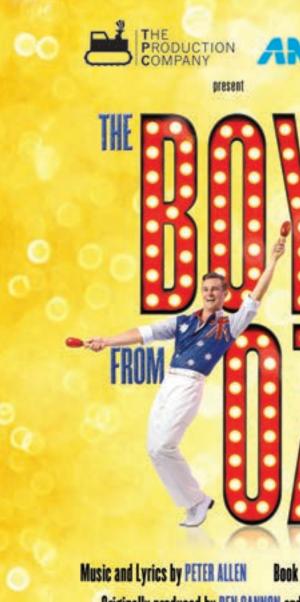


STATE THEATRE · ARTS CENTRE MELBOURNE



ROHAN BROWNE CAROLINE O'CONNOR

LOREN HUNTER MAXWELL SIMON ROBYN ARTHUR FRANCIS GREENSLADE BAYLIE CARSON JOSIE LANE PHOENIX MENDOZA DAVID JAMES NATHAN PINNELL BELINDA HANNE REID HUDSON SHARP LENNY THOMAS

Luke Alleva Amy Berrisford Nadia Coote Zoe Coppinger Kiana Daniele Jan Di Pietro Joe Donovan Matt Douglass Alex Given Melanie Hawkins Joe Meldrum Priscilla Stavrou Jordan Turner Jessica Vellucci Celina Yuen

Director JASON LANGLEY Musical Director MICHAEL TYACK Choreographer MICHAEL RALPH Set Designer CHRISTINA SMITH Costume Designer TIM CHAPPEL Lighting Designer TRENT SUIDGEEST Sound Design SYSTEM SOUND Sound Design Associates SHELLY LEE, JOHN SCANDRETT, DAVID LETCH

> Assistant Director **AMY LEHPAMER** Assistant Musical Director **PAUL WHITE** Assistant Choreographer **JARED BRYAN** Dance Captain **PRISCILLA STAVROU**

Technical Director DAVID MILLER Production Manager MEL ROBERTSON Company Manager MICHAEL NORMAN Stage Manager MEG DEYELL Head of Wardrobe KIM BISHOP Wigs by TRENT WHITMORE

Deputy Stage Manager JESS FROST Assistant Stage Manager CHRISTINE YOUNG Child Chaperone EMMA CLARK Assistant to Tim Chappel ANGIE WHITE Wigs Assistants FRAN RAUSEO, ANDREW DESSMANN Costume Makers ZOE FELICE, GRACE DELLA ROCCA LEPORE, BRETT COOPER

System Engineer ANTHONY SHAW Sound Mix Engineer EVAN DRILL Stage Sound Technicians JACK SCANDRETT, CARLEY GAGLIARDI

Set Construction MALTHOUSE Sound Equipment supplied by SYSTEM SOUND PTY LTD Lighting equipment supplied by PRG

Music and Lyrics by PETER ALLEN Book by NICK ENRIGHT Originally produced by BEN GANNON and ROBERT FOX Orchestrations by GEORGE BRODBECK

By arrangement with View Films and Robert Fox Ltd

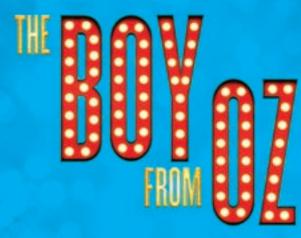
STATE THEATRE, ARTS CENTRE MELBOURNE • 11 TO 26 AUGUST 2018

THE PRODUCTION COMPANY ORCHESTRA

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CONGRATULATIONS ON ANOTHER SUCCESS FOR THE PRODUCTION COMPANY



ANZ are proud to have supported The Production Company for the past 20 years

ANZ

THE PRODUCTION COMPANY AND THE BOY FROM OZ ARE BOTH CELEBRATING THEIR 20TH ANNIVERSARY

The Boy from Oz premiered in Sydney on March 5, 1998. It's hard to believe that twenty years ago we were in Hamer Hall presenting three performances each of *Mame, She Loves Me* and *Funny Girl.* To reinterpret a line from one Peter's most well loved songs, I am delighted that *we still call Arts Centre Melbourne home.*

In this year of celebration we have cast many of our favourite artists. Rohan Browne, our star of *Singin' in the Rain, Nice Work If You Can Get It* and *Brigadoon*, is playing the legendary Australian entertainer *par excellence* Peter Allen. Caroline O'Connor returns from Broadway and London's West End to play the legendary Judy Garland. Rising star Loren Hunter performs the role of Liza Minnelli and Robyn Arthur makes a welcome return in the role of Marion Woolnough. Appearing with the Company for the first time are Maxwell Simon, Francis Greenslade and David James.

This is the third show Director Jason Langley and Musical Director Michael Tyack have created for us. Who couldn't love them after their brilliant productions of *Dusty* and *Brigadoon*? We have hired more of our favourites to recreate what must be Australia's most popular and successful musical – choreography by Michael Ralph, costumes by Tim Chappel, sets by Christina Smith and lighting by Trent Suidgeest. And our sound is in the extremely capable hands of the team from System Sound.

ANZ have been our loyal sponsors since the beginning and I am so grateful. We couldn't have survived for twenty years without our sponsors, patrons and donors.

I honestly love you!

Jeanne Pratt AC Chairman · The Production Company



THE PRODUCTION COMPANY GRATEFULLY APPRECIATES



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FOUNDATION SPONSORS

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Tom and Robyn Warwick · Anonymous (1)

BEQUEST

PRODUCTION CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

Chairman Jeanne Pratt AC

Artistic Director Ken Mackenzie-Forbes AM

Executive Director Rachel D Taylor

Hon. Company Secretary	Don Maloney	Development Manager	Simone Goodwin	
	Deborah Beale Keith Beecher OAM Krystyna Campbell-Pretty Mark Gogoll John Hay-Mackenzie Garry Krauss AM David Mann AM Ross Mollison Chris Gibbons	Associate Producer	Min McCallum	
		Technical Director	David Miller	
		Executive Consultant	James Kempster	
		Marketing AKA Australia	Vas Katos James Robertson Laura Arcudi Nadia Gianinotti Ebony Wood	
		Publicity by CAVANAGH PR	Julie Cavanagh	
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Mr James MacKenzie (President)

Ms Frankie Airey Mr Paul Barker Mr Warwick Bray Ms Catherine McClements Mr Andrew Myer AM Mr Ian Roberts Dr Nora Scheinkestel Ms Helen Silver AO

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Arts Centre Melbourne extends heartfelt thanks to our Arts Angels, whose generosity, loyalty and commitment ensure as many Victorians as possible can experience the joy of the performing arts here in Melbourne.

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

Arts Centre Melbourne welcomes everyone to visit our spaces and experience the performing arts. Conditions of Entry are available on our website www.artscentremelbourne.com.au

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

. The company reserves the right to add, withdraw or substitute artists and to vary the program as necessary . The management reserves the right of refusing admission. · Recording devices, cameras and mobile telephones must not be operated during the performance.





@prodcompany

Evan Robert (Bob) Taylor

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT 1 Continental American PETER AND TRIO If You Were Wondering PETER AND YOUNG PETER Pretty Keen Teen PETER, CHRIS ALLEN AND ENSEMBLE All I Wanted Was The Dream......JUDY GARLAND Only An Older Woman PETER AND JUDY Don't Wish Too Hard TRIO AND ENSEMBLE Somebody's Angel TRIO Sure Thing Baby LIZA AND ENSEMBLE Quiet Please, There's A Lady On Stage......PETER, LIZA, JUDY AND ENSEMBLE I'd Rather Leave While I'm In Love......LIZA, PETER AND TRIO Bi-Coastal PETER AND TRIO Continental American (reprise) PETER Not The Boy Next Door PETER AND TRIO

ACT 2

When Everything Old Is New Again	PETER AND ROCKETTES
(Arthur's Theme) Best That You Can Do	LIZA, PETER AND TRIO
Love Don't Need A Reason	
She Loves To Hear The Music	TRIO
I'd Rather Leave While I'm In Love (reprise)	PETER
I Honestly Love You	GREG
I Still Call Australia Home	PETER AND ENSEMBLE
Legs Diamond Sequence	PETER AND ENSEMBLE
When I Get My Name In Lights (reprise)	
Don't Cry Out Loud	MARION AND ENSEMBLE
Tenterfield Saddler	
I Go To Rio	PETER, TRIO AND ENSEMBLE
Once Before I Go	PETER

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Peter Allen	ROHAN BROWNE
Young Peter HUDSON	SHARP/LENNY THOMAS
Judy Garland	CAROLINE O'CONNOR
Marion Woolnough	nROBYN ARTHUR
Liza Minnelli	LOREN HUNTER
Greg Connell	MAXWELL SIMON
Dick Woolnough	/Dee Anthony FRANCIS
	GREENSLADE
Lucy	BAYLIE CARSON
Michaela	
Gabriella	PHOENIX MENDOZA
Josie Mann/Valerie Anthony	BELINDA HANNE REID
Wally Bell/Record Producer	DAVID JAMES
Chris Bell	
Brian Henderson	JAN DI PIETRO
Trick	JOE MELDRUM

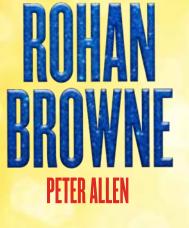
ENSEMBLE

LUKE ALLEVA AMY BERRISFORD NADIA COOTE ZOE COPPINGER KIANA DANIELE JOE DONOVAN JAN DI PIETRO MATT DOUGLASS ALEX GIVEN MELANIE HAWKINS JOE MELDRUM PRISCILLA STAVROU JORDAN TURNER JESSICA VELLUCCI CELINA YUEN

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Rohan Browne, over an extensive career, hasCestablished himself as one of Australia's mostLversatile stage performers with his performancesmas Don Lockwood in Singin' In The Rainpcementing him as Australia's preeminent maleAtriple threat performer.S

He returns to The Production Company for its 20th year celebrations after starring as Tommy Albright in the celebrated production of *Brigadoon*. Rohan's many roles for The Production Company include Don Lockwood in *Singin' In The Rain*, Carmen Ghia in *The Producers*, Jimmy Winter in

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Nice Work If You Can Get It, The Purser in Anything Goes and roles in Mame, Follies, Thoroughly Modern Millie and Kiss Me, Kate.

Rohan recently creatively developed and starred in the dance theatre piece SELF for the Melbourne Fringe Festival to rave critical and audience response. Other standout performances include George in MTC's *The Drowsy Chaperone*, Riff in *West Side Story* and Greg in *A Chorus Line*, all garnering him multiple award nominations.

Rohan created the role of Ken Railings in *Strictly Ballroom the Musical* directed by Baz Luhrmann and is one of the founding members of *The Tap Pack*. He has worked as a featured artist alongside Hugh Jackman for his *Broadway To Oz* arena concert tour and Chita Rivera for her Australian premiere tour.

Other roles include Leading Player in *Pippin*, Jimmy Powers in *City Of Angels*, Fred Casely in *Chicago*, Zach in *A Chorus Line*, Rum Tum Tugger in *Cats*, King Herod in *Jesus Christ Superstar*, Wing in *Hot Shoe Shuffle*, and a Protean in *A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum*.

Stage credits also include the world premiere of *The Boy from Oz, Grease, Dirty Dancing* and Sydney Dance Company's *Tivoli*.

Rohan's film credits include roles in the Academy Award-winning *Happy Feet* as a motion capture artist. Television roles include *The Divorce, Dance Academy* in the recurring role of Hugo Greyson, Claude in *Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries* and Mr Higgs in the new comedy series *The Drop Off.* Caroline comes directly from Broadway and London's West End after appearing in the new musical *Anastasia* at the Broadhurst Theatre, playing Countess Lily Malevsky-Malevitch and Anna in Kander and Ebb's *The Rink*.

She created the dual roles of Polly/Mary Douvan in the world premiere of the new Australian work, *Dream Lover - The Bobby Darin Musical*. Leading Roles include Reno Sweeney in *Anything Goes* (Sydney Opera House/Helpmann Award), Rose in *Gypsy* for The Production Company and the Curve Theatre, Leicester. She



also starred in the new musical Life of the Party at the Menier Chocolate Factory.

She played Miss Shields on Broadway in *A Christmas Story the Musical* at the Lunt Fontanne Theatre and Madison Square Garden. Caroline was a featured performer at the 2013 Tony Awards at Radio City Music Hall. Other roles include Sarah Jane Moore in *Assassins* at Milwaukee Rep, Phyllis in *Follies* (Jeff Award) Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, Mrs Lovett in *Sweeney Todd* at the Chatelet Theatre in Paris, Hildy Esterhazy in the English National Opera's production of *On the Town*, Judy Garland in the World Premiere of *End Of The Rainbow* and Velma Kelly in the Australian production of *Chicago*, then making her Broadway début in this role.

Bombshells, a one-woman play, was written for Caroline by Joanna Murray-Smith. It played Sydney, Melbourne, and Adelaide, the Toronto Festival, Milwaukee Rep, the Edinburgh Festival (Fringe First) and The Arts Theatre (Olivier nomination Best Actress in a Play). David Williamson wrote the play *Scarlett O'Hara at the Crimson Parrot* for Caroline.

West End productions include Mabel Normand in *Mack and Mabel* (Olivier nomination, Best Actress in a Musical), *Romance, Romance, Street Scene* (ENO), *Hot Stuff, Matador, Budgie, The Rink, Cabaret, Me and My Girl, Show Boat* (RSC), *Damn Yankees, Baby, Into the Woods and A Chorus Line.*

Australian productions include West Side Story, Piaf, Man of La Mancha and Funny Girl.

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Caroline performed in the BBC Proms at the Royal Albert Hall in Stephen Sondheim's 80th Birthday Concert and in John Wilson's *Hooray for Hollywood*. She has created three one-woman shows, *Stage to Screen* in Australia, *The Showgirl Within* in London and *The Girl from Oz* in New York.

Film work includes Nini Legs in the Air in Baz Luhrmann's *Moulin Rouge*, Ethel Merman in the Cole Porter biopic *De-Lovely* and Georgia in the Australian film *Surviving Georgia*. She has recorded four solo CD's, *What I did for Love, Stage to Screen, A Tribute to Piaf* and *A Tribute To Garland*.



LOREN HUNTER

2011 WAAPA Graduate Loren Hunter is quickly establishing herself as one of Australia's most promising up and coming leading ladies. Her notable roles include the lead role of Elphaba for the Free-Rain Theatre Company's production of *Wicked* and Highway Productions *Rent* as Mimi, both directed by Shaun Rennie, as well as the support role of Mitzi and cover for Judith in the national tour of *Georgy Girl - The Seekers Musical* directed by Gary Young, a cover to Liz Holt, Vanessa Cronin and Fran in the stage debut of Baz Luhrmann's *Strictly Ballroom the Musical* and an ensemble role in the stage

show, *King Kong*. After appearing in The Production Company's *Dusty*, she is thrilled to be returning for *The Boy from Oz*.

Loren is the recipient of the Bob Taylor Award for 2018.



MAXWELL SIMON Greg connell

Maxwell is a graduate of the Music Theatre programme at Victorian College of the Arts.

In 2017 Maxwell made his professional Musical Theatre debut in *Assassins* at the Hayes Theatre as The Balladeer/Lee Harvey Oswald, receiving generous critical acclaim. He then joined the highly talented cast of Green Day's *American Idiot* in the ensemble covering and performing Johnny and Tunny on several occasions.

In 2018 Maxwell reprised his roles in *Assassins* for the Sydney Opera House Season.

Other credits include *The Songs of Pasek & Paul - You Will Be Found, How to Disappear Completely and Never Be Found, and the workshop Between Worlds.*

Maxwell is a Glug Award recipient for Most Outstanding Performance by a Newcomer for Assassins.



ROBYN ARTHUR Marion Woolnough

Robyn is one of Australia's leading theatre performers with over forty years in the industry. She recently toured Australia and Tokyo with Jonathan Church's *Singin' in the Rain* (Dainty Organisation). Geoffrey Atherden's *Mother and Son* directed by Roger Hodgman was another highlight.

In 2011, Robyn played Marion Woolnough in *The Boy from Oz* with Todd McKenney so it's a joy to return. Mrs Potts in *Beauty and the Beast* with Hugh Jackman she relished and Robyn will be long remembered for her Green Room award-winning performance as

Madame Thenardier in the glorious original cast of Les Misérables (Trevor Nunn and Gale Edwards).

In 2007, she was nominated for a Helpmann Award for the Australian premiere of *Sideshow Alley* (Keelan/ Young) for QPAC. Other theatre highlights include *My Fair Lady* (Opera Australia), *Minefields and Miniskirts* (Terence O'Connell/ Malthouse), *Sweeney Todd* (Opera Queensland), Stephen Sondheim's *Company* (STC) and *Away* directed by Michael Gow (STC).

Television credits include *Rosehaven, Sisters, Woodley* and *Neighbours* as Delta Goodrem's manager Melody Jones. Film highlights are *Charlotte's* Web with Dakota Fanning and Tropfest '18 *Hoarder Control* (Nicholas Colla).

Robyn has been a proud member of Actors Equity since 1975 and serves on the Victorian Actors Benevolent Trust.



FRANCIS GREENSLADE DICK WOOLNOUGH/DEE ANTHONY

Francis began performing with the Adelaide University Footlights. Since then he has worked consistently in both theatre and television.

His theatre credits include *The Odd Couple, The Madwoman of Chaillot* and *Things We Do For Love* for the MTC, *Urinetown* and *Babes in the Wood* for STC, *You Got Older* for Red Stitch Theatre Company, *The Odyssey* and *Tartuffe* for Malthouse and *The Club, Marat/Sade* and *School for Scandal* for STC (SA).

His television credits include Mad As Hell, The Leftovers, Winners

and Losers, Inspector Blake, The Ex-PM, The Micallef Program, Soul Mates, It's A Date, Schappelle, Offspring, City Homicide, Full Frontal, Marshall Law and Pig's Breakfast.

Francis has been a member of Equity since 1979.



BAYLIE CARSON Trio - Lucy

Baylie graduated from WAAPA in 2015 with a Bachelor of Music Theatre.

She made her professional debut as Mary O'Brien in The Production Company's *Dusty* in 2016. Her credits include Mabel in *Darlinghurst Nights* (Hayes Theatre Company), Ermengarde in *Hello, Dolly!* (The Production Company), *They're Playing Our Song* (Company Eleven), Holly in *Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom* (Life Like Touring), Tilley in *Fair Dinkum* (Echelon Productions). Baylie was a semi-finalist in the Rob Guest Endowment of 2017.

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Her WAAPA performance credits include Eve in *Children of Eden*, Josephine Strong in *Urinetown*, Enid Hoops in *Legally Blonde* and The Lead Priestess

in Matthew Lee Robinson's workshop of *Atlantis*. She also received the Hal Leonard/MTI award at the completion of her time at WAAPA.

Baylie Is thrilled to be a part of The Production Company's 20th anniversary season. She would like to thank her agent IWM and her family for their constant support. Baylie would like to dedicate her performance in this show to her sister Grace, the strongest woman she knows!



JOSIE LANE Trio - Michaela

For The Production Company, Josie has featured in *The Pirates of Penzance, Jerry's Girls* and *Jesus Christ Superstar* and is thrilled to be appearing again with the company in its 20th anniversary season.

Other credits include *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (STC), *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* (Back Row), *Avenue Q* (Arts Asia Pacific), *Fame* (GFO), *Into The Woods* (Victorian Opera), *Miracle City* (Luckiest Productions) and *Little Shop of Horrors* (Luckiest Productions/ Tinderbox Productions). Josie is also an award winning cabaret artist (*Asian Provocateur, Josie in the Bathhouse*), regularly sings backing vocals for David Campbell, is proud to work as a puppeteer with charity organisation Camp Quality and has been a member of Equity since 2007.



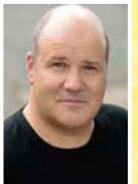
PHOENIX MENDOZA Trio - gabriella

From a very young age Phoenix spent a lot of time in theatres watching her mother perform in various musicals. Growing up surrounded by performers, her love for the theatre and performing felt instinctual. Phoenix recently made her professional debut in the Australian production of *American Idiot* followed by *Bring it On the Musical* (Stage Masters) and is thrilled to be joining the cast of *The Boy from Oz*.

She has spent the past year studying at the Victorian College of the Arts where she feels her experience was invaluable.

She would like to thank all of her teachers/mentors and dedicate her performance to the Mendoza family who continue to inspire her.

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DAVID JAMES Wally Bell/Record Producer

A NIDA graduate, David's career as an actor spans more than two decades. On stage, he has worked for MTC, STC, QTC, Bell Shakespeare, Black Swan, Griffin and the Gordon Frost Organisation. David's more recent theatre credits include *The Sound of Music* (Australian tour, GFO), *The Speechmaker* (MTC), David Williamson's *When Dad Married Fury* (HIT Productions), *Australia Day* (MTC/STC), *All About My Mother* (MTC) and *Ying Tong* (STC/MTC/QTC). He also toured Australia and New Zealand in the Helpmann Award winning production of the musical *Avenue Q.*

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On television, David is best known for his role in Working Dog's political

satire *The Hollowmen* and was a presenter of ABC TV's *Play School* for fifteen years, also touring nationally as part of its live concert program. Recent television credits include *Olivia Newton-John: Hopelessly Devoted to You, True Story 1 & 2, Jack Irish, Childhood's End, Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries, It's a Date, Howzat: Kerry Packer's War, Chandon Pictures, City Homicide and Very Small Business.* David's film credits include *Healing, Any Questions For Ben?, The Rage in Placid Lake, Fish 'n' Chips* and the award-winning *Prick.* David recently recorded the audio book *First Person* by Richard Flanagan.



NATHAN PINNELL Chris Bell

Nathan is an award-winning performer with a career spanning two decades. His theatre credits include *Singin' In The Rain* (Dance Captain), *Hugh Jackman: Broadway To Oz* (Dance Captain/Featured Ensemble), *Anything Goes* (Dance Captain), Baz Luhrmann's *Strictly Ballroom: The Musical* as Liam Lamb (understudied and performed Ken Railings, Nathan Starkey and Clarry Welch), *Legally Blonde* as Carlos (Savoy, West End), *West Side Story* as Baby John, *Chicago* - Green Room Award, *Dusty: The Original Pop Diva* as Young Tom, *We Will Rock You, Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, High School Musical* and *Eurobeat: Almost Eurovision*.

For The Production Company Nathan performed the role of Tulsa in *Gypsy*, receiving Best Supporting Actor for the Theatre People Pro Choice Awards and has appeared in *Promises Promises, 42nd Street, Sweet Charity* and *The Music Man.*

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BELINDA HANNE REID Josie Mann/Valerie Anthony

Belinda graduated in 2013 from the Queensland Conservatorium. Her credits there include *Elegies for Angels, Punks and Raging Queens* and *Miss Saigon*. Since graduating, she has appeared in *Butch Masters: Man of Destiny,* and *Price Check, The Musicall,* as well as the cabaret trio *The Desperettes.*

Television credits include guest roles on Channel 7's *Winners and Losers* and ABC's *It's A Date*.

Belinda has worked with The Production Company previously in *Brigadoon* and is thrilled to be returning for *The Boy from Oz.* She would like to thank Jason Langley and the team, as well as her family, teachers and friends, for their love and support.



HUDSON SHARP Young Peter

Hudson has been training for six years under the guidance of Miss Renie Ann Martini at the May Downs School of Dance. He studies all aspects of performing: Ballet, Jazz, Hip Hop, Contemporary, Tap, Acrobatics, Vocal and Drama and attends Acting Performance Studio.

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Hudson played the young Bobby Darrin in *Dream Lover* (GFO) and the role of Nigel in the 2016 season of Matilda the Musical (RSC). He is thrilled to be playing Young Peter Allen and will soon be seen in the role of Billy in the upcoming Australian premiere of Andrew Lloyd Webber's Broadway and West End smash hit rock musical, *School of Rock* (GFO).

Hudson would like to thank his agents Peter and Naomi Derrick from *Smallfry, Derrick Talent Elite* and his Mum, Dad and brothers Logan and Curtis.



LENNY THOMAS Young Peter

Lenny is eleven years old and learns singing, dance and drama at Stage Left Performing Arts School. He has so far performed in productions of *Mary Poppins* (PLOS), *Into the Woods* (Astral), *Shrek Jnr* with Stage Masters, *Seussical the Musical* with Panorama and *The Little Mermaid* (PLOS). In 2017 Lenny won the Bruce Award for Junior Performer in an Open production at the Music Theatre Guild Awards Victoria for his role as Jojo in *Seussical*. Most recently he made his professional debut in *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* (Michael Cassel) playing the role of Benji and later this year will join the cast of *School of Rock* to play Billy. Lenny is passionate about learning, reading, Harry Potter and especially musical theatre.

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THANK YOU

Susie Graves, Executive Producer at Robert Fox Ltd. Photography - Colin Page and Jeff Busby Promotions Choreographer -Tracie Morley Promotions Hair & Makeup - Gay Gallacher Stage Management – Rachel Nagy & Talia North (VCA) Wardrobe – Meiko Wong (NIDA), Eliza McAlister (UTS) Translator - I Still Call Australia Home - Andy Dexterity

THE PRODUCTION COMPANY ORCHESTRA Musical Director: MICHAEL TYACK

Reed 1 Alto Saxophone, Flute & Piccolo Reed 2 Tenor Saxophone, Flute & Clarinet

Trumpet & Flugel Horn 1

Trumpet & Flugel Horn 2

Acoustic & Electric Guitar, Banio

Acoustic & Electric Bass

Percussion JAMES

Drums GERRY PANTAZIS

Keyboards PAUL WHITE

Irchestral Services Manager: JAMES KEMPSTER Orchestra Manager: LAUREN JENNINGS Orchestra Assistant: SABRINA YEH





UKE ALLEVA

Luke is an actor, dancer and choreographer. Most recently, Production Company audiences will remember him as Eddie Ryan in *Funny Girl*. Other TPC credits include Al Saxon in *Dusty*, Jimmy in *The Boyfriend, 42nd Street*, *Little Me* and *Guys and Dolls*.

Other stage highlights include Man of La Mancha, We Will Rock You, The Rocky Horror Show, Guys and Dolls, Mamma Mia!, Xanadu, A Chorus Line, Chitty Chitty Bang Bang and dance captain for Moonshadow. Luke performed on the West End with WWRY, Saturday Night Fever, and West End Rocks. On the big screen, Luke was featured in Baz Luhrmann's Moulin Rouge and The Divorce for the ABC.

Luke's self-devised one-man show *The Dancin' Man* has also toured Australia and on international cruise ships.



ZOE COPPINGER

Zoe studied all facets of dance at Michelle Slater Coyne Performing Arts. She made her professional music theatre debut at age of eighteen in The Production Company's *Gypsy*. Other roles with TPC include Bambi in *Curtains, Jesus Christ Superstar, Nice Work If You Can Get It* and *Guys and Dolls*. She has toured Dubai with *Thomas and the Hidden Treasure* (Gary Young), performed in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* (James Anthony Productions), the Australian tour of TML Enterprises *Fiddler On The Roof*, where she understudied the roles of Chava and Tzeitel and *Follies in Concert* (Storeyboard Entertainment).

Zoe is delighted to be returning to The Production Company with this stellar cast and creative team. She would like to thank her mum, dad, sisters and Nan for their unconditional love and Helen Pandos Management for their ongoing support.



AMY BERRISFORD

Amy has worked in musical theatre, television and film. For The Production Company she has appeared in *Sweet Charity, Promises Promises, Funny Girl, Curtains* and *Oklahoma!* Other theatre credits include the 2005 -2007 Asian tour of *We Will Rock You* (Louise Withers), *Company, Guys and Dolls* (*ATG), Chicago* Australasian Tour 2009 - 2010 as June / Velma Cover (GFO) and the world premiere cast of *King Kong Live on Stage* (Global Creatures). In 2014/15, Amy toured South Korea, Singapore and Macau in *Cats*. On return to South Korea, she was delighted to play the role of Demeter and revived the role for the Australasian tour, for which she received a 2016 Green Room nomination. In 2016, Amy appeared in *Company* (Watch This). She returned to *Cats* as Resident Choreographer for the 2017/18 South Korean tour (S&Co, Lotte Entertainment/RUG).

Amy is thrilled to be joining The Production Company for their 2018 season and would like to thank her family for their ongoing love and support.



KIANA DANIELE

Kiana completed a year of Music Theatre training at Showfit under the direction of Ian and Leanne White, Mathew Frank and Scott Johnson before being accepted into the Bachelor of Fine Arts (Music Theatre) at the Victorian College of the Arts. At the VCA she has performed at the 2016 Green Room Awards and was part of the ensemble for *Morning Melodies: Best of Broadway* (2016) and *Movie Musicals* (2017), presented by Arts Centre Melbourne. At the VCA Kiana was also involved in *Oh, What a Lovely War, Matel* played the role of Amy in *Company* and was in the ensemble (covering the role of Trix) in *The Drowsy Chaperone*.

Kiana is thrilled to be making her Production Company debut in *The Boy from Oz.*

NADIA COOTE

Nadia's recent credits include *Funny Girl, Singin' in the Rain* as the Broadway Melody soloist/Lina Lamont understudy and Baz Luhrmann's World Premiere of *Strictly Ballroom the Musical* as Tina Sparkle.

Nadia originated the role of Penny in the World Premiere of *Dirty Dancing* in Australia/New Zealand and then London's West End for five years. Nadia reprised the role for the ten year anniversary production making a total of 2537 performances.

Other credits include Barry Humphries' *Eat Pray Laugh*, the action film *Dhoom 3* with Aamir Khan choreographed by Dein Perry, *Sunset Boulevard* (in concert), *Harley Davidson Festival* Australia/Japan Tour, *Children In Need* (BBC London), *On The Lurk* (Shane Warne), *CNNN*, *Fat Pizza* and the Lead Adagio Act for Carnival.



JAN DI PIETRO

For The Production Company Jan has appeared in *Promises Promises, Sweet Charity, The Boy from Oz, The Music Man* and *The Pirates of Penzance.* Other musical theatre credits include *Dream Lover, Singin' In The Rain,* Bert in *Mary Poppins, Anything Goes* and *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang.*

Jan is Resident Playwright with the leading independent theatre company Q44 Theatre, where he is developing an original work.

Jan holds a Bachelor of Communication from Griffith University and is now completing Honours in the same field. His ongoing work is an experimental fiction about the way humankind navigates through the moral and ethical landscapes of life.

Jan is a proud member of the MEAA and the AWG.





JOE DONOVAN

Joe trained at Brent Street Studios, where he was awarded an all expenses paid scholarship to train at New York City's Broadway Dance Center. Upon his return, he joined Marko Panzic's *The Dream Dance Company* for its *Genesis* tour.

For Opera Australia, Joe performed in *Turandot* on Sydney Harbour and most recently a part of the tap dancing cast of *The Nose*. He has worked with Artists such as Charli XCX, Samantha Jade and Jessica Mauboy and on television as a dancer in *The X Factor* and *Dance Boss*.

Joe is thrilled to be making his musical debut in *The Boy from Oz* and would like to thank his family and mentors for their constant support.



MATT DOUGLASS

Hailing from Queensland, Matt is a graduate of the Australian Dance Performance Institute and a true triple threat performer.

His professional credits include numerous Raw Metal Tours (Raw Dance Company), Carnival Cruse Lines (U.S.A), Universal Studios Singapore and the Commonwealth Games Closing Ceremony in Glasgow (Directed by David Atkins), where he performed alongside Jessica Mauboy.

In 2016 Matt made his musical theatre debut in *Fiddler On The Roof* (TML Enterprises), followed by a role in The Production Company's *Curtains*. That same year he joined the cast of the critically acclaimed Australasian tour of *Matilda*.



MELANIE HAWKINS

Melanie recently performed in The Production Company's *Oklahomal* after returning from playing the role of Zelda in the Australian/Tokyo tour of *Singin' In The Rain.* Other roles include the Australian arena concert tour of *Broadway to Oz* alongside Hugh Jackman, the original cast of Baz Luhrmann's *Strictly Ballroom the Musical*, the world premiere of *King Kong Live on Stage, A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum* starring Geoffrey Rush, the role of Constance in *Rock of Ages*, the Witch's mother in the original Australian cast of *Wicked*, GFO's *Into The Woods in Concert* and *Shout! –The Legend of the Wild One.*

Melanie choreographed *Dedications*, John O'Hara's one-man show, for the Adelaide Cabaret Festival and theatres around Australia. She has worked with Australia's leading directors and choreographers for live and televised events including *Countdown, Australia's Got Talent* and Ricki-Lee film clips. She recently starred in a short film advertising campaign *Take Me Where I Want To Go* for the new shoe collection for MIMCO.

JOE MELDRUM

Joe made his professional theatre debut in The Production Company's *Curtains* after graduating from WAAPA's Music Theatre course in 2015. Other credits include starring in the Australian Tour of *A Fine Romance: The Magic of Fred Astaire, Just A Couple of Song and Dance Men (JTM Productions), The Long and Short of It (Ding Productions) and the feature film <i>Beautiful* (KOJO Pictures).

After featuring in *Oklahoma!* Joe is thrilled to be returning for this 20th anniversary production of *The Boy from Oz* and is thankful to be a part of something so special. He is a proud member of MEAA and grateful for the support of his friends, family and wonderful agents at IWM.



ALEX GIVEN

Alex graduated in 2011 after completing the performing arts and musical theatre courses at Patrick Studios Australia. He has performed in various events including the *TV Week Logie Awards, The Opening of Hamer Hall* with Caroline O'Connor, *The Adelaide Cabaret Festival Opening Gala* and Trevor Ashley's *Liza (on an E).*

For The Production Company he has performed the roles of A-rab in *West Side Story* and Tom Springfield in *Dusty* as well as appearing in *Nice Work If You Can Get It, Anything Goes, Guys and Dolls* and *Oklahoma!* Other roles in musicals include *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* (TML Enterprises), *South Pacific* (Opera Australia), *Loving Repeating* (VTC), Baz Luhrmann's *Strictly Ballroom the Musical* (Global Creatures), *Georgy Girl: The Seekers Musical* (Richard East) and *My Fair Lady* (Opera Australia) directed by Dame Julie Andrews.

Television and film credits include *Holding the Man* (Screen Australia), *Weevil* (Lipkin Films), *The Wrong Girl* (Network 10) and *Offspring* (Network 10).



PRISCILLA STRAVROU DANCE CAPTAIN

Priscilla's love for performing began at the age of three when she commenced her dance training at Attitudes Dance Studio. Her passion for dance and the performing arts led her to further her skills at Patrick Studios Australia.

She made her musical theatre debut in 2010, performing in *West Side Story.* Most recently she returned from the Australian 2017 tour of *The Bodyguard.* For The Production Company she has appeared in *Funny Girl* and *Kismet* and was Assistant to the choreographer for *West Side Story.*

Other credits include Cosentino's Live Nation Tour, Michael Ralph's *Now and Then* and *Hollywood Honky Tonk* and the Adelaide Cabaret Festival.

Professionally, she has danced alongside Havana Brown, Redfoo, Flo Rida, Cosentino The Grand Illusionist, Ashley Roberts from the Pussycat Dolls and Natalie Bassingthwaighte. Her recent television credits include *Sony AXN*,

Australia, Asia and Vietnam's Got Talent, Dancing With The Stars, The Good Friday Appeal and The Logies.

Priscilla is extremely grateful be part of another show for The Production Company and looks forward to working with the creative team and cast. She would like to extend her love to her partner and family for their ongoing support.



ORDAN TURNER

Jordan Turner is a graduate of both Brent Street and the Jason Winters Contemporary Technique.

On screen he has performed on *Dancing With the Stars, The Voice* and *X-Factor Australia* and as one of the top sixteen dance contestants on *So You Think You Can Dance Australia* in 2015.

His stage credits include *Invisible Touch* choreographed by Michael Ralph, and *Shake, Rattle and Roll* for Dion and Randall.

He is thrilled to be returning to The Production Company where he has performed in *West Side Story* and *Oklahoma!*



JESSICA VELLUCCI

Jessica trained at Patrick Studios Australia under the direction of Andrew Hallsworth, where she played the role of Wendla in *Spring Awakening*. She has performed in *Twisted Broadway, Australia's Got Talent*, as a vocalist in *Candyman* starring Wayne Scott Kermond and featured in the ABC miniseries *Bastard Boys*.

While at the Victorian College of the Arts, her credits included featured vocalist in *Morning Melodies: Best of Broadway* at Arts Centre Melbourne, *Oh, What a Lovely War, Mate!* Joanne in *Company* and ensemble/Janet cover in *The Drowsy Chaperone.*

Jessica is the grateful recipient of the 2017 Ron and Margaret Dobell Foundation Music Theatre Award.



CELINA YUEN

Celina began her music theatre career in 2010 with The Production Company's *The King and I.*

She has since toured nationally and internationally in productions including *South Pacific* (Opera Australia/GFO) as Liat, *Anyone Can Whistle* (Magnormous), *Kismet* (The Production Company), *ECLIPSE Dance & Illusions Spectacular* (Base Entertainment), *Paw Patrol Live! Race To The Rescue* (LifeLike Touring Co), *A Chorus Line* (Mad About Theatre), and most recently *Bring It On: The Musical* (StageMasters).

The Boy from Oz is Celina's third appearance with The Production Company and she excited to be a part of this production.

NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

It's an honour having the opportunity to work on another of my late friend Nick Enright's shows. Twenty years ago he sat with me and discussed the challenges inherent in writing a biographical musical, particularly that of an Australian icon whose amazing career was bookended with tragedy and peppered with more than a few struggles. It was exciting for a young actor/director to be privy to the creation of a new Australian musical and it's exciting now to reflect on Nick's thoughts and mentorship in the creation of our production.

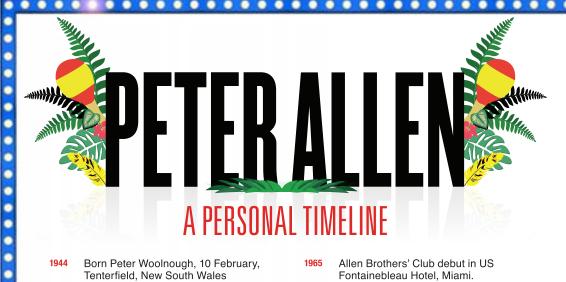
Nick wasn't interested in a predictable or linear approach to this bio story. Peter Allen's songs speak of loss, pain and solitude, yet his public persona exuded boundless

confidence, sexual energy and a naughty wit. Nick wanted to create a universe where the two disparate Peters as well as the past and the present could collide. The universe he chose was familiar to Peter, his happy place - a concert setting, though Nick was careful not to replicate one of Peter Allen's actual concerts. This set me on a path to explore what this concert universe could represent - perhaps a place where memories, both joyous and painful can flash before one's eyes; where a boy must confront and accept his demons before he can ascend to the Oz that's over the rainbow.

Jason Langley



Peter Allen, Liza Minnelli and Judy Garland



- 1944 Born Peter Woolnough, 10 February, Tenterfield. New South Wales Grows up in nearby Armidale (1944-58)
- 1948 Begins playing piano, self taught. Later has lessons.

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- 1949 Amateur debut in Armidale, impersonating entertainer Al Jolson.
- 1955 Becomes regular entertainer at local pub, The New England Hotel.
- 1959 Meets guitarist-singer Chris Bell in Surfers Paradise, Queensland. Joins singing duo dubbed 'The Allen Brothers'. They make their television debut on Teen Time (ATN7).
- 1960 The Allen Brothers achieve national exposure on TCN9's Bandstand. Peter begins song writing with Chris Bell.

Records his first single, First Kiss.

- 1961 Allen Bothers record for Pye, EMI and Festival Records.
- 1962 Allen Brothers tour Asia and decide to stay on.
- 1963 Allen Brothers perform in Asian clubs and hotels.
- 1964 Meets singer-actress Judy Garland during Hong Kong visit.

Garland flies Allen brothers to London, where Peter Allen becomes engaged to Garland's daughter, Liza Minnelli.

- Allen Brothers' Club debut in US 1965 Fontainebleau Hotel, Miami, US television debut on CBS television's On Broadway Tonight. Concert debut in Toronto as support act to Judy Garland. US tour with Garland ensues.
- 1966 Allen Brothers record first US singles for ABC Paramount records.
- 1967 Marries Liza Minnelli in New York.
- Allen Brothers release their first album 1968 for Mercury Records & makes guest appearances on NBC's Tonight Show.
- 1969 Death of Judy Garland.

Final performance by Allen Brothers in Jacksonville, Florida,

1970 Allen and Liza Minnelli separate.

The Allen Brothers also officially break up.

Peter Allen decides his future lies in song writing.

- Releases first solo album as 1971 singer-songwriter, Peter Allen for Metromedia Records. Returns to Australia for television reunion show on Bandstand. Writes Tenterfield Saddler while staying with his mother in Bondi.
- 1972 Releases second album, Tenterfield Saddler. Makes Los Angeles debut as opening act to Bette Midler.

- 1974 Signed by Herb Alpert and Jerry Moss for A&M Records. Records Continental American, first major label album. Becomes leading light of cabaret revival scene in New York.
- 1975 New York Solo concert debut, Metropolitan Museum, 14 August. Tours Australia with Helen Reddy.
- 1976 Album Taught By Experts receives excellent critical attention.
- 1977 I Go To Rio. hit record. leads to concerts at the Paris Olympia and the Sydney Opera House. Profiled on Australian TV's This Is Your Life.
- Cabaret debut in London, 1978 playing nightclub season.
- 1979 Broadway debut in concert-style presentation Up In One, which also tours Los Angeles, Melbourne and Sydney.
- 1980 Writes I Still Call Australia Home during Australian tour. Launches sell-out season at New York nightclub, the Copacabana. Frank Sinatra records You and Me, We Wanted It All. Performs at the Sydney Opera House

Royal Command Performance on 27 May.

- 1981 Manager Dee Anthony negotiates two hit concert seasons at Radio City Music Hall, New York.
- 1982 Wins Best Song Oscar as co-writer of theme to the movie Arthur. Plays Las Vegas season.

Returns to Radio City Music Hall in New York.

1983 Signs with Arista Records after eight A&M albums.

> Performs at the Gala Opening Concert, Sydney Entertainment Centre on 1 May.

- 1984 Plays seven concerts at Carnegie Hall in New York.
- 1985 Writes Broadway musical Legs Diamond.

- 1986 Radio City Music Hall season at Easter. Ongoing Australian tours.
- Australian concert bill with Frank 1988 Sinatra and Whitney Houston at Sanctuary Cove, Queensland. Opens his Broadway show Legs Diamond singing self-written score.
- 1989 National US concert tour with Bernadette Peters.
- Releases final album, Making 1990 Every Moment Count (BMG),
- Begins Australian tour, which is cut short. 1992

Gives final performance on 26 January (Australia Day) in Sydney. Dies 18 June at Mercy Hospital, San Diego, California.

- 1995 TV documentary tribute to Peter Allen, The Boy from Oz.
- 1997 Biography, Peter Allen, The Boy from Oz by Peter McLean published by Random House.
- Thursday 5 March, world premiere, The Boy from Oz stage musical directed by Gale Edwards. A three CD career retrospective album released by A&M records.
- 2003 **16 October**, Broadway premiere, *The* Boy from Oz. starring Hugh Jackman.
- 2005 10 June, Japan premiere, The Bov from Oz
- 2006 3 August, Australian premiere, The Bov from Oz Arena Spectacular.
- 2010 **18 August**, The Production Company, *The* Boy from Oz. State Theatre Melbourne
- 2011 6 January, The Production Company, The Boy from Oz, State Theatre Melbourne.

26 February, The Production Company, The Boy from Oz, Capitol Theatre, Sydney



NICK ENRIGHT original book

One of Australia's foremost playwrights, Nick Enright was born in Maitland, NSW in 1950. He gained early experience as an actor with J.C. Williamson's, Nimrod Theatre and the MTC. He then attended New York University School of the Arts, where he studied playwriting with Israel Horovitz.

Nick's plays include On The Wallaby, Daylight Saving, St James Infirmary, Mongrels, A Property of the Clan, The Quartet from Rigoletto, Blackrock, Good Works, Playgrounds, Chasing the Dragon, Spurboard and A Poor Student. With Justin Monjo, he adapted Tim Winton's Cloudstreet for Company B/Black Swan. The hugely successful production, directed by Neil Armfield, played in all Australian capital cities, London, Zurich, Dublin, Washington and New York. Good Works and Cloudstreet both won Green Room Awards for Best Play. Cloudstreet also won a Writers' Guild Gold AWGIE award as did Daylight Saving, A Property of the Clan and Nick's screenplay for the film based on his play Blackrock.

With composer Terence Clarke, he wrote the musicals *The Venetian Twins* and *Summer Rain*. Other musical collaborations include *Miracle City* with Max Lambert and *Mary Bryant* with David King. Nick was one of the first to join the creative team for *The Boy from Oz* when Ben Gannon decided to develop a musical based on Peter Allen's life.

For film, Nick wrote *Lorenzo's Oil* with George Miller, which received Academy Award and Writers' Guild Award nominations for Best Original Screenplay. His television credits include *Coral Island* and the miniseries *Come In Spinner*. Many of Nick's plays have been broadcast and he also wrote original work for radio. Nick was a regular teacher at WAAPA and NIDA and he developed work with both companies. His last play, *A Man With Five Children*, opened the STC's 2002 season.

Nick died in Sydney in March 2003.



ROBERT FOX

In Australia Robert Fox has produced *The Boy from Oz*; Hugh Jackman's *Broadway to Oz* and *Talking Heads*.

His productions on London's West End include David Bowie's Lazarus; Chess; Hangmen; The Audience; Stephen Ward; Fatal Attraction; Skylight; The Judas Kiss; The Harder They Come; The Lady from Dubuque; Frost/ Nixon; Hedda Gabler; The Breath of Life; Vincent in Brixton; The Caretaker; The Lady in the Van; Amy's View; Little Malcolm and his Struggle Against the Eunuchs; Closer; Masterclass; Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf; Burning Blue; Three Tall Women; Me and Mamie O'Rourke; Vita and Virginia; The Importance of Being Earnest; When She Danced; Burn This; Smelling A Rat; JJ Farr; Lettice and Lovage; Orphans; After Aida; Interpreters; Torch Song Trilogy; Crystal Clear.

His productions on Broadway include Hangmen; The Audience; Lazarus; Skylight; Hugh Jackman Back on Broadway; A Behanding in Spokane; Exit The King; God of Carnage; Frost/Nixon; The Vertical Hour; The Pillowman; The Boy from Oz; Gypsy; Salome; Closer; Amy's View; The Blue Room; The Big Love.

Films include *Wilde Salome; Atonement; Notes on a Scandal; Closer; The Hours; Iris; A Month By The Lake; Another Country* and the recent television series *The Crown*

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BEN GANNON VIEW FILMS PTY LTD

Ben Gannon started View Films in 1983 and produced two mini-series: *Shout! The Story of Johnny O'Keefe* starring Terry Serio and *Shadow of the Cobra* starring Rachel Ward and Art Malik. He then produced a series of feature films: *Travelling North* starring Leo McKern, *The Heartbreak Kid* starring Claudia Karvan and Alex Dimitriades, *Sweet Talker* starring Bryan Brown and Karen Allen, *Daydream Believer* starring Miranda Otto and Martin Kemp, *Hammers Over the Anvil* starring Charlotte Rampling and Russell Crowe and *The Man Who Sued God* starring Billy Connolly and Judy Davis and over 300 hours of television: *Heartbreak High, Wildside* and the documentary *Peter Allen: The Boy from Oz.*

Ben conceived the idea for *The Boy from Oz*, which he developed and produced with Robert Fox. It premiered in Sydney in 1998 and toured Australia for two years. He then co-produced the show on Broadway where it

did capacity business for a year and gained a Tony Award nomination for Best Musical. An arena version of the show toured Australia in 2006 to great acclaim.

Ben died in January 2007, a few months after the arena version of *The Boy from Oz* completed its recordbreaking run. His partner in business and in life, Brian Abel, now runs View Films and has a US remake of *The Man Who Sued God* in the works.



JASON LANGLEY DIRECTOR

Jason Langley is an award-winning director with thirty years theatre experience variously as a director, actor, dramaturg, mentor and teacher.

Since directing *Brigadoon* for The Production Company in 2017, Jason has taught musical theatre at NIDA, directed an Australian tour of *Bosom Buddies* starring Nancye Hayes and Todd McKenney and a production of *Carousel* at Perth's Regal Theatre for WAAPA.

In recent years Jason has directed *Dusty* in Melbourne and Adelaide for The Production Company, Bernstein's *Wonderful Town* and *Jingle Bell Jazz* at the Sydney Opera House, *Loving Repeating* – for which he received a Green Room Award, the play *Here Lies Henry* in London, three new Australian works – *Between Worlds, Almost Home, Say Hello First* and *Playing Rock Hudson*, the World premiere and National tour of *Breast Wishes*, the plays *As You Like It* and *The Double Bass, Elegies* at The Sydney Theatre, *The 25th Annual Premier's Christmas Concert* at the Sydney Entertainment Centre, *Yesterday An Incident Occurred, The Skriker, The Rimers Of Eldritch* and *Chekhov In Hell* for AIM Dramatic Arts. Other productions he has directed for WAAPA include 42nd *Street, Legally Blonde, Merrily We Roll Along, Batboy, Once On This Island, A Chorus Line, How To Succeed In Business Without Really Trying* and Noel Coward's *Easy Virtue.*



MICHAEL TYACK MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Michael began working as a professional musician in 1974 for J.C. Williamsons in Melbourne. He moved to Sydney to conduct the STC's production of *Chicago* then was MD for their productions of The *Stripper, Four Lady Bowlers, Jonah, Company, Merrily We Roll Along, Falsettos, Miracle City* and *Summer Rain* as well as providing music for several of their plays. He has been involved with many major musicals including *Cats, The Phantom Of The Opera, Les Misérables, Miss Saigon, Singin' In The Rain* and others. He has been Musical Director of many shows including *The 20's and All That Jazz, Gershwin, Side By Side By Sondheim, Nunsense, Chess, The Wizard of Oz, Jerry's Girls, Joseph and His Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, High School Musical, The Boy from Oz, Tivoli, The Witches of Eastwick (for which he was awarded a Green Room Award) and the Hugh Jackman tour of <i>The Boy from Oz.* He was also musical director for The Production Company's *Dusty* and *Brigadoon.* Michael was also awarded a Green Room Award for the musical director for several shows at the Hayes Theatre including *Blood Brothers, You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* and the new Australian musicals *The Detective's Handbook* and *Melba.*

Michael's cabaret and concert credits are extensive, having worked with Australian and overseas artists including Sutton Foster, Betty Buckley, Aaron Tveit, Conchita Wurst, Toni Lamond, Philip Quast, David Campbell, Caroline O'Connor, Tim Draxl and Judi Connelli, both here and abroad.



MICHAEL RALPH choreographer

Michael is one of Australia's award-winning choreographers, sought after for his dynamic, unique style and fresh take on theatre story telling. *The Boy from Oz* is Michael's third production as choreographer for The Production Company after *Dusty* (2016) and *West Side Story* (2015).

His musical theatre choreography credits include *Bring it On, A Little Night Music, Chicago, Georgy Girl, Spring Awakening, CrossXroads, Company, NED, Avenue Q, Loving Repeating* (Green Room award), *Our House* (Workshop), *Georgy Girl* (Workshop), *Pacific Overtures, My Fair Lady* and concert versions of *Pippin, Milk and Honey, Flinders Street* and *Happy People.*

His television choreography credits include the upcoming show *Dance Boss* and *So You Think You Can Dance*. Cabaret choreography credits include *The Petticoat Soiree, YUMMY, and Triage.* His dance theatre choreography

credits include *SELF*, which starred Rohan Browne and featured original music by composer Jack Earle. Other self-devised shows *Now and Then* and *Hollywood Honky Tonk* and also *Mood Swing* and *Project Elvis* for Short and Sweet Dance festival.

He recently directed *CAKE* starring Johanna Allen for Adelaide Cabaret Festival. His performing credits include roles in *Cats, Fame The Musical, Moonshadow, Singin' in the Rain* and *The Pirates of Penzance*. Michael's next project is directing and choreographing *Nine* for StageArt.



TIM CHAPPEL COSTUME DESIGNER

Tim's costume design for the feature film *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert* received an Oscar, a BAFTA and an AFI award. Following the international success of Priscilla, Tim continued his work as a designer, working across various mediums including music videos for Cher and Missy Elliott, television series *Dancing With The Stars* and *Australia's Got Talent* and feature films including *Miss Congeniality.*

Tim revisited *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert – The Musical,* earning him a Tony, a NYC Drama Desk award, an Olivier, a Helpmann, a Green Room Award along with Spain's Premios Teatro award and Canada's Dora award.

Tim has worked on stage productions *Sweet Charity* and *Little Shop of Horrors,* for which he was awarded Best Costume Design at the Sydney Theatre Awards. He also has a long relationship with The Production

Company, designing costumes for *Gypsy, The Pirates of Penzance, Guys and Dolls, Funny Girl* and *West Side Story.* Tim designed costumes for the award-winning musical *Dream Lover* and Opera Australia's *Two Weddings, One Bride.* He has also designed costumes for the fourth Islamic Solidarity Games held in Baku, as well as *Vivid White* for MTC.

Most recently Tim designed the costumes for the Australian tour of *Priscilla* and *Dance Boss* for Seven Network.



CHRISTINA SMITH SET DESIGNER

Christina trained at WAAPA and has worked extensively as a set and costume designer for the stage for the last twenty years.

Selected credits include set designs for *Brigadoon, Curtains* and *Nice Work if You Can Get It* for The Production Company, *Madame Butterfly* (Seattle Opera), *La Traviata* (New Zealand Opera), *Gloria, The Architect, Hay Fever (set), The Odd Couple, Elling, Clybourne Park, A Behanding In Spokane, Boston Marriage, Blackbird, Who's Afraid Of Virginia Woolf* (MTC), *Angels in America – Part One: Millenium Approaches, A Streetcar Named Desire, As You Like It, Other Desert Cities, Rising Water* and *The Year Of Magical Thinking* (Black Swan State Theatre Company), *Porn.Cake, Black Medea* (Malthouse Theatre), *Troupers* (STC), *Mother Courage and her Children* (QTC) *The Flying Dutchman* (set), *The Magic Flute* (costumes), *Banquet of*

Secrets, Voyage to the Moon, The Turn of the Screw and Cosi fan tutte (Victorian Opera), Personal Best (costumes) (Australian Ballet), Ruby Moon and Inside 01 (Playbox).

Christina is an APDG, Green Room and Matilda Award Nominee. In 2005 she won the Green Room Award for Theatre Design for *Honour, Daylight Atheist* (MTC) and *Julia 3* (Playbox).



TRENT SUIDGEEST LIGHTING DESIGNER

Trent's lighting designs include Global Creatures/STC's *Muriel's Wedding The Musical*, Opera Australia's acclaimed new *Carmen* and their inaugural presentation on the Sydney Opera House Forecourt Steps: *Sydney Opera House* – *the Opera (The Eighth Wonder)*.

Trent is a regular designer at The Production Company with previous engagements *Jesus Christ Superstar, Dusty* (Melbourne and Adelaide), *Nice Work If You Can Get It, The King and I* and *Kismet.*

Other recent designs include *Talk, Hay Fever, The Accidental Death Of An Anarchist* (STC), *The Homosexuals or Faggots* (Griffin/Malthouse) and a national tour of *Calamity Jane* (Hayes Theatre) with an encore season here at Arts Centre Melbourne in November.

Trent lit the multi-Helpmann Award-winning opera The Rabbits (Opera Australia/Barking Gecko Theatre) which enjoyed a sell-out season

at the Melbourne Festival in 2015. He has recently completed *Kill Climate Deniers* for Griffin Theatre Company, *The Summer of the Seventeenth Doll* for Black Swan Theatre *Company* in Perth and *Gypsy* at the Hayes Theatre in Sydney.



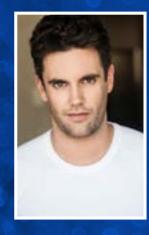
AMY LEHPAMER ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Amy's first show was *Follies* with The Production Company and she recently returned to play Dusty Springfield in *Dusty*. Amy is now delighted to be Assistant Director for *The Boy from Oz*. With leading roles in *The Sound of Music, The Rocky Horror Show, Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, High Society* and *Rock of Ages,* Amy also created and starred in the webseries *Donnatelegrams* for ABC's *Fresh Blood.* Other screen credits include *Utopia, Molly* and *Time of Our Lives.* Amy has received multiple nominations and awards, including a 2018 Helpmann Award for Cynthia Weil in *Beautiful - The Carole King Musical.*



PAUL WHITE ASSISTANT MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Paul has been involved in various capacities with many of the landmark music theatre productions of the last thirty years, often on tour throughout Australasia and Asia. He was Musical Director of several productions of *Cats*, including tours with Delta Goodrem and Lea Salonga (RUG), *A Chorus Line*, directed by Baayork Lee (TML Enterprises), *Oliverl*, starring John Waters (Cameron Mackintosh, IMG), *Annie*, starring Anthony Warlow (Macks Entertainment, SEL, GFO), *Chicago*, starring Caroline O'Connor (IMG), and the all-star production of *Grease – The Arena Spectacular* (SEL, GFO). Now based in Melbourne, Paul is very excited to be making his debut with



JARED BRYAN ASSISTANT CHOREOGRAPHER

The Production Company.

Originally from Hobart, Jared moved to Melbourne at the age of sixteen to train at Dance World Studios.

For The Production Company, he has appeared as Bobby Pepper in *Curtains*, John in *Funny Girl*, Action in *West Side Story*, as one of the apostles in *Jesus Christ Superstar* and as Dance Captain in the recent season of *Oklahoma*!

Other credits include Opera Australia's *Carmen* choreographed by Kelley Abbey, Jack Stone in *Reefer Madness* (Chapel Off Chapel), the Australian tour of *Fiddler on the Roof* (TML Enterprises), *Grease* (GFO) understudying Kenickie and Sonny for the Australian/ Asian tour, *Carmen* and *Madama Butterfly* (Opera Australia), *Anyone Can Whistle, Flinders St – The Musical* and *Hello, Dolly! –* A Jerry Herman Triptych (Magnormos), which he co-choreographed.

Commercially Jared has performed extensively on television, in live events and programs and with artists including Guy Sebastian, Ricki-Lee, Anthony Callea, Jessica Mauboy, Tim Campbell, Todd McKenney and Brian McFadden. He has also appeared in numerous musical videos, television commercials and corporate events.



SYSTEM SOUND ASSOCIATES

SHELLY LEE

Shelly is one of System Sound's top Supervisors. A Bachelor of Science in Electronic Engineering, her career began with System Sound in 1990 with *The Phantom of the Opera*.

With System Sound, she has toured throughout Australia, New Zealand, Japan, South Africa, South America, Korea and China as Sound Associate or Designer.

Productions have included *The Sound of Music, Miss Saigon* (South East Asia, Korea, Australia and New Zealand), *Les Misérables* (South America and Mexico), *Cats* (South Africa, Beirut, Korea), *Oliver!* (Australia & USA), *The Witches of Eastwick*, and *Billy Elliot* in Australia.

Shelly was Associate Designer for the productions of *King Kong* and *Love Never Dies* in Melbourne and Tokyo and the recent World Tours of *The Phantom of the Opera* and *Les Misérables* through Australia, China,

Singapore and Dubai, Associate Designer of *Kinky Boots* and the tours of *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical*, and *Evita*.

JOHN SCANDRETT

John founded System Sound in 1979, since then its teams have engineered the original Australasian production tours of *Cats, The Phantom of the Opera, Les Misérables, Starlight Express, Mamma Mial, The Producers, We Will Rock You, Guys and Dolls, Billy Elliot, Rock of Ages, Love Never Dies, Jersey Boys, Wicked, Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, War Horse, Legally Blonde, King Kong, Once* and others.

System recently completed world tours of *Les Misérables, The Phantom of The Opera* and *Matilda The Musical* and in Australia, *Kinky Boots* and *American Idiot.*

Currently they are touring *The Book of Mormon* and *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical* with the *Jersey Boys* return tour and the Korean production of *Matilda* starting soon.

DAVID LETCH

David has been working with System Sound for some 18 years, in a broad range of musical disciplines, engineering sound in popular & classical music and in musical theatre.

He has been Head of Sound for numerous System Sound production tours throughout Australia, South Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

Productions have included *Cats, Phantom, Spamalot, Wicked, Mary Poppins, Jersey Boys, Legally Blonde, King Kong, and Georgy Girl.*

Recently he toured with *Les Miserables, Kinky Boots* and *Beautiful,* variously as Head Sound Engineer, or Production Sound Engineer.



SONG CREDITS

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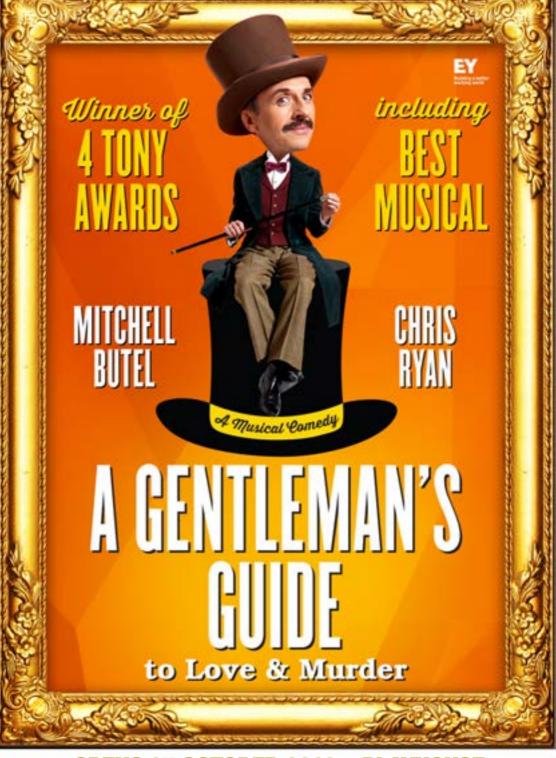
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