



The Flemington Manifesto

Strong me - I am a citizen of the world
Weaker me - I am an African-Australian
Amongst Africans in Australia - I am African
Overseas - I am an Aussie.

Our theatre is our voice.

Our theatre is grassroots; we want to speak, not be spoken for.

Our theatre is the stories that link us to our past but it is always evolving,
deciphering transitional, Afro-Australian Identity.
It is descriptive of both self and culture.

Our theatre is 'real' - in the sense that it is emotionally truthful
and beautifully honest so you can recognise yourself in it.
It brings what real people want to see to life.

Our theatre is comedy: the intense scene is when you hold your breath.
Comedy gives you a break from thinking: you can breathe and laugh.

Our theatre is a mirror reflecting the community:
taking the fictional stories of our community and reflecting them back,
representing different sections of the community and treating them with respect.

Our process is based on a strictly ethical and critical construction of story (and how that story is told);
take a theme, story-tell, create pictures, share stories, and weave stories into a bigger narrative.
The rehearsal space is a space outside conventional thinking.
It is a space of critique, discovery and mental freedom.

Our process is story and meaning over form.

Our theatre is meaningful and educational for our people and for the wider community. It is a social
commentary. It doesn't have a closed meaning: it is open to interpretation but it can't be misleading
- we don't want fabrication or stereotypical perspectives. We can show challenges and problems
and we are not afraid to portray negative aspects of our community but it must always be insightful.

Our theatre is inspirational and aspirational
-- we want to inspire other young people in the community.



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