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IF COMEDY COULD KILL, THIS IS WHERE WE'LL HAVE OUR LAST LAUGH

Just off Little Collins lies a very so Melbourne alleyway, unbeknown to the common caller.

Concealing a world of talent and theatrics dream within, The Butterfly Club is home to both your boozing sing along, and proud snorting since 1999. An organised cluster of kitsch decorate the venue, and two award winning bars affirm the space as a visible triple threat – cabaret, cocktails and comedy in one space.

Greeted with the warmth of low-lit, amber lamp shades, stepping into the Butterfly Club feels like trespassing into the chaotic cupboard of your quirky aunt. But with a hallway of cosy couches to fuel the ultimate date night, in this cupboard, you may visit for a cocktail and stay for a show. Layers of nostalgia paint the walls with curly corded telephones and broken-down cassette tapes to prompt never ending conversation.

The Butterfly Club boasts local talent to rival international headliners, and there is much to be celebrated in spotlighting our own. Role playing as tangible fairy lights, The Butterfly Club only glitters an existing stage of creative individuals within, awaiting audience involvement.

Notably, the Friday night 'Big Hoo Ha' is Melbourne's longest running weekly improv show. Featuring an ensemble of comedians just as eccentric as the venue itself, the show thrives on unrelenting humour and defiance to the norm. The two teams, the Hearts and Bones rival for comedic reign through audience suggestions and creative one liners. Take your mum, take your partner, maybe even your boss – The Big Hoo Ha prides itself on comedic intimacy, and forever rebounds its audience for your Friday night staple.

The Butterfly Club is reminiscent of Melbourne culture in complete tangibility. Echoing the sentiments of the city we all fell in love with, and decided to never leave, both Melbourne and the Butterfly Club parade an imaginative slice of our best creativity. Counting down to Friday, The Butterfly Club presents an all too familiar narrative - a transition from shock curiosity to undying loyalty, for this very so vibrant, Melbourne institution.

*Friday 4th June, 2021.
Kimberley Toovey*