	88	1,099	1,409	86	712	961

The top 10 venues for each month firstly featured Sydney Fringe Festival programming strongly in September and the mainstays of the live music industry in the Inner West lead the way in October 2019.

Comedy programming at the Factory Theatre Marrickville delivered the most events in the census mapping period (278 /Sept) with Gasoline Pony Marrickville and Lazybones Lounge Restaurant and Bar Marrickville each presenting 51 events across October 2019.

Butchers Brew Dulwich Hill delivered a great deal of live music for a small venue, the Bridge Hotel Rozelle also presented a solid number of live performances with their electronic music nights providing many opportunities for Sydney artists to present their work.

The Old 505 Theatre Newtown presented the most theatre performances in both September and October.



The Bridge Hotel Rozelle. Photo: Tania Smith

	Top 10 Venues September	Events	Performances	October	Events	Performances
1	The Factory Theatre Marrickville	278	278	Gasoline Pony Marrickville	51	81
2	Old 505 Theatre Newtown	86	86	Lazybones Lounge Restaurant and Bar Marrickville	51	71
3	Lazybones Lounge Restaurant and Bar Marrickville	46	67	Camelot and Django Bar Marrickville	36	41
4	Gasoline Pony Marrickville	38	71	Butchers Brew Dulwich Hill	32	34
5	Red Box Theatre Lilyfield	33	33	Old 505 Theatre Newtown	28	40
6	Actors Centre Leichhardt	30	42	Cottonmouth Records Enmore	27	27
7	Cottonmouth Records Enmore	26	29	Petersham Bowling Club	24	49
8	The Bridge Hotel Rozelle	21	80	The Bridge Hotel Rozelle	21	40
9	Butchers Brew Dulwich Hill	21	30	Factory Theatre Marrickville	21	40
10	The Hideaway Bar Enmore	20	51	The Hideaway Bar Enmore	17	35
	Total	599	767	Total	308	458

Sydney Fringe Festival | EDGE | Council Festivals & Events



SYDNEY FRINGE FESTIVAL

2019 marked the celebration of a decade of Sydney Fringe. As expected, it was their largest festival ever and saw over 1600 performances by over 2500 artists hit the streets of Greater Sydney across 25 postcode areas. As an open access festival, the Fringe program is curated by their artists for their audiences. Participating Councils included- Inner West Council, City of Sydney, City of Parramatta, Georges River Council.

Sydney Fringe Festival Presentations by Artform and Diversity	Performances / Events
Comedy (Including 319 events by 102 acts at the Factory Theatre Comedy Hub inclusive of 61 events in the last week in August)	375
Theatre	186
Live Music	109
Fringe Ignite / King St Crawl Live Music (Inner West/ City of Sydney)	46
Circus	22
Dance	8
Art	7
Magic	6
Literature	4
First Nations	7
Cultural and Linguistically Diverse (CALD)	17
Young People	21
LGBTIQ	21

[View the Sydney Fringe Festival Venues Google Map](#)

	Sydney Fringe Festival by Venue	Performances	Attendance
1	Actors Centre Leichhardt	38	3166
2	Annandale Creative Arts Centre	12	400
3	Camelot Lounge Marrickville	1	120
4	Factory Theatre Marrickville	258	9955
5	Flight Path Theatre Marrickville	15	386
6	Mothership Studios Marrickville	4	263
7	Old 505 Gallery Newtown	25	2383
8	Old 505 Theatre Newtown	61	
9	Petersham Bowling Club	3	292
10	Red Rattler Marrickville	1	200
11	The Newsagency Annandale	4	430
12	The Red Box Theatre Lilyfield	33	1113
13	Tortuga Studios St Peters	4	500
IWC	King St Crawl Venues		
14	Blue Fig Bar Newtown	6	15000
15	Kelly's On King Newtown	10	
16	Midnight Special Enmore	5	
17	Botany View Hotel Newtown	12	
18	Cottonmouth Records Enmore	5	
19	The Hideaway Bar Enmore	8	
	Total	505	

EDGE | COUNCIL FESTIVALS & EVENTS

Established in 2019, [The EDGE Program](#) delivered precinct events in town centres across the Local Government Area that features local artists and communities, presenting diverse and accessible events through the year.

Festivals in the EDGE program include:

- EDGE Sydenham (2 to 10 August 2019)
- EDGE Ashfield (13 to 15 September 2019)
- EDGE Newtown (7 to 17 November 2019)
- EDGE Balmain (21 to 24 November 2019)

EDGE Ashfield presented artists such as:

Andy Trieu, Ngọc-tuấn Hoàng, Satsuki Oodamura, Lulu Liu, Dr Nicholas Ng, Takao Mizushima, Carina Li, DJ Flygirl Tee.

Other Council events were:

The Dulwich Hill Village Fair showcased artists curated by local venue Butchers Brew, the storytelling tent was hosted by Glebe Books.

Artists performing included: *Marrickville Public School Band, Hammerhead, The Strides, Steve Hunter Band, Sonic Mayhem Orchestra, Karen Lee Andrews, FANTASY (Spirit of Earth, Wind & Fire).*

Marrickville Festival provided live music curated by Lazybones Lounge and Gasoline Pony. Artists included: *Marrickville Public School Band, Hammerhead, The Strides, Steve Hunter Band, Sonic Mayhem Orchestra, Karen Lee Andrews, FANTASY (Spirit of Earth, Wind & Fire)*

The Summer Hill Neighbourhood Feast also had live music curated by the Rio Bar.

September / October EDGE and Council Festivals & Events	Stages / Events	Performances	Music	Dance	Literature	Art	CALD	Young
Dulwich Hill Village Fair (Sunday 15 September 2019)								
Butchers Brew Stage	1	6	4	2			2	2
Kids Stage	1	12	9	3			1	7
Story Telling Tent - Glebe Books	1	5			5			5
Little Dulwich	1	3				3		3
EDGE Ashfield (13 to 15 September 2019)								
Moon Festival	3	8	3	1	1	3	8	
Sydney Sacred Music Festival Moon Concert	1	7	7				7	
Moon Dance	1	5		5			5	2
Moon Music	2	3	3				3	2
Story Bombing (Ashfield Sound Bites)	1	1			1	1		
Moon Art	5	12	4		3	12	8	
Summer Hill Neighbourhood Feast (Sunday 29 September 2019)								
Main Stage by The Rio	1	4	4					
Creative Village by Sweets Workshop	1	10			1	9		8
Marrickville Festival (Sunday 20 October 2019)								
LazyBones Stage	1	7	7					1
Gasoline Pony Stage	1	10	10				2	
Raw Stage	1	11	11				1	6
Dance Alley	1	14		14			1	4
Hypmotive Hub	1	1				1		
Little Marrickville by Marrickville Metro	1	3	1		1	1		1
Total	25	122	63	25	12	30	38	41



Live Music

Photo: Lazybones Lounge Restaurant and Bar, Marrickville

LIVE MUSIC BY EVENTS AND PERFORMANCES

The Inner West has a remarkable amount of live music that can be found across the length and breadth of the LGA in both September and October 2019. Remarkable not only in the numbers of performances that were presented on a weekly basis, but also in the diversity of offer.

Many of these venues feature original live music and support the presentation of new work.

- 75 individual venues provided live music in September featuring 891 separate performances across 610 events
- 79 individual venues provided live music in October featuring 869 separate performances across 629 events
- Gasoline Pony (81) and the Bridge Hotel (80) each achieved 80 separate performances in their respective months in September and October
- Lazybones Lounge Restaurant and Bar and Gasoline Pony each presented 51 separate events in October 2019
- Sydney Fringe Festival presented 109 live music performances in September, including 46 performances in the King St Crawl
- The EDGE Festivals presented 63 separate live music performances across The Dulwich Hill Village Fair (13), EDGE Ashfield (17), The Summer Hill Neighbourhood Feast (4) and the Marrickville Festival (29)

	Top 10 Live Music Venues September	Events	Performances	Top 10 Live Music Venues October	Events	Performances
1	Lazybones Lounge Restaurant and Bar Marrickville	46	67	Gasoline Pony Marrickville	51	81
2	Gasoline Pony Marrickville	38	71	Lazybones Lounge Restaurant and Bar Marrickville	51	71
3	Butchers Brew Dulwich Hill	38	71	Camelot Lounge / Django Bar Marrickville	36	41
4	Camelot Lounge / Django Bar Marrickville	30	42	Butchers Brew Dulwich Hill	32	34
5	Cottonmouth Records	26	29	Cottonmouth Records	27	27
6	The Bridge Hotel Rozelle	21	80	Petersham Bowling Club	24	49
7	The Hideaway Bar Enmore	20	51	The Bridge Hotel Rozelle	21	40
8	Sly Fox Hotel Enmore	18	42	Factory Theatre Marrickville	19	43
9	Petersham RSL Club	17	17	The Hideaway Bar Enmore	17	35
10	Petersham Bowling Club	14	36	Crowbar Leichhardt	16	29
	Total	268	506	Total	294	450

LIVE MUSIC - GENRE DIVERSITY

The following table identifies key venues either by the sorts of music they predominantly present or can feature at varying times.

Genre Diversity	Venues Guide				
Blues	The Merton Hotel-Balmain	Native Rose Hotel-Rozelle	Marrickville Bowling Club	Camelot / Django Bar-Marrickville	Butchers Brew-Dulwich Hill
Community Choirs	The London Hotel-Balmain	The Factory Theatre-Marrickville	Dulwich Hill Village Fair	Gasoline Pony-Marrickville	The Enmore Theatre
Contemporary	The Enmore Theatre	The Factory Theatre-Marrickville	The Hideaway Bar-Enmore	Blue Fig Bar-Newtown	Cottonmouth Records-Enmore
Country	Marrickville Bowling Club	Gasoline Pony - Marrickville	Camelot / Django Bar-Marrickville	The Factory Theatre - Marrickville	The Enmore Theatre
Cultural and Linguistically Diverse (CaLD)	Koutouki-Leichhardt	Odyssey Bar Restaurant-Leichhardt	Steki Taverna-Newtown	Addison Road Centre-Marrickville	Cyprus Community Club-Stanmore
Electronic	The Bridge Hotel-Rozelle	Blue Fig Bar-Newtown	Cottonmouth Records-Enmore	The Hideaway Bar Enmore	Dicks Hotel Balmain
Funk and Soul	Lazybones Lounge - Marrickville	Butchers Brew-Dulwich Hill	Camelot / Django Bar-Marrickville	The Factory Theatre-Marrickville	The Enmore Theatre
Instrumental Music	Butchers Brew-Dulwich Hill	Lazybones Lounge - Marrickville	Old 505 Theatre - Newtown	Camelot / Django Bar - Marrickville	The Newsagency - Annandale
International / Touring Artists	The Enmore Theatre	The Factory Theatre - Marrickville	Camelot / Django Bar-Marrickville	Marrickville Bowling Club	Lazybones Lounge - Marrickville
Jazz	Butchers Brew-Dulwich Hill	Vintage Café Newtown	Lazybones Lounge - Marrickville	Club Ashfield	Polish Club Ashfield
LGBTIQ	The Red Rattler Theatre - Marrickville	Secret Garden Bar Enmore	Blue Fig Bar-Newtown	Sly Fox Hotel-Enmore	Kelly's On King-Newtown
Metal	Crowbar-Leichhardt	The Bridge Hotel-Rozelle	The Enmore Theatre		
Open Mic Nights	Lentil As Anything-Newtown	Temperance Society - Summer Hill	Gasoline Pony - Marrickville	The Hideaway Bar Enmore	Garry Owen Hotel Rozelle
Rock	The Bridge Hotel-Rozelle	The Enmore Theatre	Marrickville Bowling Club	The Factory Theatre-Marrickville	Crowbar-Leichhardt
Singer Songwriters	The Newsagency - Annandale	Gasoline Pony - Marrickville	Lazybones Lounge - Marrickville	Camelot / Django Bar-Marrickville	Marrickville Bowling Club



THEATRE | LITERATURE | THE DRAMATIC ARTS

The census identifies eleven venues within the Inner West presenting new and existing work and providing unique opportunities for actors and writers in Sydney. Along with comedy, Sydney Fringe Festival delivered a great deal of theatre programming in September 2019, presenting 186 events across the Actors Centre in Leichhardt, the Annandale Creative Arts Centre, and in both the Old 505 Gallery and Old 505 Theatre as well as the Red Box Theatre in Lilyfield.

- Bookshops Better Read Than Dead in Newtown and Berkelouw Books in Leichhardt host regular book readings
- Sydney Fringe Festival presented 22 circus events in September across The Red Box Theatre Lilyfield and The Actors Centre in Leichhardt

Regular opportunities for engagement and entry points to the dramatic arts in the Inner West throughout the year can also be found at:

- The Flight Path Theatre located at the Addison Road Community Centre in Marrickville - programming includes theatre performances, musicals, spoken word, movie screenings,
- Spark Youth Theatre provides meaningful and accessible creative opportunities for young people aged 12-24 in Sydney's Inner West, presenting events in Ashfield and at Petersham Town Hall in 2019.

[View the Inner West Council Theatre and Dramatic Arts Venues Google Map](#)

	Theatre Literature Dramatic Arts by Venue	September	October
1	Actors Centre Leichhardt	37	1
2	Annandale Creative Arts Centre	11	
3	Better Read Than Dead - Newtown	18	13
4	Berkelouw Books - Leichhardt	2	5
5	Flight Path Theatre - Marrickville	20	
6	Old 505 Gallery - Newtown	25	
7	Old 505 Theatre - Newtown	61	40
8	Petersham Bowling Club		1
9	Petersham Town Hall		3
10	Spark Youth Theatre - Ashfield	7	8
11	The Red Box Theatre - Lilyfield	33	
	Total	214	71





Comedy

The Enmore Theatre. Photo: Century Venues

COMEDY

The Sydney Fringe Festival programs a great deal of comedy in September. The Sydney Fringe Comedy Factory Theatre program presented 268 separate events within September as well as events happening in the program in the month prior at the end of August, comprising a total of 319 performances across 102 acts.

Outside of the Fringe Festival, The Oxford Tavern in Petersham presented a weekly comedy program, with other venues such as the Enmore Theatre, the Royal Hotel in Leichhardt, the Red Rattler Theatre in Marrickville and the Sly Fox Hotel in Enmore also presenting live comedy across September and October 2019.

[View the Inner West Council Comedy Venues Google map](#)

	Venues	September	October
1	Actors Centre - Leichhardt	5	
2	Botany View Hotel - Newtown		4
3	Enmore Theatre	1	2
4	Factory Theatre Marrickville	258	
5	Flightpath Theatre Marrickville	5	4
6	Mothership Studios Marrickville	3	
7	Old 505 Theatre Newtown	10	
8	Oxford Tavern Petersham	3	4
9	Royal Hotel Leichhardt	1	1
10	Sly Fox Hotel Enmore	1	
11	The Newsagency - Annandale	5	
12	The Red Rattler Theatre - Marrickville	1	
	Total	293	15



The Factory Theatre Marrickville - Photo: Century Venues

Dance



**DANCEY!
DANCE!
TIME!**

Photo: The Red Rattle Theatre

DANCE

- Many of the dance events within the Inner West reflect the cultural and linguistic diversity of the community
- Weekly events include Steki Taverna Petersham, the Odyssey Bar Restaurant Leichhardt and Modern Greek and Traditional Cypriot Dance at the Cyprus Community Club Stanmore,
- Sydney Fringe Festival dance events include Tonante and But Why at the Actors Centre Leichhardt, Daddy Issues Dance Comp at Mothership Studios, and Motorcross Dance Club at Sydney Fringe Comedy
- EDGE Festival dance events include 14 performances at Marrickville Festival Dance Alley, 5 performances at the Dulwich Hill Fair Kids Stage and 6 performances at EDGE Ashfield

[View the Inner West Council Dance Venues Map](#)

	Venues	September	October
1	Actors Centre Leichhardt	5	
2	Addison Road Centre Marrickville	6	6
3	Annandale Creative Arts Centre	3	
4	Balmain Town Hall	1	
5	Concordia Club Marrickville	2	2
6	Cyprus Community Club Stanmore	4	12
7	Dulwich Hill Fair	5	
8	EDGE Ashfield	6	
9	Marrickville Festival		14
10	Mothership Studios Marrickville	3	
11	Odyssey Bar Restaurant Leichhardt	4	5
12	Petersham Town Hall		1
13	Polish Club Ashfield	2	
14	Ruby's Dance Hall Marrickville	4	6
15	Steki Taverna Petersham	13	
16	Sydney Portugal Community Club	1	
17	The Red Rattler Theatre Marrickville	1	
	Total	60	46





Visual Arts

Styna - Marrickville Metro, Sydney Fringe Festival. Photo: Seiya Taguchi

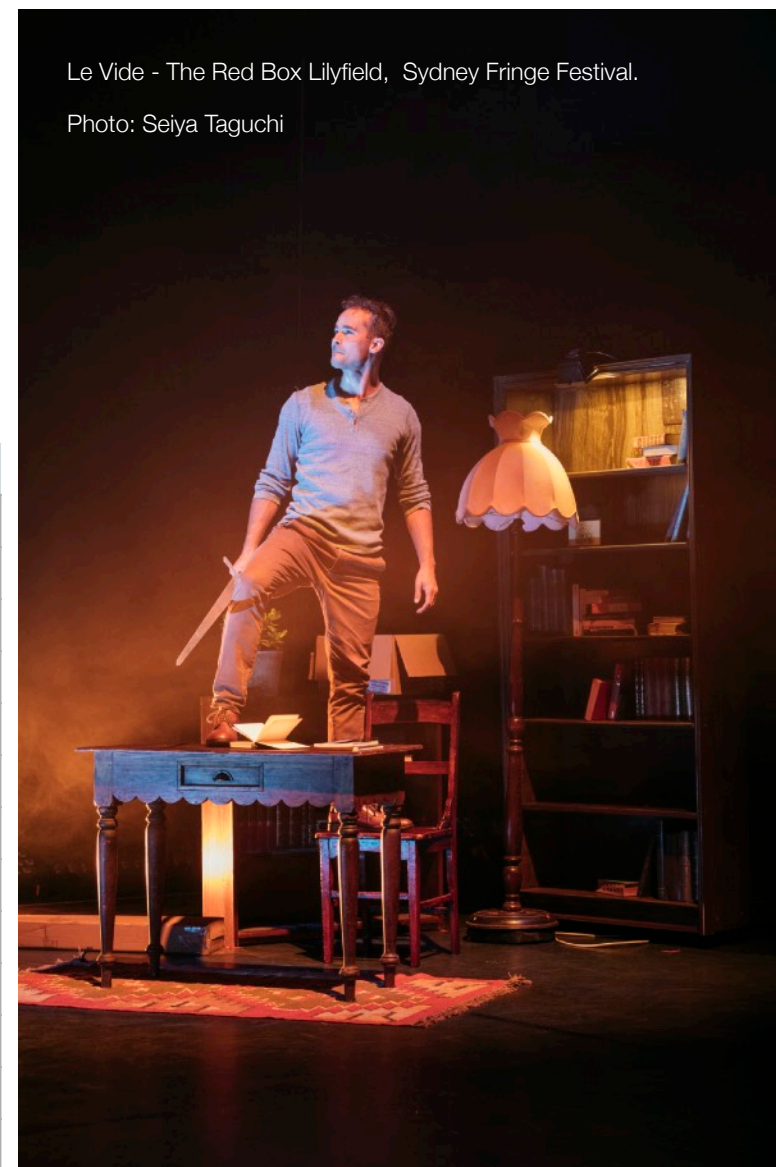
VISUAL ARTS

The Visual Arts in the Inner West has a range of interesting options for people who want to engage with local artists presenting their work as well as for participating in group drawing and painting classes.

- All of the festivals across September and October have visual arts components in their programming, many of which also have opportunities for young people to participate in art making. These include the Stencil Art Prize at Tortuga Studios in St Peters for Sydney Fringe Festival, EDGE Ashfield, the Dulwich Hill Fair and the Summer Hill Neighbourhood Feast.
- The Petersham Bowling Club, Django Bar / Camelot Lounge in Marrickville and the Balmain Hotel all provide regular art classes at night-time alongside their excellent live music programs.
- Dedicated galleries include Scratch Art Space and Mothership Studios in Marrickville and Tortuga Studios in St Peters

[View the Inner West Council Visual Arts Venues Google Map](#)

	Visual Arts Events by Venue	September	October
1	Annandale Creative Arts Centre	1	1
2	Batch Brewing Company - Marrickville		1
3	Camelot Lounge / Django Bar - Marrickville	1	2
4	Dulwich Hill Fair	3	
5	EDGE Ashfield	16	
6	Marrickville Festival	0	2
7	Mothership Studios - Marrickville	5	
8	Petersham Bowling Club	6	8
9	Scratch Art Space - Marrickville	7	6
10	Summer Hill Neighbourhood Feast	9	
11	The Balmain Hotel	1	1
12	Tortuga Studios - St Peters	4	
	Total	53	21



Le Vide - The Red Box Lilyfield, Sydney Fringe Festival.

Photo: Seiya Taguchi



Diversity

Matriarch - Old 505 Theatre, Sydney Fringe Festival. Photo: Seiya Taguchi

DIVERSITY

CULTURAL and LINGUISTIC DIVERSITY (CALD): Strongly reflected in the data, the Inner West is a destination of cultural and linguistic diversity where live music and dancing in particular is flourishing, and where opportunities for young people to participate in the cultural life of their community are strongly supported.

- CALD events totalled at least 211 performances, comprising 131 performances in September and 80 performances in October
- EDGE Festival programming provided at least 38 CALD performances out of 25 separate events across September and October
- Sydney Fringe Festival programming include 17 CALD performances and events
- Registered and Licensed Clubs included the Cyprus Community Club Stanmore, the Concordia Club Marrickville and the Sydney Portugal Community Club in Marrickville
- Restaurants and Bars were important venues for CALD events, particularly Koutouki and the Odyssey Bar Restaurants in Leichhardt and Steki Taverna Newtown
- The Addison Road Centre Marrickville featured events from Africa, South America and India
- Balmain Town Hall and Petersham Town Hall each had events featuring live music and dancing for CALD communities

FIRST NATIONS: communities were represented through a number of events in Sydney Fringe Festival, including the Creative Conversations with Land: Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow artists talks at the Annandale Creative Arts Centre, and Matriarch at the Old 505 Theatre in Newtown, that explores themes around cultural identity, the intergenerational effects of the stolen generations and what it means to be a fair skin, black woman in modern Australia.

GENDER: The live music and performance scene has many women band leaders and members performing weekly across the Inner West, Given the expansive length and breadth of the live music and performance census across many venues and eight weeks, it was not possible to accurately capture the participation of women across every performance and event, however, it is important that the contribution of women to the live music and performance ecology of the Inner West is recognised in this report.

- A number of the leading venues in the Local Government Area are either owned, managed or curated by women. Some of these include: Alexandra Heffernan (Lazybones Lounge Restaurant and Bar Marrickville), Ali Flett (The Newsagency Annandale), Caroline Buckingham (Butchers Brew Dulwich Hill), Fiona Cook (Gasoline Pony Marrickville), Jen Griffin (The Bridge Hotel Rozelle), and Kerri Glasscock (Old 505 Theatre Newtown)
- Sydney Fringe Festival staff: Kerri Glasscock (CEO and Festival Director), Louise Green (General Manager), Pia Andersan (Development Manager), Stella Kirkby (Marketing Manager), Tiera Boo (Design and Content Producer) and Erica Brennan (Artist and Venues Services Coordinator)

LGBTIQ: Venues supporting LGBTIQ events include: The Red Rattler Theatre Marrickville, Old 505 Theatre Newtown, The Factory Theatre Marrickville, The Enmore Theatre, The Sly Fox Enmore and The Secret Garden Bar Enmore.

- Sydney Fringe Festival LGBTIQ events included Party Snake and All I see is You at the Old 505 Gallery Newtown and 11 comedy performances at the Factory Theatre Marrickville
- The Secret Garden Bar Enmore has weekly Canned Fruit Wedsgays

YOUNG PEOPLE: There were many events for young artists across September and October 2019, including all ages shows at the Petersham Bowling Club, the Pratten Park Community Sports And Bowling Club and the Cyprus Community Club Stanmore

- Sydney Fringe festival included at least 21 separate performances and events specifically for young people
- EDGE Festivals provided at least 41 separate performances and events for young artists across September and October 2019



The Gasoline Pony
Hotel Licence - General Bar
Small Bar with light meals
Licensor: Pizna Cook

NO SMOKING
SMOKING IS PROHIBITED
BY ENTRY OR EXIT

Commercial
outdoor dining
areas are
smokefree

NOTICE

under
18
Persons under the
age of 18 years are
not permitted in this
area by law.

Mike Caen
Johnny Batchelor
The Bar Tones
7pm Wed 7th Oct
gasoline pony \$5

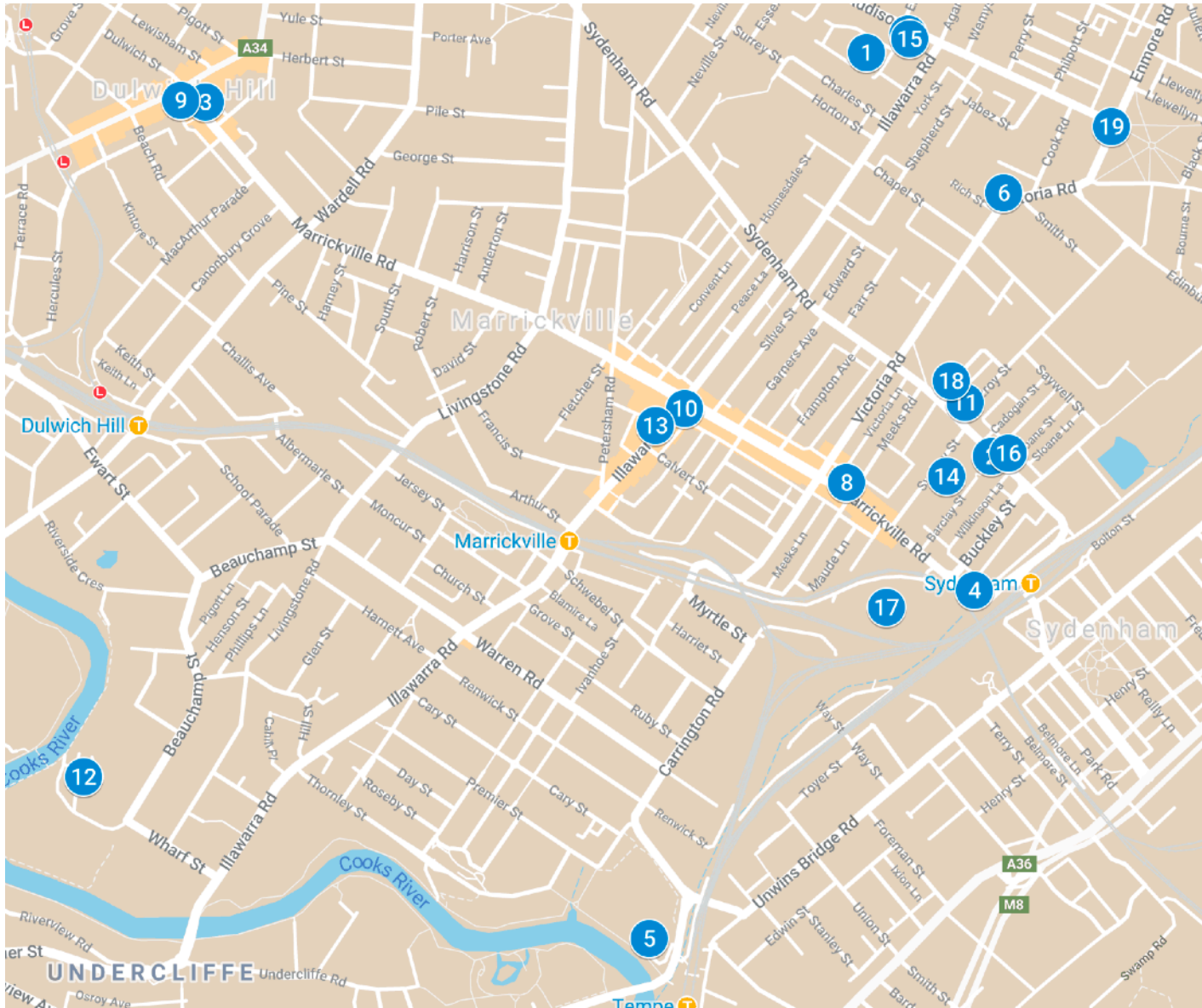
THE LONGHORN
HEROES

KEY TO
HIGHWAY
LIVE AT
THE GASOLINE
PONY 7TH OCT
TICKETS \$10

Marrickville | Dulwich Hill | St Peters

Photo: Gasoline Pony Marrickville

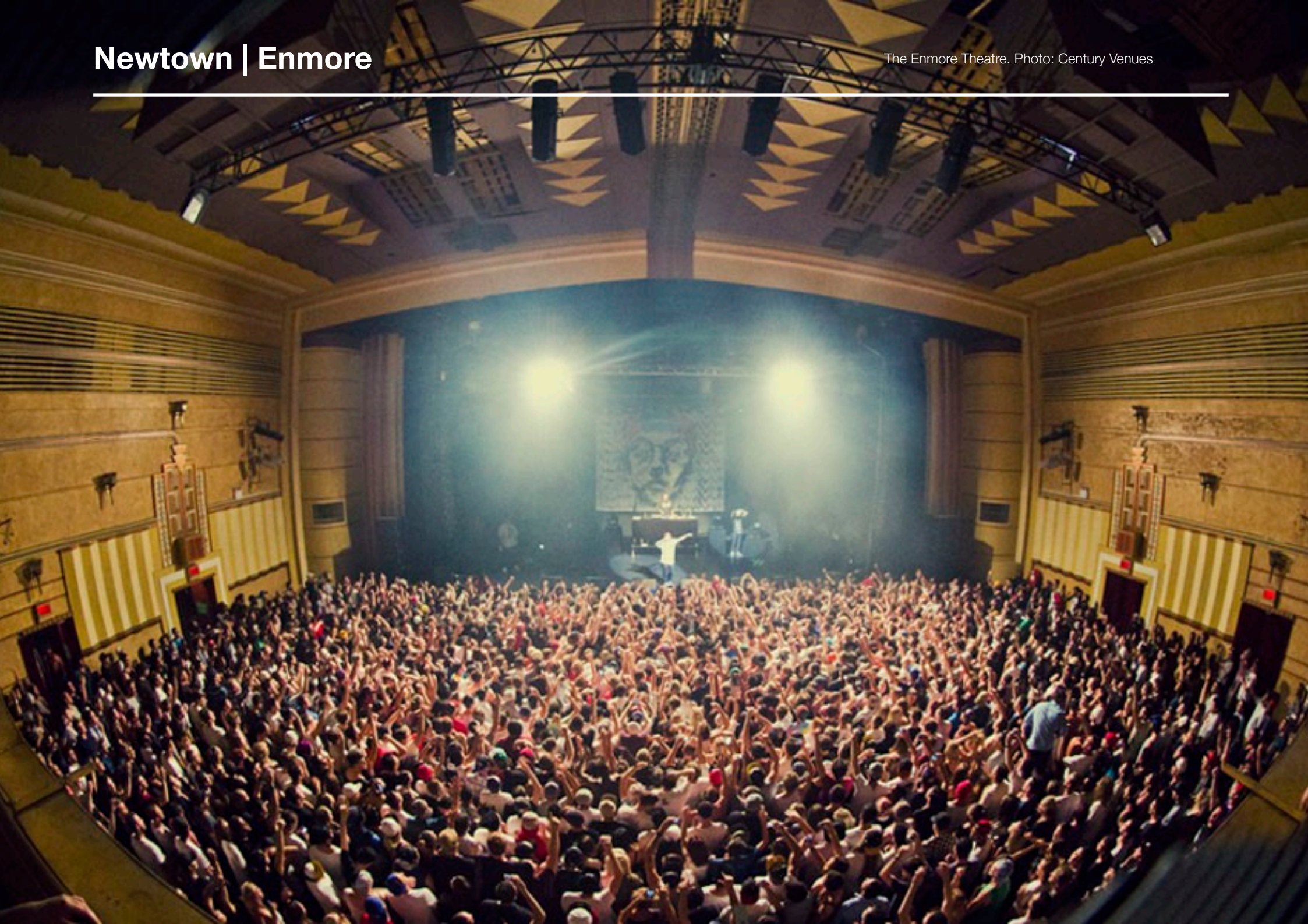
MARRICKVILLE | DULWICH HILL



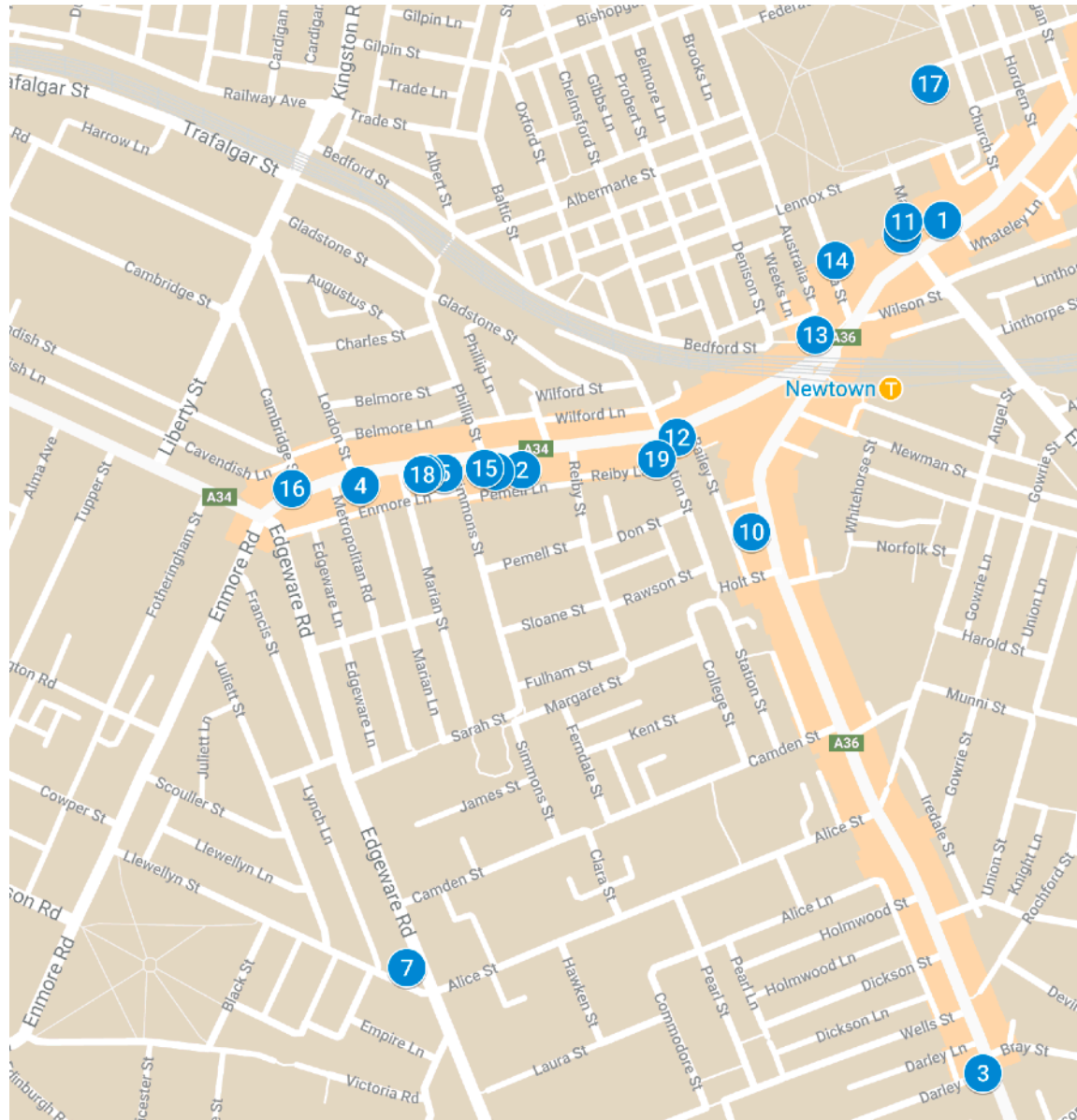
1	Addison Road Centre
2	Batch Brewing Company
22	Butchers Brew
3	Camelot Lounge
4	Concordia Club
5	Django Bar
7	Factory Theatre
8	Flight Path Theatre
9	Gasoline Pony
23	Gladstone Hotel
11	Lazybones Lounge L.1
10	Lazybones Lounge Restaurant & Bar
12	Marrickville Bowling & Recreation Club
13	Marrickville Golf Club
14	Marrickville Ritz Hotel
15	Mothership Studios
16	Organic Food Markets - Marrickville
17	Ruby's Dance Hall Marrickville
18	Scratch Art Space
19	Sydney Portugal Community Club
20	The Henson
21	The Red Rattler Theatre
24	The Vic on the Park Hotel

[View the Marrickville | Dulwich Hill Inner West Live Music and Performance Google Map](#)

Suburb		Venue	Type	Sept Events	Performances	Oct Events	Performances
Marrickville	1	Addison Road Centre	Arts Centre	8	8	6	6
	2	Batch Brewing Company	Brewery			1	1
	3	Camelot Lounge	Bar	15	15	19	21
	4	Concordia Club	Club	2	2	2	2
	5	Django Bar	Bar	13	15	17	20
	7	Factory Theatre	Theatre	266	268	19	43
	8	Flight Path Theatre	Theatre	20	20	2	4
	9	Gasoline Pony	Bar	38	71	51	81
	10	Lazybones Lounge Restaurant & Bar	Restaurant	46	67	51	71
	12	Marrickville Bowling & Recreation Club	Club	11	16	12	16
	13	Marrickville Golf Club	Club	5	5	4	4
	14	Marrickville Ritz Hotel	Hotel	8	8	8	8
	15	Mothership Studios	Gallery	5	10	1	3
	16	Organic Food Markets	Markets	5	5	4	4
	17	Ruby's Dance Hall	Gallery	4	4	6	6
	18	Scratch Art Space	Gallery	7	7	6	6
	19	Sydney Portugal Community Club	Club	1	1	1	1
	20	The Henson	Hotel			4	4
	21	The Red Rattler Theatre	Theatre	6	8	12	14
	22	The Vic on the Park Hotel	Hotel	8	13	9	16
Dulwich Hill	23	Butchers Brew	Bar	29	30	32	34
	24	Gladstone Hotel	Hotel			1	1
Total				497	573	268	366



NEWTOWN | ENMORE | ST PETERS



1	Better Read Than Dead Newtown
2	Blue Fig Bar Newtown
3	Botany View Hotel Newtown
4	Cottonmouth Records Enmore
5	Duke of Enmore Hotel
6	Enmore Theatre
7	Golden Barley Hotel Enmore
8	Jacoby's Tiki Bar Enmore
9	Kelly's On King Newtown
10	Lentil As Anything- Newtown
11	Marys Newtown
12	Midnight Special Newtown
13	Newtown Neighbourhood Centre
14	Old 505 Theatre Newtown
15	Secret Garden Bar Enmore
16	Sly Fox Hotel Enmore
17	St Stephens Anglican Church Newtown
19	The Hideaway Bar Enmore
20	Vintage Café Newtown

[View the Newtown | Enmore | St Peters Inner West Live Music and Performance Google Map](#)

NEWTOWN | ENMORE | ST PETERS

Suburb		Venue	Type	Sept Events	Performances	Oct Events	Performances
Newtown	1	Better Read Than Dead Newtown	Bookshop	16	18	13	13
	2	Blue Fig Bar Newtown	Bar	13	18	13	32
	3	Botany View Hotel Newtown	Hotel	13	34	11	17
	4	Kelly's On King Newtown	Hotel	5	20	8	19
	5	Lentil As Anything- Newtown	Restaurant	3	3	2	2
	6	Marys Newtown	Bar	1	1	2	2
	7	Midnight Special Newtown	Bar	2	7	2	4
	8	Newtown Neighbourhood Centre	Community Centre	3	3	3	9
	9	Old 505 Theatre Newtown	Theatre	86	86	28	40
	10	St Stephens Anglican Church	Church Hall	0	0	1	1
	11	Vintage Café Newtown	Café	5	5	4	4
Enmore	12	Cottonmouth Records	Bar	26	29	27	27
	13	Duke of Enmore Hotel	Hotel	1	10		
	14	Enmore Theatre	Theatre	12	16	8	8
	15	Golden Barley Hotel	Hotel	3	3	6	6
	16	Jacoby's Tiki Bar	Bar			1	1
	17	Secret Garden Bar	Bar	7	7	7	10
	18	Sly Fox Hotel	Hotel	19	35	15	29
	19	The Hideaway Bar	Bar	20	51	17	35
St Peters	20	Tortuga Studios St Peters	Gallery	4	4		
Total				239	350	168	259

Balmain | Rozelle



BALMAIN | ROZELLE



1	Bald Rock Hotel
2	Balmain Town Hall
3	Cat and Fiddle Hotel
4	Dicks Hotel
5	Exchange Hotel
6	Garry Owen Hotel
7	London Hotel
8	Merton Hotel
9	Native Rose Hotel
10	Riverview Hotel
11	Royal Oak Hotel
12	Rozelle Collectors Markets
13	The Balmain Hotel
14	The Bridge Hotel Rozelle
15	Sackville Hotel
16	The Unity Hall Hotel
17	The Workers Bar & Kitchen

[View the Balmain | Rozelle Inner West Live Music and Performance Google Map](#)

BALMAIN | ROZELLE

Suburb		Venue	Type	September Events	Performances	October Events	Performances
Balmain	1	Balmain Town Hall	Town Hall	2	2	2	2
	2	Cat and Fiddle Hotel	Hotel	5	5	5	5
	3	Dicks Hotel	Hotel	3	3	1	1
	4	Exchange Hotel	Hotel	5	5	4	4
	5	London Hotel	Hotel	4	4	5	5
	6	Riverview Hotel	Hotel	9	13	10	12
	7	Royal Oak Hotel	Hotel	1	1	1	1
	8	The Balmain Hotel	Hotel	5	5	5	5
	9	The Unity Hall	Hotel	8	8	9	9
	10	The Workers Bar & Kitchen	Bar	2	2	2	2
Rozelle	11	Bald Rock Hotel	Hotel	6	6	5	5
	12	Garry Owen Hotel	Hotel	5	5	4	4
	13	Merton Hotel	Hotel	13	13	12	12
	14	Native Rose Hotel	Hotel	5	5	4	4
	15	Rozelle Collectors Markets	Markets	8	8	8	8
	16	Sackville Hotel	Hotel	1	1	0	0
	17	The Bridge Hotel	Hotel	21	80	21	40
Combined Total				103	166	98	119

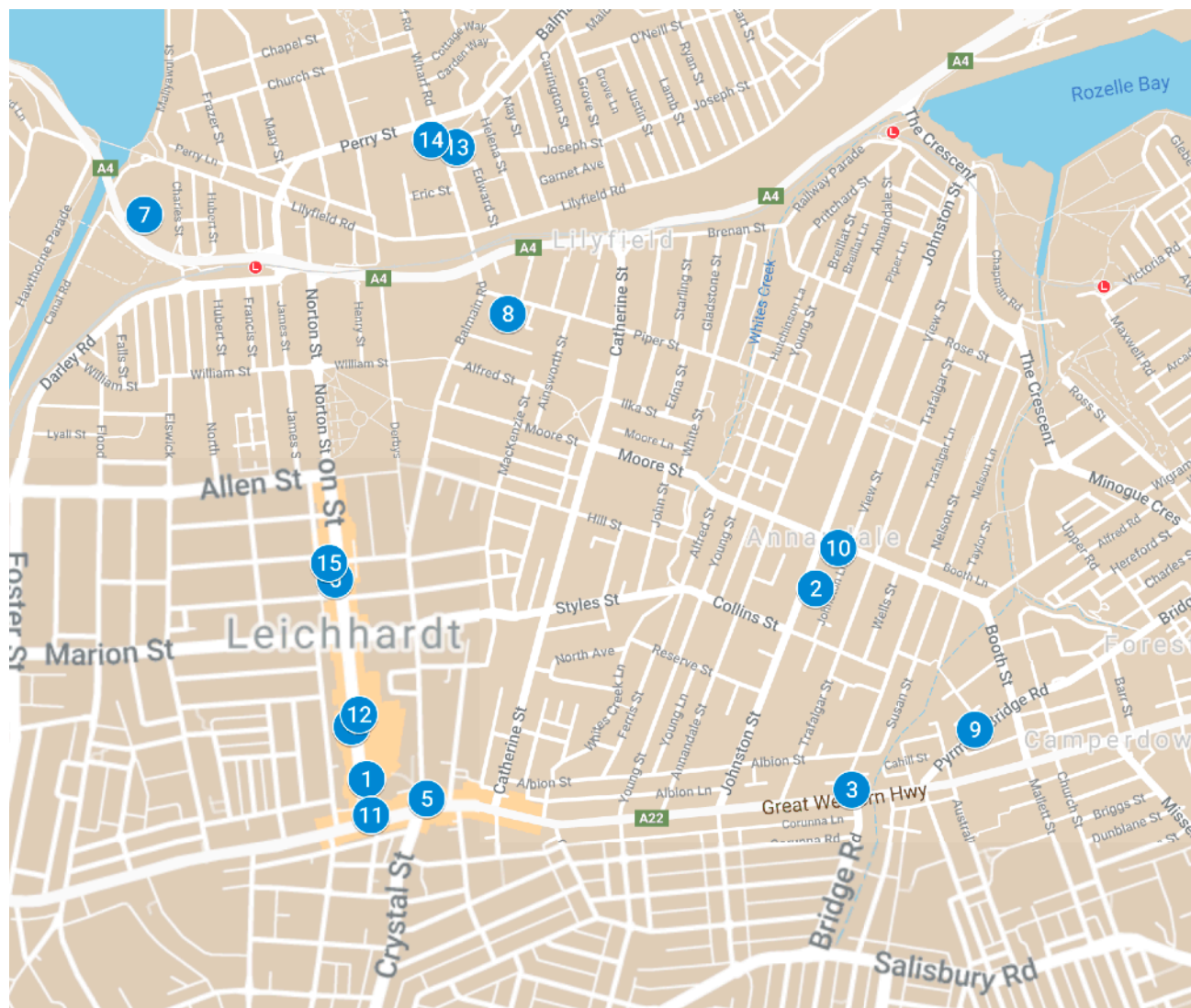
Photo: The Newsagency Annandale

Please note: The Newsagency is no longer open in Annandale and has now relocated with a new venue called The Great Club in Marrickville, which is located at 160-164 Livingstone Rd, Marrickville, See website <http://www.thegreatclubsydney.com/>



Lilyfield | Annandale | Leichhardt

LILYFIELD | ANNANDALE | LEICHHARDT



1	Actors Centre Annandale
2	Annandale Creative Arts Centre
3	Annandale Hotel
4	Berkelouw Books Leichhardt
5	Crowbar Annandale
6	Koutouki Leichhardt
7	The Red Box Theatre Lilyfield (Legs On The Wall)
8	Leichhardt Bowling and Recreational Club
9	The Newsagency Annandale
10	North Annandale Hotel
11	Nortons Irish Pub Leichhardt
12	Odyssey Bar Restaurant Leichhardt
13	Orange Grove Hotel
14	Organic Food Markets
15	Royal Hotel Leichhardt

[View the Lilyfield | Annandale | Leichhardt Inner West Live Music and Performance Google Map](#)

LILYFIELD | ANNANDALE | LEICHHARDT

Suburb		Venue	Type	Sept Events	Performances	Oct Events	Performances
Annandale	1	Annandale Creative Arts Centre	Arts Centre	18	18	6	6
	2	Annandale Hotel	Hotel	8	8	3	3
	3	North Annandale Hotel	Hotel	5	5	4	4
	4	The Newsagency	Bar	11	11	3	3
Leichhardt	5	Actors Centre	Theatre	30	42	1	1
	6	Berkelouw Books	Bookshop	2	2	5	5
	7	Crowbar	Hotel	14	20	16	29
	8	Koutouki	Restaurant	8	8	8	8
	9	Leichhardt Bowling and Recreational Club	Club	1	1	1	1
	10	Nortons Irish Pub	Hotel	8	8	9	9
	11	Odyssey Bar Restaurant	Restaurant	4	4	5	5
	12	Organic Food Markets	Markets	4	4	4	4
	13	Royal Hotel	Hotel	2	2	2	2
Lilyfield	14	The Red Box Theatre	Theatre	33	33	1	1
	15	Orange Grove Hotel	Hotel			1	1
Combined Total				148	166	68	81

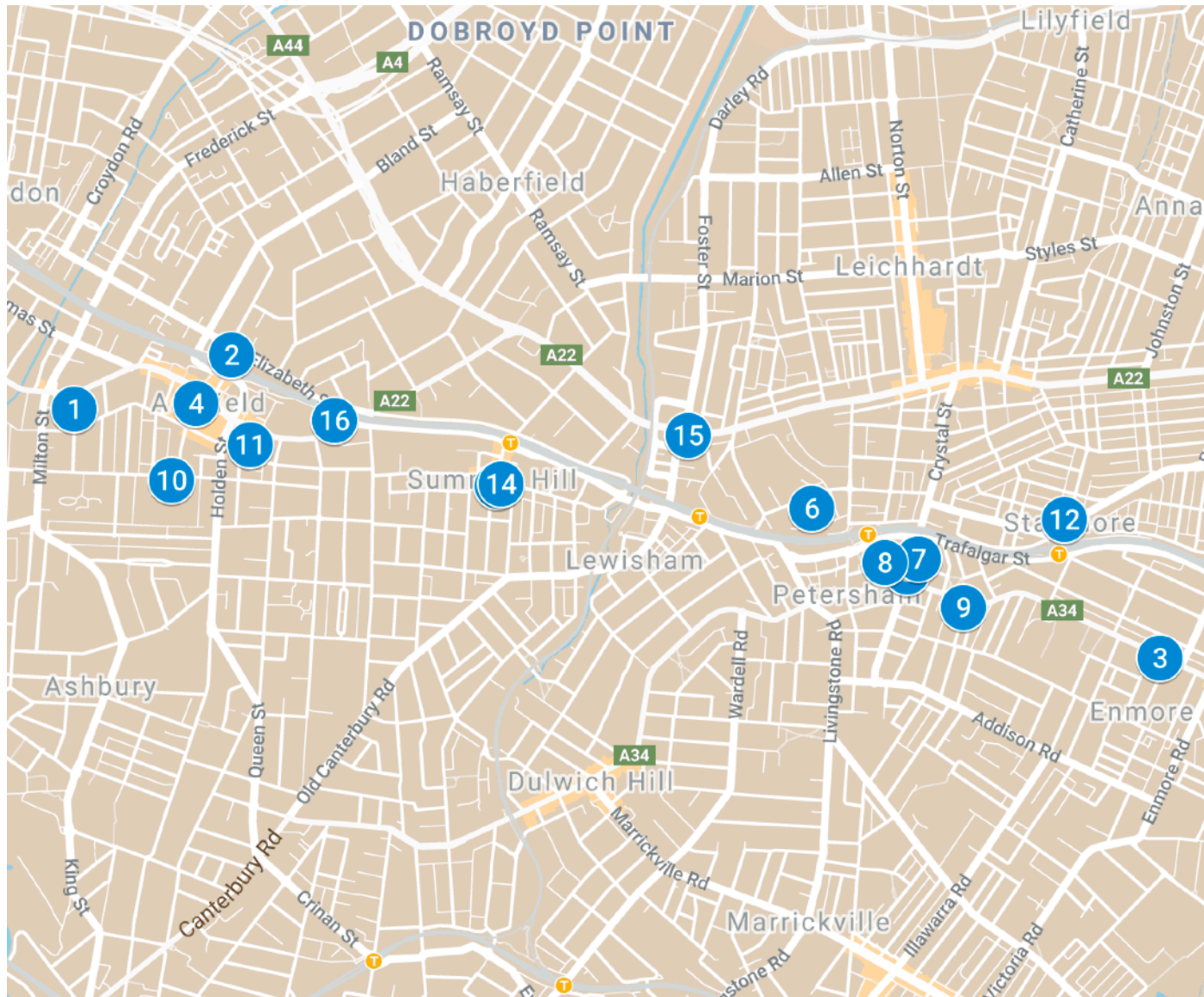


Please note: The Newsagency is no longer open in Annandale, and has now relocated with a new venue called The Great Club in Marrickville, which is located at 160-164 Livingstone Rd, Marrickville, see website <http://www.thegreatclubsydney.com/>



Ashfield | Summer Hill | Lewisham | Petersham | Stanmore

ASHFIELD | SUMMER HILL | LEWISHAM | PETERSHAM | STANMORE



1	Ashfield Catholic Club
2	Club Ashfield
3	Cyprus Community Club of NSW
4	Inner West Council Ashfield Service Centre
5	Oxford Tavern
6	Petersham Bowling Club
7	Petersham Town Hall
8	Petersham RSL Club
9	Public House Petersham
10	Pratten Park Bowling Club
11	Polish Club
12	Salisbury Hotel
13	The Rio
14	The Temperance Society
15	The Louis Hotel
16	Wests Ashfield Leagues Club

[View the Ashfield | Summer Hill | Lewisham | Petersham | Stanmore Live Music and Performance Google Map](#)

ASHFIELD | SUMMER HILL | LEWISHAM | PETERSHAM | STANMORE

Suburb		Venue	Type	Sept Events	Performances	Oct Events	Performances
Ashfield	1	Ashfield Catholic Club / Club Ashfield	Club	12	12	8	12
	2	Ashfield RSL	Club	4	4	4	4
	3	Polish Club	Club	7	7	6	6
	4	Pratten Park Community Sports And Bowling Club	Club	1	11	0	0
	5	Spark Youth Theatre Ashfield	Theatre	7	7	8	8
	7	West's Ashfield Leagues	Club	4	4	6	6
Lewisham	7	The Louis Hotel	Hotel	5	5	1	1
Petersham	8	Oxford Tavern	Hotel	7	16	5	6
	9	Petersham Bowling Club	Club	23	42	24	49
	10	Petersham RSL Club	Club	17	17	16	16
	11	Petersham Town Hall	Town hall	4	4	4	4
	12	Petersham Public House	Hotel	1	1	0	0
Stanmore	13	Cyprus Community Club	Club	8	12	12	12
	14	Salisbury Hotel	Hotel	4	4	5	5
Summer Hill	15	Temperance Society Bar	Bar	8	8	10	10
	16	The Rio Bar	Bar				
Combined Total				112	154	109	139



**Coronavirus Response | Creative and Cultural Resilience Grants | Festivals
Update | The Lineup Gig Guide**

CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE | CREATIVE AND CULTURAL RESILIENCE GRANTS | FESTIVALS UPDATE | THE LINEUP GIG GUIDE

Latest on Inner West Council Coronavirus Response

See Inner West Council Website Link which is being update regularly

<https://www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/about/news/announcements/latest-on-inner-west-council-coronavirus-response>

Note: All Council's events and event promotions have been cancelled until further notice, as part of Council's Coronavirus response. Council is taking this immediate action to protect community, staff and essential services.

Creative and Cultural Resilience Grants

Council's Creative and Cultural Resilience grants program was established in 2020. The program offered \$300,000 in new grant funding to support the Inner West's creative and cultural sector through the impacts of COVID-19.

Grants were available across two categories:

- **Artist and Creative Practitioner Grants** for creative development, new work and adaptation projects for creatives (up to \$5000)
- **Creative Spaces Grants** to support survival and resilience in local creative spaces (up to \$20,000)

The Grants are for projects to be delivered between July 2020 and 31 December 2020.

Download the [Creative and cultural resilience grants program guidelines \(PDF 7.3MB\)](#)

Festivals Update

As reflected in this census, Inner West Council has a strong festival program which prioritises local artists and also engages with venues to assist in curating events.

- **Sydney Fringe Festival:** Established in 2009, Council has been a strong supporter of [Sydney Fringe Festival](#) since and provides financial investment and in-kind support annually.
- **EDGE Program:** Established in 2019, [The EDGE program](#) delivers precinct events in town centres across the local government area that features local artists and communities to present diverse and accessible events through the year. *Note: All Council's events and event promotions have been cancelled until further notice, as part of Council's Coronavirus response.*
- **St Anmoré Festival of Music:** In November 2019 the [St Anmoré Festival of Music](#) was held in Stanmore to honour the late conductor and educator Richard Gill. A community lead initiative, it was included to augment the Inner West Council EDGE program. *Note: All Council's events and event promotions have been cancelled until further notice, as part of Council's Coronavirus response.*

The Lineup Gig Guide

Created in partnership with [FBI Radio](#), [the Lineup is Inner West Council's new gig guide](#) and is part of Council's ongoing commitment to support live music venues and creative industries in the Inner West and where FBI brings their knowledge to help source local gigs, news and reviews. *Note: All Council's events and event promotions have been cancelled until further notice, as part of Council's Coronavirus response.*



Photo: Camelot Lounge | Django Bar Marrickville

Live Music and Performance Strategy and Policy

Photo: Butchers Brew Dulwich Hill



LIVE MUSIC AND PERFORMANCE STRATEGY AND POLICY

The cultural and economic development framework which has supported the recent growth of the live music and performance sector in the Inner West Local Government Area has important foundations from 2014.

Parramatta Road Live Music Reference Group

In August 2014 Leichhardt Council tabled the final report and recommendations of the Parramatta Road Live Music Reference Group. [Read the report – Item 3.4 Ordinary Council Meeting 26 August 2014](#). This work was grouped under 9 themes, and has provided a roadmap for collaborative industry development since 2014.

The 9 areas identified through this process comprise:

1. The City of Sydney, Marrickville and Leichhardt continuing to work together on the broader State and Regional issues, in particular those identified in the City's Live Music Taskforce Report
2. Determining "Off Broadway" as the framework for the proposed Parramatta Road Cultural, Entertainment, Performance and Live Music Precinct
3. Expanding and supporting small bars and ancillary land uses
4. Define initial activation area boundaries – Parramatta Road and Sydenham
5. Public domain improvements
6. Working with existing businesses and landowners
7. Activating vacant premises
8. Marketing and promotion
9. Developing partnerships

Sydenham Creative Hub

Council's adopted vision for the Sydenham Station Creative Hub is a vibrant entertainment and employment precinct where live music venues, small bars, restaurants and cafés thrive alongside traditional and creative industries.

[See Council Website](#)

LIVE MUSIC MARRICKVILLE

In September 2014 Marrickville Council tabled the [LIVE MUSIC MARRICKVILLE](#) plan, an initiative of the joint Marrickville and Leichhardt Council Live Music Reference Group. Aligned with the [City of Sydney](#) and [Leichhardt Council](#) live music plans, the LIVE MUSIC MARRICKVILLE policy platform aims were to optimise both planning and regulatory functions of Council with cultural programs, venues and artists themselves, to better support the development of live music in the local government area.

The LIVE MUSIC MARRICKVILLE plan recommendations are as follows:

1. Land Use (Including the Sydenham Station Creative Hub).
2. Support in mediation in noise issues
3. Support for live music venue operators
4. Support in setting up a venue
5. Rehearsal spaces
6. Access
7. Audience development
8. Live music grants

Venues Days

As one of a series of actions from this plan. Council held forums to invite venues in the LGA to convene with Council and the music industry. These events were designed to keep a track of any issues that businesses were experiencing, to connect with the creative sector, and also be across the latest developments with grants programs and Council support.



Advocacy

The Enmore Theatre. Photo: Century Venues

ADVOCACY

Inner West Council continues to be a strong advocate for the live music and performance sector not only through the establishment of a strategic framework under which to develop live music and performance and through the grants and festivals programs, but also at the state government level through three recent parliamentary inquiries across 2018 and 2019.

1. NSW Parliamentary Inquiry into the Music and Arts Economy 2017/18

This inquiry was established on 23 November 2017 to inquire into and report on the music and arts economy in New South Wales. [See NSW Parliament Website Link.](#)

The [Inner West Council Submission can be viewed here.](#)

Inner West Council Mayor Darcy Byrne and Council staff provided evidence to this inquiry on 28 May 2018, with a [transcript available](#) from the NSW Parliament Website. From the Inquiry, the Committee Report contains four key findings and sixty recommendations. [Read the music and arts economy in New South Wales inquiry final report](#)

Important Inquiry recommendations include:

- That the NSW Department of Planning and Environment introduce exempt and complying development for low impact entertainment
- That, as a matter of priority, the NSW Government remove the duplication of regulatory and compliance responsibilities from multiple government agencies and local government
- That the NSW Government review and amend liquor legislation to remove outdated conditions for liquor licences and development applications that place unnecessary restrictions on certain entertainment live music venues, such as prohibiting music genres or specific musical instruments
- That the NSW Department of Planning and Environment investigate adopting a hybrid planning model to reduce land use conflict and support cultural activities in New South Wales

2. Joint Select Committee on Sydneys Night-time Economy 2019

This joint select committee was established on 29 May 2019 to inquire into and report on Sydney's night-time economy. [See NSW Parliament Website Link.](#)

The [Inner West Council Submission can be viewed here.](#)

Inner West Council Mayor Darcy Byrne and Council staff provided evidence to this inquiry on 5 August 2019, with a [transcript available](#) from the NSW Parliament Website. The Joint Select Committee on Sydney's Night-time Economy [report into Sydneys night-time economy can be found here.](#)

Important Inquiry recommendations include:

- That the NSW Government and stakeholders now need to take proactive steps to revitalise Sydney's night-time economy
- That the Department of Planning, Industry and the Environment develop an integrated application process for liquor licensing and development applications that removes duplication in processes.
- That the NSW Government investigate ways to support venues to provide entertainment. This should include making it easier for existing venues to do so, by encouraging new small and medium size music and entertainment venues, and the use of empty or under-utilised government spaces as temporary or opt-up arts and entertainment venues
- That the NSW Government allocate funding to promote Sydney's night-time economy to both a domestic and international audience

3. NSW Parliamentary Inquiry - Liquor Amendment (Music Festivals) Regulation 2019 and Gaming and Liquor Administration Amendment (Music Festivals) Regulation 2019

This inquiry was established on 30 May 2019 to inquire into and report on the impact and implementation of the Liquor Amendment (Music Festivals) Regulation 2019 and the Gaming and Liquor Administration Amendment (Music Festivals) Regulation 2019. [See NSW Parliament Website Link](#)

The [Inner West Council Submission can be viewed here.](#)

Venue Regulation | Sydney Fringe Festival - An Anthology of Space 2015-18

Photo: Gasoline Pony Marrickville



VENUE REGULATION | SYDNEY FRINGE FESTIVAL - AN ANTHOLOGY OF SPACE 2015-18

Good Music Neighbours

The 2019 Joint Select Committee on Sydney's Night Time Economy acknowledged the commitment of Inner West Council to supporting the local music industry. Recommendation 8 from p.16 of the Inquiry Report endorses the Inner West Council's Live Music Venues Good Neighbour Policy for wider application across greater NSW.

That the relevant minister encourage all Councils to adopt the Inner West Council's Live Music Venues Good Neighbour Policy, and expand it to cover other venues, to ensure that complainants and businesses are mandated to meet with each other first, to try to resolve disputes collaboratively, before a Council will act upon any complaint or dispute.

Complying Development for Small Bars

In a first for NSW, in November 2018 Council introduced changes that make it easier to open a small bar in Leichhardt, Annandale, Rozelle, Lilyfield, Balmain and Birchgrove, where proprietors in the former Leichhardt Council area can now use a much simpler Complying Development pathway. This is a 10-day approval process from Council or a private certifier, rather than a more involved DA.

[For more information see Council website](#)

Sydney Fringe Festival - An Anthology of Space 2015-18

After four years of activating everything from tiny shopfronts to large scale industrial space Sydney Fringe Festival have compiled An Anthology of Space. Proposing solutions to overcome the onerous red tape that is strangling Sydney's creative sectors.

If clear pathways were opened up for the temporary use of commercial space by the performing arts and cultural sector, the venue crisis in Sydney could cease to exist. Our high streets could be filled with new small cultural spaces and vibrant mixed use businesses. Our large industrial space awaiting residential development could be utilised to provide greatly needed transient space for organisations like Sydney Fringe and their communities.

But for this to be possible we need to remove the assumption of risk that is associated by regulatory authorities when dealing with performance. We need to advocate for a State variation to the National Construction Code for the inclusion of a low-risk small arts venue, we need exempt and complying development for temporary cultural activities and we need clear pathways to enable that activity to take place. [View the Sydney Fringe Festival - An Anthology of Space 2015-18 Report Here](#)



Photo: Camelot Lounge | Django Bar Marrickville

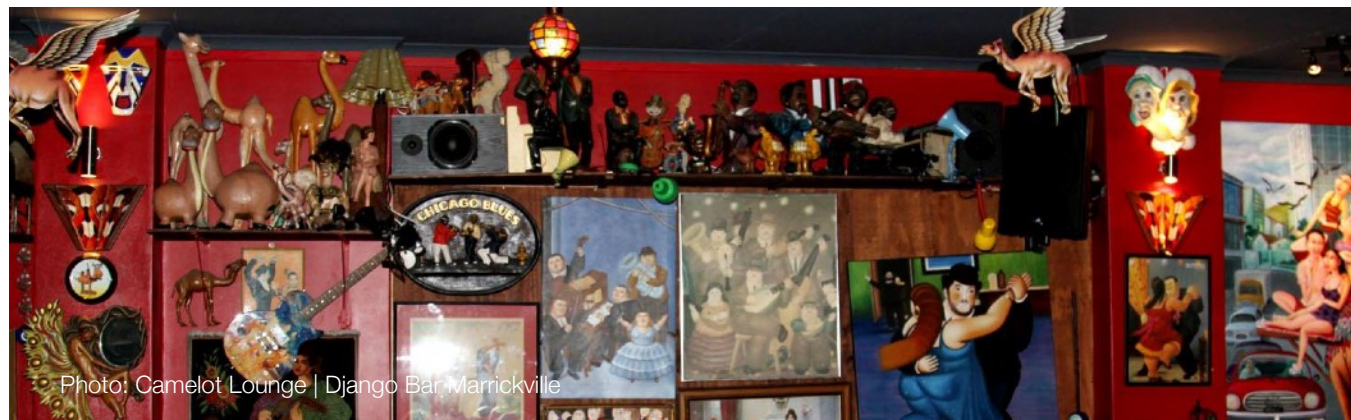


Photo: Camelot Lounge | Django Bar Marrickville



Photo: Butchers Brew Bar Dulwich Hill

INNER WEST LIVE MUSIC AND PERFORMANCE CENSUS 2019

The Factory Theatre Marrickville - Photo: Century Venues



SYDNEY
FRINGE
FESTIVAL

**LIVE
MUSIC
OFFICE**
LIVE AND LOCAL
FIVE AND LOCAL