


# THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE



 THE PRODUCTION COMPANY

and



present

# THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE

Book by  
**RICHARD MORRIS  
AND DICK SCANLAN**

New Music by  
**JEANINE TESORI**

New Lyrics by  
**DICK SCANLAN**

Original Story and Screenplay by  
**RICHARD MORRIS**  
For the  
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3 to 11 AUGUST, 2019

**ANNIE AITKEN MARINA PRIOR CLAIRE LYON  
QUEENIE VAN DE ZANDT ADAM-JON FIORENTINO NIGEL HUCKLE  
KEITH BROCKETT JONATHAN CHAN ANGELA SCUNDI**

**LUKE ALLEVA NADIA COOTE EMILY CORKERON  
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Musical Director **PETER CASEY AM**

Choreographer **CHRISTOPHER HORSEY**

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Set Designer **CHRISTINA SMITH**

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**THE PRODUCTION COMPANY ORCHESTRA**





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WELCOME TO  
**THOROUGHLY MODERN  
MILLIE...**

*It's 1922, in a city I love, in a musical I adore!*

I am delighted to introduce you to our new leading lady, Annie Aitken. Perhaps you have met her before as Miss Barley, the skating actress in *A Gentleman's Guide to Love & Murder*? Millie Dillmount is a role she was born to play. She leads a cast that includes three other leading ladies - Marina Prior, who is the villainous Mrs Meers, Claire Lyon is the delightful Miss Dorothy Brown and Queenie van de Zandt is the glamorous Muzzy Van Hossmere. And we have not one but two handsome leading men! Adam-Jon Fiorentino is Trevor Graydon and Nigel Huckle is Jimmy Smith. With their superb supporting cast, I can promise you a theatrical experience you won't soon forget.

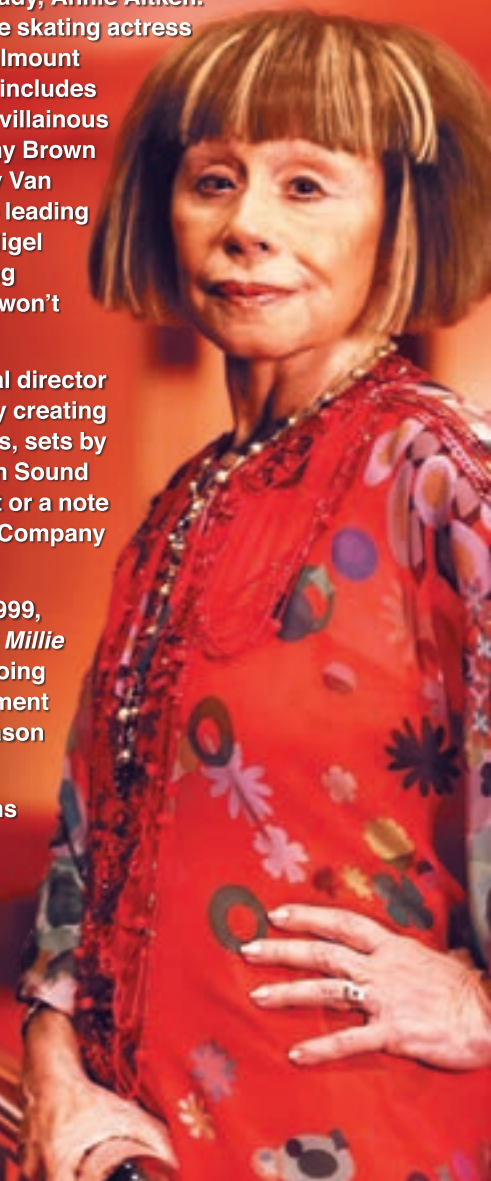
What a delight to have director Chris Parker, musical director Peter Casey and choreographer Christopher Horsey creating this new production. Costumes are by Isaac Lummis, sets by Christina Smith and lighting by Gavan Swift. System Sound makes sure we don't miss a word of this witty script or a note from the sparkling score played by The Production Company Orchestra led by Zoe Black.

ANZ has been a sponsor since our first season in 1999, so in a way this sponsorship of *Thoroughly Modern Millie* is a joint 21st celebration. I greatly value ANZ's ongoing support which stimulates the professional development of artists working in our Company. Truly, a great reason to celebrate!

My grateful thanks to all of our sponsors and patrons and to you, our audience.

*Beat the drums 'cause here comes  
Thoroughly Modern Millie – Now!*

Jeanne Pratt AC  
Chairman  
The Production Company



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#### 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.





# MUSICAL NUMBERS

Set in NYC in 1922. The action takes place in the Hotel Priscilla, the Sincere Trust Insurance Co, the Tie-One-On Club, a jail, Muzzy's penthouse, and Cafe Society.

## ACT I

Overture	ORCHESTRA
Not for the Life of Me	MILLIE
Thoroughly Modern Millie	MILLIE and ENSEMBLE
Not for the Life of Me (Reprise)	RUTH, GLORIA, RITA, ALICE, CORA and LUCILLE
How the Other Half Lives	MISS DOROTHY and MILLIE
Not for the Life of Me (Reprise)	CHING HO and BUN FOO
The Speed Test	MR GRAYDON, MILLIE, MISS FLANNERY and OFFICE WORKERS
They Don't Know	MRS MEERS
The Nuttycracker Suite	MILLIE, MISS DOROTHY, JIMMY, GLORIA, ALICE, RUTH and SPEAKEASY PATRONS
What Do I Need with Love?	JIMMY
Only in New York	MUZZY
Jimmy	MILLIE

## ACT 2

Entr'acte	ORCHESTRA
Forget About the Boy	MILLIE, MISS FLANNERY and TYPISTS
Ah! Sweet Mystery of Life / I'm Falling in Love with Someone	MR GRAYDON and MISS DOROTHY
I Turned the Corner	JIMMY and MILLIE
I'm Falling in Love (Reprise)	MILLIE, JIMMY, MR GRAYDON and MISS DOROTHY
Muquin	MRS MEERS, CHING HO and BUN FOO
Long as I'm Here with You	MUZZY, MILLIE and MUZZY'S BOYS
Gimme Gimme	MILLIE
The Speed Test (Reprise)	MILLIE, MR GRAYDON, JIMMY and MUZZY
Thoroughly Modern Millie	JIMMY, MISS DOROTHY and MODERNS

# CAST OF CHARACTERS

Millie Dillmount	ANNIE AITKEN
Jimmy Smith	NIGEL HUCKLE
Ruth	MIA DABKOWSKI-CHANDLER
Gloria	ANGELINA THOMSON
Rita	CHLOE HONIG
Alice	KALA GARE
Ethel Peas	SAGE DOUGLAS
Cora	MACKENZIE DUNN
Lucille	SUZANNE STEELE
Mrs Meers	MARINA PRIOR
Miss Dorothy Brown	CLAIRE LYON
Ching Ho	KEITH BROCKETT
Bun Foo	JONATHAN CHAN
Miss Flannery	ANGELA SCUNDI
Mr Trevor Graydon	ADAM-JON FIORENTINO
Policeman	RHYS VELASQUEZ
Muzzy Van Hossmere	QUEENIE VAN DE ZANDT
Mathilde	SUZIE MELLO
Kenneth	RUBIN MATTERS
George Gershwin	MATTHEW PRIME
The Pearl Lady	NADIA COOTE
Dorothy Parker	SAGE DOUGLAS
Rodney	ANDREW COSHAN
Muzzy's Boys	LUKE ALLEVA
	ANDREW COSHAN
	JOSH GATES
	RUBIN MATTERS
	MATTHEW PRIME
	RHYS VELASQUEZ
Dishwashers	SAGE DOUGLAS
	CHLOE HONIG
Daphne	EMILY CORKERON
Dexter	ROBBIE SMITH
New Modern	ROMY VUKSAN







# ANNIE AITKEN

## MILLIE DILLMOUNT

Annie is one of the fastest rising stars of the Australian music theatre stage. She made her Production Company debut in *Oklahoma!* in 2018 and returned later that year as Evangeline Barley in the highly acclaimed *A Gentleman's Guide to Love & Murder*.

2018 also saw Annie play Cunégonde in *Candide* at the Sydney Opera House Concert Hall, alongside Alexander Lewis and Caroline O'Connor (Sydney Philharmonia Choirs) for which she won a Broadway World Award for Best Actress in a lead role in an Opera. Last year, she was an original cast member in the world premiere of *Muriel's Wedding: The Musical* (STC/Global Creatures) and capped off the year by winning the prestigious Rob Guest Endowment.

In 2017, Annie originated the lead role of Nellie Melba in *Melba* (Hayes Theatre Company) starring opposite Australia's legendary soprano Emma Matthews. This performance earned her a Sydney Theatre Award nomination for Best Female Actor in a Lead Role in a Musical.

Other professional credits include Bunny in *Sweet Charity* (Tinderbox/Luckiest Productions/Neil Gooding), Chastity in *Anything Goes* (Opera Australia/GFO), Andraste in *Paris: A Rock Odyssey* (MTM) and *The Sound of Music* (GFO/RUG/David Ian).

Annie is a proud VCA 2014 Music Theatre graduate.



# MARINA PRIOR

## MRS MEERS

Marina Prior is known as the Leading Lady of Australia's musical theatre.

Marina's first professional audition resulted in her first lead role - that of Mabel in the Victoria State Opera's *The Pirates of Penzance*. She was subsequently invited to perform the role of Guinevere opposite Richard Harris in *Camelot*. Since then she has performed over thirty lead roles in stage shows throughout Australia, possibly her most memorable being the role Christine Daaé in the original Australian production of *The Phantom of the Opera*, performing this role for three years.

Marina has previously performed four roles for The Production Company, Annie Oakley in *Annie Get Your Gun*, Miss Adelaide in *Guys And Dolls*, Muriel Eubanks in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* and Dolly Levi in *Hello, Dolly!*

Other roles include Jellylorum in the Australian premiere of *Cats*, Cosette in the Australian premiere of *Les Misérables*, Hope Harcourt in *Anything Goes*, Maria in *West Side Story*, Lily in *The Secret Garden*, Magnolia in *Show Boat*, the title role of *The Merry Widow*, Jane Smart in *The Witches Of Eastwick*, Belinda Blair in the comedy *Noises Off*, Mary O'Hara in *Harp On The Willow*, Mrs Banks in *Mary Poppins*, Baroness Schraeder in *The Sound of Music* and the roles of Polly and Mary in *Dream Lover*.

For MTC, Marina has played the roles of Rona Lisa Peretti in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, Elmore in *The Hypocrite*, Frances in *Jumpy* and Judith Bliss in *Hay Fever*.

Marina has performed with symphony orchestras throughout Australia, including a critically acclaimed Australasian concert tour with superstar tenor José Carreras.

Marina's television credits include *Carols by Candlelight*, a judge on Channel Seven's *It Takes Two* and Iris in The ABC series *The Divorce*.

Marina has recorded eight CDs: *Leading Lady*, *Aspects of Andrew Lloyd Webber*, *Somewhere – The Songs of Sondheim and Bernstein*, *Both Sides Now*, *Encore*, *Candlelight Christmas*, *Together* - a duet album with Mark Vincent and *The Two of Us* - a duet album with David Hobson.

In 1999, Marina was guest of honour for the television program *This Is Your Life*. Throughout her career, she has received numerous awards including the Advance Australia Award for her contribution to the performing arts and was inducted into Australia's 100 Entertainers of the Century.



## CLAIRE LYON

MISS DOROTHY BROWN

Claire Lyon commenced her professional career with Opera Australia. Her roles there included Barbarina in *The Marriage of Figaro* and Ida in *Die Fledermaus*. She also toured nationally with their production of *My Fair Lady*.

Claire went on to star as Christine Daaé in the world tour of *The Phantom of the Opera*. Claire has performed in both *The Phantom of the Opera* and its sequel, *Love Never Dies*.

Other leading roles include Hope Harcourt in *Anything Goes* (Gordon Frost) - Helpmann nomination, Josephine in *HMS Pinafore* (MTC) and for The Production Company, Claire in *Jerry's Girls* and Mabel in *The Pirates of Penzance* for which she received a Green Room Award nomination.

Twice Claire has performed alongside Josh Groban as guest artist on the Australian legs of his world tours and, more recently, performed in concerts with Michael Cormick and David Hobson at Arts Centre Melbourne and the Sydney Town Hall.

Claire's debut solo album *On Stage*, features some of her favourite Broadway hits including songs from *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Love Never Dies* and *My Fair Lady*.



## QUEENIE VAN DE ZANDT

MUZZY VAN HOSSMERE

Muzzy Van Hossmere is Queenie's debut with The Production Company. She is renowned for her versatility as a performer in musical theatre, plays, cabaret, television and film and as a recording artist, comedienne and writer.

Roles in television include *Very Small Business* and *Da Kath & Kim Code* (ABC). She appeared in the Australian feature film *Girl Clock*. Theatre roles include *Women of Troy* and *Abigail's Party*, musical theatre roles include *Into the Woods*, *Funny Girl* and *King Kong* and, in cabaret, *Snow Peas & Hummus* and *Smoke & Mirrors*.

Through Amazon Woman Enterprises, Queenie develops and performs her own original work. Highlights include two albums, her award-winning show *BLUE: The Songs of Joni Mitchell* (written with musical

director, Max Lambert) and projects involving her cult alter ego Jan van de Stool.

In 2015 Queenie co-founded The Australian Musical Theatre Academy (AMTA). She also specialises in teaching audition technique for musicals. Queenie has been nominated for eighteen major theatre awards for her work in musicals and cabaret, winning six times.

## ADAM-JON FIORENTINO

TREVOR GRAYDON

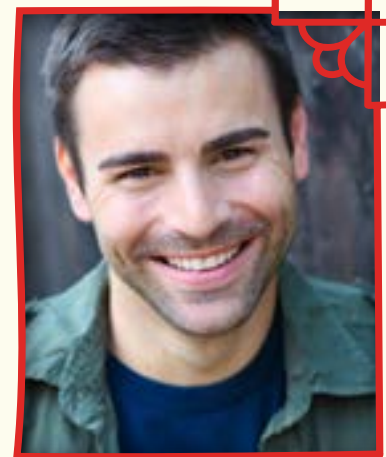
Adam-Jon has starred on stage and screen, recently completing a two-year engagement as Kassim in the Australian national tour of the Disney musical, *Aladdin*. He also recently appeared as Munoz in *City of Angels*. For The Production Company, Adam has previously appeared as Bernardo in *West Side Story*.

Internationally, his extensive stage work includes Bert in *Mary Poppins* at the New Amsterdam Theatre in New York, Young Ben in *Follies* at the London Palladium, Nicky in *I Sing* at the Union Theatre and Tony Manero in *Saturday Night Fever* at the Apollo Victoria, all on London's West End.

His television credits include series two of *Wolf Creek* for STAN, the comedy *Back in Very Small Business* for the ABC Network, *Neighbours*, *The Tribe*, *Life Support*, *Sock Monkey Therapy*, *Lucky 13* and the comedy/drama *Playing for Keeps* for Channel 10. He was most recently seen on screen in the Channel 10 Series, *Five Bedrooms*.

Adam's US screen credits include *30 Rock*, *The Tribe* and *The Sherri Shepherd Show* as well as *Hollyoaks In the City* for Channel 4 UK. Adam's feature film credits include *Our Brand is Crisis* and *Balloon Party*.

His future roles include Valentin in MTC's *Kiss of the Spider Woman*.



## NIGEL HUCKLE

JIMMY SMITH

Nigel is an Australian-born American actor and singer based in Melbourne. He is elated to be returning to The Production Company, where he made his Australian musical theatre debut as Barnaby in *Hello, Dolly!* in 2017.

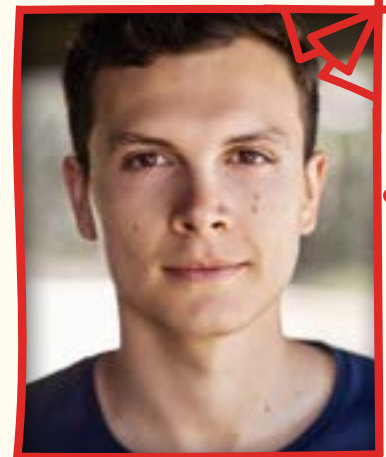
Nigel has performed in venues across the world, most notably with the international touring company of Cameron Mackintosh's *Les Misérables* in 2016, which included an inaugural season at the Dubai Opera. Nigel has appeared as Nick in *The Handmaid's Tale* with Gertrude Opera, as The Ziegfeld Tenor in *Funny Girl* with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, and as Lt. Cable in *South Pacific* at the Utah Shakespeare Festival.

He is a member of the Australian Platinum-selling group The TEN Tenors, having toured in the United States, Germany, New Zealand and Australia. He can be heard on The TEN Tenors' new album *Love Is in the Air*.

Nigel holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Musical Theatre from Shenandoah Conservatory. He sends his thanks to the incredible team at IWM and is a proud member of MEAA Equity.

[www.nigelhuckle.com](http://www.nigelhuckle.com),

t/i @nigelhuckle







## KEITH BROCKETT

CHING HO

Born in the UK, Keith trained as an actor at the National Theatre and the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art. A series regular in the television cult hit *The Librarians*, for which the cast won Best Comedy Ensemble at the 2011 Equity Awards and Ronny Chieng: International Student, Keith has appeared in *Five Bedrooms*, *Bloom*, *Seven Types of Ambiguity* and *True Story with Hamish and Andy*.

In 2018, he played maths prodigy (and clueless wizard!) Oliver Rivers in the off-Broadway hit *Puffs; or Seven Increasingly Eventful Years at a Certain School of Magic & Magic*. Other credits include *Happy Ending* for MTC, *Title and Deed* and Tim Winton's *Shrine*.

Keith is delighted to be working on *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, his first appearance with The Production Company.



## JONATHAN CHAN

BUN FOO

Jonathan trained at The University of Wollongong with a Bachelor of Creative Arts (Performance: Theatre).

Theatre highlights include The Production Company's *The King & I*, and National Tours of *The Peasant Prince* (Dia/Others), *Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes* (Masahiro/Father) and four productions with The Australian Theatre of the Deaf. Internationally, he was a member of *The Three Waiters* and was a principal artist at *The Venetian*, Macau.

In London, credits include *It's a Bird...It's a Plane...It's Superman*: West End Transfer (Father Ling), *The Last Days of Limehouse* (Stanley Lim), *Turandot Reimagined* (Madarin/Timur) and *The Secret Island* (Uncle Huat).

Television appearances include *Wok* (UK), *TFI Friday* (Channel 4, UK), *Old School* (ABC), *Hamster Wheel* (ABC) and *The Ronnie Johns Half Hour* (TEN).



## ANGELA SCUNDI

MISS FLANNERY

Angela is thrilled to be returning to The Production Company having previously performed in *The Boy Friend* and *The Producers*.

A graduate of NIDA, Angela's theatre credits include Lucinda in *Into The Woods* (VO), Ilsa in *Spring Awakening* (STC), Suki Tawdry in *The Threepenny Opera* (STC) and Susan/Karessa in *Tick Tick Boom...* (Pursued By Bear). Angela has performed as Phantom, Magenta and Columbia in *The Rocky Horror Show* for GFO, TML and Newtheatricals, Candy Starr in *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest* (Monster Media), Cindy-Lou in *The Marvelous Wonderettes* (Monster Media), Cherry in *Cherry Smoke* (Sol III Productions) and in *No Regrets – A Tribute to Edith Piaf* (Singtheatre, Singapore).

Angela was a top 6 finalist in the 2014 Rob Guest Endowment.

# THE PRODUCTION COMPANY ORCHESTRA



Leader / Violin 1  
**ZOE BLACK**

Violins  
**MIRANDA MATHESON**  
**ISABEL HEDE**

Cello  
**LAUREN JENNINGS**

Bass  
**SHANNON BIRCHALL**

Reed 1  
**TONY HICKS**

Reed 2  
**TIM WILSON**

Reed 3  
**LUKE CARBON**

Reed 4  
**MELISSA EDWARDS**

Trumpet 1  
**DANIEL BEASY**

Trumpet 2  
**CALLUM G'FROERER**

Trumpet 3  
**SARAH HENDERSON**

Trombone 1  
**KIERAN CONRAU**

Trombone 2  
**SIMON 'ROCK' SCERRI**

Horn  
**ANTON SCHROEDER**

Guitar  
**MARCUS KURBAN**

Harp  
**JULIE RAINES OAM**

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# “CHIC, UNIQUE and quite ADORABLE”

**FRANK VAN STRATEN** DISCOVERS HOW A THOROUGHLY  
MAGNIFICENT MOVIE BECAME A GREAT BIG BROADWAY HIT.

Someone once said, ‘A good idea doesn’t care who has it.’ That’s certainly true when it comes to *Thoroughly Modern Millie*.

The 1967 Hollywood film starred Julie Andrews at her peaches-and-cream best. But, for a gloriously colourful hit, it had an unusually murky past.

One of the trails leads back to the little New Lindsey Theatre club in the inner London suburb of Notting Hill. There *Chrysanthemum*, ‘a melodrama with music’, opened in 1956. It had a score by Robb Stewart, Noel Coward’s musical assistant, and a cast that included Frank Lloyd and Colin Croft, both of whom later contributed notably to entertainment in Australia, and Patricia Moore, who toured this country as Eliza in *My Fair Lady* in 1960.

The show chronicled the misadventures of the irresistible *Chrysanthemum* Brown who goes out one morning to get the milk – and vanishes. After being whisked away by the wicked Ma Carrotty and dumped into the opium dens of Limehouse and the dirty dives of Buenos Aires, *Chrysanthemum* returns to London where virtue triumphs and all ends happily. The show was rapturously received, but the expected West End transfer did not materialise.

Following two years in mothballs, *Chrysanthemum* re-emerged at the Opera House in Manchester. An extensive provincial tour culminated in a successful run at the Prince of Wales Theatre in the West End, so successful, in fact, that it was picked up for a production at the Royal Poinciana Playhouse at Palm Beach, California, in 1962. Gower Champion wanted to take it to Broadway, but by then the rights were in a legal muddle. A rumoured film deal fell through too. After that, *Chrysanthemum* wilted. But it didn’t quite die.

Sometime in 1966 Richard Henry Morris presented Universal Studios producer Ross Hunter with an ‘original’ screenplay for a comedy without music called *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. We don’t know if Hunter realised that Morris’ plot was virtually *Chrysanthemum* all over again, but we do know he was intrigued. He’d loved *The Boy Friend*, a British musical spoof of the Twenties, and its star, Julie Andrews, when he’d seen them on Broadway in 1954. He’d wanted to do a film version but MGM had tied up the rights.

Though he liked Morris’ comedy, Hunter thought it would work better as a *Boy Friend* style musical – and, of course, it would make an ideal vehicle for Julie Andrews. Fortunately, Miss Andrews liked the idea. ‘I thought it would be the last chance I’d have to do the ingénue,’ she reminisced. ‘After all, when you’re thirty-one, how many more chances can you have? So I thought I’d have a last fling at the part.’

So Julie Andrews became Millie Dillmount.

Hunter signed George Roy Hill as director and started working with Morris to turn his screenplay into a musical.

They decided to use many original Twenties tunes – *Baby Face* and *Poor Butterfly* for instance – but some new ones were needed, especially a title song. Hunter approached Oscar winners Sammy Cahn and Jimmy Van Heusen. Cahn was incredulous: ‘He can’t want a song called *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. Sing it? I can’t even say it!’ The song that the pair concocted incorporated the title phrase once, but Hunter hated it and told them to try again. ‘Write a second? Snapped Cahn. ‘I never believed we could write a first!’ But they did. With its catchy tune

and playful lyrics, *Thoroughly Modern Millie* was nominated for an Academy Award.

Hunter surrounded Julie Andrews with some exceptional talent. There were two notable screen debuts; television star Mary Tyler Moore as Miss Dorothy Brown and Broadway icon Carol Channing as Muzzy Van Hossmere. The leading men were suitably handsome: James Fox as Jimmy Smith and John Gavin as Trevor Graydon. And the veteran Canadian-born eccentric Beatrice Lillie played Mrs Meers. It was her last film. The early stages of Alzheimer’s disease made it difficult for her to remember her lines, so Julie Andrews would stand off camera and cue her.

*Thoroughly Modern Millie* was a huge hit. It was one of the top ten films of 1967 and contributed to the temporary resurgence of the made-for-the screen musical. All of which, understandably, greatly aggrieved the young British creators of *Chrysanthemum*, but they had no hope of challenging the ‘might is right’ of Hollywood. After a couple of amateur productions, their amiable musical spoof was forgotten, save for a rare original cast album, which was re-released on CD a few years ago.

The film, however, continued to delight audiences on television and video. It was a particular favourite of Richard Scanlan, an actor, comedian, female impersonator and columnist. Desperately ill with AIDS, he watched it repeatedly – first as entertainment, then as an inspiration to try to conquer the disease.

To Scanlan, *Millie* was not merely a lot of fun: ‘I’d watch it over and over, and I was struck that for a movie that is perceived as silly, it has six principal characters who have profound objectives to change their lives in some way. You have *Millie*, this girl from nowhere, who has the same feeling about New York City that I always had as a kid – that it is a place that you can go and become the person that you’ve always felt you were inside. In a sense, what she is doing is coming out.’

In 1991 Scanlan finally summoned the nerve to telephone Richard Morris, who owned the rights. When Scanlan suggested they collaborate on adapting the film for Broadway, Morris hung up. Eventually Scanlan contrived a face-to-face meeting. ‘He liked me right away,’ said Scanlan. ‘He completely trusted his intuition. We had so much in common – we were both 6 foot 2 Irish Catholics whose first name was Dick. But they shared more than that. Both faced life-threatening illnesses. Morris had cancer and he had just learned that it was worsening, spreading from his bladder to his lungs. Scanlan’s AIDS, meanwhile, was responding well to new drugs. Work on the musical would be a unique form of therapy for both of them. As they worked, their bond grew deeper. ‘I asked him if he’d ever been in love,’ recalls Scanlan. ‘He said, “I don’t think so.” And then he got quiet for a moment and then he said, ‘No, I think I have been in love.’ And he pointed at me.

In 1996, shortly after finishing the first draft, Morris died. A few months later *Millie* was showcased at



MILLIE CAST 2006 State Theatre

Left to right (back row)  
RENEE BURLEIGH, JUSTINE PUY, BROOKE LOWREY,  
JOANNA FRIPP, CARLA MCCALLUM, ZOE GERTZ,

Left to right (front row)  
CINDY PRITCHARD, CHLOE DALLIMORE as Millie  
ELIZA TARPEY, EMMA CALLAGHAN, NICOLE MELLO



the National Alliance for Musical Theatre festival of new works. Its reception encouraged Scanlan to persevere. He poured his savings into workshops and industry readings. The show that emerged was not just an adaptation of the film - it was a 're-imagining.' 'It's very changed,' says Scanlan. 'Probably of all the movies-to-musicals that I know, it's the most re-thought. The spirit of the movie is there and the basic plot is the same, but it's really sort of a moment to moment basis - there are large sections of it that differ greatly from the movie.'

As for the score, only the movie's title song was retained. Scanlan wrote the lyrics for ten new numbers, for which Jeanine Tesori provided the music. As well there were affectionate nods to vintage favourites by Gilbert and Sullivan, Victor Herbert and Tchaikovsky.

*Thoroughly Modern Millie* bounced onto the stage of the La Jolla Playhouse's Mandell Weiss Theatre at San Diego, California, on 10 October 2000. In his *Curtain Up* review, David Lohrey called it 'a fast paced delight destined for bigger things.' Lohrey suggested that it should not be compared with the film. 'Instead, I recommend a comparison to the generation of Broadway musicals that have dominated musical theatre for the past twenty-some years. Think of any one of the musical melodramas of Andrew Lloyd Webber... then see *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. It is like viewing a Frank Lloyd Wright structure for the first time. Sleek, polished, trim, airy, light, dazzling - *Thoroughly Modern Millie* is the antithesis of grand. It is a musical in the tradition of *The Pajama Game* and *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*. It is a celebration in song of grand ambition, American-style. *Thoroughly Modern Millie* is, obviously, deliciously inane. The plot makes about as much sense as a Charlie Chan episode. But who cares? The whole thing rises or falls on style, not substance.'

Julie Andrews and Mary Tyler Moore were in the audience when *Millie* opened at Broadway's Marquis Theatre on 18 April 2002. *Curtain Up*'s Elyse Sommer agreed with her West Coast colleague. 'This "brand new musical" has considerably more sparkle and bounce than its source. It's fun, funny and inventively staged and has enough going for it to insure a lengthy stage at the Marquis - the same theatre where not

too many years ago Julie Andrews made a last and much praised appearance in another stage version of one of her films, *Victor/Victoria*.'

*Millie* notched up 903 performances on Broadway. It was nominated for eleven Tony Awards and twelve Drama Desk awards, making it the most honoured show of that season. It went on to take the coveted 2002 Tony for Best Musical. A national tour was launched in Kansas City in July 2003. When the London production opened at the Shaftsbury Theatre on 21 October 2003, the BBC's critic Mark Shenton called it 'A throwback to an old-fashioned style of musical comedy that is a crowd-pleasing delight.' It ran merrily in the West End until June 2004.

Two years later, The Production Company presented the Australian premiere of *Thoroughly Modern Millie* at Arts Centre Melbourne in October 2006. Chloe Dallimore starred as Millie, David Harris was Jimmy, Debra Byrne Muzzy Van Hossmere, Lucy Durack Miss Dorothy Brown, Adam Murphy Mr Trevor Graydon and Nicki Wendt was Mrs Meers.

Jim Murphy in his review for *The Age* wrote 'this production of *Thoroughly Modern Millie* is a credit to all involved. It should be running for six months instead of six performances. The snap and style imparted by the splendid cast and by Roger Hodgman's immaculately timed direction, Dana Jolly's exuberant choreography, Richard Jeziorny's handsome set design and Victoria Rowell's colourful costumes put this Australian premiere right up there with The Production Company's greatest successes.'

And now that chic, unique and quite adorable Miss Dillmount is back.

**FRANK VAN STRATEN AM is a performing arts historian, author and former director of Arts Centre Melbourne's Australian Performing Arts Collection. The most recent of his many books is Her Majesty's Theatre, Melbourne - The Shows, the Stars, the Stories, published in 2018.**

## LUKE ALLEVA

MUZZY'S BOY



Luke is an actor, dancer, and sought-after choreographer. Most recently, he was featured in the Immersive *Dirty Dancing* tour. Production Company audiences will remember Luke as Eddie Ryan in *Funny Girl*. Other TPC credits include Al Saxon in *Dusty*, Jimmy in *The Boy Friend*, *42nd Street*, *Little Me*, *The Boy from Oz* and *Guys and Dolls*.

Other stage highlights include *Man of La Mancha*, *We Will Rock You*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Guys & Dolls*, *Mamma Mia!*, *Xanadu*, *A Chorus Line*, *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* and dance captain for *Moonshadow*. Luke performed on the West End with *We Will Rock You*, *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 international cruise ships.

[www.lucaentertainmentproductions.com](http://www.lucaentertainmentproductions.com)

## NADIA COOTE

THE PEARL LADY



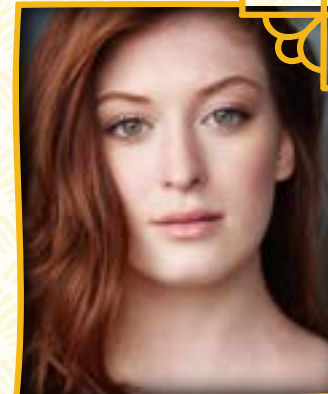
Nadia is thrilled to be returning to The Production Company after appearing in *The Boy from Oz* in 2018.

Having originated the role of Penny in the World Premiere of *Dirty Dancing* in Australia and New Zealand, Nadia then played this role in London's West End for five years. She went on to reprise Penny for the Ten-Year Anniversary production making a grand total of 2537 shows! Her other theatre credits include *Singin' in the Rain* as the Broadway Melody soloist and understudy for Lina Lamont, Baz Luhrmann's World Premiere of *Strictly Ballroom The Musical* as the dazzling Tina Sparkle, *Sunset Boulevard* (In Concert), Harley Davidson Festival Australia/Japan Tour, *Children In Need* (BBC London) and *On The Lark* (Shane Warne). A career highlight for Nadia was working alongside Barry Humphries in his Dame Edna Production, *Eat Pray Laugh*.

Nadia tapped her way into the action feature film *Dhoom 3* with Aamir Khan choreographed by Dein Perry. She has also worked on CNNN, Fat Pizza, as Lead Adagio Act for Carnival and coached the Rhythmic Gymnastics for the Special Olympics.

## EMILY CORKERON

DAPHNE



Prior to completing a Bachelor of Musical Theatre at the Queensland Conservatorium in 2018, Emily gained her Diploma of Classical and Contemporary Dance and her ARAD at the Australian Dance Performance Institute. During her time studying ballet full-time, Emily performed in the ensemble with Queensland Ballet, Expressions Dance Company, and the Royal Ballet as a supernumerary in *Wheeldon's Winter's Tale*.

Earlier this year, Emily performed in *Sweet Charity* (Understudy Productions) at the Brisbane Powerhouse as Frenchie/Dance Captain. Other credits include Kathy in *Company*, Carmen/Dance Captain in *Fame the Musical*, *West Side Story* and Sarah/Dance Captain in *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* (QCGU).





## ANDREW COSHAN

RODNEY

After graduating from WAAPA's music theatre course in 2018, New Zealand-born Andrew is thrilled to be making his Australian musical theatre debut in The Production Company's *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. Andrew recently made his Australian main stage debut, performing the role of Rodolpho in MTC's critically acclaimed production of *A View From The Bridge*.

Andrew's previous theatre credits include Billy Bigelow in *Carousel*, Benny in *In The Heights*, Link Larkin in *Hairspray*, Pepper in *Mamma Mia!*, Fyedkia in *The Fiddler on the Roof*, Jack in *The Lord of the Flies*, Nicholas Chatman in *PUNKROCK*, Les Misérables, *The Phantom of the Opera*, *42nd St*, *Sunday in the Park with George*, *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*, *Footloose*, *John and Jen* and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*.

Andrew's theatrical awards include the WAAPA Finlay Award in 2017 and 2018, the Bellingham Wallace Emerging Talent Award at the 2016 AIMES Awards and the Best Upcoming Talent Scholarship at the 2016 Otago Southland Theatre Awards.



## MIA DABKOWSKI-CHANDLER

RUTH

Born in Melbourne, Mia is a 2015 graduate of the VCA with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Music Theatre. Shortly after graduating, she made her professional debut in the original Australian cast of Disney's *Aladdin the Musical*. Most recently, Mia has been touring Australia playing the role of Lorraine in *Jersey Boys* (New Theatricals).

Mia choreographed Cosmos' *Midnights* music video *Mind Off* (Sony Music) and also played the role of Tess in *The Fall of Eve*, an online web series.

Mia is thrilled to be making her Production Company debut and would like to thank her devoted family, friends and agents at Ian White Management for their ongoing support.



## SAGE DOUGLAS

ETHEL PEAS

Hailing from Melbourne, Sage began her training at Centrestage Performing Arts School and went on to receive a Bachelor of Arts (Music Theatre) from WAAPA in 2010. She most recently appeared in the Australian tour of *Jersey Boys*, swinging the three female leads.

For The Production Company, roles include Anybodys in *West Side Story*, *Funny Girl* and *Jesus Christ Superstar*.

Other credits include *The Wizard of Oz* (Wicked Witch/Aunt Em cover), *A Fine Romance: The Magic of Fred Astaire*, *Heathers*, Val in *A Chorus Line*, *Nine*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Loving Repeating* and *The Damned* by Reg Cribb.

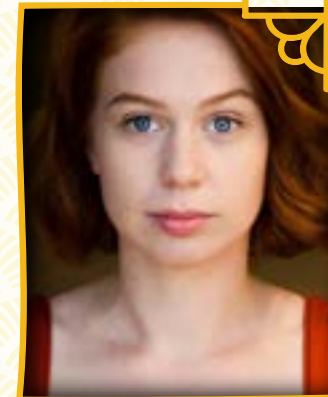
Sage wishes to thank everyone at IWM, and she dedicates this performance to her mum, Kaye.

## MACKENZIE DUNN

CORA

Originally from Perth, Mackenzie is a 2017 WAAPA graduate with a Bachelor of Arts (Music Theatre). Shortly after graduating Mackenzie made her professional debut in Black Swan State Theatre Company's production of *Summer of the Seventeenth Doll* in the role of Bubba Ryan followed by the role of Squeaky Fromme in *Assassins*, also with Black Swan State Theatre Company. Mackenzie won Best Newcomer in Theatre (2018) at the Performing Arts Awards WA for her work in these two productions.

Mackenzie played the role of Francine in the National Tour of *Jersey Boys* Australia and most recently was the Elly Understudy/Teenage Girl Ensemble Swing in The Production Company's 2019 Australian Premiere of *Lazarus*.



## KALA GARE

ALICE

Kala is a Melbourne based singer, actor, musician and songwriter with a BFA in Music Theatre from the VCA.

Her theatre credits include Sophie De Palma in Terence McNally's *Masterclass* (Andrew Kay Productions), Maureen in *Rent* (Chapel Off Chapel), Olivia in *Twelfth Night* (MTC) and Anastasia Steele in *50 Shades!* (David Venn Enterprises). Kala is also a classically trained musician with a Diploma in classical piano.

As a Musical Director, credits include *Songs for Swingin' Lovers!* (Chapel Off Chapel) and *Legally Blonde Junior* (Performing Artists Company).

Kala is thrilled to be making her debut with The Production Company.



## JOSH GATES

MUZZY'S BOY

Originally from Hobart, Josh started his career understudying the role of a young Peter Allen in *The Boy From Oz* starring Hugh Jackman. He then performed the title role in *Billy Elliot the Musical* in Melbourne and Sydney, which won him a Green Room Award for Best Actor in a Musical and an Australian Dance Award.

For The Production Company Josh has performed in *Lazarus* and *La Cage aux Folles*. Other roles include the Purser in the 2015 Australian tour of *Anything Goes* (Opera Australia/GFO), Bellhop/Bootblack in *Born Yesterday* (MTC), the Australian tour of the 60th anniversary production of *My Fair Lady* (Opera Australia/GFO, directed by Julie Andrews) and in the 2017/18 reimagined production of *Mamma Mia! The Musical* (Gannon/Fox).

Josh is so excited to be returning to The Production Company in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*.







## CHLOE HONIG

RITA

Originally from Tasmania, Chloe is a recent graduate of the VCA with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Music Theatre. During her time there, she performed in *Morning Melodies* as an ensemble member and featured singer in 2017 and 2018, at a Sofitel Corporate Event as a featured singer in 2017, as an ensemble member in the Australian premiere of *Vivid White* in 2017 (MTC), played the role of the assistant choreographer Lauren in *A Chorus Line* covering the role of Cassie and most recently played Rapunzel in the VCA production of *Into The Woods*. Chloe was also the grateful recipient of the 2018 Dobell Foundation Industry Award.

Chloe is thrilled to be making her professional debut with The Production Company.



## RUBIN MATTERS

KENNETH

Rubin studied at the VCA Secondary School, Ministry of Dance and Howard Fine Acting Studio. For The Production Company he has appeared in *Hello, Dolly!*, *Dusty* and *Show Boat*. Other performance credits include *Diesel* in *West Side Story* (Handa Opera on Sydney Harbour/Opera Australia), *The Wizard of Oz* (GFO), the world premiere of *Georgy Girl - The Seekers Musical* (Farrelly Productions), *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* (TML Enterprises) and Michael Ralph's *Hollywood Honky-Tonk* (Giving Productions).

Rubin was the recipient of the Playbill Future Prospect Award from the Rob Guest Endowment in 2015. He is a proud member of Actors Equity and would like to thank his family and his agents at Morrissey Management for their continued love and support.

Rubin is thrilled to be returning to The Production Company in Millie!



## SUZIE MELLOY

MATHILDE & ASSISTANT CHOREOGRAPHER

Suzie began dancing at the age of five with Julie Cattach, and continued learning from Barbara Lynch throughout her childhood. She then studied full-time dance with Robert Sturrock. After performing in Australia, Asia and Germany in dance contracts, Suzie moved to Perth to obtain a Bachelor of Arts in Music Theatre from WAAPA. Performances there included Anita in *West Side Story*, Dance Captain/Placard Girl in *Reefer Madness*, Pearl Lady in *Thoroughly Modern Millie* and ensemble in *Hair* and *Merrily We Roll Along*.

Since leaving WAAPA, her credits have included Dance Captain/Ensemble in *Anything Goes* (OA/GFO), *Loving Repeating* (VTC), *We Will Rock You* (GFO), Bombularina in *Cats* (GWB/ Really Useful Group) and Passepartout in *Around the World in 80 Days* (Hit Productions).

Suzie recently choreographed *Waist Watchers* (Hit Productions). She is thrilled to be involved in *Thoroughly Modern Millie* and dedicates her performance in this show to her fiancé Jan Di Pietro.

## MATTHEW PRIME

GEORGE GERSHWIN



Hailing from Adelaide, Matthew graduated from the VCA with a BFA in Music Theatre in 2018. While at VCA, Matthew was a featured soloist in VCA's *Morning Melodies* for 2017 and 2018 presented by Arts Centre Melbourne at Hamer Hall. Other credits while at VCA include Mike in *A Chorus Line* and John Proctor in *The Crucible*. In 2018, Matthew made his professional debut with *Jersey Boys*. Matthew is looking forward to making his Production Company debut in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*.

## ROBBIE SMITH

DEXTER



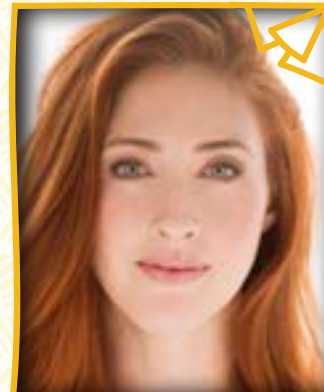
Robbie has recently returned to Melbourne after several years working in London. He co-created the award-winning cabaret *The Worst Little Warehouse in London*, which toured Australia, London and the UK winning Best Cabaret (Bank SA Weekly) at this year's Adelaide Fringe Festival and was nominated for Best Musical and Best Cabaret at the 2018 Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

Whilst in London he performed in numerous productions including originating the role of Dick in the new musical *Bromance* (The Other Palace, London), *Tony in On The Piste* (Studio Jack London), *The Beast in Beauty and The Beast* (Watford Palace Theatre), Jack in *Jack and The Beanstalk* (Shaw Theatre) and Rudy in *Musical Of The Year* (Lost Theatre London).

Robbie is delighted to be making his debut with The Production Company.

## SUZANNE STEELE

LUCILLE



Suzanne's passion for performing began at an early age in Brisbane under the instruction of Lenore Robbins and the Australian Acting Academy. She is a graduate of The Queensland Ballet's QDSE and Dance World Studios.

For The Production Company she has appeared in *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Hello, Dolly!* and *Funny Girl*. Other theatre credits include *She Loves Me*, *Dream Lover the Musical*, Hugh Jackman's Arena Tour *Broadway to Oz*, *The Rocky Horror Show* (Janet, Magenta, Columbia Cover), the original Australian Tour of *Wicked* (Nessarose Cover), Barry Humphries' 50th Anniversary Australian Tour *Back With A Vengeance*, Universal Studios Japan and headline singer for corporate events (Crown, SMA Productions).

Suzanne performed in the Opening and Closing ceremonies of the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games with artists such as Delta Goodrem, Guy Sebastian, Ricki-Lee, Anthony Callea and Samantha Jade. She is thrilled to be invited back by The Production Company. Suzanne is a proud member of the MEAA.

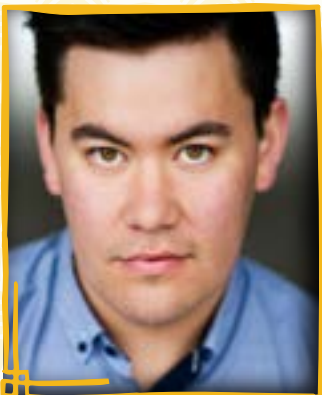




## ANGELINA THOMSON

### GLORIA

After graduating with a Bachelor of Musical Theatre from the Queensland Conservatorium, Griffith University, Angelina made her professional debut as a swing in the Australian premiere production of *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical* (Michael Cassel Company). She went on to perform in Opera Australia's production of *West Side Story* on Sydney Harbour as Consuelo and Anita cover then played the role of Megan Jones in the play, *PUFFS*.



## RHYS VELASQUEZ

### POLICEMAN

Rhys started dance at the age of seven at the Performance Plus Dance Centre in Queensland. In 2011, he relocated to Victoria to study music theatre at the University of Ballarat Arts Academy.

Rhys' stage credits include two seasons of *Mad World*, four seasons of *PAW Patrol Live* as Swing, Dance Captain and Associate Choreographer, *Dreamgirls*, *MinerChef* at Sovereign Hill Museum and *Carrie – The Musical* playing Freddy.

Rhys has an extensive CV as a choreographer. His shows include *For Love of Money*, *The Songs of Alan Menken*, *The Full Monty* and *Titanic – The Musical*.

*Thoroughly Modern Millie* marks Rhys' debut performance with The Production Company and he would like to thank his agents, Karen & Dior

and his family and friends for their ongoing support. Rhys dedicates his performance to the late Mrs Isabel Larcombe for her love and guidance.



## ROMY VUKSAN

### NEW MODERN

Romy trained from a young age in all aspects of the performing arts at The Ritz Performing Arts Centre. Originally from Brisbane, she moved to Melbourne in 2013 and was awarded a full scholarship to Jason Coleman's Ministry of Dance Fulltime Course.

Romy recently returned from originating a lead role in Warren Carlyle's *Havana* on board the brand new NCL Bliss. Other performing credits include *Immersive Cinemas: Dirty Dancing*, Resident Choreographer for *Legends In Concert* from Las Vegas, and *West Side Story* for The Production Company in 2015.

She has worked alongside some of Australia's best choreographers including Jason Coleman, The Squared Division, Marko Panzic, Yvette Lee, Michael Ralph and Kelley Abbey.

Romy is thrilled to be returning to The Production Company stage.

# THANK YOU

**PHOTOGRAPHY** COLIN PAGE and JEFF BUSBY

**COSTUME MAKERS** Freya Barrett Melinda Brodie Janice Chalmers  
Ellen Figgis Jo Foley Tirion Rodwell Tristan Seebom Susan Skinner  
Madeleine Somers Jane Summers-Eve Alice Swing

**HATS** Phillip Rhodes

**WARDROBE BUYER** Deb Hallam

**PLEATING** Simon Zdraveski Speciality Pleaters

**PROP MAKER** Jevon Scowcroft Ellison

## SECONDMENTS

**Stage Management** Benjamin Cronin (VCA)



Costume drawings  
Isaac Lummis





## CHRIS PARKER

DIRECTOR

Chris is Musical Theatre graduate from WAAPA. After graduation, he played the roles of Sky in *Mamma Mia!*, Johnny Slocum in *Summer Rain* at the STC and Alec for the World Premiere of the Helpmann Award winning musical *Sideshow Alley*. Chris has performed the roles of two leading men for The Production Company - Will Parker in *Oklahoma!* and Bobby Childs in *Crazy For You*.

His directing credits include *Blood Brothers*, *Sondheim on Sondheim* and *Bad Blood Blues* for Manila Street Productions, *The Last Five Years* and *The Gathering at 45 Downstairs* for Vic Theatre Company. He recently returned to WAAPA to direct *The Matchmaker*, and *Cry Baby – the musical*. Most recently Chris directed a beautiful restaging of *Les Misérables* in the intimate Playhouse theatre in Tasmania. He also staged an award-winning concert of Matthew Robinson's musical *Atlantis*.

Chris was the Resident Director for the Australian productions of *Avenue Q*, *The Graduate*, *Moonshadow – the musical*, *Georgy Girl – The Seekers musical*, *The Bodyguard* and Geoffrey Robertson's *Dreaming Too Loud* Australian tour.

He is artistic director for Stonnington City Council's annual concert *The Classics*, director for the increasingly popular charity concerts *Twisted Broadway* and *Creative Broadway*. *Twisted Broadway* has raised over \$200,000 for Oz Showbiz Cares/Equity Fights Aids.

Chris directed a critically acclaimed production of *Oklahoma!* for The Production Company last year.



## PETER CASEY AM

MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Peter has been Musical Director for *Les Misérables*, *The Sound of Music*, *The King and I*, *Annie*, *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *A Chorus Line*, *Chicago*, *Cabaret*, *Smokey Joe's Cafe*, *The Songs of Leiber and Stoller*, Topol's *Fiddler on the Roof*, Stephen Sondheim's *Company*, Monty Python's *Spamalot*, *Jekyll & Hyde*, the Andrew Lloyd Webber musicals *Evita*, *Cats*, *Aspects of Love*, *Song and Dance*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, and *Jesus Christ Superstar*, The Mel Brooks musical *The Producers*, for which he received a 2004 Green Room Award and The Production Company's productions of *Sunset Boulevard*, *The Pajama Game*, *42nd Street*, *Mame*, *Crazy For You*, *The King and I*, *Anything Goes* and *Kismet*.

Peter was Musical Supervisor for *Guys and Dolls*, *South Pacific*, *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, *Grease - The Arena Spectacular*, and the Big Top touring productions of *Cats - Run Away To The Circus* and *Grease – The Mega Musical*.

Peter was also Musical Director for the acclaimed arena production *The Main Event*, starring John Farnham, Olivia Newton-John and Anthony Warlow and was Musical Director for the inaugural 2001, 2002, 2005 and 2006 Helpmann Awards. Peter has been Guest Conductor for the West Australian Symphony, Adelaide Symphony and Queensland Symphony Orchestras and in 2018, was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia for his services to the performing arts.

Peter is delighted to be Musical Director for *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, his ninth musical for The Production Company.

# CHRISTOPHER HORSEY

## CHOREOGRAPHER

Christopher is a 2017 Australian Dance Award nominee for his direction/choreography of *Swing On This* (SSO, WASO) starring Michael Falzon, Luke Kennedy, Rob Mills and Ben Mingay. Chris staged and choreographed *Witches* starring Lucy Durack, Amanda Harrison, Jemma Rix and Helen Dallimore and *Praying For Time – A George Michael Tribute* starring Diesel, David Campbell and Sam Sparro for the Sydney Symphony Orchestra. He recently directed and choreographed *Christmas Proms* with ASO, choreographed *The 39 Steps* for QTC and his show *Mickey's Christmas Big Band* is in its second year at Disneyland Paris.

For television, Christopher choreographed for *Dance Boss*, *The InBESTigators* (ABC), the Logie Award-winning mini-series *Changi* (ABC/TV) and is resident choreographer for *Carols In The Domain* on Network Seven. Chris has performed with and choreographed both of Adam Garcia's performances on *Got To Dance* (SKY1-UK) in 2010 and 2011, attracting over 275,000 views on YouTube.

For The Production Company he has choreographed *High Society* and *Sugar* (Some Like It Hot). Other credits include *Kiss Me*, *Kate* (Opera Qld), *The Detective's Handbook* (Hayes Theatre), *Ruthless* (Theatre Division) and *Jive Junky's* for the Edinburgh Festival. Christopher recreated Jerome Robbins original choreography on *West Side Story* and choreographed *Godspell*, both for Queensland Conservatorium.

As a performer, Christopher is best known as a founding member of both *Hot Shoe Shuffle* and *Tap Dogs* and has performed with The Tap Pack and played starring roles in *42nd St*, *Guys & Dolls*, *Crazy For You*, *Chicago*, *Singin' In The Rain* and *West Side Story*. On film, Chris plays Angus in the Fox Searchlight feature film *Bootmen*.

For more - christopherhorsey.com



# ISAAC LUMMIS

## COSTUME DESIGNER

Isaac graduated in 2005 from Perth's Curtin University with a Bachelor's degree in Fashion and Textile design. For The Production Company his design credits include *A Gentleman's Guide to Love & Murder*, *Oklahoma!*, *Brigadoon*, *Hello, Dolly!*, *Dusty*, *Nice Work If You Can Get It*, *Show Boat* and *Promises, Promises*. Isaac's other design credits include *Georgy Girl*, the new Australian musical based on the story of The Seekers, *Alice's Adventures in Operaland* and *Rush Hour* for Victorian Opera, *La Cage aux Folles* for Quirky Productions, *Melbourne Loves the Burlesque Hour*, *Glory Box & Caravan Burlesque* for Finucane & Smith, *My Life in the Nude* for Maude Davey, *Waltzing the Wilarra* for Yirra Yaakin, *Down Pour* for A4 Circus, *Oliver!* and *Anything Goes* for WTG, *As You Like It* and *Memmie LeBlanc* for Deckchair Theatre and *Dash*, *Powder Monkey* & *KissXX* for the STEPS Youth Dance Company.

Isaac also created the Adorable Florable characters for Kings Park Botanical Gardens Wildflower Festivals. Since 2008, he has been the resident costume designer and wardrobe coordinator at the DET Performing Arts Unit, where he has designed the costumes for ten *Victorian State Schools Spectaculars* as well as the costumes for their 2009 production of *Barnum*.



# CHRISTINA SMITH

## SET DESIGNER

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

Christina has designed sets for The Production Company for *A Gentleman's Guide to Love & Murder*, *The Boy From Oz*, *Brigadoon*, *Curtains* and *Nice Work if You Can Get It*. Her extensive design credits include *Madama 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 *Così fan tutte* (Victorian Opera), *Personal Best* (costumes) (The Australian Ballet), *Ruby Moon*, *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).



# GAVAN SWIFT

## LIGHTING DESIGNER

Gavan graduated from NIDA in 1994. He has been in constant demand as a lighting designer for plays, musicals, opera dance and corporate events. His musical lighting designs include *Heathers the Musical*, *Mamma Mia!*, *Mack & Mabel*, *The Mikado*, *The Pirates Of Penzance*, *Hot Shoe Shuffle*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Sweet Charity*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Jolson*, *Buddy*, *Oh What A Night*, *Footloose*, *Hair*, *Xanadu* and *Saturday Night Fever* both in Australia and on London's West End.

For The Production Company, Gavan has designed the lighting for *Mame*, *Anything Goes*, *Sugar* (Some Like It Hot), *The Music Man*, *Hair* and *Mack and Mabel*. He was the lighting designer for *Moby Dick* for the San Francisco Opera, Washington National Opera, LA Opera and

Dallas Opera. For the State Theatre Company of South Australia he has designed *The Ham Funeral*, *Three Sisters* (co-set designer), *Entertaining Mr. Sloane*, *King Lear* and *Hamlet*. For Bell Shakespeare Gavan has designed the lighting for *The Winter's Tale*, *Pericles* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Gavan has also designed lighting for productions at STC, the MTC, the Ensemble Theatre, Australian Theatre for Young People, Marian Street, and the Q Theatre.

Gavan was the Associate Lighting Designer for the Australian productions of *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child Parts 1 and 2*, *The Book of Mormon*, *Aladdin*, *Cabaret*, *The Full Monty*, *Chicago*, *High School Musical*, *A Chorus Line*, *South Pacific*, *Wicked* and *The Lion King*, as well as the London production of *A Chorus Line* and the Mexican production of *Wicked*.





# PAUL WHITE

## ASSOCIATE MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Paul has worked on many of the landmark music theatre productions of the last thirty years, often touring 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), *Oliver!* 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, most recently Paul was Associate Musical Director for The Production Company's production of *Lazarus*.

# SYSTEM SOUND TEAM

System Sound is proud to have been associated with The Production Company on over sixty productions in twenty-one years.



## KELVIN GEDYE

Joining System Sound in 1991, Kelvin supervised sound for many productions, notably *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Cats* and *Wicked*.

Design credits include *West Side Story*, *Fiddler On The Roof*, *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, *Mother & Son*, *Violet* and *Songs For A New World*.

For The Production Company, Kelvin co-designed *Show Boat*, *Nice Work If You Can Get It*, *Curtains*, *Funny Girl*, *Dusty*, *Hello*, *Dolly! Superstar*, *Brigadoon*, *A Gentleman's Guide to Love & Murder* and *Lazarus*.



## PETER GRUBB

A director of System, Peter was Associate Designer for the original productions of *Les Misérables*, *Spamalot*, *Mamma Mia!* and *Matilda* and Designer for tours of *Cats*, *The Witches of Eastwick*, *Oliver*, *Avenue Q*, *Miss Saigon*, *Mary Poppins* and *Strictly Ballroom*.

For The Production Company, he has co-designed *She Loves Me*, *Call Me Madam*, *They're Playing Our Song*, *Sunset Boulevard*, *Follies*, *Chess*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *Guys & Dolls*, *Jerry's Girls*, *Brigadoon*, *A Gentleman's Guide to Love & Murder* and *Lazarus*.



## JOHN SCANDRETT - MANAGING DIRECTOR

John founded System Sound in 1979. "System" has recently engineered international tours of *Les Misérables*, *The Phantom of the Opera*, *School of Rock*, *Matilda*, and *Evita* – and in Australia, *Kinky Boots*, *Jersey Boys*, *The Book of Mormon* and currently *School of Rock*, *Come From Away* and, very soon, the return tours of *Billy Elliot* and *Chicago*.

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