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David Massingham presents,  
as part of the 2026 Melbourne International  
Comedy Festival

## **Murder Village: An Improvised Whodunnit**

**26 March to 19 April 2026**

**Arts Centre Melbourne: Member's Lounge**

[www.comedyfestival.com.au](http://www.comedyfestival.com.au)



Now celebrating 10 years of wowing audiences

across Australia, **Murder Village: An Improvised Whodunnit** returns to the **Melbourne International Comedy Festival** after smash hit, sell-out runs in Melbourne, Perth, Sydney, Adelaide and Brisbane.

With nearly **250 performances** to its name, this ingenious **Agatha Christie**-style improvised production uses audience suggestions to craft the events, meaning no two shows are **ever** the same. Brought to life - in real time - by a rotating ensemble of 20 of Australia's most skilled improvisers, the innovative format is a chance for lovers of crime fiction to immerse themselves in a world of English villages, red herrings, and delightfully suspicious characters.

In Murder Village, the local police inspector may be woefully incompetent but thankfully there is always an amateur sleuth on hand to sort the red herrings from the tell-tale clues. Eccentric characters collide with perplexing mysteries and any of the village's suspicious denizens could be dispatched at any moment... and any of them could be the murderer. A secret ballot vote with each audience determines who lives, who dies, and who will be unmasked as the culprit.

*"This show is not just about the laughs. Who will die, who did it, and how the sleuth will solve it are all exciting questions we improvise answers for,"* explains the show's director **David Massingham**, who also features on stage as the hapless Detective Inspector Owen Gullet.

*"Every show is a unique whodunnit puzzle box, inspired by the suggestions from the audience. The audience chooses the victim and killer, suggest the weapons and clues – they control the show, but as it is a blind ballot they also don't know what was chosen, so they have the fun of trying to solve the crime. To have made it to our tenth year, having had the shows inspired by thousands of audience members across Australia, is extremely exciting."*

An award-winning festival favourite, **Murder Village: An Improvised Whodunnit** shows are expertly crafted by some of the country's leading improvisers, including **Jason Geary** (*Thank God You're Here*, *The iSelect Guy*), **Liam Amor** (*The Twelve*, *Escape From Pretoria*), **Rhys Auteri** (*Late Night with the Devil*) and **Amanda Buckley** (*The Project*, *The Newsreader*).

Channelling the great masters of the whodunnit; **Agatha Christie**, *Hercule Poirot*, *Miss Marple*, *Sherlock*, *Cleudo*, *Murder She Wrote*, and *Columbo*, **Murder Village: An Improvised Whodunnit** also skilfully adds to the growing, #HotTicket trend currently adorning our stages. But unlike the other productions we see at the moment, this game changing season comes to the stage completely unscripted, and ready to truly surprise.

Returning to the **Arts Centre's Members Lounge**, after an incredibly popular run at the 2025 MICF, don't miss the chance to experience (and shape!) this much-loved and hilarious production. Tickets now selling.

★★★★★ - Fringe Feed  
★★★★★ - Theatre People  
★★★★★ - On the House!  
★★★★★ - Hub  
★★★★½ - The Ponder Room  
★★★★½ - Upside Adelaide  
★★★★½ - The Perth Diary  
★★★★½ - Glam Adelaide  
★★★★ - Theatre Matters

**26 March – 19 April 2026**

**Tues – Sat 9:15pm, Sun 8:15pm**

**Previews: 26 and 27 March 9:15pm**

**Opening Night: 31 March 9:15pm**

**Tickets: \$37 Full, \$34 Concession, \$33 Group 6+, \$32 Preview and Tight Tuesday**

**Bookings: 03 9245 3788 and online via [www.improvisedwhodunnit.com/upcoming-shows](http://www.improvisedwhodunnit.com/upcoming-shows) and [www.comedyfestival.com.au/browse-shows/murder-village-an-improvised-whodunnit](http://www.comedyfestival.com.au/browse-shows/murder-village-an-improvised-whodunnit)**

**Venue: Arts Centre Melbourne (Member's Lounge) - 100 St Kilda Rd, Southbank**

**[www.improvisedwhodunnit.com](http://www.improvisedwhodunnit.com)**

*Duration: 60 minutes no interval*

*Ages: 13+*

*Warnings: References to, or simulation of, violence*