

AUSTRALIA COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS PRESENTS THE

# 8TH AUSTRALIAN PERFORMING ARTS MARKET

25 - 29 FEBRUARY 2008 ADELAIDE, AUSTRALIA

IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE ADELAIDE BANK FESTIVAL OF ARTS AND THE ADELAIDE FRINGE



Australian Government



## Barrie Kosky Director



The Lost Echo

*...Barrie Kosky, Tom Wright and their team have created an epic theatrical experience that is by turns comic, obscene, heartbreaking, gutwrenching, beautiful and sometimes just plain weird.*

The Australian

Oedipus

*"Kosky...consistently teases out exciting, physically disciplined and dedicated performances... the director's focussed storytelling brings the brutal nightmare distressingly alive"*

The Sydney Morning Herald

Wozzeck

*"This was an achievement of the highest international standard. A production of challenging imagination... the result was a truly peak experience"*

The Sun-Herald

Australian born Barrie Kosky is recognised as one of the most exciting and creative directors and writers of his generation. His productions span the fields of opera, theatre and contemporary music theatre.

Based in Europe, 2007 productions will include a revival of his production of *Orfeo* at the Berlin Staatsoper, and new productions of *Iphigenie en Tauride* at the Komische Oper Berlin, *Peter Grimes* at the Hannover Opera and *Mahagony* in Essen. His production of *Poppea* from the Schauspielhaus in Vienna will be mounted at the Edinburgh Festival in August. 2006 opera productions included *Der Fliegende Holländer* in Essen, *Midsummer Night's Dream* in Bremen, and a revival of his production of Ligeti's *Le Grand Macabre* in Gratz and a new production of *Tristan und Isolde* in Essen. A number of months in 2006 were spent working at the Sydney Theatre Company on *The Lost Echo*, a specially commissioned two-part epic based on Ovid's *Metamorphoses* for which was writer, director, music director and designer. He has won the Sydney Theatre Award for best Director for this production which was regarded universally as one of the most outstanding theatre works mounted in Sydney which has received several Helpmann Award nominations. He will return to work in Australia in 2008.

Barrie made his European opera debut directing Ligeti's *Le Grande Macabre* at the Komische Oper, Berlin. A new production of Monteverdi's *Orfeo* with René Jacobs that premiered at the Innsbruck Festwochen in August 2003 and the Berlin Staatsoper closely followed this in January 2004. In 2005 his new production of Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro* opened to great acclaim at the Komische Oper in Berlin in January and in December his new production of Wagner's *Lohengrin* opened at the Vienna Staatsoper.

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In 2001 he was appointed to the position of Co-Artistic Director of The Schauspielhaus Theatre in Vienna a post he relinquished in October 2005 when he left to continue his freelance career in Europe. He directed many outstanding productions for the Schauspielhaus theatre, including *Hoffmann's Erzählungen* based on Jacques Offenbach's Tales of Hoffmann, *Das Schloss* (The Castle) as well as Monteverdi's *Poppea* which has had a number of seasons in Vienna and was also mounted at the Berliner Ensemble in Berlin, *Boulevard Delirium* with Paul Capsis, which has had a number of seasons in Europe and in Melbourne, and *Medea* which featured the Australian performer Melita Jurisic. In October 2003 he directed performances of *The Lost Breath*, one of his shows from the Schauspielhaus with the Vienna cast, for the Melbourne International Festival. *Boulevard Delirium* returned to Melbourne at the end of 2005 and also had a season at the Sydney Opera House.

Barrie has directed productions for all the major opera and theatre companies in Australia including: *Wozzeck*, *The Flying Dutchman*, *Nabucco* and *The Golem* for Opera Australia; *Oedipus*, *Mourning Becomes Electra* and *Tartuffe* for the Sydney Theatre Company; *King Lear* for the Bell Shakespeare Company; *Café Fledermaus* for Belvoir Street and Goethe's *Faust* for the Melbourne Theatre Company.

From 1990-1998 he was Artistic Director of Gilgul Theatre and devised and directed productions of *The Dybbuk*, *Es Brent*, *Levad*, *The Wilderness Room* and *The Operated Jew*. He was the Artistic Director of the 1996 Adelaide Festival, widely regarded as one of the finest festivals Australia has ever seen.