

## AUSTRALIA / MUSIC WORLD PREMIERE



### **BLACK RIDER: THE CASTING OF THE MAGIC BULLETS**

A ride like no other, Victorian Opera and Malthouse Theatre team up with **Meow Meow**, **Paul Capsis**, **Le Gateau Chocolat**, and **Kanen Breen** for the Australian premiere of **Black Rider: The Casting Of The Magic Bullets** a delirious journey through a vivid theatrical landscape that is part gothic, part opera, and all dance with the devil.

Based on the German folktale that inspired Carl Maria von Weber's 19<sup>th</sup> century opera *Der Freischutz*, **Black Rider** is a tale about Wilhelm, an intellectual young clerk who must learn to hunt in order to marry his true love, a woodsman's daughter. He strikes a Faustian pact with the devil for magic bullets that never miss their mark, but in the world of *Black Rider*, nothing is what it seems: the devil sings, animals talk, the walls become woods and bullets have a mind of their own.

Hallucinatory writer **William S. Burroughs** penned the script, musical anarchist **Tom Waits** wrote the songs and together with experimental director **Robert Wilson**, they created this audacious and bizarrely beautiful piece of theatrical magic.

Cry-in-beer ballads meet a meditation on addiction, **Black Rider** is a tour-de-force that pulls the audience into the dark and decadent depths of the underworld.

Victorian Opera and Malthouse Theatre continue their strong commitment to presenting bold works of theatre with this latest co-production. **Black Rider** follows their smash-hit 2010 production of Brecht and Weill's *The Threepenny Opera* and their acclaimed 2014 adaptation of Tim Winton's novel *The Riders*.

The production unites Malthouse Theatre's Artistic Director **Matthew Lutton** (*Away*) with Victorian Opera's Head of Music, **Phoebe Briggs** (*The Sleeping Beauty*).

**“Together, Victorian Opera and Malthouse Theatre have created a bewitching jewel of contemporary music theatre.”** The Australian (The Riders)

**Malthouse Theatre**  
**Fri 15 Oct - Sun 19 Oct**  
**Tue 6.30pm**  
**Wed—Sat 7.30pm**  
**Mon 18 Sep 6.30pm**  
**Sat 23 Sep & 07 Oct also 3pm**  
**Sun 1 & 8 5pm**  
**Approx 1 hr 40 mins, no interval**  
**Full \$75 / \$55**  
**Previews \$65 / \$50**  
**Seniors \$70**  
**Under 30s & Students \$35**

[www.festival.melbourne](http://www.festival.melbourne)  
**The Coopers Malthouse 03 9685 5111**  
**#melbfest**

*Presented in association with Malthouse Theatre and Victorian Opera*

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