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Play-
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RGER THAN LIFE

RD of warning: if are in any way of-ded by swearing, her reading any play is not for you. se who secretly de-fantile idiocy and profanity, step up. is a brutal, vicious Albert Jarry's *Ubu* proves the import-cking dictators and p-like subjects is as as it was when was written more ears ago. w king is Fatboy rederiksen) and in er burlesque he has killed or enslaved eryone and every-

FATBOY

Where: Red Stitch Actors Theatre

★★★★½

thing. His sins culminate in a war crimes tribunal, but with weasel words, manipulation and a filthy singalong it's clear justice is probably more than blind, she's also bored, bawdy and bigoted.

The manic energy, dark humour and self-referential irony of Clancy's writing thunders off the stage from everyone involved in this scathingly cynical spectacle.

KATE ROSE

Powerful message

NGURRUMILMARRMIRIYU (WRONG SKIN)

Where: Malthouse Theatre

★★★★★

DIRECTOR Nigel Jamieson has form when it comes to dealing with big issues.

His piece on David Hicks, *Honour Bound*, dazzled with its physicality and energy, while also presenting a scathing condemnation of Guantanamo Bay and the so-called war on terror. *Ngurrumilmarrmiriyu* follows a similar line, but this time Jamieson turns his attention to what is superficially a love-story. It is also an ode to pop culture, a critique of the Howard government's Northern Territory intervention.

The Chooky Dancers are an indigenous group from Elcho Island who first found fame via YouTube with their take on the Zorba dance. While that humour and exuberance is still present, they have also developed a depth in their bower-bird-like treatment of pop culture references.

Ngurrumilmarrmiriyu, or *Wrong Skin*, follows the story of a young couple who fall in love, but according to local custom can't be together as they belong to the same kinship group or moiety. The Chookies, with Jamieson, have developed a vibrant and thought-provoking piece that presents more to the audience than one could imagine possible in less than 90 minutes.

KATE ROSE