

## Media Release

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Pier 2/3 photo Dara Kretschmer

## ***Architectural collaboration debut: I Love Todd Sampson***

### **The Living Room Theatre releases first tickets for new collaborative performance piece**

The Living Room Theatre has today announced the first release of tickets to its latest production *I Love Todd Sampson* - opening in Sydney on 28 February 2013 at Pier 2/3, Walsh Bay, for 10 live and unforgettable performances.

Written, directed and produced by the rare theatrical artist Michelle St.Anne, founder of The Living Room Theatre, *I Love Todd Sampson* is a sensory-rich play that deals with themes of mental health and loneliness in an engaging and unexpected way.

With architectural production by Andy Macdonald, founder of Mac-Interactive Architects, *I Love Todd Sampson* is an Australian first; a multi-disciplinary theatre work integrating architecture, installation art, light, music, film and performance.

From late February, Pier 2/3 will feature a multitude of built environments, each designed and constructed by one of nine architectural teams, made up of registered architects, graduates, students and their collaborators.

*"I Love Todd Sampson* is an original and ambitious production staged in an extraordinary building, within an increasingly important cultural precinct in Sydney. The Living Room Theatre's engagement of disciplines outside of theatre to deliver this production takes *I Love Todd Sampson* far outside the realm of conventional theatre," Macdonald said

The architecture teams involved in the production include established and up and coming practices, as well as teams created specifically for this production. They include: CKW, Rivard-Lewarne-Performative Spaces, Ensemble, FLATPAC, Sam Crawford Architects, Genevieve Lilley Architects, WLTS, Carter-Williamson and Archrival, as well as masters and undergraduate architecture students from Sydney University and the University of Technology, Sydney.

The Institute and NSW Architects Registration Board have also shown significant support for *I Love Todd Sampson*, including the architectural exhibition as a highlight event in the 2012 Sydney Architecture Festival.

*"It has been a tremendous privilege to work with some of Sydney's finest, young architectural minds, whose extensive creativity and imagination is inspiring. We look forward to welcoming the rest of the architectural and arts communities to experience the performance,"* Macdonald said.

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Photo: David Smyth

The storyline for *I Love Todd Sampson* centres on Laura, an increasingly lonely, middle-aged woman, who finds comfort in imagined “friends” who help her disassociate from the traumatic experiences of her childhood.

In search of a new comfort, Laura immerses herself in the life of Todd Sampson (CEO of Leo Burnett Australia, co-creator of the Earth Hour initiative and commentator on The Gruen Transfer). The reassuring and charming voice of the Canadian-born ad-man permeates the performance, as Laura constructs a new reality piecing together fragments of Sampson’s life until she discovers him bathing in her tub.

“In *I Love Todd Sampson*, the audience becomes a part of the action – as they enter rooms to explore and discover images, atmospheric sounds and repeated moments.” Writer, director and producer, Michelle St.Anne said. “And yes, Todd Sampson does know about it!”

*I Love Todd Sampson* runs for 90 minutes with no interval and will be showing at Pier 2/3, Hickson Road, Walsh Bay, daily from Thursday 28 February until Saturday 9 March 2013 at 7.30pm. Matinee performances will be shown on Sunday 3rd and 10th March at 4pm.

Tickets are \$50/\$35 and can be purchased online at Moshtix –  
<http://www.moshtix.com.au/v2/search?query=I+Love+Todd+Sampson>

More details can be found on The Living Room Theatre website –  
[www.livingroomtheatre.org](http://www.livingroomtheatre.org)

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### **About The Living Room Theatre**

The Living Room Theatre is a not for profit performance company, committed to the continual deconstruction of traditional theatre boundaries, winner of the prestigious AbaF, Woodside Better Business Award – NSW/ACT, and were also recognised for Best Practice by the Australia Business Arts Foundation.

We create work to challenge and extend audiences perception of theatre by making sensory oriented works that are beautiful to watch, to experience.

Through the disciplines of movement, installation, sound, film and text we inhabit space and deconstruct the narrative line to create a new platform to receive work.

The themes flow between beauty and suffering by exploring the subtext of everyday life.

Works by The Living Room Theatre include:

*I Love Todd Sampson, A Little Room, Man 40 Seeks Woman with Good Legs, The Intimacies of Women, Billie: a girl, a swing and underpants, plez’her, Deadlines, Everybody Sing and Sleep.*  
[www.livingroomtheatre.org](http://www.livingroomtheatre.org)