

THEATRE

MAMMARY MANIPULATION

Following smash hit seasons interstate, *Busting Out* has burst forth in Adelaide! Peter Burdon spoke to producer Simon Bryce about the year's most uplifting comedy.

From Para Hills to producer extraordinaire, Simon Bryce has a story or two to tell. Born to a family of ten pound migrants who settled in the then-new suburb of Para Hills, the family moved to Melbourne in his teenage years, but he freely admits it's nice to be "home".

"One of the fantastic things about work in the arts is that you get to move around and see so many places. When I knew that *Busting Out* was going to get to Adelaide, I was really pleased, because it's the place where all my earliest memories come from. And it's great to be bringing this particular show to Adelaide, especially after the success of things like *Menopause* which wasn't mine, of course, but as everyone's saying, 'If you loved *Menopause*, you'll really love *Busting Out*!'"

Busting Out is a wafer-thin excuse for what is, by all accounts, a riotous night of song and slapstick about ... well, breasts!

"It started out at the Melbourne Comedy Festival," Simon explains, "*Puppetry of the Penis* was running all over the world, so we figured there was room for a fun show about breasts! You can't miss them, after all. Well, the response was incredible, we sold out, and that got us thinking about whether we could make a full show out of it. So we made some changes, added some material, then we workshoped it again. Making the decision to run with it was hard, it always is as a producer. But you get a feeling



for something that's got legs," – how's that for a metaphor – "and the response has exceeded everyone's expectations. And what's amazed us is how broad the appeal has been."

The reviews of *Busting Out* have all commented on the extraordinary versatility of the performers, not least for their astonishing ability for mammary manipulation, with sequences including the Plumber's Crack and the Donut, among many others. However does anyone, much less the producer, retain professional detachment? "I'm a gay man who was bottle fed! What more can I say?"

Busting Out is playing at Her Majesty's Theatre. Book at Bass.



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