

# Moth soon to flutter around regional Victoria

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Image of Matthew McConaghy and Emily Wheaton courtesy Vivian Cooper Smith

*Sometimes there's no scarier place to be than inside your own mind ...* especially if you're Sebastian, a terminally unpopular fifteen-year-old with an overactive imagination and twin obsessions with anime and death. He has just one friend, Claryssa, an emo Wiccan art freak. Another night of drinking at the cricket nets ends with Sebastian unconscious and Claryssa cold about their friendship. Sebastian wakes up the next morning with a mysterious moth in a jar by his bed. He has a calling - to save the souls of all humankind.

Here begins the passion of Sebastian and the themes of *Moth*: mental illness, religious zeal and ... love. Co-commissioned in 2010 with Arena Theatre Company and Malthouse Theatre, the play is on the list for VCE 2012 Theatre Studies. "It was someone else's idea, but it was very tightly collaborative. If you want to make a career as a writer, that's something you have to be open to - that, and you are going to be employed to fulfil someone else's vision. And that's something you can't be precious about," playwright Declan Greene said in an [interview](#) with Megan Hanson.

*Moth* tours regionally throughout Victoria from August 7 to September 14, beginning at the Butter Factory Theatre in Wodonga, and on to Upwey, Swan Hill, Geelong, Warrnambool, Parkdale, Sale, Wangaratta, South Morang, Warragul and Portland. For more about the play, go to the [Arena Theatre Company website](#).

In the clip below, Declan Greene and director Chris Kohn set up the premise for *Moth*, which was designed by Jonathon Oxlade. The play was written for audiences 15 and above.