



# NETFLIX THE COMPANY

SEASON 2024  
ANNUAL REPORT

Melbourne Theatre Company acknowledges the Boon Wurrung and Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung peoples of the Kulin Nation, the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work, create and gather.

We pay our respects to all First Nations people, their Elders past and present, and their enduring connections to Country, knowledge and stories.

As a Company we remain committed to the invitation of the Uluru Statement from the Heart and its call for voice, truth and treaty.

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Melbourne Theatre Company is a department of the University of Melbourne.

**Theatre is for everyone.**

**Melbourne Theatre Company is committed  
to sharing stories that reflect the diversity  
of the human experience.**

**We believe that producing the highest quality  
theatre is only possible when all artists –  
regardless of race, sexuality, faith, ability, age  
or gender – are given the same opportunities  
to create and to flourish.**

# **WE'RE FOR STORIES**

**The ones less told  
The ones told before  
The ones yet to be told**



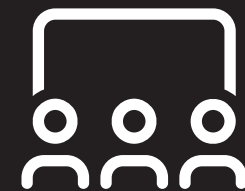


# THE YEAR IN NUMBERS



**\$14m+**

total box  
office income



**181k+**

total paid  
attendance



**571**

performances



**\$26.57m**

total revenue



**20k+**

paid attendance at  
performances  
outside of Melbourne



**433**

actors, creatives  
and industry  
professionals employed



**12k+**

ticket buyers were new to  
Melbourne Theatre Company



**6**

new Australian works  
commissioned





# Chair's report

MARTIN HOSKING



More than 40 years ago, I arrived in Melbourne and was immediately captivated by its vibrant theatre scene. So much so, I wrote my Melbourne University Honours thesis on the history of the Australian Performing Group which operated the Pram Factory in Carlton. Melbourne Theatre Company was well established by then as one of Australia's leading theatre companies. I am both humbled and honoured to now serve as Chair of this remarkable company, which has been an important part of my life for so many years.

As someone who has spent much of my career in the tech and business sectors, I have seen first-hand the power of innovation and collaboration. My experiences as co-founder of Redbubble and in various other entrepreneurial roles have given me an appreciation for the need to balance creative ambition with sustainable growth. I have this in mind in my role as Chair, working alongside a talented Board and Executive team to ensure the Company continues to thrive.

I took up the role of Chair in July, around the time one of the 20th century's most famous plays – *A Streetcar Named Desire* – took over the Playhouse at Arts Centre Melbourne. Watching the revival, brought to the stage by Artistic Director & Co-CEO Anne-Louise Sarks, highlighted to me the enduring value of great theatre. Despite the challenging climate for arts organisations, marked by changing consumer behaviours and ongoing price pressures, we as a company continue to engage both new and returning audiences with thrilling theatre. In 2024 we presented renowned classics like *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Pulitzer Prize-winning comedies like *English*, and brand-new Australian plays that celebrate the best of home-grown talent. In a time when our cultural fabric is being stretched and reformed, theatre has never been more relevant. Melbourne Theatre Company remains a powerful platform for addressing contemporary issues and sparking meaningful conversation.

Our success on the main stage goes hand-in-hand with diverse development and educational programs. The Company underpins theatre in Victoria and beyond through our commitment to new writers, directors, partnerships, educational programs, regional touring and digital products.

A crucial part of our success is the ongoing support of the University of Melbourne, as well as the invaluable contributions of the Melbourne Theatre Company Foundation and the General Endowment Fund, all key to ensuring our long-term stability and resilience.

Our successes this year would not have been possible without the continued generosity of our Donors, Subscribers, and Corporate Partners. Your support enables us to remain a leading force in Australian theatre, while also nurturing the next generation of talent through our development programs and initiatives beyond the main stage.

I would also like to acknowledge the dedication and expertise of my fellow Board members. A special note of gratitude is owed to Patricia Faulkner AO, who stepped in as interim Chair prior to my appointment in July. And to my deputy Chair, Leigh O'Neill. Finally, my sincere thanks to Artistic Director & Co-CEO Anne-Louise Sarks, Executive Director & Co-CEO Sally Noonan and all Melbourne Theatre Company staff, including the creatives and artists who join us throughout the year – your commitment, passion, and hard work make the Company what it is today.

I look forward to the exciting journey ahead as we continue to shape the future of theatre in Melbourne and beyond.

*Martin Hosking*



# Executive Director & Co-CEO's report

SALLY NOONAN



As we reflect on another year at Melbourne Theatre Company with continued challenges, I'm buoyed by the momentum surrounding our artistic program and the reach and impact we've been able to drive around our programming and artistic initiatives.

In 2024, we welcomed more than 180,000 people into our theatres – including 12,000 first-time visitors – a powerful demonstration of the community's belief in theatre as a force for connection, insight and cultural leadership. Importantly, our impact extended beyond the theatre walls. We estimate that our audiences generated almost \$15.8 million in ancillary economic activity in 2024 alone, including \$5.2 million on food and drinks. This reinforces not only our cultural value but also our role as a key driver of Melbourne's creative economy and a vital contributor to the broader precinct.

This commitment to cultural and economic impact was matched by our efforts to reimagine how our spaces – particularly the Lawler theatre – could serve as incubators for artistic innovation and community engagement. We aligned our Cybec play-reading series with Melbourne Fringe, opening up the program to new audiences and voices within the independent sector.

Cross-platform events such as Open House Melbourne further positioned the Lawler as an accessible space within the expanding Melbourne Arts Precinct.

Productions like *Topdog/Underdog*, which transformed the venue into an intimate, lived-in apartment setting, exemplified the creative possibilities of the space and helped drive a record number of new ticket buyers for a Lawler season. These initiatives are part of a long-term strategy to more deeply embed the Company and the Southbank Theatre within the artistic heartbeat of the city.

We also renewed our Major Partnership with MinterEllison, extending the life of the MinterEllison Future Directors Initiative. This is such an integral part of our commitment to helping early-career theatre makers take the next step and in 2024 four Future Directors were mentored under the program, with three continuing their journeys with the Company in other capacities, alongside past alumni such as Miranda Middleton (*My Brilliant Career*) and Roshelle Yee Pui Fong (Season 2025). MinterEllison is an enlightened firm that understands its place as an authentic collaborator contributing to the community and city in which it works, and we value their holistic approach to our partnership.

While we reflect on the impact and engagement that demonstrates our place as one of the cultural experiences of Melbourne, we are also mindful of the ongoing challenges we face. These challenges are not unique to us but are instead widely felt in our industry. The ticketing environment for live performance remains tough, and we reported an 11% decrease in ticket sales revenue compared to 2023. We are indebted to the core group of Subscribers who delight in our mission and we are also committed to evolving to ensure relevance and sustainability in coming years, and to investing in building the audience of the future. In an uncertain economic environment, we continue necessarily to manage rising production costs, focusing on containing expenses, which resulted in a 1.5% decrease in total expenses in 2024 compared to the previous year.

Despite the ongoing underlying operating deficit, thanks to the extraordinary generosity of our supporters, we have seen a remarkable increase in donations and bequests into our General Endowment Fund. This has resulted in a modest overall company surplus of \$193,790, and importantly, it means that

the value of our Endowment Fund has surpassed \$10 million for the first time, securing an additional annual income stream for the Company starting in 2025. This milestone is a direct result of the forward-thinking leadership of our outgoing Chair, Jane Hansen, whose dedication to Melbourne Theatre Company has been transformative. It's of course paramount to thank the Foundation Board, and Chair Tania Seary, for their guidance, energy and governance.

2024 also saw the renewal of the Company's National Performing Arts Partnership Framework annual funding for a new four-year term beginning in 2025. I thank Creative Australia and Creative Victoria for acknowledging our work to carefully evolve this cherished company to be fit for the future.

With changes to our Board of Management in 2024, I would like to thank Patricia Faulkner for her leadership as Interim Chair and welcome Martin Hosking as our new Chair and Leigh O'Neill as Deputy Chair. Their guidance will be invaluable as we continue to navigate the evolving landscape of Australian theatre. I acknowledge and thank the University of Melbourne and would like to take the opportunity to farewell Duncan Maskell as Vice Chancellor upon the conclusion of his term in 2025.

My huge thanks to our creatives, corporate and government partners, Donors, Subscribers, and audiences. Your continued support is never more essential and valued and ensures that Melbourne Theatre Company continues to be a vibrant and energising part of Australia's arts scene.

Finally, I acknowledge the efforts of the extraordinary Melbourne Theatre Company team who work every day to send us in the right direction project by project, production by production. It is by no means easy, but it is very much appreciated.

# Artistic Director & Co-CEO's report

ANNE-LOUISE SARKS



This year included an expansive season of work that brought together local and international voices and celebrated the transformative power of live theatre. We presented 15 productions across 571 performances, including three brand new works as part of *Blak in the Room*. We welcomed 433 artists, creatives and makers to our stages and spaces.

We saw impressive audience engagement across the year, with productions like *37*, *Julia*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *My Brilliant Career* and *The Almighty Sometimes* sparking strong emotional responses, and impressive youth and new audience figures – clear evidence of the power of theatre to lead and unlock cultural conversations. This signals great progress towards our vision to amplify Australian stories, expand access and to deepen our national identity through groundbreaking work. Reflecting on this momentum, arts critic Cameron Woodhead observed, 'Of all the good news stories in theatre in 2024, it is the runaway success of the Melbourne Theatre Company's season... galvanised by the sense of an artistic community pushing to new heights – that stands out most.'

What I loved in 2024 was the broad range of appetites from our audiences. We saw enthusiastic responses to international hits like Suzan Lori-Parks's *Topdog/Underdog* and Sanaz Toossi's *English*, both of which saw extended runs due to strong demand. These award-winning plays resonated with people in ways that are both energising and humbling,

demonstrating the desire for stories that reflect diverse experiences and which speak to universal truths. Just as much as we embraced powerhouse plays from abroad, our commitment to creating new Australian work was equally celebrated.

The impact of *37*, commissioned and developed through our NEXT STAGE program, was remarkable. It was loved by critics and award panels alike and won a Victorian Premier's Literary Award for Drama. It was also embraced by audiences, who showed a hunger for bold, original Australian stories. Nathan Maynard's hilarious play experienced the best single day of sales of Season 2024 and importantly welcomed new audiences into the Sumner. Plus, we worked with co-producers Queensland Theatre to take *37* beyond Melbourne. Another sensation was *My Brilliant Career*, a reimagining of Miles Franklin's celebrated classic from Dean Bryant and Sheridan Harbridge. It was a triumph, selling out and extending due to overwhelming demand. These successes are not only a reflection of the talent of the creatives behind them but also of the hunger for locally created work.

We've worked hand-in-hand with companies in Victoria and across other states to bring exciting new productions to the stage. We ensured Melbourne theatregoers had a chance to see Justine Clarke's extraordinary performance in a sold-out season of *Julia*, by Joanna Murray-Smith, after its successful run in Sydney. The production's popularity continued here in Joanna's home city – we added Friday matinees to meet the high demand – a testament to the growing appetite for exceptional live theatre in our city. Our *Blak in the Room* initiative, delivered in partnership with ILBIJERRI Theatre Company, exemplified our focus on equity, collaboration and First Nations voices. We are excited to continue working with one of those playwrights, Isobel Morphy-Walsh, who will join us as Resident Dramaturg in 2025.

Beyond Melbourne, we toured our Education & Families productions *SLAP. BANG. KISS.* and *World Problems* to regional audiences in Victoria and New South Wales, and saw our acclaimed production, *Sunday*, reach new audiences both online and at the Sydney Opera House.

We also had a full circle moment in Merlynn Tong's high octane *Golden Blood*, a work that made its way from our Cybec Electric play-reading series through our NEXT STAGE Writers' Program and onto the Melbourne stage via Griffin Theatre Company.

In addition to celebrating the artists and works of today, we are equally focused on nurturing the future of Australian theatre. We are developing and refining 20 active commissions to bring brand-new plays to our stages. We're proud to continue providing space and resources for Deadly Creatives, the young First Nations theatre makers as they create new work for 2025. And we are excited about the success of our inaugural Future Creatives programs. This initiative, which seeks to address under-representation in the theatre industry, has received incredible feedback from early-career designers and their mentors and has given those emerging artists unparalleled opportunities to work alongside world class designers.

Of course, Season 2024 would not be possible without the extraordinary artists, makers, and technicians who brought it to life. I am deeply grateful to the performers, designers, directors, writers, and the staff who work tirelessly behind the scenes here at Melbourne Theatre Company with rigor and talent and care. And finally, to our audiences: thank you. Your passion and engagement allows us to continue creating and sharing stories that excite, challenge and inspire.

See you at the theatre.





15 JAN—17 FEB 2024  
SOUTHBANK THEATRE, THE SUMNER

# SEVENTEEN

BY **MATTHEW WHITTET**

DIRECTED BY **MATT EDGERTON**

‘Outstanding veterans of the stage  
take on the issues of today’s teens  
in this sentimental tale.’

TIME OUT

‘Comedy and poignancy ripple  
through the performances  
to complex effect.’

THE AGE

## Cast

**Fiona Choi** Lizzy  
**Robert Menzies** Tom  
**Genevieve Picot** Emilia  
**Richard Piper** Mike  
**Pamela Rabe** Jess  
**George Shevtsov** Ronny

## Creative and production team

**Matt Edgerton** Director  
**Christina Smith**  
Set & Costume Designer  
**Paul Jackson** Lighting Designer  
**Joe Paradise Lui**  
Composer & Sound Designer  
**Vincent Crowley** Movement Director  
**Tom Willis** Associate Lighting Designer  
**Tasnim Hossain** Assistant Director  
**Amy Cater** Intimacy Coordinator

## Key dates

**Opening Night** Fri 19 Jan  
**Forum Night** Mon 22 Jan  
**Donor Night** Tue 30 Jan  
**Audio Described** Sat 3 Feb, Tue 6 Feb  
**Tactile Tour** Sat 3 Feb  
**Live Captioning** Sat 10 Feb  
**Auslan Interpreted** Tue 13 Feb

## The season in numbers

**Performances** 37  
**Paid Attendance** 10,618





10 FEB—16 MAR 2024  
ARTS CENTRE MELBOURNE, FAIRFAX STUDIO

# MEET ME AT DAWN

BY **ZINNIE HARRIS**  
DIRECTED BY **KATY MAUDLIN**

★★★★★  
‘Deeply moving and  
poignant.’  
TIME OUT

‘Two excellent actors  
at its centre.’  
THE GUARDIAN

## Cast

**Jing-Xuan Chan** Robyn  
**Sheridan Harbridge** Helen

## Creative and production team

**Katy Maudlin** Director  
**Romanie Harper**  
Set & Costume Designer  
**Amelia Lever-Davidson**  
Lighting Designer  
**Daniel Nixon**  
Composer & Sound Designer  
**Geraldine Cook-Dafner**  
Voice & Text Coach  
**Isabella Vadiveloo** Intimacy Coordinator

## Key dates

**Opening Night** Thurs 15 Feb  
**Forum Night** Mon 19 Feb  
**Donor Night** Mon 26 Feb  
**Audio Described** Sat 2 Mar, Tue 5 Mar  
**Tactile Tour** Sat 2 Mar  
**Live Captioning** Sat 9 Mar  
**Auslan Interpreted** Tues 12 Mar

## The season in numbers

**Performances** 40  
**Paid Attendance** 8,284

Major Marketing  
Partner

**The Monthly**





2 MAR—5 APR 2024  
SOUTHBANK THEATRE, THE SUMNER

37  
BY NATHAN MAYNARD  
DIRECTED BY ISAAC DRANDIC

★★★★★  
‘Funny, big-hearted, vigorous and  
accessible...a thrilling defining moment.’  
THE AGE

★★★★★  
‘In a nutshell: perfect theatre.’  
ARTSHUB

Cast

Syd Brisbane The General  
Mitchell Brotz Gorby  
Samuel Buckley Apples  
Costa D’Angelo Ant  
Thomas Larkin GJ  
Eddie Orton Woodsy  
Ben O’Toole Joe  
Ngali Shaw Jayma  
Anthony Standish Dazza  
Tibian Wyles Sonny

Creative and production team

Isaac Drandic  
Director & Co-Choreographer  
Dale Ferguson Set & Costume Designer  
Ben Hughes Lighting Designer  
James Henry  
Composer & Sound Designer  
Waangenga Blanco Co-Choreographer  
Matt Furlani Voice & Text Coach  
Kamarra Bell-Wykes Assistant Director  
Lyndall Grant Fight Choreographer  
Isabella Vadiveloo Intimacy Coordinator

Key dates

Opening Night Thu 7 Mar  
Forum Night Mon 11 Mar  
Donor Night Tue 19 Mar  
Audio Described Sat 16 Mar, Tue 19 Mar  
Tactile Tour Sat 16 Mar  
Live Captioning Sat 23 Mar  
Auslan Interpreted Tue 26 Mar  
Community Nights  
Sat 2 Mar, Sat 23 Mar

The season in numbers

Performances 37  
Paid Attendance 12,711

Interstate season

11 Apr—4 May  
Bille Brown Theatre  
South Brisbane QLD

Nominations and awards

Victorian Premier’s Literary Award  
Winner Drama 2025  
Matilda Award Winner  
Best Mainstage Production  
Matilda Award Winner  
Best Direction – Isaac Drandic  
Matilda Award Nomination  
Best Performance in a Leading Role –  
Mainstage Production – Tibian Wyles  
Matilda Award Nomination  
Best Performance in a Supporting Role  
– Mainstage Production –  
Anthony Standish  
Green Room Award Nomination  
Outstanding Production  
Green Room Award Nomination  
Outstanding Ensemble  
Green Room Award Nomination  
Outstanding New Australian Writing  
Green Room Award Nomination  
Outstanding Direction – Isaac Drandic  
Green Room Award Nomination  
Outstanding Performance – Syd Brisbane  
Green Room Award Nomination  
Outstanding Performance – Tibian Wyles  
Green Room Award Nomination  
Outstanding Lighting Design – Ben Hughes

Co-producer

Commissioned and developed through Melbourne  
Theatre Company’s NEXT STAGE Writers’ Program,  
with the support of our Playwrights Giving Circle.





15 APR—18 MAY 2024  
SOUTHBANK THEATRE, THE SUMNER

# THE ALMIGHTY SOMETIMES

BY **KENDALL FEAVER**  
DIRECTED BY **HANNAH GOODWIN**



‘Cogently teases out and does justice  
to the nuances of Feaver’s words’

ARTSHUB



‘Pulling off a dramatic, emotionally charged dissection of  
[mental illness] with clinical precision.’

THE AGE

## Cast

**Nadine Garner** Renee  
**Max McKenna** Anna  
**Louisa Mignone** Vivienne  
**Karl Richmond** Oliver

## Key dates

**Opening Night** Fri 19 Apr  
**Forum Night** Mon 22 Apr  
**Donor Night** Mon 29 Apr  
**Audio Described** Sat 4 May, Tue 7 May  
**Tactile Tour** Sat 4 May  
**Live Captioning** Sat 11 May  
**Auslan Interpreted** Tues 14 May

## Nominations and awards

**Time Out Melbourne Arts & Culture  
Critics’ Choice Award Winner –**  
Max McKenna  
**Time Out Melbourne Arts & Culture  
People’s Choice Award Winner –**  
Max McKenna

## Creative and production team

**Hannah Goodwin** Director  
**Jacob Battista** Set & Costume Designer  
**Amelia Lever-Davidson**  
Lighting Designer  
**Kelly Ryall** Composer & Sound Designer  
**Matt Furlani** Voice & Text Coach  
**Lyndall Grant** Fight Choreographer &  
Movement Consultant  
**Bayley Turner** Intimacy Coordinator  
**Jennifer Sarah Dean** Assistant Director

## The season in numbers

**Performances** 37  
**Paid Attendance** 12,387

Major Marketing Partner

**The Saturday  
Paper**





EDUCATION & FAMILIES

3 MAY—22 MAY 2024  
SOUTHBANK THEATRE, THE LAWLER

# WORLD PROBLEMS

BY **EMMA MARY HALL**  
DIRECTED BY **CASSANDRA FUMI**

'Perfect fodder for interrogation and speculation.'  
THEATRE MATTERS

'A tour de force.'  
THE SATURDAY PAPER

## Cast

**Carly Sheppard** Performer

## Creative and production team

**Cassandra Fumi** Director

**Dann Barber** Set & Costume Designer

**Harrie Hogan** Lighting Designer

**Rachel Lewindon**  
Composer & Sound Designer

**Amelia Jean O'Leary**  
Movement Consultant

**Kamarra Bell-Wykes**  
Additional Dramaturgy

**Bridie Noonan**  
Robert McDonald Award Intern

**Nicki Jam** Volunteer Directing Placement

## Key dates

**Opening Night** Wed 8 May

**Forum Night** Mon 13 May

**Education Performances** Thu 9 May,  
Wed 15 May, Tue 21 May

**Livestreamed Performance** Wed 15 May

**Community Night** Mon 20 May

## Livestream performance

**Wed 15 May**

**Arts Centre Melbourne Audio Visual  
& Broadcasting** Digital broadcast

**Brian Cohen** Livestream director

## The season in numbers

**Performances** 20

**Paid Attendance** 1,897





31 MAY—13 JUL 2024  
SOUTHBANK THEATRE, THE SUMNER

# JULIA

BY JOANNA MURRAY-SMITH  
DIRECTED BY SARAH GOODES

'It's worth seeing this show  
just to watch Justine Clarke  
transform into Gillard.'

THE AGE

★★★★★  
'A masterful work  
of collaborative art.'

ARTS HUB

'A revealing portrait of  
a leader under duress.'

THE BLURB

## Cast

Jessica Bentley Young Woman  
Justine Clarke Julia

## Creative and production team

Sarah Goodes Director  
Renée Mulder Designer  
Alexander Berlage Lighting Designer  
Steve Francis  
Composer & Sound Designer  
Susie Henderson Video Designer  
Charley Allannah Assistant Director  
Jennifer White Voice & Dialect Coach  
Caroline Craig Understudy

## Key dates

Opening Night Tue 4 Jun  
Forum Night Mon 10 Jun  
Donor Night Thu 13 Jun  
Audio Described Sat 22 Jun, Tue 25 Jun  
Tactile Tour Sat 22 Jun  
Live Captioning Sat 29 Jun  
Auslan Interpreted Tue 2 Jul  
Education Performance Thu 6 Jun

## The season in numbers

Performances 53  
Paid Attendance 27,950

A Sydney Theatre Company and  
Canberra Theatre Centre production

SYDNEY THEATRE CO  
CANBERRA THEATRE CENTRE





9 JUL—17 AUG 2024  
ARTS CENTRE MELBOURNE, PLAYHOUSE

# A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE

BY **TENNESSEE WILLIAMS**

DIRECTED BY **ANNE-LOUISE SARKS**



‘Classic-with-a-twist interpretation.’

LIMELIGHT



‘Fuelled by powerful performances  
from the cast.’

THE AGE

## Cast

**Gabriella Barbagallo** Gee Gee / Nurse  
**Kaya Byrne** Young Collector / Doctor  
**Michelle Lim Davidson** Stella  
**Stephen Lopez** Pablo  
**Steve Mouzakis** Mitch  
**Veronica Pena Negrette** Flower Seller  
**Nikki Shiels** Blanche  
**Katherine Tonkin** Eunice  
**Mark Leonard Winter** Stanley  
**Gareth Yuen** Steve

## Key dates

**Opening Night** Sat 13 Jul  
**Forum Night** Mon 15 Jul  
**Donor Night** Mon 22 Jul  
**Audio Described** Sat 27 Jul, Tue 30 Jul  
**Tactile Tour** Sat 27 Jul  
**Live Captioning** Sat 3 Aug  
**Auslan Interpreted** Tue 6 Aug  
**Education Performance** Wed 7 Aug  
**Relaxed Performance** Wed 14 Aug

## The season in numbers

**Performances** 43  
**Paid Attendance** 25,758

## Creative and production team

**Anne-Louise Sarks** Director  
**Mel Page** Set & Costume Designer  
**Niklas Pajanti** Lighting Designer  
**Stefan Gregory** Music  
**Amy Cater** Intimacy Coordinator  
**Geraldine Cook-Dafner**  
Voice & Dialect Coach  
**Nigel Poulton** Fight Director  
**Joe Paradise Lui** Assistant Director  
**Bianca Pardo**  
Assistant Set & Costume Designer  
**Lucy Goleby** Standby Cover  
**Josh McConville** Standby Cover  
**James O’Connell** Standby Cover  
**Ursula Searle** Standby Cover





29 JUL—31 AUG 2024  
SOUTHBANK THEATRE, THE SUMNER

# ENGLISH

BY **SANAZ TOOSSI**  
DIRECTED BY **TASNIM HOSSAIN**

'Enduring and relatable.'  
ARTSHUB

★★★★  
'Smart, subtle and  
deceptively feelgood.'  
THE GUARDIAN

## Cast

Maia Abbas Elham  
Delaram Ahmadi Goli  
Salme Geransar Marjan  
Marjan Mesbahi Roya  
Osamah Sami Omid

## Creative and production team

Tasnim Hossain Director  
Kat Chan Set & Costume Designer  
Paul Lim Lighting Designer  
Hamed Sadeghi Composer  
Marco Cher-Gibard Sound Designer  
Ana Bayat Persian Language Accent /  
Dialect Coach  
Mark Wong Voice & Text Coach  
Afsaneh Torabi Assistant Director  
Giovanna Yate Gonzalez  
Assistant Lighting Designer  
Ali Samaei Voice in recorded English  
lesson & Voice of Nader  
Effie Nkrumah  
Voice in recorded English lesson

## Key dates

Opening Night Fri 2 Aug  
Forum Night Mon 5 Aug  
Donor Night Mon 12 Aug  
Audio Described Sat 10 Aug, Tue 13 Aug  
Tactile Tour Sat 10 Aug  
Live Captioning Sat 17 Aug  
Auslan Interpreted Tue 20 Aug  
Community Nights  
Mon 29 Jul, Thu 29 Aug

## Nominations and awards

Green Room Award Nomination  
Outstanding Ensemble  
Green Room Award Nomination  
Outstanding Production

## The season in numbers

Performances 38  
Paid Attendance 16,262





23 AUG—26 SEP 2024  
SOUTHBANK THEATRE, THE LAWLER

# TOPDOG/ UNDERDOG

BY **SUZAN-LORI PARKS**

DIRECTED BY **BERT LABONTÉ**



'Profoundly emotionally intelligent writing.'  
THE AGE



'It woos you with its wit and charm – in the  
writing and the star making performances'  
ARTSHUB

## Cast

**Damon Manns** Lincoln  
**Ras-Samuel** Booth

## Creative and production team

**Bert LaBonté** Director  
**Sophie Woodward**  
Set & Costume Designer  
**Rachel Lee** Lighting Designer  
**Dan West** Composer & Sound Designer  
**Lyndall Grant** Fight Choreographer  
**Laurence Boxhall** Card Consultant  
**Rachel Finley** Accent Coach  
**Matt Furlani** Voice & Text Coach

## Key dates

**Opening Night** Tue 27 Aug  
**Forum Night** Mon 2 Sep  
**Audio Described**  
Sat 14 Sep, Tue 17 Sep  
**Tactile Tour** Sat 14 Sep  
**Live Captioning** Sat 21 Sep  
**Auslan Interpreted** Tue 17 Sep

## Nominations and awards

**Green Room Award Nomination**  
Outstanding Performance –  
Ras-Samuel  
**Green Room Award Nomination**  
Outstanding Set & Costume Design –  
Sophie Woodward

## The season in numbers

**Performances** 38  
**Paid Attendance** 4,506





14 SEP—19 OCT 2024  
SOUTHBANK THEATRE, THE SUMNER

# COST OF LIVING

BY **MARTYNA MAJOK**  
DIRECTED BY **ANTHEA WILLIAMS**



‘A world-class production that will  
leave theatregoers humbled at its power.’

THE AGE



‘A notable and welcome  
theatrical landmark’

LIMELIGHT

## Cast

**Rachel Edmonds** Ani  
**Mabel Li** Jess  
**Aaron Pedersen** Eddie  
**Oli Pizzey Stratford** John

## Creative and production team

**Anthea Williams** Director  
**Matilda Woodroffe**  
Set & Costume Designer  
**Richard Vabre** Lighting Designer  
**Jethro Woodward**  
Composer & Sound Designer  
**Amy Cater** Intimacy Coordinator  
**Matt Furlani** Voice & Dialect Coach  
**Alistair Baldwin** Assistant Director  
**Todd J. Bennett**  
Assistant Composer & Sound Designer  
**Satria Arbai**  
Speech Consultant (role of John)  
**Marnie Cameron**  
Speech Consultant (role of John)  
**Lyndall Grant** Movement Consultant  
**Samantha Kwan** Cantonese Translator

## Key dates

**Opening Night** Thu 19 Sep  
**Forum Night** Mon 23 Sep  
**Audio Described** Sat 5 Oct, Tue 8 Oct  
**Tactile Tour** Sat 5 Oct  
**Live Captioning** Sat 12 Oct  
**Auslan Interpreted** Tue 15 Oct

## Nominations and awards

**Green Room Award Nomination**  
Outstanding Performance –  
Oli Pizzey Stratford  
**Green Room Award Nomination**  
Outstanding Performance –  
Rachel Edmonds

## The season in numbers

**Performances** 40  
**Paid Attendance** 9,316





25 OCT—30 NOV 2024  
ARTS CENTRE MELBOURNE, FAIRFAX STUDIO

# GOLDEN BLOOD

BY **MERLYNN TONG**

DIRECTED BY **TESSA LEONG**

★★★★★  
'Hilarious and sharp.'  
TIMEOUT

★★★★★  
'Effortlessly funny and  
wonderfully twisty.'  
THE AGE

## Cast

**Merlynn Tong** Girl  
**Charles Wu** Boy

## Creative and production team

**Tessa Leong** Director  
**Michael Hankin** Set & Costume Designer  
**Fausto Brusamolino** Lighting Designer  
**Rainbow Chan**  
Composer & Sound Designer  
**Jennifer Medway** Dramaturg  
**Emily Parsons-Lord** Effects Consultant

## Key dates

**Opening Night** Wed 30 Oct  
**Forum Night** Mon 4 Nov  
**Audio Described** Sat 16 Nov, Tue 19 Nov  
**Tactile Tour** Sat 16 Nov  
**Live Captioning** Sat 23 Nov  
**Auslan Interpreted** Tue 26 Nov

## Nominations and awards

**Green Room Award Nomination**  
Outstanding New Australian Writing –  
Merlynn Tong  
**Shortlisted VIC Premier's Literary Award**  
Nick Enright Prize 2023  
**Shortlisted VIC Premier's Literary Award**  
for Drama 2023

## The season in numbers

**Performances** 41  
**Paid Attendance** 7,418

A Griffin Theatre  
Company production

**GRIFFIN  
THEATRE  
COMPANY**

Commissioned through Melbourne Theatre Company's NEXT STAGE Writers' Program,  
with the support of our Playwrights Giving Circle. Developed through the NEXT STAGE  
Writers' Program, Cybec Electric Play Reading Series and Griffin Theatre Company.

**NEXTSTAGE**





7 NOV—21 DEC 2023  
SOUTHBANK THEATRE, THE SUMNER

# MY BRILLIANT CAREER

A NEW MUSICAL BASED ON THE NOVEL BY MILES FRANKLIN  
BOOK BY **SHERIDAN HARBRIDGE & DEAN BRYANT**  
MUSIC BY **MATHEW FRANK** LYRICS BY **DEAN BRYANT**  
DIRECTED BY **ANNE-LOUISE SARKS**

★★★★★  
'A funny, feminist triumph.'  
THE GUARDIAN

★★★★★  
'Brimming with abundant  
heart and soul.'  
TIMEOUT

★★★★★  
'This rebellious, moving musical  
is not to be missed.'  
THE AGE

## Cast

**Cameron Bajraktarevic-Hayward**  
Frank / Ensemble  
**Lincoln Elliott**  
Jimmy / Horace / Ensemble  
**Victoria Falconer** Ensemble  
**Kala Gare** Sybylla  
**Raj Labade** Harry / Peter / Ensemble  
**Drew Livingston**  
Father / Jay-Jay / M'Swat / Ensemble  
**HaNy Lee** Gertie / Blanche / Ensemble  
**Ana Mitsikas**  
Grannie / Rose Jane / Ensemble  
**Christina O'Neill**  
Mother / Helen / Mrs M'Swat / Ensemble  
**Jarrad Payne** Ensemble

## Creative and production team

**Anne-Louise Sarks** Director  
**Victoria Falconer** Musical Director  
**Amy Campbell** Choreographer  
**Marg Horwell** Set & Costume Designer  
**Matt Scott** Lighting Designer  
**James Simpson**  
Orchestrator / Vocal Arranger  
**Joy Weng** Sound Designer  
**Miranda Middleton** Assistant Director  
**Drew Livingston**  
Assistant Musical Director  
**Savanna Wegman**  
Assistant Set & Costume Designer  
**Additional Music Arrangements**  
**Victoria Falconer**  
**Voice & Text Coach** Matt Furlani  
**Track Producer ('Make A Success')**  
**Jarrad Payne**  
**Specialist for Whip Cracking/  
Blanket Throw** Nicci Wilks  
**Offsite Standby Cover** Alister Kingsley  
**Offsite Standby Cover** Imogen Moore

## Nominations and awards

**Green Room Award Nomination**  
Outstanding Artist – Leading Role –  
Kala Gare  
**Green Room Award Nomination**  
Outstanding Artist – Supporting Role –  
Raj Labade  
**Green Room Award Nomination**  
Outstanding Ensemble/Featured  
Ensemble – The Company  
**Green Room Award Nomination**  
Outstanding Design – Marg Horwell (Set)  
**Green Room Award Nomination**  
Outstanding Choreography –  
Amy Campbell  
**Green Room Award Nomination**  
Outstanding Direction – Music –  
Victoria Falconer  
**Green Room Award Nomination**  
Outstanding Direction – Stage –  
Anne-Louise Sarks  
**Green Room Award Nomination**  
Outstanding Production

## The season in numbers

**Performances** 47  
**Paid Attendance** 22,576

## Key dates

**Opening Night** Tue 12 Nov  
**Forum Night** Mon 18 Nov  
**Audio Described** Sat 30 Nov, Tue 3 Dec  
**Tactile Tour** Sat 30 Nov  
**Live Captioning** Sat 7 Dec  
**Auslan Interpreted** Tue 10 Dec  
**Relaxed Performance** Mon 16 Dec

NEXTSTAGE

Developed by Monash University, Melbourne, as part of the Jeanne Pratt Artist in Residency program,  
City of Stonnington and Melbourne Theatre Company's NEXT STAGE Writers' Program.





27 NOV—7 DEC 2024  
SOUTHBANK THEATRE, THE LAWLER

# BLAK IN THE ROOM

Melbourne Theatre Company

X

ILBIJERRI Theatre Company



'A deeply enriching cultural  
experience for all.'

ARTSHUB



'A historic creative alliance.'

THE AGE

## Gunawarra Re-creation

### Cast and Creatives

**Isobel Morphy-Walsh** Writer  
**Rachael Maza** Director  
**Kristel-Lee Kicket** Performer  
**Hannah Morphy-Walsh** Performer  
**Melodie Reynolds** Performer  
**Carly Sheppard** Performer

## A Wake – A Woke Mob

### Cast and Creatives

**Maurial Spearim** Writer/Performer  
**Kamarra Bell-Wykes** Director  
**Jordan Barr** Performer  
**Zach Blampied** Performer  
**Greg Fryer** Performer  
**Lisa Maza** Performer

## Emu in the Sun

### Cast and Creatives

**Phoebe Grainer** Writer/Performer  
**Amy Sole** Director  
**Luke Currie-Richardson** Performer  
**Trevor Jamieson** Performer  
**Teresa Moore** Performer

## Blak in the Room

### Creative Team

**Dann Barber** Set & costume Designer  
**Katie Sfetkidis** Lighting Designer  
**James Henry**  
Composer & Sound Designer  
**Miela Anich** Associate Director  
**Emma Holgate** Design Associate  
**Jules Orcullo** Dramaturg  
**Emma Salmon**  
Set & Costume Design Secondment  
**Stone Turner**  
Set & Costume Design Secondment  
**Todd J. Bennett**  
Sound Design Secondment

### Key dates

**Celebration Day** Wed 27 Nov

### Free events

**Blak in the Lounge** 27 Nov—7 Dec  
**Weaving Workshop**  
27 Nov, 30 Nov, 4 Dec  
**MPavilion Panel: The Future  
of Blak Theatre** 29 Nov  
**In Conversation:**  
**Healing and Story** 30 Nov  
**Music by Mob** 4 Dec  
**In Conversation:**  
**Sovereignty and Process** 7 Dec

## Nominations and awards

**Green Room Award Nomination**  
Outstanding Composition & Sound  
Design – James Henry  
**Green Room Award Nomination**  
Outstanding Lighting Design –  
Katie Sfetkidis  
**Green Room Award Nomination**  
Outstanding Ensemble for *Emu in the Sun*  
**Green Room Award Nomination**  
Outstanding Set & Costume Design –  
Dann Barber for *Emu in the Sun*  
**Green Room Award Nomination**  
Outstanding Performance – Melodie  
Reynolds-Diarra for *Gunawarra  
Re-Creation*

### The season in numbers

**Performances**  
*Gunawarra Re-creation* 8  
*A Wake – A Woke Mob* 8  
*Emu in the Sun* 7  
**Paid Attendance**  
*Gunawarra Re-creation* 347  
*A Wake – A Woke Mob* 424  
*Emu in the Sun* 287

**ILBIJERRI**  
THEATRE COMPANY

Supported by Linda Herd and  
the Canny Quine Foundation

The Future of Blak Theatre  
panel supported by

**MPAVILION**





# SLAP. BANG. KISS.

BY **DAN GIOVANNONI**  
DIRECTED BY **KATY MAUDLIN**

## Cast

**Tomáš Kantor** Sofia/As Cast  
**Tsungirai Wachenuka** Darby/As Cast  
**Sarah Fitzgerald** Immi/As Cast

## Creative and production team

**Katy Maudlin** Director  
**Kate Davis** Set & Costume Designer  
**Amelia Lever-Davidson** Lighting Designer  
**Ian Moorhead** Composer & Sound Designer

## On tour

30 Jul—11 Sep 2024

**Bunjil Place** Narre Warren, Tue 30 Jul  
**The Potato Shed** Drysdale Thu 1 Aug  
**West Gippsland Art Centre** Tue 6 Aug  
**Paranple Art Centre** Devonport TAS, Fri 9 Aug  
**Portland Art Centre** Wed 14 Aug  
**Kingston Art Centre** Fri 16 Aug  
**The Wedge Sale**, Thu 22 Aug  
**The Round** Nunawading, Sat 24 Aug  
**Wangaratta Performing Arts & Convention Centre** Tue 27 Aug  
**Riverlinks** Shepparton Thu 29 Aug  
**Wagga Wagga Civic Theatre** NSW, Tue 3 Sep  
**The Cube, Wodonga** Thu 5 Sep  
**Queanbeyan Performing Arts Centre** NSW, Wed 11 Sep

## The season in numbers

**Performances** 17  
**Paid Attendance** 1,421

Commissioned and developed through Melbourne Theatre Company's NEXT STAGE Writers' Program, with the support of our Playwrights Giving Circle.

This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through Creative Australia, its principal arts investment and advisory body and the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria.

Exclusive agent Nicholas Clark Management



# SUNDAY

BY **ANTHONY WEIGH**  
DIRECTED BY **SARAH GOODES**

## Cast

**Matt Day** John  
**Jude Hyland** Sweeney  
**Ratidzo Mambo** Joy  
**James O'Connell** Nolan  
**Nikki Shiels** Sunday

## Creative and production team

**Sarah Goodes** Director  
**Anna Cordingley** Set Designer  
**Harriet Oxley** Costume Designer  
**Paul Jackson** Lighting Designer  
**Jethro Woodward** Composer & Sound Designer  
**Geraldine Cook-Dafner** Voice & Dialect Coach  
**Amy Cater** Intimacy Coordinator  
**Lyndall Grant** Fight Choreographer  
**Sonya Soares** Assistant Director  
**Beau Esposito** Assistant Sound Designer

## On tour

28 Oct—7 Dec 2024

**Drama Theatre, Sydney Opera House** Sydney NSW

## The season in numbers

**Performances** 48  
**Paid Attendance** 17,125

Presented by

*Sunday* was commissioned by Melbourne Theatre Company with the support of the Joan and Peter Clemenger Trust and originally presented with the support of the *Sunday* Production Patrons.





# WORLD PROBLEMS

BY **EMMA MARY HALL**  
DIRECTED BY **CASSANDRA FUMI**

## Cast

**Carly Sheppard** Performer

## Creative and production team

**Cassandra Fumi** Director  
**Dann Barber** Set & Costume Designer  
**Harrie Hogan** Lighting Designer  
**Rachel Lewindon**  
Composer & Sound Designer  
**Amelia Jean O'Leary**  
Movement Consultant  
**Kamarra Bell-Wykes**  
Additional Dramaturgy  
**Bridie Noonan**  
Robert McDonald Award Intern  
**Nicki Jam** Volunteer Directing Placement

## On tour

4 May—7 Jun 2024

**Founders Theatre** Caro Convention  
Centre, Mt Helen, Fri 24 May  
**Mildura Arts Centre**, Tue 28 May  
**Ulumbarra Theatre** Bendigo, Thu 30 May  
**The Potato Shed** Drysdale, Wed 5 Jun  
**Gippsland Performing Art Centre**  
Traralgon, Fri 7 Jun

## The season in numbers

**Performances** 6  
**Paid Attendance** 220

Regional Tour supported by the  
Gailey Lazarus Charitable Foundation

The Gailey Lazarus  
Foundation



# ENGLISH

BY **SANAZ TOOSSI**  
DIRECTED BY **TASNIM HOSSAIN**

## Cast

**Maia Abbas Elham**  
**Delaram Ahmadi Goli**  
**Salme Geransar Marjan**  
**Marjan Mesbahi Roya**  
**Osamah Sami Omid**

## Creative and production team

**Tasnim Hossain** Director  
**Kat Chan** Set & Costume Designer  
**Paul Lim** Lighting Designer  
**Hamed Sadeghi** Composer  
**Marco Cher-Gibard** Sound Designer  
**Ana Bayat** Persian Language Accent /  
Dialect Coach  
**Mark Wong** Voice & Text Coach  
**Afsaneh Torabi** Assistant Director  
**Giovanna Yate Gonzalez**  
Assistant Lighting Designer  
**Ali Samaei** Voice in recorded English  
lesson & Voice of Nader  
**Effie Nkrumah**  
Voice in recorded English lesson

## On tour

5—7 Sep 2024

**Canberra Theatre Centre**  
Canberra ACT

## The season in numbers

**Performances** 4  
**Paid Attendance** 1,289

Presented by

CANBERRA  
THEATRE  
CENTRE



# Access Services



In 2024 we continued our commitment to making our performances accessible to the widest audience.

We offered audio description and tactile tours for people who are vision impaired and captioning for people who are Deaf and hard of hearing.

We also delivered two Relaxed Performances, where the theatre environment was adapted for audiences who would benefit from a more relaxed environment, while maintaining the creative integrity of the show. For each Relaxed Performance, we published a visual story to help audiences prepare for their visit, and members of the cast came on stage immediately before the show to welcome the audience.

**Audio description partner** Vision Australia  
**Auslan interpretation service providers**  
Auslan Stage Left and Expression Australia  
**Captioning service provider** The Captioning Studio

Select access services are made possible with generous support from Arts Centre Melbourne.

## Relaxed Performances

***A Streetcar Named Desire*** Wed 14 Aug 2pm  
Introduction Kaya Byrne and Michelle Lim Davidson  
Visual Story Emily Doyle and Brodi Purtill  
Relaxed Performance Partner Arts Centre Melbourne

***My Brilliant Career*** Mon 16 Dec 6.30pm  
Introduction Kala Gare, Raj Labade and Jarrad Payne  
Visual Story Emily Doyle and Brodi Purtill

# SIGNATURE PROGRAMS



# NEXT STAGE Writers' Program



**NEXT STAGE is our bold and ambitious play development initiative that rivals some of the world’s very best producing theatres.**

It positions new Australian works as contenders on the national stage through strategic investment in stories that reflect our community, are relevant to our times, challenge the boundaries of theatre making and fuel the cultural conversation.

Since 2017, the program has commissioned 50 works, run 96 workshops and development sessions, published 12 scripts and supported 14 playwriting residencies and fellowships.

### NEXT STAGE Productions

*My Brilliant Career*  
*Golden Blood*  
37

### NEXT STAGE Playwriting Fellowship

Our Playwriting Fellow for 2024/2025 is Anchuli Felicia King. The Playwriting Fellow spends 12 months with the New Work Department developing a play for Melbourne Theatre Company and takes part in wider Artistic department activity such as programming, commissioning and supporting the work in development and production.

### New Commissions

We commissioned 6 new plays from a broad group of exciting writers including (pictured above) Playwriting Fellow Anchuli Felicia King (HBO’s *The Sympathiser*), Michelle Brasier, Melissa Reeves, Marieke Hardy, Lally Katz and Osamah Sami.

Thank you to Peter Clemenger for supporting commissions for Marieke Hardy and Lally Katz, and the Malcolm Robertson Foundation for supporting the commission for Osamah Sami.

### First Nations Dramaturgy

A series of First Nations dramaturgs worked across various projects throughout the year as we continue to support Blak dramaturgy and work towards a Resident Dramaturg position for 2025.

Throughout 2024 we worked with: Jyden Brailey, Kamarra Bell-Wykes, Aunty Doris Patton, Dr Julia Hurst, Isobelle Morphy-Walsh, Phoebe Grainer and Lavinia Heffernan.

In 2025 Isobel Morphy-Walsh will commence a three day per week position as Resident Dramaturg, supporting the development of various new works across the year and building and honing her craft as a dramaturg.

### Playwrights Giving Circle

Thank you to our Playwrights Giving Circle for sharing our passion and commitment to Australian stories and Australian writers.

Fitzpatrick Sykes Family Foundation, The Glenholme Foundation, Jane Hansen AO and Paul Little AO, Larry Kamener and Petra Kamener, Susanna Mason, Helen Nicolay, Pimlico Foundation, Tania Seary and Chris Lynch, Craig Semple, Dr Richard Simmie, Derek and Caroline Young.



**20**  
Active  
commissions



**3**  
NEXT STAGE  
productions



**154**  
Artists  
employed



**18**  
Workshops and  
developments



**42k+**  
Audiences



**2**  
Scripts published

# MinterEllison Future Directors



**In 2024, MinterEllison renewed their partnership with Melbourne Theatre Company for a further three years, extending the life of the MinterEllison Future Directors Initiative.**

The initiative supports Melbourne Theatre Company’s commitment to fostering the professional development of Australia’s next directors, contributing to our ongoing investment in local artists and the sustainability of the arts sector. The program has grown to play a pivotal role in developing career pathways, with interest increasing from 27 applications in 2022 to 83 in 2023, and 110 for the 2024 cohort.

Since its inception in 2022, it has provided invaluable opportunities for twelve emerging directors over the course of the partnership’s initial three-year period.

MinterEllison Future Directors have continued to be involved with the Company following their placement. Miranda Middleton, one of the inaugural Future Directors, recently returned as Assistant Director on *My Brilliant Career*.

Three of our 2024 Future Directors – Alistair Baldwin, Jennifer Sarah Dean and Kamarra Bell-Wykes – participated in further programs and initiatives after their placements, including *Cybec Electric* and *Blak in the Room*, our partnership with ILBIJERRI Theatre Company.

### 2024 Future Directors

**Kamarra Bell-Wykes – 37**  
(Director: Isaac Drandic)

**Jennifer Sarah Dean –**  
*The Almighty Sometimes*  
(Director: Hannah Goodwin)

**Alistair Baldwin – Cost of Living**  
(Director: Anthea Williams)

**Afsaneh Torabi – English**  
(Director: Tasnim Hossain)

**‘Being Assistant Director on 37 as part of the MinterEllison Future Directors Initiative was such an incredible opportunity to build relationships and become familiar with the working processes of the company.’**

**Kamarra Bell-Wykes**

Major Partner

MinterEllison.



# Deadly Creatives



**Deadly Creatives is a bespoke, multi-year creative learning and professional development program.**

The program has been designed specifically to provide young First Nations artists with the skills, support, experience, networks and professional ongoing employment needed to build sustainable arts careers.

In 2024 the Deadly Creatives transitioned from volunteer participants to paid creative artists, and developed two new original scripts for performance, *Peggy Sue* by Amelia Jean O’Leary and Emma Salmon, and *Wiran’s Dream* by Brodie Murray.

The works will be presented in a double bill at Southbank Theatre, The Lawler as part of YIRRAMBOI Festival in 2025.

In 2024, Deadly Creatives collaborated with experienced professional artists and undertook mentorships with First Nations companies and productions.

## 2024 Deadly Creatives

### Participants

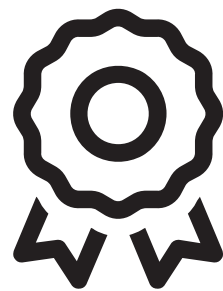
Jyden Brailey  
Emma Clarke-King  
Matisse Knight  
Brodie Murray  
Amelia O’Leary  
Jasper Quinn  
Emma Salmon  
Christian Seiuli

### Guest artists and mentors

Cynda Beare  
Kamarra Bell-Wykes  
Jacinta Keefe  
Isobel Morphy-Walsh  
Sapphic Flicks  
Jackie Sheppard

### Program coordinator

Brodi Purtill (until Nov 2024)  
Emma Holgate (from Nov 2024)



**Drama Victoria  
Award**

Reconciliation in  
Drama Education  
Deadly Creatives

Supported by



Program Partners

**WILIN.**



**YIRRAMBOI**

# Future Creatives



**In 2024, we launched the Future Creatives program to provide a pathway from the independent sector to mainstage for early career designers from historically underrepresented cultural backgrounds.**

The program supports participants to work alongside senior theatre designers in paid placements on two Melbourne Theatre Company productions across the two-year program.

Participants learn about production processes for creating works-of-scale, as well as attend meetings and events to further their skills and build their networks.

## 2024—2025 Participants

### Todd J. Bennett

Assistant Composer & Sound Designer on *Cost of Living* (dir. Anthea Williams), alongside Jethro Woodward

### Giovanna Yate Gonzalez

Assistant Lighting Designer on *English* (dir. Tasnim Hossain), alongside Paul Lim

### Bianca Pardo

Assistant Set & Costume Designer on *A Streetcar Named Desire* (dir. Anne-Louise Sarks), alongside Mel Page

### Savanna Wegman

Assistant Set & Costume Designer on *My Brilliant Career* (dir. Anne-Louise Sarks), alongside Marg Horwell

‘It’s amazing... I wouldn’t expect to be in this position without a program like this.’

### Bianca Pardo

2024–2025 Future Creative

Supported by the Charles and Cornelia Goode Foundation.



# Cybec Electric



This year’s Cybec Electric play reading series was a tremendous success, particularly in collaboration with the Melbourne Fringe Festival.

In addition to three full-length play readings, we introduced supplementary activities designed to create a festival experience and engage a new generation of playwrights. We also introduced the Emerging Writer Award, providing an opportunity to support a writer we had not yet worked with, while enhancing accessibility for artists.

### Public readings

**Love & Reparation**  
Thu 17 Oct  
**Writer** Danish Sheikh  
**Director** Jennifer Sarah Dean  
**Dramaturg** Tasnim Hossain  
**Cast** Kane Felsing, Kaivu Suvarna, Sinead Fernandes, Isha Menon, Dinesh Mathew, Naavikaran.  
**Paid attendance** 89

**The Greek Word for Funeral**  
Fri 18 Oct  
**Writer** George Lazaris  
**Director** Bridget Balodis  
**Dramaturg** Zoey Dawson  
**Cast** Petra Kalive, Katerina Kotsonis, Maria Mercedes, Maria Theodorakis, Steve Mouzakis, Eb Papanastasiou, Olivia Charalambous, Tony Nikolakopoulos.  
**Paid attendance** 107

**Mature skin**  
Sat 19 Oct  
**Writer** Gabrielle Fallen  
**Director** Alistair Baldwin  
**Dramaturg** Jennifer Medway  
**Cast** Peter Paltos, Bailey Ackling Beecham.  
**Paid attendance** 95

### Workshops

**How to Write a Musical** with Yve Blake  
Sat 19 Oct  
**Paid tickets** 20

**How To Write A Play** with Tasnim Hossain for Emerging BIPOC Writers  
Sat 19 Oct  
**Paid tickets** 16

### Networking events

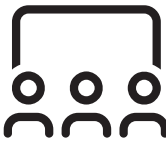
**Creative Speed Dating** (Strictly Professional)  
Hosted By Mark Wilson  
Sat 19 Oct  
Free event

**Social Events Up-Late**  
Social Events at Miss Pearl  
Over three nights, after each play reading.



22

actors, directors and dramaturgs engaged



493

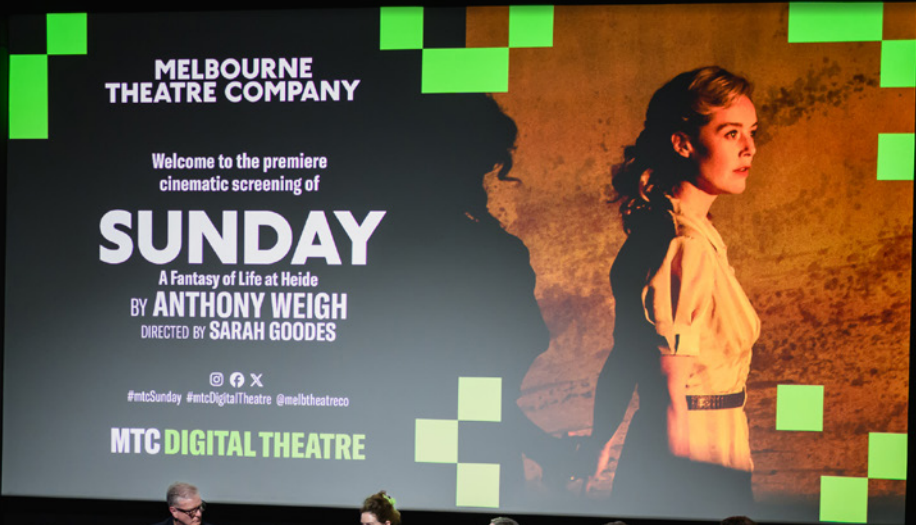
total attendance



89

workshops and networking attendance

# Digital Theatre



## MTC DIGITAL THEATRE

In 2024, we released *Sunday* on MTC Digital Theatre, enabling audiences across Australia the chance to see this rave-reviewed production by celebrated playwright Anthony Weigh, directed by Sarah Goodes.

This was celebrated with a premiere screening and a Q&A with cast and creatives at Cinema Nova on 9 October and several screenings across a two-week period.

Since its launch in 2021, MTC Digital Theatre showcases select Melbourne Theatre Company productions through high-definition, multi-camera recordings, bringing world-class productions direct from stage to screen.

### Available to stream in 2024:

*Sunday* by Anthony Weigh

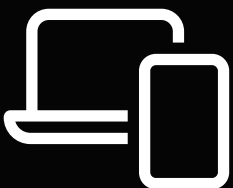
*SLAP. BANG. KISS.*  
by Dan Giovannoni

*Sexual Misconduct of the Middle Classes* by Hannah Moscovitch

*Berlin* by Joanna Murray-Smith

*The Heartbreak Choir* by Aidan Fennessy

Shakespeare’s *As You Like It*



1,262+

viewers of MTC Digital Theatre productions



19%

of viewers were from outside metropolitan Melbourne

↑ 2% compared to 2023



# Education & Families

## Melbourne Theatre Company's Education & Families program provides accessible, meaningful theatre experiences for young people, regardless of their circumstances.

Our award-winning programs foster creativity, confidence and collaboration, with profound impact on students' lives. Our huge gratitude to the Education Giving Circle, which supports the annual Education & Families production as well as the many educational activities providing young people with further enrichment and engagement in live theatre.

### School tickets

*Seventeen* 31  
*Meet Me At Dawn* 17  
37 168  
*The Almighty Sometimes* 36  
*World Problems* 898  
*Julia* 147  
*A Streetcar Named Desire* 1,714  
*English* 70  
*Cost Of Living* 154  
*Topdog/Underdog* 37  
*Golden Blood* 2  
*My Brilliant Career* 217

Total paid attendance 3,491  
Total complimentary attendance 203

### Enhancing the theatre experience

#### PRE-SHOW TALKS

Students gain unique insights into professional theatre through pre-show talks and post-show Q&As at designated education performances.

*World Problems* Wed 15 & Tue 21 May  
Teaching Artist Nick Tranter  
Paid Attendance 215

*Julia* Thu 6 Jun  
Teaching Artist Krystalla Pearce  
Paid Attendance 80

*A Streetcar Named Desire* Wed 7 Aug  
Teaching Artist Nick Tranter  
Paid Attendance 336

#### REVISION WEBINARS

Students and teachers revisit productions in live, interactive webinars for VCE Theatre Studies and VCE Drama.

*World Problems* Wed 6 Nov  
Teaching Artist Nick Tranter  
Guest Artists Emma Mary Hall, Harrie Hogan, Rachel Lewindon, Carly Sheppard  
Paid attendance 72

*A Streetcar Named Desire* Wed 30 Oct  
Teaching Artist Nick Tranter  
Guest Artists Katherine Tonkin, Nikki Shiels, Mel Page, Michelle Lim Davidson  
Paid attendance 52

*SLAP. BANG. KISS.* Wed 30 Oct  
Teaching Artist Nick Tranter  
Guest Artists Katy Maudlin, Sarah Fitzgerald, Tomáš Kantor, Tsungirai Wachenuka  
Paid attendance 12

### Education Partnerships

#### VICTORIAN COLLEGE OF THE ARTS SECONDARY SCHOOL

Since 2021, Melbourne Theatre Company has partnered with the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School (VCASS) to deliver a semester-long course for Year 11 Theatre Arts students that complements and enhances the study of VCE Drama and Theatre Studies.

Lead Teaching Artist Sarah Fitzgerald  
Teaching Artist Brodi Purtill

Guest Artists Conor Leach and Tsungirai Wachenuka (acting), Jacob Battista, Anna Cordingley and Christina Smith (set & costume design), Katy Maudlin and Mark Wilson (directing), Matt Furlani (voice and text), Amelia Jean O'Leary (movement) and Amy Cater (intimacy coordination)

Participants 20

Supported by



#### WESTERN PORT SECONDARY COLLEGE

A new partnership facilitated by the Mornington Peninsula Foundation to support co-curricular drama with Year 9 and 10 students and enable them to experience professional theatre.

Lead Teaching Artists  
Brodi Purtill and Sahil Saluja

Supported by



#### DRAMA VICTORIA

Our long-standing partnership with Drama Victoria, the oldest Drama teacher association in Australia, connects us with passionate drama educators across the state for professional development opportunities.

**Dramaturgy – I get it now!**  
Annual Conference 28 Nov  
Teaching Artist Mark Wilson

Participants 31

Supported by



#### VIRTUAL SCHOOL VICTORIA

In and out of Worlds is an innovative Year 8 Drama course delivered entirely online over terms three and four. Students work with professional theatre artists to devise and perform a live, online anthology performance.

Lead Teaching Artists  
Morgan Rose and Justin Gardam

Guest Artists Oz Malik, William McKenna, Karl Richmond and Angourie Rice (acting), Matilda Woodroffe (costume design), Harrie Hogan (lighting design), Rachel Lewindon (composition & sound design), Amelia Jean O'Leary (movement), Madelaine Nunn and Jennifer Medway (writing)

Guest Staff Emily Doyle, Brodi Purtill, Nick Tranter

**Virtual School Victoria Teachers** Jessica Craigmyle, Sarah Davies, Josh Milton and David Williamson  
**Lead Teacher Arts** Jared Webster

Participants 106  
Performance date 5 Dec  
Attendance 87

Supported by





# Education & Families

## Education Hub

To support student study and achievement, we have continued to expand our Education Hub, a comprehensive suite of curriculum-based digital resources for teachers and students to use in the classroom and at home.

**Memberships by 31 Dec 603**

### SHORT COURSES

We offer online courses in theatre practice for students and self-directed learners. Each course includes a series of instructional videos featuring industry professionals.

**Intro to Theatrical Lighting**  
Allan Hiron, Technical Manager, Electrics

**Theatre Spaces**  
Nick Tranter and RealTour3D

**Creating Special Effects**  
Jacob Battista, Set Designer  
Brittany Stock, Assistant Stage Manager

**AV Recording**  
Eva Otsing and Emily Doyle  
Editing Emily Doyle

### SCRIPT NOTES

In this award-winning video series, playwrights, actors and directors reveal how a production is created from the script page to the stage.

**37** – Playwright Nathan Maynard, Actor Syd Brisbane and Director Isaac Drandic

**A Streetcar Named Desire** – Actor Nikki Shiels and Director Anne-Louise Sarks

**My Brilliant Career** – Actor Kala Gare and Musical Director Victoria Falconer

**World Problems** – Performer Carly Sheppard, Director Cassandra Fumi and Playwright Emma Mary Hall

**AV Recording** Eva Otsing, SIRAP  
Editing Emily Doyle



## Drama Victoria Award

Excellence in the Digital/  
Online Delivery of Drama  
Education Hub



### INTERACTIVE RESOURCES

Students use our media-rich, web-based resources to enhance their understanding of professional theatre, gaining unique insights through interactive elements including videos, information pop-ups, and activities.

**37**  
**Production design** with Dale Ferguson and Isaac Drandic

**World Problems**  
**Devising Movement** with Amelia Jean O’Leary, Carly Sheppard and Cassandra Fumi.  
**Design and Symbolism** with the creative team.  
**Creative Development** with the cast and creative team.

**A Streetcar Named Desire**  
**Acting skills** in rehearsal with Anne-Louise Sarks and the cast.  
**Interpretation and Design** with the creative team.  
**Set tour and set design** with Bianca Pardo

**My Brilliant Career**  
**Intro to musical instruments** with musical director Victoria Falconer.  
**Videography** Emily Doyle, Eva Otsing, Sapphic Flicks, SIRAP  
Editing Emily Doyle.

### VIRTUAL SET TOURS

Virtual tours enable students anywhere in the world to walk through our set designs and stages. Created with unique 360° photography technology and accessible on any internet-connected device, tours include pop-ups and links with detailed behind the scenes insights.

**New VR Tours**  
**A Streetcar Named Desire**, Arts Centre Melbourne, Playhouse

**Topdog / Underdog**, Southbank Theatre, The Lawler

**World Problems**, Southbank Theatre, The Lawler

**VR Capture RealTour3D**

### PRE- & POST-SHOW RESOURCES

We publish two-part education resources for Melbourne Theatre Company productions that have been included in the VCE Playlist for Drama and Theatre Studies.

The resources help students to understand and analyse professional theatre practice, complete school-based assessments and prepare for exams. We now complement the traditional PDF education packs with interactive digital resources

**A Streetcar Named Desire**  
**VCE Theatre Studies**  
Packs by Krystalla Pearce  
Post-show resource by Emily Doyle

**SLAP. BANG. KISS. VCE Theatre Studies**  
Packs and resources by Nick Tranter

**World Problems VCE Drama**  
Packs and resources by Nick Tranter

**My Brilliant Career**  
Pre-show resource by Emily Doyle and Nick Tranter



# Education & Families

## University of Melbourne

### INTERNSHIPS

Students enrolled in the Master of Arts and Cultural Management program volunteer to assist with delivery and evaluation of an Education & Families program.

**Jul—Sep** Nabila Malik, Isabella Recca  
**Jul—Oct** Riana Pinto, Bethanie Tardif  
**World Problems** design Ashley Reid

### ROBERT McDONALD AWARD

The University of Melbourne makes the award in memory of the late Robert McDonald, Education Manager 1998–2010.

The Award winner receives a bursary, undertakes a directing placement on the Education & Families production, and meets with artistic staff.

**2024 Award Recipient** Bridie Noonan

### BEHIND THE CUES

Design and production students from Victorian College of the Arts attend a 45 minute ‘dry run’ of technical cues in the Sumner theatre, with creative artists and stage crew explaining the creative rationale and production process behind the cues.

**37** 21 Mar  
**Guest Artists** Dale Ferguson, James Henry, Liam Murray

**The Almighty Sometimes** 10 May  
**Guest Artists** Jacob Battista, Rain Iyehen

**English** 15 Aug  
**Guest Artists** Kat Chan, Giovanna Yate Gonzalez, Tasnim Hossain, Whitney McNamara

**VCA Design Course Coordinator**  
Christina Smith

### INSIDE LOOK AT MELBOURNE THEATRE COMPANY

A breadth subject for University of Melbourne students, delivered in collaboration with the Victorian College of the Arts, offering an inside look at the art, craft and business of Melbourne Theatre Company. Students watch two productions, read online teaching materials and write a comparative review.

**Live productions** 37, *Cost of Living*

**MTC Digital Theatre** *As You Like It*, *The Heartbreak Choir*

**Attendance** 331

Supported by



## Engagement Programs

### WORK EXPERIENCE

High school students in Years 10–11 experience the inner workings of Melbourne Theatre Company in a one-week placement at HQ or Southbank Theatre, observing rehearsals and backstage activities, and assisting with administration and production tasks.

**Participating schools**  
Barrenjoey High School NSW  
Camberwell High School  
Castlemaine Secondary College (2)  
Collingwood College (2)  
Fitzroy High School  
Footscray High School  
Frankston High School  
Heathmont College  
Loreto College Ballarat  
Mullauna College  
Overnewton College  
Princes Hill Secondary College  
Suzanne Cory High School  
Swinburne Senior Secondary College  
University High School  
Victorian College of the Arts  
Secondary School  
**Participants** 18

### YOUTH AMBASSADORS

In this yearlong program, a select group of Year 11 students from across Victoria develop their theatre skills through attending productions and in-person seminars with artists and staff.

**Apr—Dec**  
**Lead Teaching Artist** Nick Tranter  
**Guest Artists** Amy Cater (intimacy coordination), Kat Chan (set & costume design), Caroline Craig (acting), Harrie Hogan (lighting design)  
**Guest Staff** Jacob Battista, Allan Hiron, Jess Keepence, Anne-Louise Sarks  
**Participants** 16

### HQ TOURS

Tours begin with a seminar on the lifecycle of a production, followed by a guided walk through the building to explore costume, wigs, millinery, props, scenic art and workshop departments, and the rehearsal rooms.

**Teaching Artists** George Abbott, Hugo Gutteridge, Taylor Reece  
**Tours** 36 groups

### YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP COURSE

Targeted for young people aged 14–16 years with limited access to the arts, the course enables participants to develop their creative skills and work collaboratively with like-minded peers.

The course culminates in a devised performance at Southbank Theatre, The Lawler, for participants’ family and friends.

**30 Sep—4 Oct**  
**Lead Teaching Artists** Katrina Cornwell and Morgan Rose  
**Wellbeing Artist** Sarah Hosford  
**Associate Teaching Artist** Sarah Fitzgerald  
**Guest Artists** Dann Barber (set & costume design), Matt Furlani (voice & text), Amelia Jean O’Leary (movement)  
**Administration** Bethanie Tardif

**Participants** 23

Supported by



## The Geraldine Lazarus Regional Enrichment Program

To make creative experiences accessible to all students in Victoria, a suite of on-demand workshops is available exclusively to schools in regional Victoria, delivered by skilled teaching artists.

A suite of on-demand workshops, including Acting Skills, The Lifecycle of a Production, and Exploring Shakespeare, is available to regional Victoria schools. Companion workshops for *World Problems* supported schools attending the show, while workshops for *SLAP. BANG. KISS.* enhanced its national tour.

**Acting Skills**  
**Officer Secondary College** 20 Aug (2)  
**Teaching Artists** Eleanor Barkla and Sahil Saluja

**Exploring World Problems**  
**Marist College Bendigo** 5 May  
**Mildura Senior College** 29 May  
**Mount Rowan Secondary College** 27 May  
**St Joseph’s College Mildura** 29 May  
**Teaching Artists** Eleanor Barkla and Amelia O’Leary

**Exploring SLAP. BANG. KISS.**  
**Colac Secondary College** 16 Aug  
**Teaching Artists** Eleanor Barkla and Sahil Saluja  
**Greater Shepparton Secondary School** 29 Aug (2)  
**Teaching Artists** Eleanor Barkla and Isabella Recca

**Workshops** 10  
**Participants** 166

**Teachers’ Professional Development Workshops**  
**Teacher as director with SLAP. BANG. KISS.**  
**Wagga Civic Theatre** 3 Sep  
**Teaching Artist** Bernard Sam  
**Participants** 11

The Geraldine Lazarus Regional Enrichment Program is supported by The Gailey Lazarus Foundation

The Gailey Lazarus Foundation

## IGNITE

Every young Victorian deserves to access the life-changing benefits of theatre. IGNITE is a donor-supported program that removes financial barriers to give students an experience they’ll never forget and spark a lifelong love of theatre.

Schools ranked 1,000 and below on the Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage (ISCEA) can access \$5 tickets and relief teacher subsidies to attend live Melbourne Theatre Company productions. All regional schools can apply for a travel subsidy.

**IGNITE tickets** 1,097  
**Travel & Relief Teacher Subsidies** \$8,530

IGNITE is supported by Krystyna Campbell-Pretty, The Gailey-Lazarus Foundation, and an anonymous donor

The Gailey Lazarus Foundation





# THE COMPANY



# Board of Management

**Martin Hosking** (Chair from July 2024)

Group CEO and Managing Director, Articore Ltd. Business person and philanthropist. Director, Three Springs Foundation; Advisory Board Member, Contemplative Studies Centre, University of Melbourne and Monash University Centre for Consciousness and Contemplative Studies. BA (Hons) and MBA, University of Melbourne.

**Patricia Faulkner** (Chair Dec 2023-June 2024)

Chair, Melbourne Academic Centre for Health (MACH); Board Member, Aware Super; Board Member, Caritas Australia; Chair Plan International Australia; Chair Expert Committee ASM. Retired from Board June 2024.

**Leigh O’Neill** (Deputy Chair from July 2024)

COO, Susan McKinnon Foundation. Non-Executive Director, First Samuel Ltd. Melbourne Theatre Company Foundation Board Member Mar 2015 to Jun 2021. Board Member since Jun 2021.

**Tony Johnson**

Director and Adviser. Chair, BUPA ANZ; Director, Allianz Australia, Mercer Superannuation (Australia), Kieser Australia and E&P Financial Group; Member, Melbourne Cricket Club Committee and Melbourne Theatre Company Board of Management; Trustee of the Collier Charitable Fund; BEc, MBA (Exec), GradDipAppFin&Inv, GAICD, FCA, FFIN. Board Member since July 2023.

**Larry Kamener**

Senior Adviser to the Boston Consulting Group; Chair, Save the Children Australia and Board Member, Save the Children International; Chair of the Centre for Public Impact a BCG Foundation. Board Member since Aug 2017.

**Katerina Kapobassis**

Vice-President (Administration and Finance) and Chief Operating Officer, University of Melbourne. BBus (RMIT); CPA; Graduate Member, GAICD. Board Member since Oct 2022.

**Professor Duncan Maskell**

Former Vice Chancellor, The University of Melbourne; Professor of Microbiology; Member, Melbourne Business School Board of Directors; Member, Group of Eight; Member, Victorian Vice-Chancellor’s Committee; Honorary Fellow, Wolfson College, University of Cambridge; MA, PhD, FMedSci, HonAssocRCVS. Retired from Board in Dec 2024.

**Sally Noonan**

Melbourne Theatre Company Executive Director & Co-CEO. Board Member since Apr 2023.

**Chris Oliver-Taylor**

Global Director for Totem Network and Chair, Screen Careers. Former Chief Content Officer, ABC; Former CEO Asia Pacific, Fremantle; Former Director of Production for Australia & New Zealand, Netflix. Board Member, AFTRS; Board Member, Screenworks; Former President, Screen Producers Australia; Former Board Director and Deputy Chair, Screenrights; Former Global Director, Fremantle Global Operating Board. Board Member since 2023.

**Tiriki Onus**

Pro Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous), Head of the Wilin Centre for Indigenous Arts and Cultural Development, Co-Director of Research Unit for Indigenous Arts and Cultures, University of Melbourne. Yorta Yorta/Dja Dja Wurrung practising artist, performer and filmmaker. Board Member, VicScreen; Cultural advisor, Victorian Opera; Artistic and cultural advisor, Shepparton Art Museum. Board Member since Mar 2023.

**Anne-Louise Sarks**

Melbourne Theatre Company Artistic Director & Co-CEO. Board Member since Oct 2021.

**Craig Semple**

Partner, Gilbert + Tobin; Chair of Joel Bray Dance; Member of Audit and Risk Committee for Aurora Education Foundation; Community Member of School Council of Monterey Secondary College. Board Member since Jan 2024.

**Professor Marie Sierra**

Dean, Faculty of Fine Arts and Music, the University of Melbourne. Practising artist and arts writer. PhD, MFA, BA, GradDipEd. Board Member since Jun 2021.

**Tania Seary**

MBA, B. Bus, Founder of The Faculty, Procurious and The Source; Board member of Opera Australia Capital Fund since April 2018. Board Member since Jan 2023.

# Foundation Board

**Tania Seary** (Chair)

MBA, B. Bus, Founder of The Faculty, Procurious and The Source; Board member of Opera Australia Capital Fund since April 2018. Melbourne Theatre Company Foundation Board Member since Dec 2021.

**Jennifer Darbyshire** (Chair until Aug 2024)

Board Member, Melbourne International Jazz Festival; Independent Chair, Risk & Compliance Committee, Wingate Group; Non Executive Director, Wingate Investment Partners 3 Pty Ltd; Non Executive Director, ORDE Capital Management Ltd; previously Executive General Manager Conduct & Regulatory Risk, and General Counsel Governance, NAB. Former Chair, Heide Museum of Modern Art; former Board Member St Vincent’s & Mercy Private Hospital, the Financial Ombudsman Service and the Australian Financial Complaints Authority. Retired from Melbourne Theatre Company Foundation Board in Aug 2024.

**Jane Grover**

Chief Executive Women (CEW) member; previously: Chair of the Centre of Contemporary Photography (CCP), Chief Operating Officer Box Hill Institute, Chief Executive Officer at SMCT, General Manager Crown Resorts (Communications, Corporate Services, Security Services). Melbourne Theatre Company Foundation Board Member since Oct 2020.

**Charles Gillies**

Managing Director and Chair, Investment Committees, RCF Innovation; Chair, Railveyor; Director, Vriify; former Director of Monash Health, Ambulance Victoria, SciAps, SmartCap, Newtrax, Humanware. Board Member since Jan 2024.

**Sally Lansbury**

Head of Client Listening at PwC Australia; previously Director of Memberships and Engagement at The Faculty and Business Development Manager at CPA Australia. Melbourne Theatre Company Foundation Board Member since Dec 2023.

**Sally Noonan**

Melbourne Theatre Company Executive Director and Co-CEO. Melbourne Theatre Company Foundation Board Member since Apr 2023.

**Rupert Sherwood**

Melbourne Theatre Company Development Director; Melbourne Theatre Company Foundation Board Member since Feb 2019.

**Tracey Sisson**

Board Member of Stephanie Alexander’s Kitchen Garden Foundation; Consult Legal; formerly Director of Law Institute Victoria; formerly TeeRoy Pty Ltd TA Yardmill In-house Counsel, Molino Cahill Lawyers Senior Associate, Baker & McKenzie General Associate; Member, Law Institute of Victoria and Fitzroy Legal Service; Former Fellow, Taxation Institute of Australia; Former Registered Tax Agent. Melbourne Theatre Company Foundation Board Member since Jul 2018.



# Melbourne Theatre Company

## EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT

**Artistic Director & Co-CEO**  
Anne-Louise Sarks  
**Executive Director & Co-CEO**  
Sally Noonan  
**Executive Producer & Deputy CEO**  
Martina Murray  
**Artistic Administrator**  
Olivia Brewer  
**Executive Administrator**  
Kathleen Ashby

## ARTISTIC

**Associate Artists**  
Tasnim Hossain  
Jean Tong  
Mark Wilson  
**Head of New Work**  
Jennifer Medway  
**New Work Associate**  
Zoey Dawson  
**Playwriting Fellow**  
Anchuli Felicia King

## CASTING

**Casting Director**  
Janine Snape  
**Casting Administrator**  
Daphne Quah

## PRODUCING

**Senior Producer**  
Stephen Moore  
**Producer – Industry & Audience Initiatives**  
Laura Harris  
**Company Manager**  
Julia Smith  
**Deputy Company Manager**  
Lachlan Steel (to Sep)  
**Acting Deputy Company Manager**  
Elise Glass (Sep–Dec)

## DEVELOPMENT

**Director of Development**  
Rupert Sherwood  
**Senior Philanthropy Manager**  
Sophie Boardley  
**Senior Philanthropy Manager (leave cover)**  
Nicola Templeton  
**Annual Giving Manager**  
Meaghan Donaldson  
**Philanthropy Coordinator**  
Emily Jenik  
Charlotte Menzies-King (From Oct)  
**Business Development Manager**  
José Ortiz  
**Partnerships Manager**  
Portia Atkins (to Oct)  
**Acting Partnerships Manager**  
Isobel Lake  
**Partnerships Coordinator**  
Clare Rankine (from Nov)

## EDUCATION & FAMILIES

**Director of Education & Families**  
Jeremy Rice  
**Learning Manager**  
Nick Tranter  
**Education Content Producer**  
Emily Doyle  
**Education Coordinator**  
Brodi Purtill (to Nov)  
**Deadly Creatives Project Officer**  
Emma Holgate (from Nov)  
**Project Officer**  
Isabella Recca (from Aug)

## PEOPLE & CULTURE

**Director of People & Culture**  
Sean Jameson (to Nov)  
**People & Culture Business Partners**  
Tom Lambert  
Christine Verginis (to Nov)  
**Receptionist**  
David Zierk

## FINANCE & IT

**Director of Finance & IT**  
Rob Pratt  
**Finance Manager**  
Andrew Slee  
**Assistant Accountant**  
Nicole Chong  
**IT & Systems Manager**  
Michael Schuettke  
**IT Support Officer**  
Darren Snowdon  
**Payroll Officer**  
Julia Godinho  
**Payments Officer**  
Harper St Clair  
**Building Services Manager**  
Adrian Aderhold

## MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

**Director of Marketing & Communications**  
David Geoffrey Hall (to Mar)  
Chris MacDonald (from Jul)  
**Marketing Manager**  
Rebecca Lawrence  
**Marketing Campaign Managers**  
Grace Gaylard  
Ashlee Read (to Nov)  
**Marketing & Communications Coordinator**  
Matisse Knight  
**Digital Engagement Manager**  
Jane Sutherland  
**Lead Graphic Designer/Art Director**  
Kate Francis  
**Content Designer**  
Sarah Ridgway-Cross  
**Editorial Content Producer**  
Paige Farrell  
**Editorial Content Producer (leave cover)**  
Tilly Graovac  
**Publicity Consultant**  
Good Humans PR

## PRODUCTION

**Technical & Production Director**  
Adam J Howe  
**Senior Production Manager**  
Michele Preshaw  
**Production Manager**  
Jess Maguire  
**Production Manager (leave cover)**  
Margaret Murray  
**Production Administrator**  
Alyson Brown  
**Production Coordinator**  
Zoe Rabb  
**Acting Technical Manager – Light & Sound**  
Allan Hirons  
**Acting Senior Production Technician Coordinator**  
Nic Wollan  
**Acting Production Technician Coordinator**  
Max Wilkie  
**Production Technician Operator**  
Marcus Cook  
**Production Technicians**  
Sam Amon-Simmonds  
Stella Dandolo  
Claire Ferguson  
Scott McAllister  
Sidney Millar  
Natalya Shield  
Ounie Witherow Aitken  
**Technical Manager – Staging & Design**  
Andrew Bellchambers  
**Production Design Coordinator**  
Jacob Battista  
**Head Mechanist**  
Tobias Chesworth  
**CAD Drafter**  
Max Bowyer

## PROPERTIES

**Properties Supervisor**  
Geoff McGregor  
**Props Maker**  
Colin Penn

## SCENIC ART

**Scenic Art Supervisor**  
Shane Dunn  
**Scenic Artist**  
Alison Crawford  
Colin Harman  
Nellie Summerfield

## WORKSHOP

**Workshop Supervisor**  
Andrew Weavers  
**Set Makers**  
Sarah Hall  
Simon Juliff  
Nick Gray  
Philip De Mulder  
Peter Rosa  
Gareth Sole  
**Welder**  
Ken Best

## COSTUME

**Costume Manager**  
Kate Seeley  
**Costume Staff**  
Jocelyn Creed  
Lyn Molloy  
John Van Gastel  
**Costume Coordinator**  
Carletta Childs  
**Hair & Makeup**  
Kym McConville  
**Dresser**  
Jessica van Eyssen  
**Millinery**  
Phillip Rhodes  
**Costume Hire**  
Liz Symonds  
**Costume Maintenance**  
Jodi Hope  
Claire Munnings  
**Art Finishing**  
Alicia Aulsebrook

## STAGE MANAGEMENT

**Head of Stage Management**  
Whitney McNamara  
**Stage Managers**  
Annie Gleisner  
Annah Jacobs  
Juliette Hirons  
Jess Keepence  
Jenny Le  
Finn McLeish  
Liam Murray  
Tom O’ Sullivan  
Lisa Osborn  
Brittany Stock  
Pippa Wright

## SOUTHBANK THEATRE

**Theatre Manager**  
Mark D Wheeler (to Dec)  
**Events Manager**  
Mandy Jones  
**Production Services Manager**  
Frank Stoffels  
**Front of House Manager**  
Drew Thomson  
**Lighting Supervisor**  
Geoff Adams-Walsh  
**Deputy Lighting Supervisor**  
Tom Roach  
**Sound Supervisor**  
Joy Weng  
**Deputy Sound Supervisor**  
Will Patterson  
**Fly Supervisor**  
Sean Waite  
**Deputy Fly Supervisor**  
Callum O’Connor  
**Stage & Technical Staff**  
Jon Bargaen  
Ash Basham  
Al Brill  
Suzy Brooks  
Emily Campbell  
Steve Campbell  
Will Campbell  
Bryan Chin  
Kit Cunneen  
Jeremy Fowlie  
Adam Hanley  
Justin Heaton  
Spencer Herd  
Chris Hubbard  
Ethan Hunter  
Louis Kennedy  
Julia Knibbs  
Marcus Macris  
Alexandre Malta  
Jason Markoutsas  
Terry McKibbin  
David Membership  
Sharna Murphy  
Lila Neiswanger  
James Paul  
Jake Rogers  
Natalya Shield  
Marty Shlansky  
Jim Stenson  
Nathaniel Sy  
Tom Vulcan  
Dylan Wainwright-Berrell  
Tom Willis

**House Supervisors**  
George Abbott  
Tanya Batt  
Matt Bertram  
Sarah Branton  
Kasey Gambling  
**House Attendants**  
Rhiannon Atkinson-Howatt  
Stephanie Barham  
Bear  
Emily Bosch  
Briannah Borg  
Zak Brown  
Sam Diamond  
Liz Drummond  
Leila Gerges  
Hugo Gutteridge  
Abby Hampton  
Michael Hart  
Elise Jansen  
Kathryn Joy  
Natasha Milton  
Ernesto Munoz  
Ben Nichol  
Brooke Painter  
Lucy Pembroke  
Brigid Quonoey  
Taylor Reece  
Adam Rogers  
Solomon Rumble  
Sophie Scott  
Mieke Singh  
Ayesha Tauseef  
Olivia Walker  
Alison Wheeldon  
Rhian Wilson

## TICKETING

**Director of Ticketing Operations**  
Brenna Sotiropoulos  
**Customer Service Sales Manager**  
Jessie Phillips  
**VIP Ticketing Officer**  
Michael Bingham  
**Education Ticketing Officer**  
Mellita Ilich  
**Subscriptions & Telemarketing Team Leader**  
Peter Dowd  
**Box Office Supervisors**  
Darcy Fleming (leave cover)  
Bridget Mackey  
Tain Stangret  
**Box Office Attendants**  
Tanya Batt  
Sarah Branton  
Britt Ferry  
Kasey Gambling  
Min Kingham  
Julia Landberg  
Julie Leung  
Brigid Meredith  
Michael Stratford Hutch  
Lee Threadgold

## CRM & AUDIENCE INSIGHTS

**Director of CRM & Audience Insights**  
Jeremy Hodgins  
**Database Specialist**  
Ben Gu  
**Data Analyst**  
Sionna Maple

## COMMISSIONS

Van Badham  
Michelle Brasier  
Kamarra Bell-Wykes  
Andrew Bovell  
Angus Cerini  
Claire Coleman  
Patricia Cornelius  
Declan Furber Gillick  
Sheridan Harbridge  
Marieke Hardy  
Claudia Karvan  
Lally Katz  
Michele Lee  
Glenn Moorhouse  
Kate Mulvany  
Joe Paradise Lui  
Leah Purcell  
Melissa Reeves  
Osamah Sami  
Sally Sara  
S. Shakthidharan  
Aran Thangaratnam

## OVERSEAS REPRESENTATIVE

**New York**  
Kevin Emrick



# Circles of Giving

## LIFETIME PATRONS

Acknowledging a lifetime of extraordinary support.

Rowland Ball OAM and The Late Monica Maughan Pat Burke Peter Clemenger AO and The Late Joan Clemenger AO	Greig Gailey and Dr Geraldine Lazarus Allan Myers AC KC and Maria Myers AC The Late Biddy Ponsford The Late Dr Roger Riordan AM	Maureen Wheeler AO and Tony Wheeler AO The Late Ursula Whiteside Caroline Young and Derek Young AM
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## ENDOWMENT FUND DONORS

Supporting Melbourne Theatre Company’s long term sustainability and creative future.

Leading Gifts	\$50,000+	
Jane Hansen AO and Paul Little AO The Late Max and the Late Jill Schultz	The Late Margaret Anne Brien Tony and Janine Burgess The Late Geoffrey Cohen AM The Late Valerie Gwendolyn King John Higgins AO and Jodie Maunder	Martin and Loreto Hosking The Late Biddy Ponsford Tania Seary and Chris Lynch Andrew Sisson AO and Tracey Sisson The John and Myriam Wylie Foundation
\$20,000+	\$10,000+	
Robert A. Dunster Prudence and Neil Morrison	Helen Lynch AM and Helen Bauer Jennifer Darbyshire and David Walker Ian Hicks AO	Tony and Nathalie Johnson Jane Kunstler
\$5,000	\$2,500+	
John and Lorraine Bates Bowness Family Foundation Prof Glyn Davis AC and Prof Margaret Gardner AC Karen Inge and Dr George Janko	Geoffrey Smith and Gary Singer Rebecca Wilkinson Anonymous (1)	Paul and Robyn Brasher Nigel and Sheena Broughton Rosemary Forbes and Ian Hocking Charles and Cornelia Goode Foundation Roger and Ruth Parker Anne-Louise Sarks
\$1,000+		
Nan Brown Rob and Sal Bruce Pam Caldwell Clare Carlson Chernov Family Assoc Prof Lyn Clearihan AM and Dr Anthony Palmer Pam Durrant Rosemary Forbes and Ian Hocking Gaye and John Gaylard	Gill Family Foundation Charles Gilles and Penny Allen M D Harper Dr Alice Hill and Mark Nicholson Emeritus Prof Andrea Hull AO Neil and Jane Jens Lording Family Foundation Fiona Menzies Ann Miller AM Emeritus Prof Peter McPhee AM	Sarah Nguyen Sally Noonan John and Veronica Rickard Jenny Russo Craig Semple Jan Simon Charles Tegner Pinky Watson Robert and Diana Wilson Anonymous (3)

## PLAYWRIGHTS GIVING CIRCLE

Supporting the NEXT STAGE Writers’ Program, our industry-leading commissioning initiative.

Fitzpatrick Sykes Family Foundation, The Glenholme Foundation, Jane Hansen AO and Paul Little AO, Larry Kamener and Petra Kamener, Susanna Mason, Helen Nicolay, Pimlico Foundation, Tania Seary and Chris Lynch, Craig Semple, Dr Richard Simmie, Derek and Caroline Young



## TRUSTS & FOUNDATIONS



## BENEFACTORS CIRCLE

Donors whose recent gifts help us enrich and transform lives through the finest theatre imaginable.

\$50,000+		
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\$20,000+		
Linda Herd Petra and Larry Kamener Prudence and Neil Morrison	Tania Seary and Chris Lynch Craig Semple Andrew Sisson AO and Tracey Sisson	The John & Myriam Wylie Foundation Anonymous (1)
\$10,000+		
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To find out more about giving at Melbourne Theatre Company, please contact Director of Development Rupert Sherwood on 03 8688 0954



# Circles of Giving

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Anonymous (3)

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    The Late Douglas Meagher  
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Peter Philpott and Robert Ratcliffe  
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Frank and Mirium Tisher  
John and Anna van Weel  
Graham Wademan and Michael Bowden  
Walter and Gertie Wagner  
Kevin and Elizabeth Walsh  
Pinky Watson  
Kaye and John de Wijn  
Ann and Alan Wilkinson  
Robert and Diana Wilson  
Ralph Wollner and  
    The Hon Kirsty Macmillan SC  
Mandy and Edward Yencken  
Anonymous (27)

## LEGACY CIRCLE

**Acknowledging supporters who have made the visionary gesture of including a gift to Melbourne Theatre Company in their will.**

John and Lorraine Bates	Jane Kunstler
Mark and Tamara Boldiston	Irene Kearsey
Bernadette Broberg	Robyn and Maurice Lichter
Adam and Donna Cusack-Muller	Dr Andrew McAlece and Dr Richard Simmie
Anne Evans and Graham Evans AO	Libby McMeekin
Bruce Freeman	Peter Philpott and Robert Ratcliffe
Peter and Betty Game	Marcus Pettinato
Edith Gordon	Jillian Smith
Fiona Griffiths	Diane Tweeddale
Linda Herd	Francis Vergona
Tony Hillery and Warwick Eddington	Anonymous (16)



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For more information, please contact Director of Development Rupert Sherwood on 03 8688 0954





# Key Performance Indicators

	2024	2023
ARTISTIC VIBRANCY		
Subscription Season		
Productions	8	8
Co-productions	1	2
Buy-ins	2	1
Total	11	11
New productions	8	10
Other Plays		
Touring/Sold Off	2	1
Self-presented	–	–
Co-productions	1	–
Buy-ins	–	–
Total	5	1
New productions	2	–
Profile of Plays <sup>1, 2</sup>		
New Australian	5	5
Existing Australian	4	1
New International	0	5
Existing International	5	–
Education & Families Program		
Productions	1	1
Tours	2	1
Workshops/Forums/Talks	8	35
Deadly Creatives	1	1
University of Melbourne – Breadth Program	1	1
VCA Secondary School Theatre Arts Program	1	1
Youth Ambassadors Program	1	1
Virtual School Victoria Program	1	1
Youth Scholarship Course	1	1

	2024	2023
ACCESS		
Number of Performances		
Self-presented		
Home City	320	330
Buy-ins		
Home City	94	53
Co-productions		
Home City	60	90
Touring/Sold Off		
Home City	–	–
Regional	–	–
Other Capital City	52	19
International	–	–
Education	42	25
Development	3	3
Total Performances	571	520
Regional		
Number of Productions	2	1
Number of Towns	17	4

	2024	2023
NUMBER OF PAID ATTENDANCES		
Self-presented		
Home City	109,707	128,823
Buy-ins		
Home City	35,368	18,578
Co-productions		
Home City	13,769	29,899
Touring/Sold Off		
Home City	–	–
Regional	–	–
Other Capital City	18,414	6,169
International		–
Education	3,537	2,601
Development	291	303
Total Paid Attendances	181,086	186,373

<sup>1</sup> Productions have been categorised using Creative Australia's current definitions at the time of writing (April 2025).

<sup>2</sup> For the purposes of reporting, *Blak in the Room* activity has been counted as three new Australian plays, although presented in repertory as part of the one initiative with shared resources and design.



# Key Performance Indicators

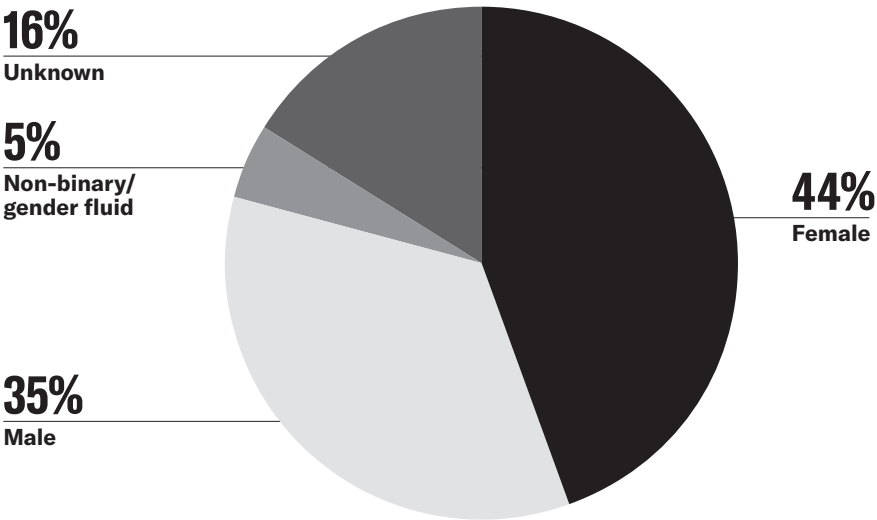
In 2022, we published a Cultural Pledge committing to report annually on diversity markers across our workforce, artists and productions. This reflects our paid workforce – encompassing both production and administration – as well as all employed artists across the 2024 season.

Please note that while certain information is collected during employment onboarding, other diversity markers are provided voluntarily by employees.

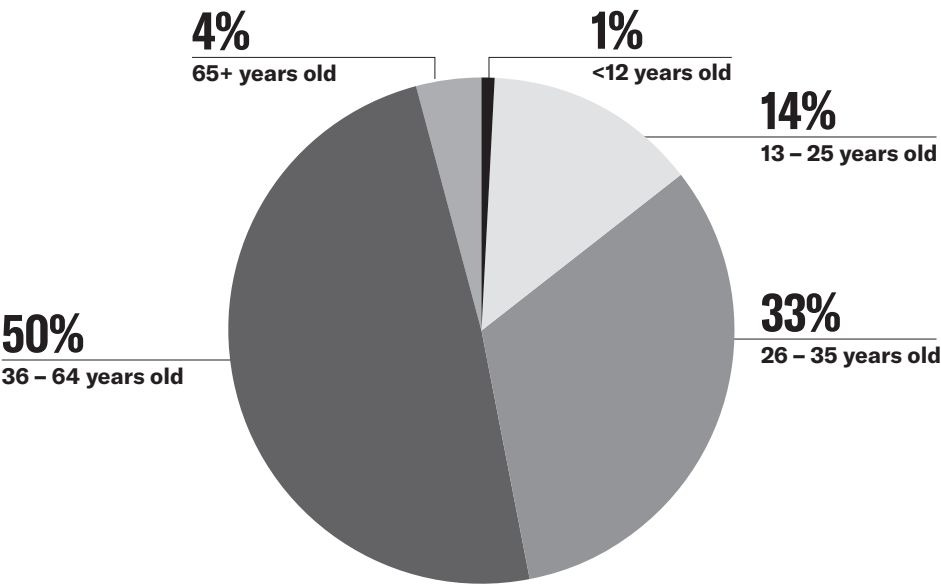
As a result, there is a significant portion where information is not known.

## MELBOURNE THEATRE COMPANY STAFF

### GENDER



### AGE

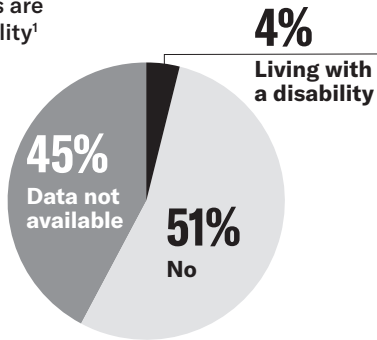


<sup>1</sup> Department of Families, Fairness and Housing Victoria (2022) 'People with a disability in Victoria'

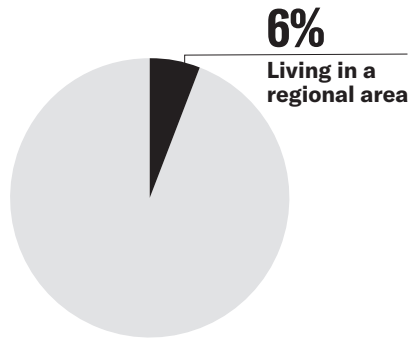
<sup>2</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics (2021) 'Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons'

### LIVING WITH A DISABILITY

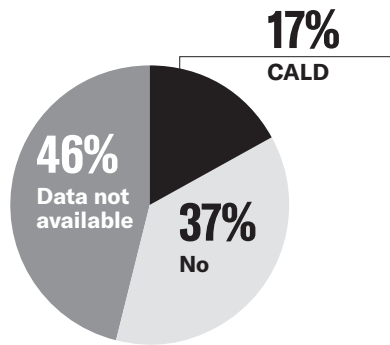
18.4% of Victorians are living with a disability<sup>1</sup>



### LIVING IN A REGIONAL AREA



### CULTURALLY & LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE



## EMPLOYED ARTISTS

### FIRST NATIONS

1.2% Victorians identify as First Nations<sup>2</sup>



56

First Nations artists employed



1

First Nations production in the annual season



3

Partnerships with First Nations organisations

### FEMALE / NON-BINARY



83%

Female / non-binary writers commissioned

### BIPOC



2

BIPOC newly commissioned writers



60%

Female / non-binary creative representation



3

BIPOC-led productions in annual season

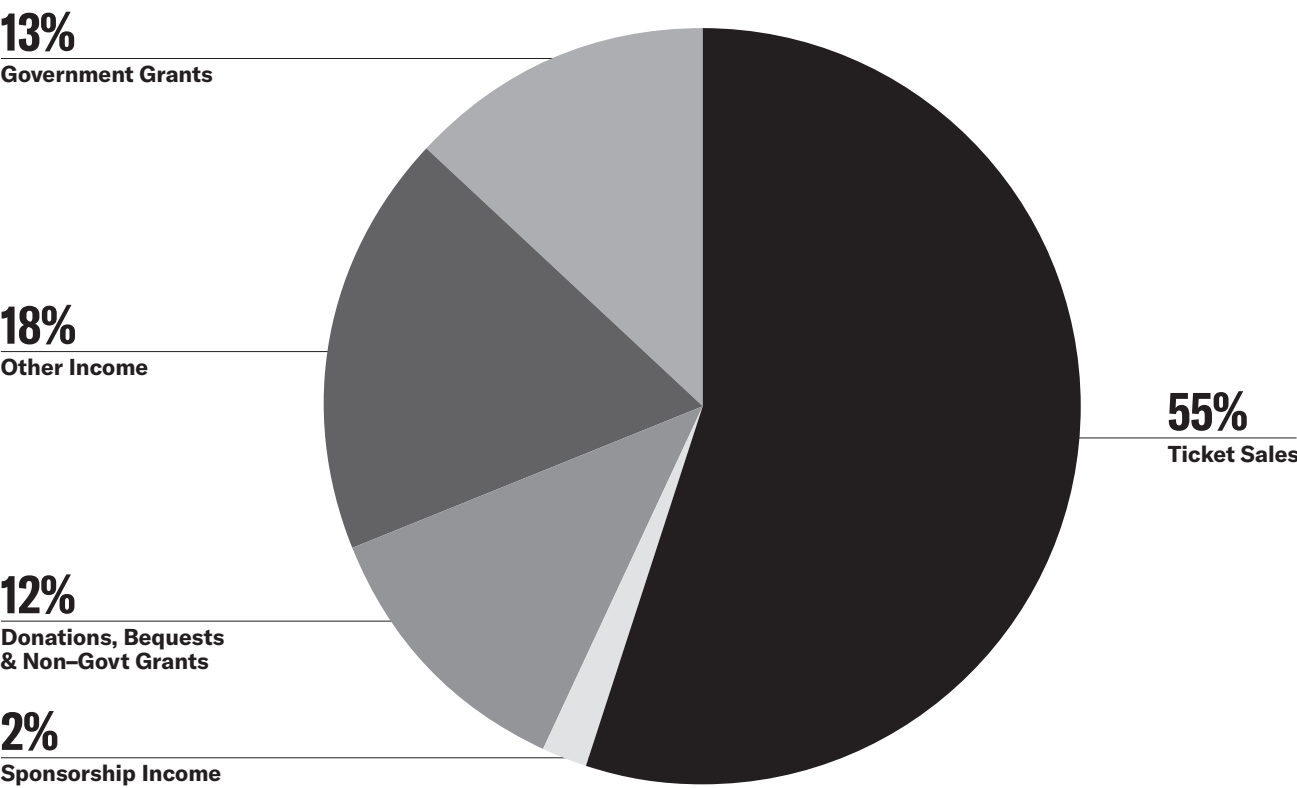


# Key Performance Indicators

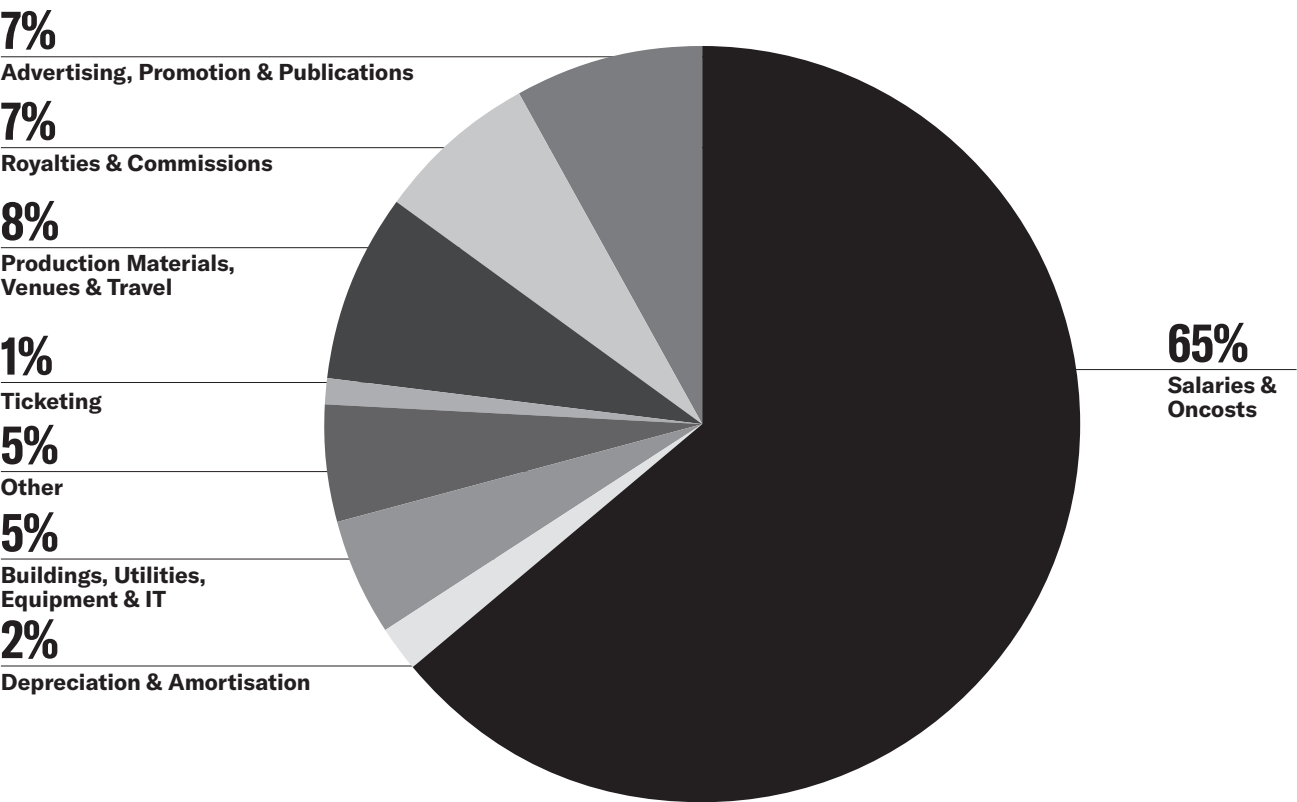
	2024	2023
FINANCIAL INDICATORS		
Financial Viability		
Strength of Reserves (% of Revenue) <small>* revenue calculated on 5-year rolling average</small>	74.6%	68.4%
Surplus/(Deficit) by Accounting Entity		
Core Operations	(1,738,211)	(252,964)
Foundation	–	(1,229,003)
General Endowment Fund	1,932,002	1,917,183
TOTAL	193,790	435,216
Sources of Income as % of Total		
Ticket Sales	55%	61%
Sponsorship Income	2%	2%
Donations, Bequests and Non-Govt Grants	12%	8%
Other Income	18%	17%
Government Grants	13%	12%
TOTAL	100%	100%

	2024 \$	2023 \$
GRANTS		
Commonwealth – Base Grants		
Quadrennial Grant	2,536,823	2,436,910
TOTAL COMMONWEALTH BASE GRANTS	2,536,823	2,436,910
State – Base Grants		
Quadrennial Grant	802,342	790,246
TOTAL STATE BASE GRANTS	802,342	790,246
State – Project Grants		
Department of Education – Strategic Partnerships Program Funding	72,538	74,506
Department of Education – Victorian Challenge and Enrichment Series	–	15,960
Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions – Sustaining Creative Organisations	58,556	–
TOTAL STATE PROJECT GRANTS	131,093	90,466
OTHER GRANTS		
Cybec Foundation	83,000	80,000
The Ian Potter Foundation	238,869	156,085
The John & Myriam Wylie Foundation	–	100,000
TOTAL OTHER GRANTS	321,869	336,085

# 2024 Income



# 2024 Expenditure





# Statement of Comprehensive Income

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Ticket Sales	14,547,538	16,363,874
Commonwealth Government Grants	2,536,823	2,436,910
Victorian Government Grants	933,435	880,713
Other Grants	321,869	336,085
Donations and Bequests	2,967,467	1,738,473
Sponsorship Income	552,571	555,668
Investment Income	988,344	1,128,527
Realised Investment Capital Gains	–	505,613
Contribution from University of Melbourne	1,015,909	1,142,959
Other Income	2,702,153	2,111,262
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>26,566,109</b>	<b>27,200,082</b>
<b>LESS EXPENSE</b>		
Salaries and Oncosts	17,262,832	16,821,079
Utilities	361,696	285,845
Building and Equipment Maintenance and Repairs	591,002	750,943
Computer Software and Services	213,941	222,976
Equipment and IT Consumables	89,354	100,414
Stage Materials and Supplies	578,673	526,645
Depreciation and Amortisation	545,930	468,877
Finance Costs	5,434	7,426
Production related Travel, Accommodation and Tour Costs	572,590	422,238
Advertising, Promotion and Publications	1,862,728	2,132,184
Theatre Venue Rental and Hire Charges	993,687	1,242,092
Royalties and Commissions	1,801,410	1,916,536
Ticketing	314,406	472,203
Other Expenses	1,178,636	1,395,410
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>26,372,319</b>	<b>26,764,867</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>193,790</b>	<b>435,216</b>
<b>OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR</b>		
Available-for-sale Financial Assets:		
Unrealised Capital Gain/(Loss) on Investments	1,009,185	468,493
	<b>1,009,185</b>	<b>468,493</b>
<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>1,202,975</b>	<b>903,708</b>

# Statement of Financial Position

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash	7,033,354	12,577,309
Receivables	931,984	185,843
Other Assets	1,173,672	1,576,291
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>9,139,010</b>	<b>14,339,444</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Property, Plant & Equipment	6,321,921	6,111,489
Other Assets	90,000	150,000
Investments	13,623,278	9,027,234
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>20,035,199</b>	<b>15,288,724</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>29,174,209</b>	<b>29,628,167</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Payables	2,034,977	2,996,754
Provisions	1,874,338	1,901,726
Other Liabilities	8,011,341	8,507,668
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>11,920,656</b>	<b>13,406,149</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Payables	59,980	135,663
Provisions	146,587	242,345
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>206,567</b>	<b>378,008</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>12,127,223</b>	<b>13,784,156</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>17,046,986</b>	<b>15,844,011</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Reserves	15,425,527	12,484,340
Retained Surplus	1,621,459	3,359,671
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>17,046,986</b>	<b>15,844,011</b>



# Statement of Changes in Equity

FOR THE YEARS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 AND 2024

		Core Operations \$	Foundation \$	Endowment \$	Total \$
2023	Retained Surplus	2,252,977	–	–	2,252,977
	Reserve Funds	3,323,469	3,635,208	–	6,958,676
	Endowed Funds	–	–	5,728,650	5,728,650
	Equity Balance at 1 January 2023	5,576,445	3,635,208	5,728,650	14,940,303
	Net Surplus/(Deficit) for 2023	(252,964)	(1,229,003)	1,917,183	435,216
	Other comprehensive income for 2023	–	145,725	322,767	468,493
	Transfer of realised prior year investment gains from Reserve Funds to Retained Surplus	1,359,657	–	–	1,359,657
	Equity Balance at 31 December 2023	5,323,482	2,551,930	7,968,600	15,844,011
2024	Net Surplus/(Deficit) for 2024	(1,738,211)	–	1,932,002	193,790
	Other comprehensive income for 2024	–	257,663	751,522	1,009,185
	Equity Balance at 31 December 2024	3,585,270	2,809,593	10,652,124	17,046,986
	Retained Surplus	1,621,459	–	–	1,621,459
	Reserve Funds	1,963,811	2,809,593	–	4,773,403
	Endowed Funds	–	–	10,652,124	10,652,124
	Equity Balance at 31 December 2024	3,585,270	2,809,593	10,652,124	17,046,986

# Cash Flow Statement

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	2024 Inflows/ (Outflows) \$	2023 Inflows/ (Outflows) \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES –		
Inflows:		
Commonwealth Government Grants	2,536,823	2,436,910
Victorian Government Grants	874,880	880,712
Investment Income Receipts	789,754	663,436
Other Operating Receipts	18,034,622	18,545,303
GST and WHT refunded by the ATO	167,110	300,041
Contributions from University of Melbourne (operational)	525,867	342,959
Outflows:		
Payments to Employees	(17,385,977)	(16,714,132)
Payments to Suppliers	(9,204,851)	(9,412,849)
Net Cash Inflow (Outflow) from Operating Activities	(3,661,773)	(2,957,619)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES –		
Inflows:		
Proceeds from Sale of Investments	–	7,998,172
Endowed gifts	1,577,952	38,500
Contributions from University of Melbourne (capital)	500,000	800,000
Outflows:		
Purchase of Investments (excludes reinvested income)	(3,204,452)	–
Purchase of Plant and Equipment	(750,248)	(1,057,809)
Net Cash Inflow (Outflow) from Investing Activities	(1,876,748)	7,778,863
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES –		
Outflows:		
Interest Costs related to Lease of Building	(5,434)	(7,426)
Net Cash Inflow (Outflow) from Financing Activities	(5,434)	(7,426)
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash Held	(5,543,955)	4,813,818
Cash at the Beginning of the Reporting Period	12,577,309	7,763,492
Cash at the End of the Reporting Period	7,033,354	12,577,309
Reconciliation of Cash at the End of the Reporting Period		
Cash in Bank Accounts and Term Deposits	7,027,639	12,526,826
Petty Cash Floats and Debit Cards	5,715	50,483
	7,033,354	12,577,309



# Statement of Comprehensive Income by Accounting Entity

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Core Operations \$	Foundation \$	Endowment \$	Total \$
REVENUE				
Ticket Sales	14,547,538	–	–	14,547,538
Commonwealth Government Grants	2,536,823	–	–	2,536,823
Victorian Government Grants	933,435	–	–	933,435
Other Grants	–	321,869	–	321,869
Donations and Bequests	–	1,389,514	1,577,952	2,967,467
Sponsorship Income	552,571	–	–	552,571
Investment Income	465,468	131,882	390,995	988,344
Contribution from University of Melbourne	1,015,909	–	–	1,015,909
Other Income	2,687,008	15,145	–	2,702,153
TOTAL REVENUE	22,738,751	1,858,410	1,968,948	26,566,109
LESS EXPENSE				
Salaries and Oncosts	17,262,832	–	–	17,262,832
Utilities	361,696	–	–	361,696
Building and Equipment Maintenance and Repairs	591,002	–	–	591,002
Computer Software and Services	213,941	–	–	213,941
Equipment and IT Consumables	89,354	–	–	89,354
Stage Materials and Supplies	578,673	–	–	578,673
Depreciation and Amortisation	545,930	–	–	545,930
Finance Costs	(35,864)	4,353	36,946	5,434
Production-related Travel, Accommodation and Tour Costs	572,590	–	–	572,590
Advertising, Promotion and Publications	1,862,728	–	–	1,862,728
Theatre Venue Rental and Hire Charges	993,687	–	–	993,687
Royalties and Commissions	1,801,410	–	–	1,801,410
Ticketing	314,406	–	–	314,406
Other Expenses	1,178,636	–	–	1,178,636
TOTAL EXPENSE	26,331,020	4,353	36,946	26,372,319
Transfer from Foundation	1,854,058	(1,854,058)	–	–
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	(1,738,211)	–	1,932,002	193,790
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR				
Available-for-sale Financial Assets:				
Unrealised Capital Gain/(Loss) on Investments	–	257,663	751,522	1,009,185
	–	257,663	751,522	1,009,185
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR	(1,738,211)	257,663	2,683,523	1,202,975

# Statement of Financial Position by Accounting Entity

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Core Operations \$	Foundation \$	Endowment \$	Total \$
ASSETS				
Current Assets	9,065,754	77,445	(4,189)	9,139,010
Non-Current Assets	6,411,921	2,966,965	10,656,313	20,035,199
Total Assets	15,477,675	3,044,410	10,652,124	29,174,209
LIABILITIES				
Current Liabilities	11,685,839	234,817	–	11,920,656
Non-Current Liabilities	206,567	–	–	206,567
Total Liabilities	11,892,405	234,817	–	12,127,223
Net Assets	3,585,270	2,809,593	10,652,124	17,046,986



# Photography

- Page 6,48 – Josh Deane
- Page 8 – Benjamin Healley
- Page 10 – Annabel Moeller
- Page 11, 47 – Charlie Kinross
- Page 12, 14, 16, 18, 24, 26, 30, 34, 39, 41, 81 – Pia Johnson
- Page 20, 36, 40 – Tiffany Garvie
- Page 22, 32 – Prudence Upton
- Page 28, 38, 45 – Sarah Walker
- Page 43, 57, 67 – Tim Grey
- Page 46 – Merryn Trescott/Sapphic Flicks
- Page 49 – Heath Warwick
- Page 51 – Brodi Purtill
- Page 53, 55 – Emily Doyle





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