

Herald Sun PRESENTS

SANDY WILSON'S

THE BOY FRIEND

12-16 AUGUST



STARRING
 RHONDA BURCHMORE
 TIM CAMPBELL
 ESTHER HANNAFORD
 ALEX RATHGEBER
 CHRISTIE WHELAN
 GRANT SMITH
 ROBYN ARTHUR
 ROBERT GRUBB
 KELLIE RODE

Director GARY YOUNG
 Musical Director DAVID PIPER
 Choreographer ANDREW HALLSWORTH
 Costumes KIM BISHOP
 Scenery RICHARD JEZIORNY
 Sound SYSTEM SOUND
 Lighting Designer MATTHEW KING

ORCHESTRA VICTORIA

STATE THEATRE, THE ARTS CENTRE
BOOK NOW! TICKETMASTER 1300 136 166
 OR VISIT www.theartscentre.com.au



CRAZY FOR YOU

THE NEW GERSHWIN® MUSICAL



SEASON 2009

THE PRODUCTION COMPANY
GRATEFULLY APPRECIATES



PRINCIPAL SPONSORS

Herald Sun | ERNST & YOUNG

SERIES SPONSORS



BAKER & MCKENZIE



SUPPORTING SPONSORS



DOMAIN FLOWERS



WARWICK

FOUNDATION SPONSORS

Kevin and Colleen Bamford
Campbell and Krystyna Campbell-Pretty
Henry and Esther Goldberg
Gil and Sandi Hoskins
Garry Krauss AM and Pru Krauss
David and Sue Langdon
Bill and Elaine Montague
Dame Elisabeth Murdoch AC DBE
Michael and Atida Naphtali
Dr Tim and Mrs Trish Pitt



We are most grateful for the generous
support and assistance of

OUR PATRONS

Maurice & Helen Alter
Pacific Shopping Centres Australia P/L
John & Rosemary Barr
John & Janet Calvert-Jones
Dr W A Dott
Nola E Finn
Raphael & Fiona Geminder & Family
Alan & Wendy Guest
of Guest Nominees P/L
Dr Alastair Jackson
Mem Kirby
Coral Knowles
Rosie & Solomon Lew & Family
David Mandie AM OBE
Patrick J McCormack
Robert & Victoria McLellan
Dr Mark & Dr Alla Medownick
Barry Novy & Family
John Prescott AC & Jennifer Prescott
Mr & Mrs Alfredo & Mirella Salera
Julie & Phil Scanlan
Mr & Mrs John Selwyn
Max & Ziva Shavitsky
Jack & Robert Smorgon
Families Foundation
Ezekiel Solomon
Eva Sweet
Valerie S Teh
Nevenka Tucker
Leon & Sandra Velik
Alex & Heloise
Waislitz & Family
Ruth & David Waislitz
Nathan & Nechama Werdiger
Mrs Nancy Willmott
Anonymous (2)

THE PRODUCTION COMPANY
PRESENTS



Music and Lyrics by
GEORGE GERSHWIN & IRA GERSHWIN

Book by

KEN LUDWIG

Co-Conception by **KEN LUDWIG** and **MIKE OCKRENT**
Inspired by Material by **GUY BOLTON** and **JOHN MCGOWAN**

Originally produced on Broadway by **ROGER HORCHOW** and **ELIZABETH WILLIAMS**

NATALIE O'DONNELL **CHRISTOPHER PARKER** **CHLOE DALLIMORE** **CHRISTOPHER HORSEY** **ADAM MURPHY**

ROBYN ARTHUR **ALAN BROUGH** **PETER HOSKING** **MELISSA LANGTON**

ANDREW BAKER TELA BROOKS BEN BROWN ANNA BURGESS MELINA CHARLES
JOANNA FRIPP CLAIRE GEORGE LACHLAN GILLESPIE CASEY GOULD DANIEL HAMILL
NAT JOBE SAM LUDEMAN HAYLEY MARTIN JESSICA MECHELSSEN JENSEN OVEREND
JEREMY POWELL ADAM RENNIE BROOKE SYNNOTT BRIANNE TURK
HESTER VAN DER VYVER

WITH

ORCHESTRA VICTORIA

Director **TERENCE O'CONNELL**

Musical Director / Conductor **PETER CASEY**

Choreographer **ALANA SCANLAN**

Set Designer **KATHRYN SPROUL**

Costume Designer **KIM BISHOP**

Lighting Designer **SCOTT ALLAN**

Sound Design **JOHN SCANDRETT, MARK BENSON & NICK REICH**
for **SYSTEM SOUND**

Hair & Make Up **CORRINE DAY**

Repetiteur **ANDREW PATTERSON**

Technical Director **DAVID MILLER**

Stage Manager **NATALIE MOIR**

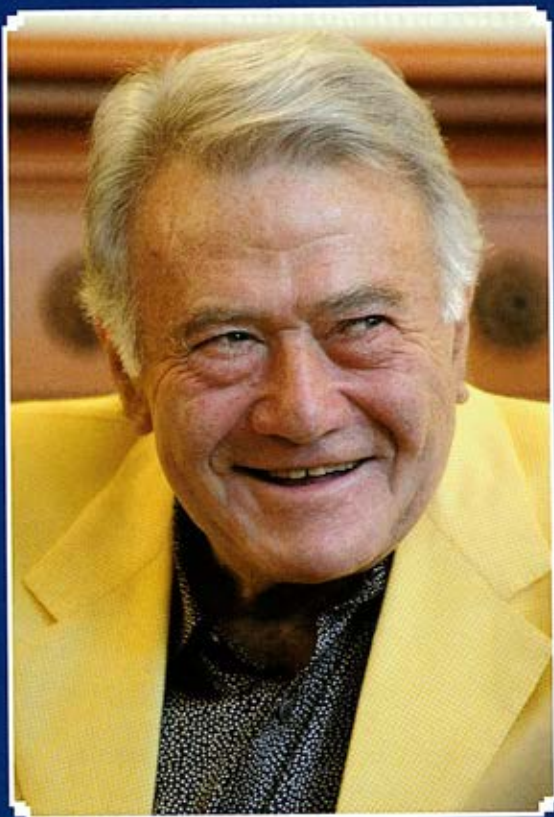
STATE THEATRE ★ THE ARTS CENTRE ★ MELBOURNE

JULY 15 to 19 2009

The worldwide copyrights in the music of George and Ira Gershwin for this presentation are licensed by The Gershwin Family. CRAZY FOR YOU, THE NEW GERSHWIN MUSICAL is presented by arrangement with TAMS-WITMARK MUSIC LIBRARY, INC. 560 Lexington Avenue, New York, New York 10022. GERSHWIN is a registered trademark and service mark of Gershwin Enterprises. CRAZY FOR YOU is a registered trademark and service mark of CRAZY FOR YOU Enterprises.



IS
DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF
RICHARD PRATT



10 December 1934 – 28 April 2009



elcome to our new season and to this
new Gershwin musical, *Crazy For You*.

Although this musical's genesis goes back to 29 September 1930, when it premiered in Philadelphia with the title *Girl Crazy*, it was 62 years later on February 19, 1992, that the show you are enjoying at this performance, *Crazy For You*, premiered on Broadway. Originally created by George and Ira Gershwin, Guy Bolton and John McGowan, *Girl Crazy* featured some of Broadway's greatest performers and musicians. Ginger Rogers and Ethel Merman starred in the first season, and the orchestra included Benny Goodman, Glenn Miller, Jimmy Dorsey and Gene Krupa. George Gershwin himself conducted.

In its *Crazy For You* version the show has been a sensational success, winning both the Olivier and the Tony Awards for best new musical. It's also a wonderful showcase for our talented young company of stars.

The creative team of Terence O'Connell, Peter Casey and Alana Scanlan has brought us many outstanding productions. Their dedicated collaboration means we can all look forward to enjoying the way this memorable musical comes to life.

I'd like to thank our sponsors and patrons for their generous support which enables the company to keep moving forward. I especially want to acknowledge The Pratt Foundation which does so much to help.

The Company has asked to dedicate this production to the memory of my darling Richard. And as the show is called *Crazy For You*, I couldn't think of anything more appropriate. I know that all of the company want to make this a particularly wonderful season.

As Richard so generously supported the company from its inception, I want to thank the company in turn for the generosity of spirit they've shown in their tribute to him.

Jeanne Pratt AC
Chairman





NATALIE O'DONNELL
Polly Baker

Since graduating from The Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts Natalie has appeared in many musical and theatre productions both here in and the UK. Some of her highlights are: Savoy Theatre, West End – *Murderous Instincts* (Lauren), Little Star Services - *Mamma Mia* (Sophie), Sydney Theatre Company - *The Sunshine Club* (Rose), Cameron Mackintosh - *Les Miserables* (Eponine U/study), Melbourne Theatre Company – *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Olive) for which she was nominated 'Best Female Artist in a featured role in Musical Theatre' at the 2006 Green Room Awards. *Crazy For You* is Natalie's second production for The Production Company, previously performing in *Bye Bye Birdie* (Kim MacAfee) in 2003 and is thrilled to be working the company again.

Natalie recently workshopped the role of Mother in the stage adaption of Paul Kelly's feature film *One Night The Moon* and will perform the role at Malthouse in September.

Her television credits include: *City Homicide*, *Water Rats*, *All Saints* and the made for television movie of *South Pacific*, starring Glenn Close. She will also appear along side Nia Vardalos and Richard Dreyfuss in the romantic comedy feature film *My Life in Ruins* scheduled for release in Australia in July 2009.



CHRISTOPHER PARKER
Bobby Child

Christopher Parker trained at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts. Last year Chris toured nationally with David Williamson's play *The Club*, and created the role of Alec for the World premiere of *Sideshow Alley*. He has performed in *Macbeth*, *Romeo & Juliet*, and *King Oedipus* for Complete Works Theatre Company, *After the Beep* and *Shane Warne The Musical* for the Adelaide Cabaret Festival. In 2005 was nominated for "Best Newcomer" by the Sydney Theatre Awards for his performance in the Sydney Theatre Company's production of *Summer Rain*. Chris played Will Parker in The Production Company's *Oklahoma!*, receiving a Green Room Award nomination, and toured internationally with the Australian Production of *Mamma Mia* in the role of Sky. Chris' other credits include *Brigadoon*, *The Three Musketeers*, *Hello, Dolly!*, *Batboy*, *Godspell* and *Daylight Savings*. He is a member of the internationally acclaimed corporate act *The Three Waiters*, and with SMA Productions *The Rat Packs Back*, and *Ooh James!*

As assistant director, Chris worked with Terence O'Connell on *Cabaret*, and *John & Jen*, which received a Green Room Award nomination for Best Musical in 2009. Chris also worked with Gary Young on The Production Company's production of *Mame* last year, and was the Director of the Australian premiere production of Jason Robert Brown's *Songs for a New World* in 2001.

Chris is currently Resident Director of the Australian production of *Avenue Q* playing at the Comedy Theatre.



CHLOE DALLIMORE
Irene Roth

Chloe's career began in the original cast of *Crazy For You* (GFO) in 1996 direct from graduating from London Studio Centre, London, where she studied under scholarship from Sir Cameron Mackintosh.

Her recent credits have been as Ulla in *The Producers - The New Mel Brooks' Musical* (GFO/SEL) for which Chloe won five awards, including the Helpmann Award® and Sydney Theatre Critics Award; Millie in *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (TPC), Amy in *Company* (Kookaburra), Helga in 'Allo 'Allo (Twelfth Night Theatre), *Broadway Showstoppers* with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra and *Showstoppers* with the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra.

Other theatre credits: *Sweet Charity* (David Atkins' Ent), *Wizard of Oz* (GFO/SEL), *Annie* (GFO/SEL), *Shout!* (Jacobsen Ent), *Oliver!* (IMG), *Chicago* (IMG), *The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber* (Shanghai & Beijing), and *Pearl* choreographed by Meryl Tankard.

A featured performer in the Sydney 2000 Olympic Opening Ceremony.

She sang the Australian National Anthem at the 2005 Bledisloe Cup and at the G'Day USA Gala Dinner 2007 in New York.

Recently Chloe presented *Magic of Musicals* at Taronga Zoo and was Assistant Resident Choreographer on *Billy Elliott*.

Chloe is thrilled to be back working with The Production Company on a show so close to her heart.



CHRISTOPHER HORSEY
Lank Hawkins

Christopher Horsey is the winner of the Fred Astaire International Tap and Jazz Championship (Waldorf Astoria, NYC). He has performed in *The Frank Sinatra Concert* (Sanctuary Cove), and alongside Stevie Wonder in *Quincy Jones, 50 Years In The Business*. Original cast *42nd St* (Helen Montagu Productions), *Chicago - The Musical* (IMG) and *Singin' In The Rain* (DAE/IMG). He played the role of Big Deal in *West Side Story* (VSO/IMG). Chris also created the role of Tip for *Hot Shoe Shuffle* (Australia, UK, Japan & NZ) and was a guest artist at The Olivier Awards at The London Palladium. As a founding member of *Tap Dogs* his performance at Union Square Theatre, New York earned him a Village Voice OBIE Award. In 07, Chris returned to *42nd St* for The Production Company, this time playing the role of Andy Lee. He also starred on film as Angus in *Fox Searchlight Bootmen*.

Choreography credits include *Oi* (Best Short Dance Film, Festival du Film de Strasbourg), *Changi* (ABCTV), *High Society* (The Production Co), *Mosh with Paul McDermott* (Melb Comedy Festival) and *Jive Junky's* (Edinburgh Festival for which he won a Pick Of The Fringe Award).

Chris would like to thank The Production Company for their support of musical theatre in Australia and dedicates his performance to his Mum, Kay.



ADAM MURPHY

Bela Zangler

Adam has lived a large portion of his life in New Zealand but now calls Melbourne home.

He has appeared in *Mame*, *42nd St*, *Little Me*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *The Pajama Game*, *Kiss Me*, *Kate*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Carousel*, *They're Playing Our Song*, *The Gilbert and Sullivan Show* and *Call Me Madam* for The Production Company as well as the Pratt Prize workshop of *Sideshow Alley*.

Other stage credits include *Guys and Dolls* (Donmar), *Urinetown* (MTC), *Mamma Mia* (Dainty Consolidated), *Les Miserables* (Cameron Mackintosh) and the award winning cabaret *The Beautiful Losers*.

His many productions in New Zealand include *Guys and Dolls*, *Kiss Me*, *Kate*, *Blue Sky Boys*, *Desire Under the Elms*, *Someone Who'll Watch Over Me*, *Caesar and Cleopatra*, *Travels With My Aunt*, *Mother Courage and her Children*, *The Queen and I*, *This Other Eden*, *The Wind in the Willows* and *She Loves Me* for The Court Theatre. *Blue Sky Boys*, *Where Would a Songwriter Be Without Love?* and *The Revengers Tragedy* for The Fortune Theatre and *The Official Tribute to the Blues Brothers* (The Ascot Group)

Television credits include *The Trivia Company* (NZ), *Shortland Street* (NZ), *Eugenie Sandler*, *Halifax f.p.*, *Neighbours*, *Blue Heelers* and *The Forest*, a short feature film.



ROBYN ARTHUR

Lottie Child

Most recently Robyn performed for Opera Australia as Mrs Pearce in *My Fair Lady*. Other highlights include Mrs Potts in *Beauty and the Beast* with Hugh Jackman, the original Boy from Oz and 1,300 performances in *Les Miserables* as Madame Thenardier (Green Room Award).

Other credits include *Away* (STC), *Company* (STC), *Nonsense* (Hayden Attractions) *Sweeney Todd* (Opera Qld) and *Minifields and Miniskirts* (Malthouse) by Terence O'Connell. In 2007 she was nominated for a Helpmann Award® for her role as Bev in *Sideshow Alley* (Keelan/Young) QPAC. Previously for The Production Company: *Mack & Mabel*, *Bye Bye Birdie* and *The Music Man*.



ALAN BROUGH

Eugene Fodor

Alan Brough was born in New Zealand and has been performing as long as he can remember. After various jobs including library shelf stacker

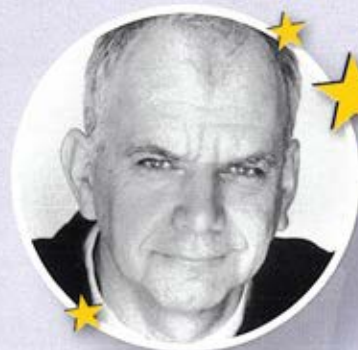
and orange juice squeezer he took up acting full-time becoming, for a time, New Zealand's most famous transvestite.

Moving to Melbourne in 1995, Alan has worked in film, television, on stage and radio as a writer, director, actor and stand-up comedian. He has appeared in four feature films: *The Craic*; *Siam Sunset* (in which he had his one and only sex scene. Ok, so it was cut out); *The Nugget*; and *Bad Eggs*.

He has also guested on numerous TV shows, including *Stiff* (the first Murray Whelan telemovie), *MDA*, *Kath & Kim* series 2 and 3 (Oh yeah, that was him pashing Sharon near the rubbish bins at the hospital) and written for *The Games*.

Most recently Alan has played a Senator, a nun, a WWI officer and a morbidly obese man on the hit comedy *Thank God You're Here* and can be seen every Wednesday on ABC TV's music game show *Spicks and Specks*.

Previously Alan has appeared in *Sweet Charity* and *42nd Street* for The Production Company



PETER HOSKING

Everett Baker

This is Peter's fourth Production Company show having appeared in *42nd Street*, *The Pajama Game* and *Oklahoma!*, all directed by Terence O'Connell. This collaboration also saw them both take part in the Australian/NZ tour of *Buddy - the Buddy Holly Story* and Glynn Nicholas' hugely successful show, *Certified Male*.

Peter has performed the one man play *A Stretch of the Imagination* in Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Prague to great acclaim.

He has worked in theatre, film, TV and radio for 30 years, with a thriving career in voiceovers, book narration (over 100 titles) and movie revoicing.

Peter has spent the last 18 months working in theatre and film in Prague.



MELISSA LANGTON

Patricia Fodor

Melissa Langton's theatre credits include *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *The Pirates Of Penzance*, *The Mikado*, *Les Miserables*, *Marry Me A Little*, *Sideshow Alley*, *Brigadoon*, *Eurobeat* and *We Will Rock You*. For The Production Company, she has played Nettie Fowler in *Carousel*, Maggie Jones in *42nd Street*, Stella Deems in *Follies* and Gloria Thorpe in *Damn Yankees*.

Melissa has been performing in cabaret since 2001 when she won The Sydney Cabaret Convention. She has performed her shows throughout Australia, New Zealand, New York, Dublin and Berlin and has won two prestigious Green Room Awards. Recently she co-created a new cabaret show, *Everybody's Got Something To Hide Except For Me* and *My Monkey* for this years Adelaide Cabaret Festival.

Melissa is also a member of the popular girl group *The Fabulous Singlettes*, and performs with the group regularly throughout Australia, Asia and Europe.

Melissa's debut CD *When the Rain Falls Up* is available from her website.

www.melissalangton.com

Who could ask for anything more?

CRAZY FOR YOU

THE NEW GERSHWIN® MUSICAL

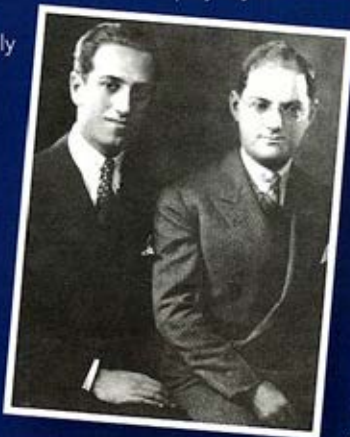
Part One: How George, Ira and Ethel Got Rhythm and Beat Old Man Trouble

New York 1930. Broadway stepped gingerly into the new decade. The stock market had crashed in October 1929, and many of Broadway's greatest producers were in trouble. Talkies and radio weren't helping, either.

Audiences needed laughter, so the stars of the early 1930s musicals were not the singers and dancers; they were the comedians. Romantic shows like Romberg's *Nina Rosa*, Friml's *Luana* and Youmans' *Smiles all failed*. Rodgers and Hart had a hit with *Simple Simon*, but as far as musical theatre was concerned, the year 1930 definitely belonged to George and Ira Gershwin.

The Gershwins wrote the very first show to hit Broadway in 1930, *Strike Up the Band*. It ran for 191 performances, in an era when anything over 200 was exceptional.

In 1930 George Gershwin was 32. Ira, his lyricist brother, was 34. They already had a formidable list of successes: *Primrose* and *Lady, Be Good!*



George & Ira Gershwin

(1924), *Tip-Toes* (1925), *Oh, Kay!* (1926), *Funny Face*, *Rosalie* and *Treasure Girl* (1927), *Show Girl* (1929) and various editions of George White's *Scandals*. As well, George had scored with '*Rhapsody In Blue*' (1924), the '*Concerto in F*' (1925) and '*An American In Paris*' (1928).

After *Strike Up the Band* settled in, George and Ira embarked on yet another musical. This was *Girl Crazy*, and it turned out to be one of their happiest hits. The book was by John McGowan, an actor and composer turned librettist, and Guy Bolton, who had worked with the Gershwins on *Rosalie*. The story was pure hokum: a New York playboy turns his family's farm into a roistering

dude ranch, complete with a troupe of Broadway chorus girls.

The producers, Alex A. Aarons and Vinton Freedly, had commissioned five earlier shows from the Gershwins, and they'd worked frequently with comedian Bert Lahr. When he turned down the lead, they signed a veteran vaudeville duo, Willie and Eugene Howard. As things turned out, only Willie was used in the

show, but Eugene still turned up every week to collect his pay.

The romantic male lead went to a Broadway favourite, Allen Kearns. Another early recruit was a lively teenager named Ginger Rogers. But the casting decision that ensured that *Girl Crazy* would open a new chapter in Broadway history came almost at the last minute.

The role of Frisco Kate, a brassy saloon singer, went to a virtually unknown 21-year-old; her name was Ethel Merman.

The show premiered in Philadelphia on 29 September 1930. George Gershwin conducted the orchestra, which featured future jazz greats like Red Nichols, Benny Goodman, Glenn Miller, Jimmy Dorsey, Jack Teagarden, Georgie Stoll and Gene Krupa. Roger Edens was the pit pianist.

After a final polishing, *Girl Crazy* opened at the Alvin Theatre in New York on 14 October. The score was vintage Gershwin: '*Could You Use Me?*', '*Embraceable You*', '*Treat Me Rough*', '*But Not For Me*', '*Bidin' My Time*' and Merman's three big songs, '*Sam and Delilah*', '*Boyl What Love Has Done For Me!*' and the monumental '*I Got Rhythm*'.

'I was just a young punk kid then,' Merman recalled, 'and I'd never been nervous in my life. I just let go. I plunged into "*I Got Rhythm*". On the second chorus I just held the "I" – one long note – while the orchestra played the tune. And the audience went "Pow!" For a minute I thought I'd lost something I shouldn't. Didn't



Donald Oenslager's original set detail, 1930.

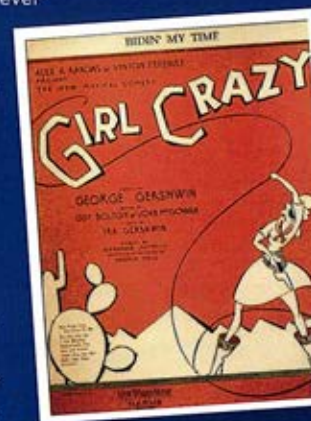
was no tour. The Depression had decimated out-of-town audiences, and both Willie Howard and Ethel Merman were lured by George White to star in the 1931 edition of his *Scandals*.

A couple of years later George Gershwin wrote a set of variations on '*I Got Rhythm*' for piano and orchestra, and dedicated it to Ira. In 1934 he toured the country, introducing the variations to audiences in 28 cities.

The screen rights to *Girl Crazy* were snapped up by RKO. The film used only three of the stage songs, plus a newly-commissioned number, '*You've Got What Gets Me*'. By the time it was released, the vogue for screen musicals had passed, and RKO's *Girl Crazy* slipped into obscurity.

A decade later, MGM remade *Girl Crazy* as a vehicle for a new generation

of energetic talent: Mickey Rooney, Judy Garland, Nancy Walker, June Allyson and the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra. In 1965 an unfortunate re-hash, *When the Boys Meet the Girls*, featured Harve Presnell and Connie Francis, along with guest



Original Sheet Music, 1930.



Film Poster, 1943

stars like Herman's Hermits, Louis Armstrong, Sam the Sham and even Liberace.

The Gershwins worked on another Hollywood film, the now-forgotten *Delicious*, and had other hit shows and movies before George's death in 1937, but none recaptured the excitement, the exuberance and the sheer joyousness of *Girl Crazy* and its perennial hit, 'I Got Rhythm'. As Brooks Atkinson said in his original review: 'All the old staples are in it, and all the standard performing parts from heroine to secondary comic. But the book, the lyrics and the music have been written with so much relish, and the performers infected with the same spirit that Lo! musical comedy appears to actually be worth a playgoer's time.'

Part Two: How Roger and Elizabeth Fell 'Neath the Spell and got Starlight and Sweet Dreams

New York 1992. After 62 years, *Girl Crazy* was back on Broadway! Well, not quite. This was a new *Girl Crazy*, with a new title, *Crazy for You*.

The creation of *Crazy for You* can be traced back to George Gershwin's 1934 concert tour. After his Cincinnati appearance, George was invited to the home of the Horchows, local music lovers. While Gershwin played his *Second Prelude* on the family's piano, their five-year-old son, Roger, eavesdropped from his upstairs bedroom. The encounter led to a life-long love of Gershwin's music.

After a successful career in retailing, Roger Horchow sold his business and decided to try his luck as a Broadway producer. He set his sights on *Girl Crazy*, his favourite Gershwin show, mindful

that previous attempts to revive it had foundered because of problems with the book.

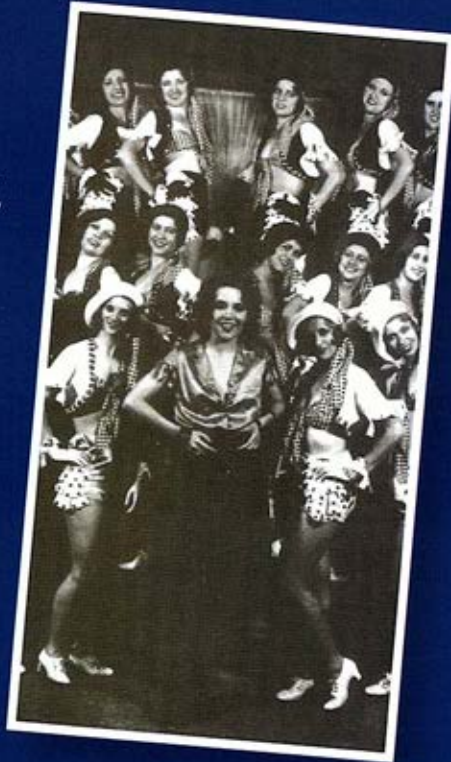
Horchow teamed with Elizabeth Williams, another Gershwin devotee. They decided that the show would work only if the original book were totally revised. To their astonishment and delight, the custodians of the Gershwin estate agreed. In fact, this was the last major project approved by Mrs Ira Gershwin before her death in August 1991. Not only could Horchow and Williams alter the book and re-work the score,

they were at liberty to interpolate any other Gershwin songs, apart from those from *Porgy and Bess* and the three so-called 'political' musicals, *Strike Up the Band*, *Of Thee I Sing* and *Let 'Em Eat Cake*. As a gesture of support, Tommy Krasker, the official Gershwin archivist, came on board as musical consultant.

Horchow and Williams commissioned a fresh book from Ken Ludwig, writer of the play *Lend Me a Tenor*. The new plot had the show's hero sent out west to foreclose on a theatre, which the locals try to save in the best Judy-Mickey tradition – by putting on a show! The man chosen to direct

this effervescence was Mike Ockrent, previously responsible for the wildly successful revival of *Me and My Girl*. Their choreographer was Susan Stroman, noted for her work on the Kander and Ebb revue *And the World Goes Round* and Liza Minnelli's sensational Radio City Music Hall show.

The team decided to retain five numbers from the original *Girl Crazy* score: 'Bidin' My Time', 'Could You Use Me?', 'Embraceable You', 'I Got



Original Broadway cast, 1930

Rhythm' and 'But Not For Me'. They added the lovely 'Someone to Watch Over Me', from the 1926 musical *Oh, Kay!*. Tommy Krasker came up with 'Tonight's the Night' and 'What Causes That?'. Previously unheard, they were discovered in a Warner Bros music warehouse in 1982. Then they added other unfamiliar numbers, 'The Real American Folk Song Is a Rag' (1918, and the Gershwin brothers' oldest surviving collaboration), 'Naughty Baby' and a forgotten song from 1928's *Treasure Girl*, 'K-ra-zy For You', which gave the new show its title.

As well, *Crazy for You* featured seven songs from the last year of George Gershwin's life, when he and Ira were creating scores for Fred Astaire movies. These are 'Shall We Dance?', 'They Can't Take That Away From Me' and 'Slap That Bass' from *Shall We Dance*, and 'I Can't Be Bothered Now', 'Things Are Looking Up', 'Stiff Upper Lip' and 'Nice Work If You Can Get It' from *A Damsel in Distress*.

They finished up with a fresh new musical in which some of the greatest show songs ever written are closely integrated into a fast-moving story of youth and hope and fun. Elizabeth Williams described it as 'sort of Preston Sturges and Kaufman and Hart meet Busby Berkeley and the Marx Brothers in an MGM musical. A feast for the eyes and the ears and the funny bone.'

Crazy for You 'tried out' in Washington D.C. towards the end of 1991. It was a smash. After further polishing, it premiered triumphantly at the Shubert Theatre in New York on 19 February 1992. It ran for 1622 performances and garnered three Tony Awards®, including Best Musical. In London it won the Olivier Award for Best Musical of 1993.

Not only were George and Ira Gershwin joyously back on Broadway, their 'new' show spearheaded a series of revivals that provided contemporary audiences with potent proof of the riches of classic American musical theatre.

Crazy for You came to Australia in 1996. 'Oodles of honest charm and freshness,' said the Sydney Morning Herald's James

Waite of the production co-presented by John Frost, Adelaide Festival Centre, Phillip Emanuel Productions and Queensland Performing Arts Trust. Directed by Mike Ockrent, it premiered at the Theatre Royal, Sydney, on 9 November with a cast headed by Georgie Parker and import Jim Walton, who had played Billy in the Toronto production. They were supported by Peter Carroll, Marty Fields, Stuart Wagstaff, Helen Buday and Sheila Bradley. When injury forced Walton to withdraw, he was replaced by Todd McKenney.

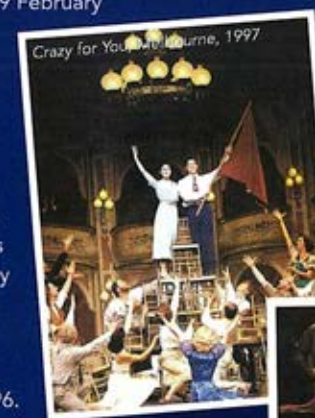
After just over a year in Sydney, *Crazy for You* reached the State Theatre in Melbourne in November 1997. By then, the line up had changed considerably. Philip Gould and Fiona Benjamin were the leads, with John O'May, Bob Hornery, Anne Wood, Val Jellay and, again, Marty Fields.

Mike Ockrent tells of overhearing a couple talking in the Shubert foyer after the show. The woman asked, 'Are George and Ira Gershwin still alive?' 'They must be,' said her husband. 'They're still writing musicals.'

Who could have asked for anything more!

© Frank Van Straten OAM

Frank is a theatre historian, author, broadcaster and former director of the Arts Centre's Performing Arts Museum. His latest book, *Florence Young and the Golden Years of Australian Musical Theatre*, will be published in October.



Crazy for You, Melbourne, 1997



Val Jellay as Mother, 1997



Crazy for You, Melbourne, 1997

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT 1

★ Overture	Orchestra
★ K-ra-zy For You	Bobby
★ I Can't Be Bothered Now	Bobby & Girls
★ Bidin' My Time	Cowboy Trio (Mingo, Moose & Sam)
★ Things Are Looking Up	Bobby
★ Could You Use Me?	Bobby & Polly
★ Shall We Dance?	Bobby & Polly
★ Girls Enter Nevada (Bronco Busters)	Ensemble
★ Someone To Watch Over Me	Polly
★ Slap That Bass	Bobby (as Zangler) & Company
★ Embraceable You	Polly & Bobby (as Zangler)
★ Tonight's the Night	Ensemble
★ I Got Rhythm	Polly & Company

ACT 2

★ The Real American Folk Song (Is a Rag)	Cowboy Trio & Ensemble
★ What Causes That?	Bobby & Zangler
★ Naughty Baby	Irene, Lank & Male Quartet (Harry, Junior, Wyatt & Pete)
★ Stiff Upper Lip	Eugene, Patricia, Bobby, Polly & Company
★ They Can't Take That Away From Me	Bobby
★ But Not For Me	Polly
★ Nice Work If You Can Get It	Bobby & Girls
★ French Reprise: Bidin' My Time	Cowboy Trio
★ Reprise: Things Are Looking Up	Everett
★ Finale	Company
★ Curtain Calls.....	Full Company

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Polly Baker	Natalie O'Donnell
Bobby Child	Christopher Parker
Irene Roth.....	Chloe Dallimore
Lank Hawkins	Christopher Horsey
Bela Zanger	Adam Murphy
Lottie Child.....	Robyn Arthur
Eugene Fodor	Alan Brough
Everett Baker	Peter Hosking
Patricia Fodor.....	Melissa Langton

ZANGLER'S FOLLIE'S GIRLS

Tess.....	Anna Burgess
Patsy.....	Melina Charles
Mitzi.....	Joanna Fripp
Elaine.....	Hester van der Vyver
Louise	Taela Brooks
Susie	Hayley Martin
Betsy.....	Claire George
Margie	Jessica Mechielsen
Sheila.....	Brooke Synnott
Vera	Brianne Turk

MEN OF DEADROCK, NEVADA

Custus/ Perkins	Andrew Baker
Harry/ Chauffeur	Dan Hamill
Pete	Sam Ludeman
Jimmy	Adam Rennie
Moose	Casey Gould
Mingo	Jeremy Powell
Sam.....	Ben Brown
Billy.....	Nat Jobe
Wyatt.....	Lachlan Gillespie
Junior	Jensen Overend

The action takes place in the 1930's New York at Zangler's Broadway Theater and Deadrock Nevada, a sleepy little Western town in the middle of nowhere.

Orchestra Victoria

Conductor	Peter Casey
Violins	Ellen Mentiplay Philip Nixon Ceridwen Jones Liz Ambrose Julien Dupont Claire Tyrell
Celli	Andrea Taylor Katherine Brown
Bass	Ben Robertson
Reed 1	Tony Hicks
Reed 2	Stuart Brownley
Reed 3	Vivienne Brooke
Reed 4	James Bradley
Reed 5	Stuart Byrne
Horns	Linda Hewett Heather McMahon
Trumpets	Mark Skillington Robert Smithies
Trombone	Scott Evans
Bass/Tuba	Peter Brosnan
Percussion	Conrad Nilsson
Drums	Dean Cooper
Guitar/Banjo	John Paine
Piano	Andrew Patterson

ORCHESTRA
VICTORIA

Production Credits

Technical Director	David Miller
Stage Manager	Natalie Moir
Company Administrator	Adam Lowe
Rehearsal Repetiteur	Andrew Patterson
Assistant Stage Manager	Bonnie Walsh
Wardrobe Supervisor	Melinda Brodie
Hair & Make Up	Corrine Day Phillip Sweeney
Sound Engineering	System Sound
Mix Engineer	Nick Reich
Radio Mic Techs	Hazel Simpson and Melissa Panettiere
Marketing	ACMN Pty Ltd
Publicity	Julie Cavanagh Cavanagh PR
Set Construction	Malthouse
Assistant to the Choreographer	Mark Hill
Lighting Equipment	Resolution X
Stage management secondment NIDA	Rebecca Poulter

THE ORIGINAL CREATIVE GENIUSES

GEORGE GERSHWIN Music and Lyrics

George Gershwin was born in Brooklyn, NY, on September 26, 1898 and began his musical training when he was 13. At 16 he quit high school to work as a "song plugger" for a music publisher and soon he was writing songs himself. *Swanee*, as introduced by Al Jolson, brought George his first real fame and led to his writing a succession of 22 musical comedies, most with lyrics by his older brother, Ira. The Gershwins' shows include *Lady, Be Good!*, *Oh Kay!*, *Strike Up The Band*, *Girl Crazy* and the Pulitzer prize-winning *Of Thee I Sing*. From his early career, George had ambitions to compose serious music. These ambitions were realised in some of his masterpieces of American music, among them *Rhapsody in Blue*, *Concerto in F*, *An American in Paris* and *Second Rhapsody*. In the late twenties, George became fascinated by the DuBose Heyward novel *Porgy*, recognising it as a perfect vehicle for opera using jazz and blues idioms. George's folk opera *Porgy and Bess* opened in Boston on September 30, 1935 and had its Broadway premiere two weeks later. In 1937 George was at the height of his career. In Hollywood, working on the score of *The Goldwyn Follies*, he collapsed and on July 11 died of a brain tumour. He was not quite 39 years old.

IRA GERSHWIN Music and Lyrics

Ira Gershwin, the first song-writer to be awarded the Pulitzer Prize, was born in New York City on December 6, 1896. In 1917 The Evening Sun published his first song lyric *You May Throw All The Rice You Desire But Please Friends, Throw No Shoes*. Four years later, Ira enjoyed his first major stage success, *Two Little Girls In Blue*, written with another Broadway newcomer, Vincent Youmans. In 1924 Ira and his brother, George, created the smash hit *Lady, Be Good*

and went on to continue their remarkable collaboration through a dozen major stage scores, producing such standards as *Fascinating Rhythm*, *The Man I Love*, *S Wonderful*, *Embraceable You*, *I Got Rhythm*, *But Not For Me* and others far too numerous to mention. During his long career, Ira also enjoyed productive collaborations with such composers as Harold Arlen, Vernon Duke, Kurt Weill, Burton Lane and Jerome Kern, with whom he created his greatest hit song of any one year, *Long Ago and Far Away*. Ira Gershwin died on August 17, 1983, in Beverly Hills, California.

KEN LUDWIG Author

Ken Ludwig is the author of *Lend Me A Tenor*, which ran for more than a year each on Broadway, in London and Paris. In London it was nominated for the Olivier Award as Comedy of the Year. On Broadway it was nominated for seven Tony Awards®, including Best Play, and won two Tonys®, four Drama Desk Awards and three Outer Critics Circle Awards. Mr Ludwig recently completed a screenplay of *Lend Me A Tenor* for Columbia Pictures.

Another of his plays *Sullivan & Gilbert*, was voted Best Play of 1988 by the Ottawa critics. He co-wrote the 1990 Kennedy Center Honors for CBS (which was nominated for an Emmy Award), and his next assignment is to write the sequel to *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* for Steve Martin and Michael Caine.

He also wrote *Moon Over Buffalo*, which has recently completed a season on Broadway.

Mr Ludwig was educated at Haverford College, Harvard Law School and Cambridge University. He is on the counsel with the law firm Steptoe & Johnson, is on the board of trustees of the Shakespeare Theatre at the Folger and is a member of the artists committee of the Kennedy Center Honors. He is married and lives in Washington, DC.



Andrew Baker

Andrew studied musical theatre at WAAPA and received the Hal Leonard Award at his showcase in 2008. In his first year, Andrew was selected as a soloist at the Geoff Gibbs Theatre dedication with Hugh Jackman. At WAAPA he performed in *West Side Story*, *Hello Again*, *Oklahoma!*, *Blood Brothers* and Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd*.

Other professional performances include *Annie Get Your Gun* at His Majesty's Theatre in Perth and the WA Opera productions of *Nostradamus* and Wagner's *Götterdämmerung*. He recently performed in the workshop production of *Flowerchildren* for Magnormos at Theatreworks



Ben Brown

Ben developed a love of dance at an early age and spent his formative years fine tuning his talents at several well known dance schools including the Victorian College of The Arts. He completed his Certificate III in Classical Ballet and Diploma in Performing Arts at Dance World Studios. Ben performed at Tokyo Disney Land in *One Man's Dream*. In 2008 Ben was cast in his first major musical, *Monty Python's Spamalot* and went on to perform in the 2008 season for The Production Company which included *Follies*, *Damn Yankees* and *Mame* and is thrilled to be back for 2009.



Taela Naomi Brooks

Taela originates from New York City. She has performed alongside Tony Award® winner Jennifer Holliday in *Dreamgirls*. Other professional credits include *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *The Producers*, *High School Musical 2*, *Broadway Bares 18*, and *Naganuma Dance*.

As a competitive figure skater, Taela has skated in exhibitions at Rockefeller Center and Lake Placid and performed with the Ice Theatre of New York. Taela studied at Melbourne's VCA, and earned a B.A. in Psychology and Theatre & Dance from Amherst College.



Anna Burgess

Anna obtained a Bachelor of Contemporary Arts Drama/Dance at Deakin ahead of training at VCA, The National Theatre and Bartuccio's. In 2004 Anna joined the original cast of *The Producers*.

Theatre credits include *Karaoke the Musical*, *Waiting for Godot*, *Memoranda* and *The Pursuit of Happiness*. Her film credits include roles in *Screen Stars*, *What Could Possibly go Wrong*, *Loves Brother* and *SMS*.

Crazy For You marks Anna's fifth show for The Production Company having previously performed in *Damn Yankees*, *Sweet Charity*, *42nd Street* and *The Pajama Game*.



Melina Charles

Melina is thrilled to be a part of another Production Company performance. She holds an Associate Diploma in Dance from Queensland University of Technology and is currently studying under the vocal tuition of Magaret Haggart.

Melina's theatre credits include *Monty Python's Spamalot* and The Production Company's *Follies* and *Damn Yankees*. She has also worked at Dracula's Theatre Restaurant in *Resurrection*, onboard the Tahitian Princess, with Opera Queensland's *Turandot*, *Samson et Dalila* and *Andrea Chenier*, toured with *Dare to Dance Arts Council Show*, Joe Labero's *Illusions* and Toadshow's *Glamalot*.



Joanna Fripp

This is Joanna's fifth Production Company show after recently performing in *Mame* and *Follies*. She appeared in *Thoroughly Modern Millie* and as Ramona Vandergeld in *Little Me*. Last year she appeared with Michael Buble in *Call Me Irresponsible*.

She has worked for The Entertainment Store, *No Mates Productions*, *Theatre in Decay* at the Adelaide Fringe Festival in *Eight Days* and in *The Wild Blue*. In 2005 she was a top ten finalist in *Short & Sweet*, as Jessica in *Four*. A career highlight in 2004 was being given the opportunity to play Laura in *The Glass Menagerie* touring BC, Canada.



Claire George

Claire George is a graduate of the Arts Academy, University of Ballarat.

Whilst at the Academy she performed in *Sweet Charity*, *The White Rose*, *Into the Woods*, and played the title role of Kate in *Kiss Me, Kate* at the Princess Theatre in Melbourne.

Claire has worked for Disney since 2007, both in Japan, and more recently in America for Disney Cruise Lines. She played a variety of characters, including Bo Peep in the opening season of *Toy Story: The Musical*.

Claire is thrilled to be performing with The Production Company in *Crazy For You*.



Lachlan Gillespie

Lachlan Gillespie is a graduate of WAAPA (Musical Theatre) where he performed in *The Good Fight* (Hugh McIntosh), *Jane Eyre* (Richard Mason), *West Side Story* (Diesel), *Once on this Island* (Armand), *Assassins* (Proprietor), *Hiawatha* (Kwasind & Chorus) and *Sweet Charity* (Chorus).

Lachlan's other stage credits include the Perth season of *The Boy from Oz*. Lachlan represented Australia with the Fame Theatre Company, performing at an international song and dance festival in China. Lachlan is also a highly skilled pianist, This is his first Production Company appearance.



Casey Gould

Casey graduated in 2008 from the University of Ballarat Arts Academy with a degree in Music Theatre. His credits there include *Anything Goes*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, *Jane Eyre* and *Cabaret*. Since graduating he has appeared in *Big Sky Town* with St. Martins Theatre, directed by Naomi Edwards.

Crazy For You marks Casey's first appearance with The Production Company.

Casey is thrilled to be working with Terence O'Connell and the creative team and would like to thank his friends and family for all their support.



Nat Jobe

In 2008, Nat graduated from WAAPA with a BA Music Theatre. At WAAPA he appeared in *West Side Story*, *Blood Brothers*, *Hello Again* (The Soldier), *Sweeney Todd* (Judge Turpin) and *Oklahoma!* (Ali Hakim).

Prior to WAAPA, Nat completed Singer, Dancer, Actor (NIDA) and the full-time program at Plie, Groove & Shuffle. He has also worked for P&O cruises and Carnival Cruiselines.

In 2008, Nat performed the role of Marcel in *Irene* with Debbie Reynolds.



Dan Hamill

At just eighteen Dan flew from Perth to Sydney for Channel 7's *Popstars Live* where he made it to the top 10. The following year saw him co writing an RnB album.

In 2006 Daniel was accepted into WAAPA's BA Music Theatre course. Whilst at WAAPA his stage credits included *Curly* in *Oklahoma!* opposite Jill Perryman, *Sammy* in *Blood Brothers*, and the *Husband* in *Hello Again*.

Crazy For You marks Dan's first appearance with The Production Company.

Daniel is excited to be working with Terence O'Connell and would like to thank family and friends for their love and support.



Sam Ludeman

Sam completed a BA in Music Theatre at Ballarat Arts Academy. His credits there include *Bat Boy* in *Bat Boy*, *Jeffrey* in *Godspell* and *Bernardo* in scene study of *West Side Story*.

Sam recently appeared in *Lady Macbeth of Mitziki* for Opera Australia and before that he was in the Australian tour of *High School Musical the Musical*, which didn't quite tour but was fun nonetheless. Sam's other theatre credits include *Henry* in The Production Company's *Damn Yankees* and *Jesus/Stephen* in *Godspell*.

Sam is thrilled to be working with The Production Company again and looks forward to an awesome show! Thanks for watching. Peace.



Hayley Martin

Hayley graduated from Dance World Studios, Diploma of Dance (Performance) in 2006.

Relocating from the Whitsundays to Melbourne, she has appeared in various commercial and corporate events, including Silverchairs' *Losing Sleep* music video, featured dancer in Sony Cybershot TVC for the U.S and Tim Campbell's *Retro Experience*.

In 2007, Hayley made her musical theatre debut with the Australian production of *Monty Pythons' Spamalot*.

Crazy For You marks her first appearance with The Production Company.



Jessica Mechielsen

Originating from Brisbane, Jessica completed her AMuS Violin Diploma with a Distinction and subsequently played with the QYO. Her love of dance was fostered at All That Dance Studios.

In 2005, she moved to Melbourne to undertake Dance World Studios' Diploma Of Dance, graduating in 2007 with Distinctions. Since then, Jessica has performed for Royal Caribbean Cruises, Crown Entertainment, Event Theatre Australia and television & film. Jessica collaborated with Anthony Costanzo in 2004, contributing violin parts to his musical *Life's a Circus*.



Jensen Overend

Jensen is a proud graduate of the Victorian College of the Arts. Course highlights include the lead role of Bobby in *Company*, his own self-devised cabaret at The Butterfly Club and the *Take Your Skin Off and Dance* showcase. His other credits are *My Fair Lady* (AEMA), *The Happy Medium* (OzMade Musicals), *Songs for a New World* (Doorstep Ensemble) and *Is There Life after High School?* (Stella Entertainment).

Crazy For You marks Jensen's professional debut.

He will next be seen in The Production Company's *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*.



Jeremy Powell

A graduate of the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, Jeremy holds a B.Mus.Ed., Grad.Dip.Mus. and A.Mus.A in both piano and voice. Jeremy has performed in many musicals including *Spamalot*, *Dead Man Walking*, *Eurobeat*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *The Producers*, *The Witches of Eastwick*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *Sunday in the Park with George* and the role of Billy Lawler in *42nd Street* at the Theatre Royal, Hobart and the Hills Centre, Sydney.

Jeremy worked as vocal coach and orchestra member on Disney's *The Lion King* and as orchestra member on *Little Women* for Kookaburra.



Adam Rennie

Adam is a graduate of the Talent Development Project and in 2008 graduated from WAAPA with a BA in Music Theatre. *Crazy For You* marks Adam's second professional show after playing Plate de Jour in *Irene* alongside the legendary Debbie Reynolds.

Whilst at WAAPA Adam performed in *Boy Overboard*, *Oklahoma!*, *Blood Brothers*, *West Side Story*, was both The College Boy and The Young Thing in LaChuisa's *Hello Again* and was thrilled to play Tobias in *Sweeney Todd*.

Adam is also a co-producer of *Light the Night*, an annual benefit concert which raises money and awareness for leukemia research.



Brooke Synnott

Brooke started dancing at age 3 with Barbara Lynch. She went on to study at VCA and graduated from The Bartuccio Dance Centre with a Diploma in Dance. Brooke's theatre credits include the Australian tour of *Cats* (Really Useful Co.) where she played the role of Cassandra, *How To Succeed In Business Without Really Trying* and *Sunset Boulevard* (both with The Production Company). Most recently, Brooke performed in Monty Python's musical *Spamalot*.



Brianne Turk

In 2008 Brianne Turk graduated WAAPA with a BA in Music Theatre. Whilst studying in Perth she enjoyed performing in the ensemble of *West Side Story*, *Blood Brothers* and *Sweeney Todd*. She gave the raunchy song-and dance striptease of the Nurse in *Hello Again*, and played Laurey in *Oklahoma!* alongside Jill Perryman.

Prior to W.A.A.P.A. she performed the Baker's Wife in *Into the Woods* at the Victorian College of the Arts.

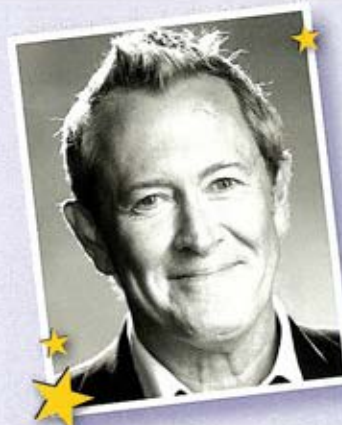
Brianne is thrilled to kick off her first professional show with *Crazy for You* and is looking forward to *Jekyll & Hyde* later this year.



Hester van der Vyver

Hester trained at Ecole Jacques Lecoq in Paris, the Melbourne Conservatorium and the National Theatre Ballet School. She is happy to be back in Melbourne after touring the past year in Opera Australia's production of *My Fair Lady* playing the role of Mrs Hopkins. Prior to that Hester was in the cast of *Shout!* understudying and performing the roles of Marianne and Maureen O'Keefe.

Hester has appeared in *Little Me*, *Sweet Charity*, *High Society*, *Anything Goes*, *Call Me Madam* and *Funny Girl* for The Production Company.



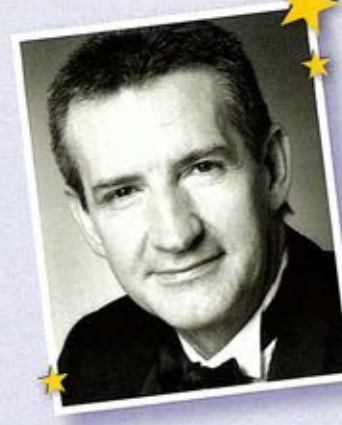
TERENCE O'CONNELL

Director

Terence has staged some 150 productions in theatres, concert halls, circus tents, cabaret rooms and comedy clubs across Australia and internationally. His national touring productions include *Bouncers*, *Decadence*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Circus Oz*, *Glynn Nicholas-Crossing The Line*, *Buddy-The Buddy Holly Story*, *Flying Fruit Fly Circus*, *Certified Male*, *I Only Want To Be With You-The Dusty Springfield Story* and *Miniskirts-Australian Women And The Vietnam War*.

He is a regular guest director for Ballarat University Arts Academy (*Into The Woods*, *Bat Boy-The Musical*, *Cabaret*), Adelaide Cabaret Festival (*Metro Street*, *Shane Warne-The Musical*, *Licence To Thrill-The Scores Of James Bond*) and National Theatre Drama Studio (*Top Girls*, *Sam Shepard Anthology*, *Come Back To The Five And Dime Jimmy Dean*). His recent work includes Andrew Lippa's *John And Jen* (Chapel Off Chapel) and *Oklahoma!* WAAPA.

Terence's 2009 projects include *Nine* (La Salle, Performance Space, Singapore), *42nd Street* (WAAPA) *Gypsy* (BUAA, Geelong Performing Arts Centre), the Australian premiere Off-Broadway's *Songs From An Unmade Bed* and the continuing tour of the outrageous hit *Busting Out*. He is currently developing the new musical *Skindeep: Helena Rubinstein & I* and is delighted to be helming another Production Company show following *They're Playing Our Song*, *Oklahoma!*, *The Pajama Game*, *42nd Street* and *Damn Yankees*.



PETER CASEY

Musical Director / Conductor

Peter has been Musical Director for several major music theatre productions, including *Les Miserables*, *The Sound of Music*, *The King and I*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Chicago*, *Cabaret*, *Smokey Joe's Cafe: The Songs of Leiber and Stoller*, *Topol's Fiddler on the Roof*, *Company*, *Spamalot*, *Evita*, *Cats*, *Aspects of Love*, *Song and Dance*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *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* and *Mame*.

He was Musical Supervisor for *Guys and Dolls*, *South Pacific*, *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, *Grease - The Arena Spectacular*, *Cats - Run Away To The Circus* and *Grease - The Mega Musical*.

In 1998, he was Musical Director for *The Main Event*, and for the 2001, 2002, 2005 and 2006 Helpmann Awards®. Peter was Musical Director for Ursula Yovich's *Magpie Blues*, at the Adelaide Cabaret Festival, and as well as the forthcoming Asian tour of *Jekyll and Hyde*.

Peter has worked extensively in South East Asia, on musicals, operas and recordings, and has been Guest Conductor for the West Australian Symphony, Adelaide Symphony and Queensland Symphony Orchestras.

Peter is proud to be associated with The Production Company's production of *Crazy For You*.



ALANA SCANLAN

Choreographer

Alana started as a big haired *Don Lane Show* dancer and has become one of Australia's most in-demand choreographers, working in theatre, fashion, commercials, music clips and corporate events.

She has choreographed *Style Aid*, award-winning video clips, theatrical spectacles for Casino's, fashion parades and Fashion Weeks in Sydney and Melbourne.

Alana choreographed the finale event of the Centenary of Federation *The Peoplescape Concert* and she consulted to the Commonwealth Games Closing Ceremony.

Her theatre work includes *Bouncers*, *I Only Want To Be With You - The Dusty Springfield Story*, *Kissing Frogs*, *Certified Male*, *Minefields* and *Miniskirts* as well as *The Great Moscow Circus*.

Alana choreographed the movies *Strange Bedfellows* and *Macbeth* and was also choreographer for the *Kath and Kim* TV movie, *Da Kath and Kim Code*.

Her other television credits as Movement Coach and Choreographer include *Singing Bee*, *Australia's Got Talent*, *The X Factor*, *So You Think You Can Dance*, *It Takes Two* and *Dancing With the Stars*.

Alana has choreographed five musicals for The Production Company : *They're Playing Our Song*, *Oklahoma!*, *The Pajama Game*, *42nd Street* and *Damn Yankees*.



KIM BISHOP

Costume Designer

For over 20 years Kim has been involved in the theatre industry. He has toured as Head of Wardrobe on many large scale musicals including *The King and I*, *Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *South Pacific*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Aida - The Spectacular*, *Crazy For You*, *The Merchants Of Bollywood*, *Singin' In The Rain* and *Shout*. The all Australian world premiere seasons of *The Boy From Oz* and *Dusty - The Original Pop Diva* were particular highlights.

He has dressed on *The Producers*, *Grease*, *Shirley Maclaine*, *Cats*, *Sugar Babies*, *Guys & Dolls*, *A Little Night Music*, *Shane Warne - The Musical*, for Opera Australia and The Australian Ballet to name a few. Kim has made costumes with legendary costumier Bob Murphy and for some years had the pleasure of touring the world as Wardrobe Manager with Torvill & Dean and their international ice skating companies, playing venues everywhere from his home town Melbourne to Las Vegas, Madison Square Garden and Wembley.

Kim has supervised the Wardrobe Department for The Production Company on 13 shows and was Costume Designer for *Sweet Charity*, *42nd Street*, *Damn Yankees* and *Mame*. He would like to pay tribute to the late Richard Pratt for his philanthropy and great patronage of the arts.



KATHRYN SPROUL

Set Designer

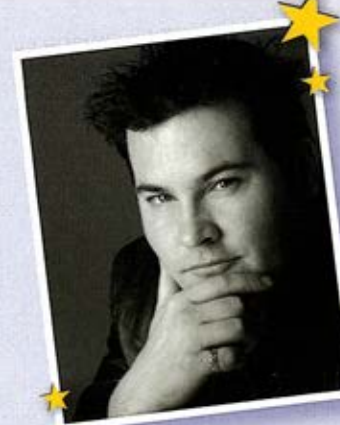
Kathryn works nationally for theatre, dance and large arts events.

A graduate in Stage Design from NIDA, Kathryn was Resident Designer for Magpie Theatre and State Theatre Company of South Australia from 1988 to 1993. Career highlights include the memorable *Flamma Flamma: the Fire Requiem*, which opened the 1998 Adelaide Festival of Arts; *Click!* The Millennium Event, South Australia's 1999 New Year's Eve Celebration and Event Development and Design for Centenary of Federation SA in 2001.

Kathryn won the 2004 Green Room Award for Visual Design (for Fringe/Independent Theatre) for her work on *Traitors*.

Major projects include: Event Designer, Adelaide Cabaret Festival 2005 – 2009; Event & Parade Designer, Adelaide Fringe 2006; Production Designer *Charters Towers: the Musical*, Queensland Music Festival 2005; Production Designer *Paradise: the Musical*, and Coorparoo Sk8, Brisbane Festival 2006; Costume Design, State Theatre SA's productions of *Noises Off*, *Uncle Vanya*, *Hamlet*; and *True West*, Flying Penguin Productions. Kathryn is currently Event Designer for OzAsia Festival 2009.

Kathryn's set designs for The Production Company include *42nd Street* in 2007 and *Damn Yankees* in 2008.



SCOTT ALLAN

Lighting Designer

After training with the Young People's Theatre, Scott spent eight years as Resident Lighting Designer for the company, lighting pantomime and productions in repertory.

Scott is a professional member of the Association of Lighting Designer's (ALD), Treasurer of the Australasian Lighting Industry Association (ALIA) and has twice attended the Broadway Lighting Design master class series at New York University.

Scott worked as a Stage Manager, including the national tours of *I'm Not a Dentist* and *Late Nite Catechism* prior to six years as Resident Lighting Designer to the Gold Coast Arts Centre and four years as the Technical Manager for the Arts Faculty at Deakin University.

Other work includes: *The Oldest Profession* (Ensemble Theatre), *Blackrock*, *Kill the Wolf* (9minds), *Godspell* (CED Vic.), *Europe*, *A Stretch of the Imagination* (La Mama), *Damn Yankees* (The Production Company), *Oliver!*, *Abelard & Heloise* (Opera Hunter), *Two Weeks with the Queen*, *Dags*, *Animal Farm* (YPT), *Godspell*, *Jekyll & Hyde*, *The Boy from Oz*, *Sweeney Todd* (GCAC) *La Boheme*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, *La Traviata*, *I Puritani* (Melbourne Opera), *The Maids*, *Bent*, *Diary of a Madman* (Hunter Valley Theatre Company); and currently touring in the corporate world, *Lectern Rock* for the Belong Group. www.sallanld.com



MARK HILL

Assistant to the Choreographer

Mark Hill began acting singing and dancing at the age of three and by the time he started school, he had appeared in professional touring productions of *Faust*, and *The Wizard of Oz*. At the age of eleven, Mark scored a lead role on the kid's television series *The Wayne Manifesto*, and performed live onstage with Michael Jackson in his *History Tour*.

At fifteen, Mark had a supporting role in *Cybergirl* on the Ten Network. Mark is a current member of Bindi Irwin's *Crocmen*. In 2008, Mark choreographed and featured in a sell-out season of *Hot Shoe Shuffle* and in 2009 Mark was chosen as one of Australia's top 60 dances on *You Think You Can Dance*.

JOHN SCANDRETT MARK BENSON & NICK REICH Sound Designers for System Sound Sound Design



System Sound has engineered the sound for all of The Production Company's shows since it's inception.

MARK BENSON is responsible for the orchestral sound and system engineering. He has designed and mixed many concerts for the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, The Australian Philharmonic Orchestra and The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra and others. Mark has been responsible for the orchestral sound for The Production Company's shows for the last five years.

NICK REICH is responsible for the live sound mix and Sound Effects production. Nick has mixed the sound on *Les Miserables*, *The Phantom of the Opera*, *High Society*, *Five Guys Named Moe*, *Into the Woods*. He was co-designer for *The Producers*, and *Titanic The Musical* and *Guys & Dolls*.

JOHN SCANDRETT, the founder and Managing Director of System Sound Pty Ltd for 30 years, has designed sound for many productions, and was collaborating Sound Designer with Julian Spink for the original and current Australian productions of *Chicago*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Cabaret*, and with Nick Reich for *The Producers* and *Guys and Dolls*.

System Sound has designed or engineered throughout Australasia; *Les Miserables*, *Joseph*, *Rent*, *Cats*, *Aspects of Love*, *Show Boat*, *Sunset Boulevard*, *Miss Saigon*, *Cabaret*, *Mamma Mia!*, *Spamalot*, *The Producers*, *We Will Rock You*, *Guys and Dolls*, and *Billy Elliot*. Currently, they are sounding *Jersey Boys*, *Wicked*, *Avenue Q*, and the *Cats*, *Phantom of The Opera*, and *Chicago* tours.



The Production Company
P.O. Box 19464
Southbank Vic 3006
Phone and Fax: 03 9247 4800
Email: admin@theproductioncompany.com.au
www.theproductioncompany.com.au

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairman **Jeanne Pratt AC**
Treasurer **Keith Beecher**
Company Secretary **Ian Dixon**
Directors

Deborah Beale
Felicity Beale
Mark Gogoll
John Hay-Mackenzie
Garry Krauss AM
Ken Mackenzie-Forbes AM
Ross Mollison
Darien Sticklen
Rachel D Taylor

General Manager **Ken Mackenzie-Forbes AM**
Executive Consultant **Rachel D Taylor**
Sponsorship & Development Manager **Chris Gibbons**

Technical Director **David Miller**
Marketing **Caryn Cavanagh**
Celia Pavelieff
Peter J Adams
ACMN Pty Ltd

Publicity **Julie Cavanagh**
CAVANAGH PR
Subscriptions **Rénee Cash**

Thank you to
Article and Photos **Frank Van Straten OAM**
Rehearsal studios **Dance World**
Generous assistance with props and costumes



Double Bass **James Kempster**



The Arts Centre
PO Box 7585
ST Kilda Road
Melbourne Vic 8004
Telephone: (03) 9281 8000
Facsimile: (03) 9281 8282
www.theartscentre.com.au

VICTORIAN ARTS CENTRE TRUST

President **Ms Janet Whiting**
Ms Deborah Beale
Mr Graham Smorgon
Mr Paul Brasher
Prof Leon van Schaik OA
Mr Michael Daddo
Mr David Vigo
Ms Ailsa Piper
Mr Tim Jacobs Chief Executive

The Arts Centre gratefully acknowledges the support of its donors through the Arts Angels Program.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

- * The management reserves the right to add, withdraw or substitute artists and to vary the programme as necessary.
- * The Trust reserves the right of refusing admission.
- * Cameras, tape recorders, paging machines, video recorders and mobile telephones must not be operated in the venue.
- * In the interests of public health, the Arts Centre is a smoke - free area.