

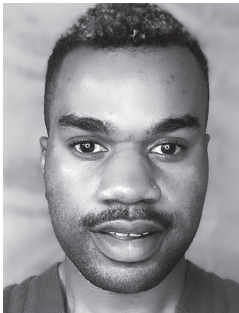


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— 5
MAR

2022

CYBEC SCENES

Rehearsed readings of excerpts from electric new works by Gideon D. Wilonja, Blayne Welsh and Roshelle Fong.



The Way We Were
By Gideon D. Wilonja



AIRCON
By Blayne Welsh



Mykei
By Roshelle Fong

CYBEC SCENES

THURS 3 MARCH 7PM
SAT 5 MARCH 2PM

and a side of cut chilli

SAT 5 MARCH 7PM

i got myself arrested
because i didn't feel safe

FRI 5 MARCH 7PM

SOUTHBANK THEATRE
THE LAWLER

These readings contain mature themes, coarse language, homophobic language, references to Black deaths in custody, sexual assault and self harm.

MTC.COM.AU/CYBEC

Cybec Electric is made possible by the support of the late Dr Roger Riordan AM and The Cybec Foundation.



MTC is a department of the University of Melbourne





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The Way We Were

BY GIDEON D. WILONJA

Jovin is an actor on the rise with a troubled history he's trying to break away from. Iris is a critically acclaimed film and theatre writer. Together they are two artistic egos torn between their past and the powerful love they have for one another. *The Way We Were* opens the door for dialogue about how race, age, class and privilege can affect a relationship in contemporary Australia.

Gideon D. Wilonja is a Congolese born multidisciplinary artist based in Naarm. Gideon's work predominantly centres Black and queer voices, and uses his experience as a queer Black man to tell stories that are often overlooked by mainstream media. Through his newly found theatre company Mwangaza Theatre, he works closely with his community to encourage them to reclaim autonomy over their own narratives. Gideon's work *Soft* was honoured with grand prize at the 2021 Wyndham Art Prize.



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AIRCON

BY BLAYNE WELSH

Two unlikely lovers, Billy and James, find themselves comfortably trapped in a luxurious bunker thanks to a sudden rise in global temperature. Their dreams of starting a progressive queer family seem now at risk until a mysterious woman arrives with her own agenda. If somebody's actions result in intergenerational victims, does their responsibility become inheritable as well?

Blayne Welsh is an emerging First Nations (Wailwan) theatre maker and performer. He has worked both locally and internationally since 2015, from black box theatres and schools to footy fields and prisons. He is interested in exploring theatre in an applied sense, and is currently developing new works that dive into questions surrounding intergenerational trauma, intergenerational justice, and the expectations of leaders held by First Nations communities in contrast with those held by non-Indigenous institutions. Blayne completed his Bachelor of Arts degree with Honours in Theatre and Drama at La Trobe University, and in 2019 was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to visit New York University, based primarily at the Verbatim Performance Laboratory.



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2022

Mykei



BY ROSHELLE FONG

When people please Janelle Wong's partner brings home 'Mykei', a robotic therapy dog designed to help people live their best lives, Janelle is hopeful for a quick fix. But as she and Mykei get better acquainted, she begins to suspect the AI pooch has a bite much worse than its mechanised bark.

Roshelle Fong is a Hong Kong Australian multidisciplinary artist. She wrote, directed and produced the Melbourne Fringe award-winning immersive show *nomnomnom* in 2018, which she adapted in East Iceland, Shanghai and Sydney as part of Kings Cross Hotel's Vivid programming. In 2020 Roshelle wrote and performed in the live-streamed interactive show *Thirsty!* for Griffin Theatre's *Griffin Lock-in* and Google Creative Lab's *Theatre, made for the internet*. She also participated in Democracy in Colour's Create Change Fellowship and co-created an anti-racism card game for schools called Zoophobia. In 2021 Roshelle's interactive theatre show *Poona* (Next Wave Festival), co-written with Keziah Warner, premiered at the Museum of Chinese Australian History, and she joined Melbourne Theatre Company's First Stage writers program. She also wrote and performed in *Ruthless World* which won the Melbourne Fringe Headroom Award supported by RISING. Roshelle is an alumni of Malthouse Theatre's Besen Family Artist's Program 2018 and MTC's Women in Theatre Program 2019.

CYBEC ELECTRIC

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Cast includes

Kwame Kamara
Charles Purcell
Eva Rees
Sahil Saluja
Corey Saylor-Brunskill
Laila Thaker
Jenny Zhou

Directors

Sonya Suares
Isabella Vadiveloo

Literary Manager

Jenni Medway

Dramaturg

Morgan Rose

Programs Producer

Karin Farrell

Stage Manager

Christine Bennett

Lawler Technician

Kit Cunneen

Cybec Electric Intern

Matisse Knight

Script Consultant (*Mykei*)

Matt Heffernan

Melbourne Theatre Company acknowledges the Yalukit Willam Peoples of the Boon Wurrung, the First Peoples of Country on which Southbank Theatre and MTC HQ stand.

We pay our respects to all of Melbourne's First Peoples, to their ancestors and Elders, and to our shared future.

In this programme, terms used to describe an individual's cultural identity when referencing a particular work or artist have been determined in consultation with the artists involved.

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THE
Cybec
FOUNDATION



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department
of the University
of Melbourne

MTC MELBOURNE
THEATRE
COMPANY