

**ensemble loin d'ici <sup>1</sup>**  
**presents :**

***Ici***

***Ici*<sup>2</sup>** is a new work by award winning playwright Rebecca Lister. The piece explores place and belonging and the effect that these two aspects have on individuals in relation to how they think and behave. ***Ici*** is three monologues for women linked by music and song. The three monologues are all placed in an inland mining town in rural Australia.

***The Bank***: Mathilda knows something and can't stop herself from telling;  
***Sausages***: Sophie knows something but is it what she thinks;  
***My son, his father and me***: Claire knows something but is too afraid to tell.

***The Bank***: Mathilda is a local girl and has worked at the bank since she was 18. She loves her job because she believes she is a people person. She is the sort of person others might call a 'busy body'. Through her work at the bank Mathilda sees and realises something and decides it is her duty to make known (public) what she has seen. Mathilda believes that people are more important than codes of ethics and work place morals so feels it is her community duty to articulate what she is seeing.

***Sausages***: Sophie is living in an regional mining town. She has come to this town with her boyfriend Peter and they both have expectations of finding work and earning money. Peter finds work but Sophie does not. She is lonely and isolated and her imagination gets away with her. She develops erotomania and becomes obsessed with the local butcher. What she thinks is happening impacts on how she behaves. The more Sophie's isolation is expressed, the greater her obsession with her love interest.

***My son, his father and me***: is the longest of the three works. This monologue takes place in a church as Claire sits through the funeral of her son's best friend. Claire is not a local in this town but has lived there for a long time. However she still does not entirely trust the people of the town and her lack of trust means she does not always share everything she sees. She feels that her silence has contributed to this death and has created a wedge between her son and his father.

***Ici***

By Rebecca Lister  
Dramaturge Peta Murray  
Director Terry Jaensch

**ensemble loin d'ici:**  
Rebecca Lister: actor  
Margot Knight: actor  
Lisa Male-Robertson: actor  
Sian Prior: clarinet, voice and musical arrangement.

***Ici*** will have a works in progress reading (in English) at the Williamstown Festival on May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2012.

***Ici*** will have a presentation (in French) at the Australia Festival in Divonne-les-Bains in France in September 2012.

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<sup>1</sup> loin d'ici is pronounced: le-w'arn dee-see. It translates as 'far from here'

<sup>2</sup> Ici is pronounced: e-see. It translates as 'here'