



THE PRODUCTION COMPANY

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

MEDIA RELEASE

20 FEBRUARY 2018

**SEASON 2018**  
**ARTS CENTRE MELBOURNE**

***“QUIET PLEASE, THERE’S  
A LADY ON STAGE”***

Today Jeanne Pratt AC, Chairman of The Production Company, announced her Company’s 20th Birthday Season, starring **ROHAN BROWNE, MITCHELL BUTEL, BOBBY FOX, SIMON GLEESON, NANCYE HAYES, GENEVIEVE KINGSFORD, AMY LEHPAMER, MATTHEW MANAHAN, ELISE MCCANN, BEN MINGAY, ROBYN NEVIN, ANNA O’BYRNE, CAROLINE O’CONNOR, RICHARD PIPER AND CHRIS RYAN.**

**Jeanne Pratt AC** said *“I started The Production Company 20 years ago to provide opportunities for Australia’s extraordinary talent. Now as I look back on the hundreds of artists who have worked with us, it’s a veritable Who’s Who of musical theatre.*

*We’ve produced 58 musicals in Melbourne, won multiple awards and toured interstate.*

*Our shows have thrilled audiences of more than 600,000! I couldn’t be more proud.*

*And now for our 20th birthday we’re celebrating with three of our favourites.*

*The Rodgers & Hammerstein masterpiece **OKLAHOMA!** starts the Season.*

***THE BOY FROM OZ** also turns 20 in 2018 and to celebrate our joint birthdays we’re staging a brand new production. And finally an Australian premiere, **A GENTLEMAN’S GUIDE TO LOVE & MURDER**, all at Arts Centre Melbourne. With a landmark line up of stars, come and celebrate 20 wonderful years with Melbourne’s very own musical theatre company. I’ll see you at the theatre.”*

***Subscriptions for our 20th Birthday Season are now on sale.  
Our prices are highly competitive - see all three shows for as little as \$120***



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SIMON GLEESON



ANNA O'BYRNE



ELISE McCANN



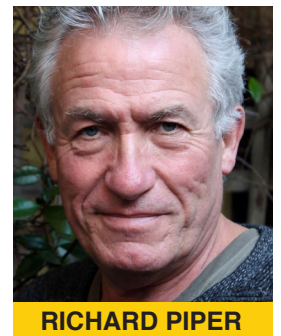
BOBBY FOX



ROBYN NEVIN



BEN MINGAY



RICHARD PIPER

**OKLAHOMA!** OPENS IN ARTS CENTRE MELBOURNE'S STATE THEATRE  
ON MAY 26 FOR A SEASON OF 11 PERFORMANCES.

Rodgers & Hammerstein's masterpiece **OKLAHOMA!** revolutionised the American musical; the first of their legendary shows, it won a Pulitzer Prize and set the standard for modern musicals. It tells the story of the Oklahoma Territory at the start of the twentieth century and of Curly, a farmer who loves Laurey. But Laurey's not so sure about Curly and wonders if she really loves Jud. And Will loves Ado Annie, but Annie loves...well, everybody.

**OKLAHOMA!** features an award-winning line up of stars. **Simon Gleeson** (Les Miserables Australia and West End) is Curly, **Anna O'Byrne** (My Fair Lady, The Woman in White West End) is Laurey. Joining them is the legendary **Robyn Nevin**, **Elise McCann**, **Bobby Fox**, **Ben Mingay** and **Richard Piper**.

**OKLAHOMA!** brims with show-stopping hits including *Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin'*, *The Surrey With The Fringe On Top*, *People Will Say We're in Love*, *I Cain't Say No* and the title song *Oklahoma!*

**OKLAHOMA!** is directed by **Chris Parker** and TPC Founding Musical Director **Guy Simpson** (Phantom, My Fair Lady) returns to conduct the **TPC Orchestra** and **Amy Campbell** (Violet) choreographs her first TPC musical.



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ROHAN BROWNE



CAROLINE O'CONNOR

PRESENTED IN ASSOCIATION WITH VIEW FILMS AND ROBERT FOX LTD,  
***THE BOY FROM OZ*** OPENS IN ARTS CENTRE MELBOURNE'S STATE THEATRE ON  
AUGUST 11 FOR A SEASON OF 11 PERFORMANCES.

***THE BOY FROM OZ*** is the dazzling, funny and moving story of the beloved Australian entertainer, Peter Allen. From singing in pubs at 11, to teenage stardom on television, he was discovered by Judy Garland and went on to marry her daughter Liza Minnelli. Peter achieved global stardom as a performer and multi award winning songwriter.

**Rohan Browne**, Australia's leading man of song and dance, plays the role of Peter Allen. He recently starred in *Brigadoon* and *Singin' in The Rain*, **Caroline O'Connor** returns to TPC from Broadway (*Anastasia*) to perform the role of Judy Garland. **Matthew Manahan** (*Brigadoon*) plays Greg Connell.

***THE BOY FROM OZ*** includes many of Peter Allen's best loved hits:

*Quiet Please, There's A Lady On Stage, Not The Boy Next Door, Everything Old Is New Again, I Honestly Love You, I Still Call Australia Home, Tenterfield Saddler* and the show-stopping *I Go to Rio*.

***THE BOY FROM OZ*** will be directed by Green Room Award winner **Jason Langley** (*Brigadoon*, *Dusty*) with Helpmann Award winning Musical Director **Michael Tyack** (*Brigadoon*, *Dusty*) and Choreography by Green Room Award winner **Michael Ralph** (*Dusty*, *West Side Story*).

***THE BOY FROM OZ*** is sponsored by ANZ.



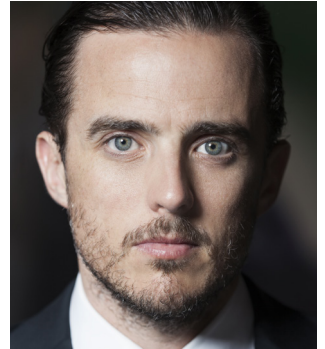


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MITCHELL BUTEL



CHRIS RYAN



AMY  
LEHPAMER



GENEVIEVE  
KINGSFORD



NANCYE  
HAYES

***A GENTLEMAN'S GUIDE TO LOVE & MURDER*** OPENS IN ARTS CENTRE MELBOURNE'S PLAYHOUSE THEATRE ON OCTOBER 27 FOR A SEASON OF 18 PERFORMANCES.

***A GENTLEMAN'S GUIDE TO LOVE & MURDER*** is a brand new, drop-dead musical comedy about Monty, a penniless clerk who discovers he is ninth in line to be Lord D'Ysquith, the Earl of Highhurst. But the D'Ysquith family dismiss his claim then curiously the eight family members in line to be Earl start dying from unnatural causes! Meanwhile Monty woos money-minded Sibella but also finds himself drawn to young Phoebe D'Ysquith...what could possibly go wrong?

Triple Helpmann Award winner, **Mitchell Butel** stars as all eight members of the D'Ysquith family. **Chris Ryan** (King Kong) makes his TPC debut as Monty, **Amy Lehpamer** (Dusty, Beautiful) is Sibella, **Genevieve Kingsford** (Brigadoon, Light in the Piazza) is Phoebe and **Nancye Hayes** returns as the mysterious Miss Shingle.

***A GENTLEMAN'S GUIDE TO LOVE & MURDER*** ran on Broadway for three years and in 2014 won four Tony Awards including Best Musical. The hilarious score includes song titles *A Warning to the Audience*, *I Don't Understand the Poor*, *Poison In My Pocket*, *Better With A Man*, *Why Are All The D'Ysquiths Dying?* and *Looking Down The Barrel of a Gun!*

***A GENTLEMAN'S GUIDE TO LOVE & MURDER*** is proudly sponsored by EY.

FOR FULL DETAILS OF THE SHOWS PLEASE VISIT [www.theproductioncompany.com.au](http://www.theproductioncompany.com.au)



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## THE 2018 SEASON DIARY



***OKLAHOMA!***  
STATE THEATRE  
26 May to 3 June



***THE BOY FROM OZ***  
STATE THEATRE  
11 August to 19 August



***A GENTLEMAN'S GUIDE  
TO LOVE & MURDER***  
PLAYHOUSE  
27 October to 11 November

SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW ON SALE AT  
[www.artscentremelbourne.com.au](http://www.artscentremelbourne.com.au) or call 1300 182 183  
TICKETS FOR SINGLE PERFORMANCES GO ON SALE 10 APRIL

To access images and full details of the season, please visit  
[www.theproductioncompany.com.au/media/](http://www.theproductioncompany.com.au/media/)  
Password : tpcmedia2018

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