



Born Yesterday

by Garson Kanin

MTC MELBOURNE
THEATRE
COMPANY

Welcome



Welcome to Melbourne Theatre Company's first production for 2017, *Born Yesterday*.

With any revival of a classic, even a 20th century classic, we need to be mindful of the times in which we are presenting it. And a more timely revival of Garson Kanin's 1946 masterpiece would be hard to imagine.

This glamorous, funny but also darkly probing work explores the corruptions and machinations which can ferment when power is put in the wrong hands. In this case it's the hands of a bullying businessman who winds up in Washington DC with the aim of manipulating politics for his own gain.

To re-ignite this marvellous play, which had one of the longest runs in Broadway history, MTC Associate Director Dean Bryant has assembled a dream creative team. Dale Ferguson's lavish set and costume designs, lit with finesse by Matt Scott, coupled with Mathew Frank's electric composition and a sensational cast, make this production a thrilling night at the theatre, and an interesting coda to America's brutal presidential election last year.

And to continue into 2017 we have an outstanding program of theatre lined up. In our Southbank Theatre and Arts Centre Melbourne venues there's *John* from Pulitzer-Prize winner Annie Baker; Shakespeare's ultimate tragedy *Macbeth*, directed by MTC veteran Simon Phillips; a comedy which many consider to be the funniest play ever written, *Noises Off*; and a range of premieres from some of Australia's most exciting playwrights including Lally Katz, Joanna Murray-Smith and Eddie Perfect.

We're promising a wonderful year of theatre and all of us here at MTC are delighted you've joined us for the ride.

Brett

Brett Sheehy
Artistic Director



Our new show programmes can be purchased at the theatre for \$2 or downloaded for free at mtc.com.au/backstage

Melbourne Theatre Company acknowledges the Yalukit Willam of the Boon Wurrung, the Traditional Owners of the land on which Southbank Theatre and MTC HQ stand, and we pay our respects to Melbourne's First People, to their ancestors past and present, and to our shared future.

MTC is a department of the University of Melbourne.

MTC is assisted by the Commonwealth Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body, and by the State Government of Victoria through Creative Victoria.

MTC is a member of Live Performance Australia and the Australian Major Performing Arts Group.



MELBOURNE THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS

Born Yesterday

by Garson Kanin

14 JANUARY – 25 FEBRUARY

Southbank Theatre
The Sumner

Cast

Mrs Hedges / Helen / Manicurist Heidi Arena
Ed Devery Tyler Coppin
Harry Brock Russell Dykstra
Eddie Brock Chris Fortuna
Bellhop / Bootblack / Waiter Josh Gates
Paul Verrall Joel Jackson
Senator Norval Hedges / Assistant Manager / Barber Richard Piper
Billie Dawn Christie Whelan Browne

Production

Director Dean Bryant
Set & Costume Designer Dale Ferguson
Lighting Designer Matt Scott
Composer & Sound Designer Mathew Frank
Voice & Dialect Coach Leith McPherson
Choreographer Andrew Hallsworth
Fight Choreographer Felicity Steel
Stage Manager Julia Smith
Assistant Stage Manager Meg Richardson
Rehearsal Photographer Deryk McAlpin
Production Photographer Jeff Busby

About the Play

World War II has just ended and junkyard tycoon Harry Brock is settling into his swank hotel in Washington DC, ready to grease the palms of crooked US Senators. He's set to win over Congress, but soon realises his girlfriend, Billie Dawn, may not fit in with the socially and politically elite. Enter Paul Verrall, a charming young reporter who is hired as Billie's tutor. As the lessons begin, so does a burgeoning romance and a plot to foil Harry's dodgy dealings.

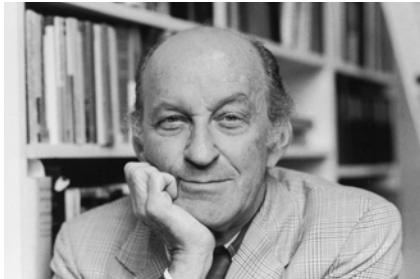
Media Partner



Born Yesterday is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

Born on Broadway

From stage to screen, Garson Kanin's *Born Yesterday* has entertained audiences for over seventy years.



Garson Kanin's comic masterpiece *Born Yesterday* endured one of the most celebrated runs on Broadway to date. It was an instant critical and commercial success with *The Billboard* newspaper reporting at the time: '*Born Yesterday* looks to tenant the Lyceum as long as it wants to stay there.'

And 'stay there' it did. Opening in early 1946, the show ran for 1,642 performances, before the curtain closed for the final time four years later.

Kanin's magnum opus has since received two major Broadway revivals and two film adaptations.

Judy Holliday first played the loveable and determined character of Billie Dawn; a role which catapulted her from stage to silver screen soon after the original production closed. Holliday's portrayal of Billie cemented her reputation as one of America's favourite character actors and established her as a household name.

Like the character she morphs into being, Kanin remembers Holliday as embodying a 'tremendously rare combination of intellect and instinct ... a girl of principle, and of deep social feeling.'

When George Cukor's film version was released in 1950, also starring Holliday, most reviews applauded Kanin's original vision, which critiqued the foundations of commonplace politics at Capitol Hill. Its social commentary and detailed intonations won the film six Academy Award nominations including an Oscar for Judy Holliday as best actress; a welcome reward after three years of portraying the character on stage.

The New York Times described the screen appearance as: 'A priceless performance ... [a] beautifully integrated compound of character study and farce.'

Born Yesterday was, for the most part, accepted as a comedy with a good dose of glamour to echo the era. However, Kanin's portrayal of corruption in Congress was also considered brazen and scathing. His social critiques of the time landed both himself and lead star Holliday in hot water during Senator McCarthy's Red Scare investigations.

The impetus for Kanin's criticism of Washington DC was never made crystal clear, however his participation in WWII had an unquestionable impact. In 1941, Kanin's



Joel Jackson and Christie Whelan Browne;
(opposite) Garson Kanin

directing career was gaining momentum at legendary Hollywood Studio RKO, until he was suddenly enlisted into the Army Signal Corps. He was then transferred to Washington DC and then to London, where he participated in the production of propaganda war films.

It was during the bombing blitz over London in 1941, in a hotel room with his first wife (Broadway star Ruth Gordon) that Kanin penned his first draft of *Born Yesterday*.

Kanin went on to create many other great works, including three more Broadway plays – *The Smile of the World*, *The Rat Race*, and *The Live Wire*. In the decades that followed he wrote dozens of popular short stories and screenplays (some of which he co-wrote with his wife such as *A Double Life*), and six novels. However, his love for the theatre remained and he returned repeatedly to direct and produce

'The best part of one's life is the working part, the creative part. Believe me, I love to succeed ... However, the real spiritual and emotional excitement is in the doing.'

Garson Kanin

plays he was passionate about. In 1964, Kanin would direct up-and-coming actor Barbra Streisand in her breakout role as Fanny Brice in *Funny Girl*.

In 1985, Kanin wrote and directed his last play, *Peccadillo*, and was inducted into America's Theatre Hall of Fame.



Go online to read more about the political climate of Washington DC in the late 40s.

mtc.com.au/backstage



(Clockwise from top) Tyler Coppin, Heidi Arena, Russell Dykstra and Richard Piper; Chris Fortuna; Russell Dykstra. (Opposite) Stage Manager Julia Smith, Director Dean Bryant, Assistant Stage Manager Meg Richardson (obscured) and Composer & Sound Designer Mathew Frank.

From the Director

Director of *Born Yesterday* and MTC Associate Director Dean Bryant reveals his inspirations and apprehensions behind directing the first show of the season.



When Brett and I were talking about a bright, dazzling comedy to kick-start 2017, I threw *Born Yesterday* into the ring as a chance to see a brilliant female actor tackle this Joan of Arc of comedic roles. When we programmed it, I thought it'd be a timely riff on the state of the world – set in the heart of politics, Washington DC, it concerns a woman who takes the power from the male bullies surrounding her. A perfect choice with Hillary Clinton as leader of the free world, right? What a difference a few months makes. When Trump got elected, I despaired – for the state of the world, civilised discourse, and that most selfish of reasons – will my production still work?!

So I read the script again. And it moved me, much more strongly than before. The journey that Billie Dawn goes on – from uninformed ex-showgirl with no voice of her own, to a canny, powerful strategist – speaks

to our duty as citizens in a democracy. We have to speak up and hold to account those who claim to represent us. To read a play written seventy years ago with ideas as hot as those in the op-ed pages now is incredible. To channel them through the beauty that is Billie's brain, is art.

The role of Billie is such a gift for a gorgeous, funny actor. Christie Whelan Browne has always been that actor for me. Like Goldie Hawn, Madeline Kahn, and the original Billie Dawn, one-of-a-kind Judy Holliday, Christie is funny, smart and full of heart – just like the play itself.

It's been a treat to spend the festive season rehearsing with Christie and her equally charming castmates.



Hear more from Dean Bryant at mtc.com.au/backstage



Clockwise from above: Heidi Arena, Richard Piper, Russell Dykstra, Assistant Stage Manager Meg Richardson and Joel Jackson; Richard Piper and Russell Dykstra; Joel Jackson and Christie Whelan Browne.



Go online to see the full gallery of *Born Yesterday* rehearsal and production images.
mtc.com.au/backstage

Cast & Creative Team



HEIDI ARENA

Mrs Hedges / Helen /
Manicurist

Heidi Arena has appeared for Melbourne Theatre Company in *The Other Place*, *The Drowsy Chaperone* and *August: Osage County*. A graduate of NIDA in 2001, her other stage credits include *All My Sons* (Ensemble Theatre), *The Taming of the Shrew* (Bell Shakespeare), and more recently a national tour of Eddie Perfect's *The Beast*. On television, Heidi is best known for her portrayal of Dawn in *The Librarians* (ABC), Audrey Gordon in *Working Dog's Audrey's Kitchen* (ABC) and as an ensemble member in *Thank God You're Here* (Channel 10). More recently Heidi has appeared as Mrs Gonsha in *Little Lunch* (Gristmill/ABC), *Nowhere Boys*, *Upper Middle Bogan* and *The Doctor Blake Mysteries* (all ABC). Heidi's other TV credits include *Fat Tony & Co.*, *It's A Date*, *Offspring*, *Last Man Standing*, *Worst Year Of My Life – Again*, *Blue Heelers* and *The Secret Life of Us*. Heidi's recent film credits include *The Spirit of the Game*, *Emo the Musical*, *Now Add Honey* and *Nowhere Boys: The Book of Shadows*.



TYLER COPPIN

Ed Devery

Tyler Coppin has appeared at Melbourne Theatre Company in *His Girl Friday*, *A Behanding in Spokane*, *Ruby Moon* (MTC Education), and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Helpmann Award for Best Supporting Actor in a Musical). Recent stage productions include *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Dusty*, *Strictly Ballroom the Musical*, and as The Child Catcher in *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* (Green Room Award). He has performed in many productions over the years at Belvoir Theatre, Sydney Theatre Company, and Ensemble Theatre; and as Puck for Opera Australia's acclaimed production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* directed by Baz Luhrmann. Tyler's self written solo show, *LyreBird - Tales of Helpmann*, has played throughout Australia and overseas winning a Scotsman Fringe First at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Recent film credits include *Hacksaw Ridge*, *The Death and Life of Otto Bloom*, *Predestination*, and *The Tender Hook*.



RUSSELL DYKSTRA

Harry Brock

Russell Dykstra has had a successful career in film, television and theatre spanning over 20 years. He made his feature film debut in the critically acclaimed *Soft Fruit*, for which he received an AFI Award for Best Actor in a Leading Role and was nominated for a Film Critics' Circle of Australia Award. He has since appeared in *Romulus My Father*, which also saw him nominated for an AFI for Best Supporting Actor. Other film credits include *Oranges and Sunshine*, *Clubland*, *Lantana*, *Garage Days*, *Ned Kelly* and *Hey Hey It's Esther Blueburger*. Russell was recently nominated for an AACTA award for his performance as Barney in the successful ABC television series *Rake*. Russell's theatre credits include *God of Carnage*, *Wonderful World of Dissocia* and *The Unlikely Prospect of Happiness* (STC), as well as *Stuff Happens* and *Toy Symphony* (Company B). Russell won a Helpmann Award in 2013 for his role as Uncle Fester in *The Addams Family*. He makes his Melbourne Theatre Company debut as Harry Brock in *Born Yesterday*.

Cast & Creative Team



CHRIS FORTUNA

Eddie Brock

Chris Fortuna is a veteran of the Australian stand-up scene and makes his MTC debut in *Born Yesterday*. He has appeared on iconic comedy programs such as *Utopia*, *Hamish and Andy*, *You're Skitting Me* and *Kinne*. Chris made his television debut playing a nerdy ventriloquist on *Neighbours* followed by a variety of Australian dramas such as *House Husbands*, *Stingers* and *Blue Heelers*. He recently starred as the lead in the black humour feature *The Heckler* directed by Ben Plazzer. Chris has hosted an eight-part web series called *Comedians in Bars Drinking Beer* and can currently be seen in Tim Ferguson & Marc Gracie's romcom *Spin Out*.



JOSH GATES

Belhop / Bootblack / Waiter

Performing for the first time at Melbourne Theatre Company, Josh Gates comes from a musical theatre background. After understudying for the stage role of a young Peter Allen in Hugh Jackman's *The Boy From Oz*, Josh went on to play Billy Elliot in *Billy Elliot the Musical* in both Melbourne and Sydney. His portrayal of Billy won him a Green Room Award for Best Actor in a Musical and an Australian Dance Award. After graduating from Patrick Studios Australia, Josh performed in *La Cage Aux Folles* (The Production Company), and appeared as Purser in the Australian tour of *Anything Goes*. He then went to perform in the 60th Anniversary production of *My Fair Lady* directed by Julie Andrews at the Sydney Opera House.



JOEL JACKSON

Paul Verrall

Joel Jackson is best known for his AACTA and Logie Award winning performance as Peter Allen in *Peter Allen: Not The Boy Next Door* (Seven Network) and his AACTA nominated performance as Charles Bean in *Deadline Gallipoli* (Matchbox Pictures). Joel will appear in Greg Mclean's highly anticipated new film *Jungle* in 2017, alongside Daniel Radcliffe. Joel started his performing career as a musician in north-western Australia, supporting Birds of Tokyo, Ian Moss, The Beautiful Girls, Diesel, Regurgitator and Daryl Braithwaite all before the age of 17. Joel graduated from the National Institute of Dramatic Art in 2013 and makes his professional stage debut in *Born Yesterday*.



RICHARD PIPER

Senator Norval Hedges /
Assistant Manager / Barber

Most recently for Melbourne Theatre Company, Richard Piper appeared in *Double Indemnity*, *Ghosts*, *Queen Lear*, *The Gift*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Rockabye*, *Entertaining Mr Sloane*, *The Give and Take* and *Dumb Show*. His other work for the Company includes *Great Expectations*, *Betrayal*, *Man the Balloon*, *Comedy of Errors*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Someone Who'll Watch Over Me*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *As You Like It*, and the title role in Hannie Rayson's *Life After George*. He has toured frequently throughout Australia with *The Secret River*, *The Rocky Horror Show* and *Moby Dick*. Between 2007 and 2009, Richard played Dad in the hit musical *Billy Elliot*. He toured Europe with the STC's *Gross und Klein* and Belvoir's *The Wild Duck*. Richard trained at the Central School of Speech and Drama in London and worked as an actor, musician, and composer for twelve years in Europe. Richard received the 2005 Green Room Award for Best Actor in a Leading Role for *The Daylight Atheist*.



**CHRISTIE
WHELAN BROWNE**

Billie Dawn

Christie Whelan Browne returns to Melbourne Theatre Company after appearing in *The Odd Couple*, *The Importance Of Being Earnest* and *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Helpmann Award nomination). Recently she has been seen in the national tour of Eddie Perfect's *The Beast*, Channel 10's *The Wrong Girl* and in the feature film *Spin Out*. Her career began in *Grease the Arena Spectacular* playing the role of Patti Simcox, which she went on to reprise in London. On returning to Australia she received the Sydney Theatre Award for her performance as April in *Company*. Other musical credits include starring roles in *Xanadu*, *The Producers*, *Anything Goes*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Singin' in the Rain* (Green Room Award nomination), *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* (Green Room Award nomination), *Nice Work If You Can Get It*, *Jerry's Girls* and *Once We Lived Here* (Green Room Award nomination). Christie has been seen on the small screen in *Offspring*, *Wonderland*, *Paper Giants*, *INXS: Never Tear Us Apart*, *Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries* and *House Husbands*.



**GARSON KANIN
(1912-1999)**

Playwright

Garson Kanin was a 20th Century Renaissance man. He began his stage career as an actor, later attending the American Academy of Dramatic Arts and making his Broadway debut in 1933. *Born Yesterday* was his masterpiece, playing over 1600 performances on Broadway. Over the course of his career Kanin wrote or directed thirty-two plays including the premiere of *Funny Girl*. He worked on twenty nine films including, *It Should Happen to You*, *Adam's Rib*, and the Oscar-winning *The True Glory*, and continued to write books including *Smash*, which became the basis for the NBC TV series of the same name. He was inducted into the American Theater Hall of Fame in 1985.

Cast & Creative Team



DEAN BRYANT
Director



DALE FERGUSON
Set and Costume Designer



MATT SCOTT
Lighting Designer



MATHEW FRANK
Composer and
Sound Designer



LEITH McPHERSON
Voice and Dialect Coach



ANDREW HALLSWORTH
Choreographer

Newly appointed as MTC's Associate Director, Dean Bryant has previously directed *Skylight*, *I'll Eat You Last* and *Next to Normal* for the Company. He also worked on *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Hitchcock Blonde* and the MTC and STC seasons of *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* and *Urinetown*. Other directing credits include *Sweet Charity* (Helpmann Award, Best Director of a Musical) and *Little Shop of Horrors* for Hayes Theatre Company, *Anything Goes* (Opera Australia/GFO), *Once We Lived Here* (London season), *DreamSong* (TheatreWorks), *Straight* (Red Stitch), *The Last Five Years*, *Prodigal*, *Virgins: A Musical Threesome* and five musicals for The Production Company. With composer Mathew Frank, he wrote Green Room Award-winning musicals *Prodigal* and *Once We Lived Here*, as well as *Virgins: A Musical Threesome*, *The Silver Donkey* and an Amy Winehouse musical for Channel 10's *Mr & Mrs Murder*. Dean created verbatim piece *Gaybies* (Midsumma, Darlinghurst Theatre Company). Dean is Worldwide Associate Director of *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert - The Musical* and is a graduate of WAAPA.

Dale Ferguson's designs have been a regular feature of MTC productions, most recently in *Skylight*, *The Weir*, *The Speechmaker*, *Neighbourhood Watch*, *The Crucible*, *Top Girls*, *Summer of the Seventeenth Doll*, *Life Without Me*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *August: Osage County*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, and *The History Boys*. Dale has worked for Australia's leading theatre companies, including Bell Shakespeare (*King Lear*), Gordon Frost Organisation (*Anything Goes*), Belvoir (*The Blind Giant is Dancing*), Malthouse (*Dance of Death*) and Sydney Theatre Company (*Les Liaisons Dangereuses*). He recently returned from designing Lyric Opera of Chicago's production of *The Magic Flute*. Dale has received four Green Room Awards, most recently for *Night on Bald Mountain*, and the 2010 Helpmann Award for MTC's *August: Osage County*. His set and costume designs for Company B/Malthouse's production of *Exit the King* earned him Tony and Drama Desk Award nominations when the production transferred to Broadway in 2009.

Matt Scott has lit more than fifty MTC productions, most recently *The Odd Couple*, *Jasper Jones*, *Skylight*, *The Last Man Standing*, *The Weir*, *Jumpy*, *The Mountaintop*, *Elling*, *His Girl Friday*, *Red*, *The Seed*, *Tribes*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Clybourne Park*, *The Joy of Text*, *Next to Normal*, *A Behanding in Spokane*, *Don Parties On*, *Life Without Me*, *All About My Mother*, *Boston Marriage*, *The Swimming Club*, *The Drowsy Chaperone* and *August: Osage County*. Matt has worked extensively in Australia and overseas and has designed for all of Australia's major performing arts companies, lighting over two hundred productions. His most recent other work includes *The Pearlfishers* and *The Marriage of Figaro* for Opera Australia; *La Traviata* and *Madame Butterfly* for NZ Opera; *Anything Goes* for Opera Australia/Gordon Frost Organisation; *Jasper Jones* for Belvoir; *Angels in America* for Black Swan State Theatre Company; *Banquet of Secrets* and *Voyage to the Moon* for Victorian Opera, and *The Riders* for West Australian Opera. He has won two Helpmann Awards.

Mathew Frank was recently the composer of *Skylight* and *Private Lives* for MTC and was the musical director of *Jerry's Girls*, *La Cage Aux Folles* and *The Pirates of Penzance* for The Production Company. Other shows include *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* with Geoffrey Rush at Her Majesty's Theatre and *Next to Normal* and *The Drowsy Chaperone* for Melbourne Theatre Company. Mathew was also the Associate Musical Director on the Company's productions of *Poor Boy*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (and STC season), and *Urinetown* (and STC season), and the Assistant Musical Director on *The Sapphires*. Cabaret works include *Britney Spears the Cabaret*, *Show People* and *Vinyl Viagra*. With writing partner Dean Bryant, he composed the musical *Prodigal*, which became the first Australian musical produced in New York City, with its Off-Broadway debut at the York Theatre Company in 2002. Other original musicals include *Virgins: A Musical Threesome*, *Once We Lived Here* and *The Silver Donkey*.

Leith McPherson has previously worked as Voice and Dialect Coach on MTC's productions of *Jasper Jones*, *Skylight*, *Double Indemnity*, *Peddling* (MTC Education), *North by Northwest*, *Jumpy*, *I'll Eat You Last*, *Private Lives*, *Other Desert Cities*, *All About My Mother*, *Dead Man's Cell Phone*, *Boston Marriage*, *Madagascar*, *The Swimming Club*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *August: Osage County*, *Explorations: A Streetcar Named Desire* (MTC Education), *Rockabye*, *Songs for Nobodies*, *Ninety*, and *The Dame on the Ten Dollar Note*, and as Assistant Director on *Hamlet* and *Richard III*. Other recent stage work includes *Matilda: The Musical* (Royal Shakespeare Company), *Fiddler on the Roof* (TML Enterprises), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Luckiest Enterprises), *Anything Goes* (Opera Australia/Gordon Frost Productions), *Once: The Musical* (GFP), and *Hello, Beautiful!* (Malthouse). Her screen work includes *Ghost in the Shell*, *The Hobbit* trilogy, *Childhood's End*, *Gods of Egypt*, *The Eye of the Storm*, and *The Lovers*. Leith is Head of Voice and Movement for the Theatre Department at the VCA.

Andrew Hallsworth returns to MTC having choreographed *Egg*, *Ladies in Black*, *Private Lives*, *Rupert*, *Hamlet*, *Next to Normal*, and *The Drowsy Chaperone*. He won Helpmann Awards for Best Choreography for *Sweet Charity* (Luckiest Productions/Neil Gooding/Tinderbox) and *Anything Goes* (Opera Australia/GFO). Other choreographic credits are *Dream Lover*, Sydney Opera House - *The Opera* (the Eighth Wonder), *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Dream Song*, *Shane Warne - the Musical in Concert*, *An Officer and a Gentleman*, *Eurobeat - Almost Eurovision*, *Leader of the Pack - The Ellie Greenwich Musical* (Green Room Award for Best Choreography); *Menopause the Musical*; *The Merry Widow*, *Sideshow Alley*, *Prodigal Son*, and *Wombat Stew*. For The Production Company he has co-directed and choreographed *The Producers* and *Anything Goes* and choreographed *Jerry's Girls*, *La Cage Aux Folles*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *Gypsy*, *The Boy from Oz*, *Carousel*, *Mame* and *The Boy Friend*. He co-choreographed the international production of *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* for Broadway and its other international seasons.

Proud sponsor of MTC

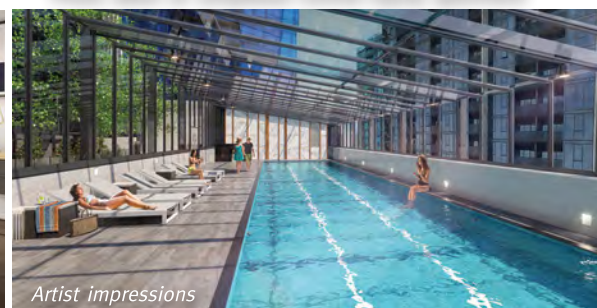
BRAND NEW SOUTHBANK & CBD APARTMENTS FOR SALE

OFF THE PLAN & COMPLETED

1, 2 & 3 Bedrooms



Photo taken at completed Central Equity apartment



Artist impressions

Walk to Central Business District, major employers, Arts Precinct, Crown Entertainment Centre, trains, trams, cafes & restaurants.

- Save thousands in stamp duty (off the plan)
- Resident facilities : Indoor pool, gym, concierge service and more...

INSPECT DISPLAY : 151 City Rd, Southbank / **OPEN 7 DAYS:** 10am - 5pm

📞 1800 63 8888 (7 days) www.centralequity.com.au

CENTRAL EQUITY Award Winning Melbourne Developer

Melbourne Theatre Company

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

Terry Moran AC (Chair)
Tony Burgess
Professor Barry Conyngham AM
Professor Glyn Davis AC
Patricia Faulkner AO
Jonathan Feder
Gillian Franklin
Jane Hansen
Janette Kendall
Ian Marshman
Martyn Myer AO
Brett Sheehy AO
Virginia Lovett

FOUNDATION BOARD

Jane Hansen (Chair)
Terry Bracks AM
Liz Chappell
Fiona Griffiths
Jeanette Kendall
Virginia Lovett
Sam Margis
Louise Myer
Leigh O'Neill
Hilary Scott
Richard Tegoni

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT

Artistic Director & CEO
Brett Sheehy AO
Executive Director
Virginia Lovett
Executive Assistant to the Artistic Director & CEO
Nick Doherty
Executive Administrator
Annie Bourke

ARTISTIC

Associate Directors
Dean Bryant
Sarah Goodes
Producer
Martina Murray
Literary Director
Chris Mead
Casting Director
Janine Snape
Casting Executive
Matt Bebbington
Company Manager
Stephen Moore

CATERING

Catering Manager
Andrea Purvis
Assistant Manager
Anita Lyovic
Café staff
Bev Reinmuth

DEVELOPMENT

Major Gifts Manager
Patrick Rundle
Annual Giving Manager
Chris Walters
Philanthropy Coordinator
Sytske Hillenius
Head of Corporate Partnerships
Dean Hampel
Partnerships & Commercial Executive
Matthew Phoenix
Partnerships and Memberships Executive
Syrie Payne
Events Manager
Mandy Jones

EDUCATION

Head of Education and Families
Jeremy Rice

Community Outreach

Manager
Karin Farrell
Education Coordinator
Nick Tranter

HUMAN RESOURCES

HR Manager
Christelle Harris
HR Administrator
Christine Verginis
EHS Coordinator
Liz Mundell

FINANCE

Finance Director
Liz Chappell
Company Accountant
Ness Harwood
IT and Systems Manager
Michael Schuettkle
Finance Officer
Sarah Thompson
Payroll Officer
Julia Godinho
Accounts Payable Officer
Isobel Taylor-Rodgers

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

Marketing and Communications Director
Kerry Noonan
Marketing Manager
James Wright
Digital Manager
Daniel Coghlan
Marketing Campaign Manager
Emily Fiori

Marketing Coordinator

Rebecca Lawrence
Lead Graphic Designer
Emma Wagstaff
Designers
Helena Turinski
Celeste Njoo
PR and Communications Manager
Rosie Shepherdson-Cullen
Publicist
Stephanie Gavlak
Communications Content Producer
Sarah Corridon

PR and Marketing

Administration Assistant
Stephanie Liew
Receptionist
David Zierk

PRODUCTION & TECHNICAL

Technical & Production Director
Adam J Howe
Senior Production Manager
Michele Preshaw
Production Manager
Mikkel Mynster
Production Coordinator
Michaela Deacon
Props Buyer/ASM Swing
Jess Maguire
Production Administrator
Alyson Brown

TECHNICAL

Technical Manager Lighting and Sound
Kerry Saxby
Senior Production Technician
Allan Hiron

Production Technicians

Adam Bowring
Scott McAlister
Technical Manager - Staging
Andrew Bellchambers
Staging Supervisor - HQ
Jamie Cunningham
Production Design Coordinator
Andrew Bailey
CAD Drafting
Jacob Battista

PROPERTIES

Properties Supervisor
Geoff McGregor
Props Maker
Colin Penn
SCENIC ART
Scenic Art Supervisor
Shane Dunn
Scenic Artists
Tansy Elso
Colin Harman

WORKSHOP

Workshop Supervisor
Aldo Amenta
Deputy Workshop Supervisor
Andrew Weavers
Set Makers
Ken Best
Nick Gray
Bryce Hartnett
Philip de Mulder
Alastair Read

WARDROBE

Wardrobe Managers
Judy Bunn
Keryn Ribbands
Wardrobe Staff
John Molloy
Tiffany Abbott
Emily Brewer
Jocelyn Creed
Lyn Molloy
Justine Coultham
Alice Mere
Nicole Theodore (VCA Secondment)
Buyer
Lucy Moran

Costume Hire

Liz Symons
Millinery
Phillip Rhodes
Wigs and Makeup
Myles Tankle
Wardrobe Maintenance
Stella Cadzow

SOUTHBANK THEATRE

Theatre Operations Director
Mark D Wheeler
Building Supervisor
Adrian Aderhold
House Services Manager
Kam Greville
Production Services Manager
Frank Stoffels

Lighting Supervisor

James Conway
Staging Supervisor
Grant Kennelly
Sound Supervisor
Terry McKibbin
Lawler and Events Technical Supervisor
Josh Noble

Head Flyman

James Tucker
Bar Manager
Keziah Warner
Stage and Technical Staff
Pete Andrews
Matthew Arthur
Tom Brayshaw
Nathan Evers
Adam Hanley
Chris Hubbard
Jake Hutchins
David Jenkins
Robert Larsen
Paul Lim
James Lipari
Eugene Mackinnon
Marcus Macris
Bianca Mastroianni
David Membrey
Sophie Norfolk
Will Patterson
Nicholas Reich
Nick Walker

Alasdair Watson

Joy Weng
Ashlee Wohling
Nick Wollan
House Supervisors
Kasey Gambling
Brienna Macnish
Paul Terrell
Drew Thomson
Bar Supervisors
Paul Blenheim
Natalie Holmwood
Tain Stangret
Drew Thomson

House and Bar Attendants

William Atkinson
Stephanie Barham
Tanya Batt
Sarah Branton
Zak Brown
Alexina Coad
Michael Cutrupi
Marisa Cuzzolaro
Des Fleming
Damien Harrison
Rosie Howell
Leighton Irwin
Elise Jansen
Nicholas Kyriacou
Laura Lethlean
Libby Lynch
Ross MacPherson
Will McRostie
Faran Martin
Natalasha Milton
Daniel Moulds
Ernesto Munoz
Amy Poonian
Clare Reddan
Richard Saxby

Myles Tankle

Isobel Taylor-Rodgers
Isabella Vadeloo
Harriet Wallace-Mead
Jamaica Zuanetti

TICKETING

CRM and Ticketing Director
Dale Bradbury
Ticketing Manager
Brenna Sotiropoulos
Ticketing Services Administrator
Lisa Mibus
Subscriptions Supervisor
Jessie Phillips
Database Specialist
Ben Gu

Data Analyst

Megan Thomson
VIP Ticketing Officer
Michael Bingham
Education Ticketing Officer
Melitta Illich
Box Office Supervisor
Adam Walsh
Box Office Attendants and Subscription Team
Jacqueline Bartlett
Brent Davidson
Katie Dircks
Peter Dowd
Max Foskey
Fran Hefferman
Chelsea Lang
Jean Lizza
Bridget Mackey
Debra McDougall
Moiria Millar
Daniel Scaffidi
Tain Stangret
Ashlee Thompson

PLAYWRIGHTS UNDER COMMISSION

Declan Greene
Roslyn Oades
Hannie Rayson
(with Manhattan Theatre Club)
John Romeril
(with Playwriting Australia)
Aidan Fennessy
Judith Lucy
Damien Millar
Ross Mueller
Magda Szubanski
NEON NEXT Commissions
Nicola Gunn
Daniel Schlusser
Malcolm Robertson
Foundation Commissions
Van Badham
Angela Betzien

MTC CONNECT

AMBASSADORS

WOMEN IN THEATRE

PROGRAM

OVERSEAS REPRESENTATIVES

London

New York

Stuart Thompson

MTC Circles of Giving

MTC gratefully acknowledges our visionary donors

MTC LIFETIME PATRONS

Acknowledging a lifetime of extraordinary support for MTC

Peter Clemenger AO and Joan Clemenger AO
Allan Myers AC QC and Maria Myers AC

The Late Biddy Ponsford
Dr Roger Riordan AM

Caroline Young and Derek Young AM

ENDOWMENT DONORS

Supporting the long term sustainability and creative future of MTC

Leading Endowment Donors

\$1,000,000+
Jane Hansen and Paul Little AO

\$20,000+
Tony and Janine Burgess
Orcadia Foundation
Andrew and Tracey Sisson

\$10,000+

Mim and Michael Bartlett
Carolyn and John Kirby AM

Recent Endowment Donors

Philip Crutchfield QC and Amy Crutchfield
Prof Margaret Gardner AO and
Prof Glyn Davis AC
Fred and Alex Grimwade
Rosie Harkness

David and Lily Harris
Robert Peck AM and Yvonne von Hartel AM
Prof David Penington AC and
Dr Sonay Hussein
Emeritus Prof Peter McPhee
Dr Monica Pahuja
Lady Potter AC
Renzella Family
Anne and Mark Robertson OAM
Steven Skala AO and Lousje Skala
Anonymous

ANNUAL GIVING

Donors whose annual gifts help MTC enrich and transform lives through the finest theatre imaginable

Benefactors Circle

\$250,000+
Crown Resorts Foundation
Packer Family Foundation

\$100,000+
Maureen Wheeler AO and Tony Wheeler AO

\$50,000+
The Joan and Peter Clemenger Trust
The Cybec Foundation

\$20,000+
Betty Amsden AO
The Andrew and Geraldine Buxton
Foundation ▲
Tony and Janine Burgess
Dr Geraldine Lazarus and Greig Gailey
Dr Andrew McAlicie and
Dr Richard Simmie
Louise and Martyn Myer AO
The Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation
Caroline and Derek Young AM ▲
The Vizard Foundation
Anonymous

\$10,000+
Erica Bagshaw
Mary Barlow
The Janet and Michael Buxton Foundation
The Cattermole Family
Christine Gilbertson ♦
Petra and Larry Kamener
Macgeorge Bequest
Malcolm Robertson Foundation
The late Noel Mason and Susanna Mason ▲
Matsarol Foundation ▲
Craig Semple ▲
Luisa Valmorbidia ▲
Anonymous (2)

\$5,000+
John and Lorraine Bates
Sandy Bell and Daryl Kendrick
Dr Andrew Buchanan and Peter Darcy
Ian and Jillian Buchanan
John and Robyn Butselaar
Barry and Joanne Cheetham

Joel Dodge and Family ♦
The Dowd Foundation
Robert and Jan Green
David and Lily Harris ♦
Jane Hemstrich
Linda Herd
George Klempfner and
Yolanda Klempfner AO ♦
Marshall Day Acoustics
(Dennis Irving Scholarship)
Ian and Margaret McKellar
George and Rosa Morstyn
Daniel Neal and Peter Chalk
Tom and Ruth O'Dea ■
Dr Pajouhesh (Smile Solutions)
Alison Park
Jeanna Pratt AC
Janet Reid OAM and Allan Reid
Christopher Richardson
Anne and Mark Robertson OAM ♦ ♦
Trawalla Foundation Trust
Dr Michael and Lynne Wright
Anonymous (4)

Advocates Circle

\$2,500 – \$4,999
Marc Besen AC and Eva Besen AO
Jay Bethell and Peter Smart
Grant Fisher and Helen Bird
Bill Bowness
Bill and Sandra Burdett
Lynne and Rob Burgess
Pat Burke and Jan Nolan
Diana Burleigh
Stephen and Jenny Charles
Caroline and Robert Clemente
Tom and Elana Cordiner ♦
Debbie Dadon AM
Dr Anthony Dortimer and Jillian Dortimer
Shaun and Michelle Factor ♦
Melody and Jonathan Feder ■ ♦
Dr Helen Ferguson
Rosemary Forbes and Ian Hocking
Bruce Freeman ■
Gjergja Family

Heather and Bob Glindemann OAM
Henry Gold
Murray Gordon and Lisa Norton
Lesley Griffin
Tony Hillery and Warwick Eddington
Bruce and Mary Humphries
Rosemary Leffler
Alex and Halina Lewenberg
Virginia Lovett and Rose Hiscock ♦
Carol Mackay and Greg Branson
Ian and Judi Marshman
Sandy and Sandra Murdoch
Jane and Andrew Murray
Tony Osmond and Fiona Griffiths
Peter Philpott and Robert Ratcliffe
Max Schultz
Tim and Lynne Sherwood
Trikojus Education Fund – Australian
Communities Foundation ♦
Cheryl and Paul Veith
Ralph Ward-Ambler AM and
Barbara Ward-Ambler
Anthony Watson and Tracey McDonald ♦
Price and Christine Williams
Ray and Margaret Wilson
Gillian and Tony Wood
Laurel Young-Das and Heather Finnegan
Anonymous (6)

Loyalty Circle

\$1,000 – \$2,499
Dr Katie Allen and Malcolm Allen
In memory of Nicola Andrews
Jennifer Andrews
Valma E. Angliss AM
James and Helen Angus
Margaret Astbury
John and Dagnija Balmford
David and Rhonda Black
Marc and Orli Blecher and Family ♦
Terry Bracks AM
Beth Brown and Tom Bruce AM
Pam Caldwell
Alison and John Cameron
John and Jan Campbell

Ingrid and Per Carlsen
Clare and Richard Carlson
Fiona Caro
Kathleen and Harry Cator
Chef's Hat
Chernov Family
Sue Clarke and Lindsay Allen
Assoc Prof Lyn Clearihan and
Dr Anthony Palmer
Dr Robin Collier and Neil Collier
Sandy and Yvonne Constantine
Jane Simon and Peter Cox
Dr Cyril Curtain
Ann Darby
Mark and Jo Davey
Jocelyn Davies
Jessica Denehey
Mark and Amanda Derham
Katharine Derham-Moore
Jan Dircks
Robert Drake
Bev and Geoff Edwards
George and Eva Ermer
Dr Alastair Fearn
Jan and Rob Flew
Heather Forbes ■
Elizabeth Foster
The Gordon Frost Organisation ■
John Fullerton
Kate Galvin ♦
Nigel and Cathy Garrard
Diana and Murray Gerstman
Gill Family Foundation
Brian Goddard
Leon Goldman
Roger and Jan Goldsmith
Charles and Cornelia Goode Foundation ♦
Isabella Green OAM and Richard Green
John and Jo Grigg
Jane Grover ♦
Ian and Wendy Haines
Glen Harrington and Robyn Eastham
Sandi and Gil Hoskins
Emeritus Prof Andrea Hull AO

Sarah Hunter ♦
Tony and Ann Hyams
Peter and Halina Jacobsen
Peter Jaffe
Ed and Margaret Johnson
Irene Kearsey
Malcolm Kemp
Janette Kendall ♦
Fiona Kirwan-Hamilton and
Simon E Marks SC
Doris and Steve Klein
Larry Kornhauser and Natalya Gill ■
Ruth and Michael Kurc ■
Elizabeth Laverty
Joan and George Lefroy
Alison Leslie
Peter and Judy Loney
Neil and Vida Lowry
Dr Peter and Amanda Lugg
Elizabeth Lyons
Ken and Jan Mackinnon
Aloyst and Margaret Maitland
Joyce and Bernard Marks
Garry McLean
Elizabeth McMeekin
Brenda and Don McRae
Robert and Helena Mestrovic
John G Millard
Dr Jenny Miller and Alistair Hay
Ross and Judy Milne-Pott
Ging Muir and John McCawley ■
Barbara and David Mushin
Julie Nelson
Nick Nichola and Ingrid Moyle ♦
Dr Paul and Sue Nisselle
Leigh O'Neill ♦
James Ostrobrurski
Dr Harry and Rita Perelberg
Dr Annamarie Perlesz
Dug and Lisa Pomeroy
Sally Redlich
Victoria Redwood
Julie and Ian Reid
Anthony Renzella

Jessica Renzella
Robert Renzella
Sara Renzella
Dr S M Richards AM and M R Richards
Rogers Family ■
Sue Rose
Rae Rothfield
Patrick Rundle and Damien Mulvihill ■
F & J Ryan Foundation
Edwina Sahhar
Katherine Sampson and Michael Jaboor
Susan Santoro
Hilary and Stuart Scott ♦
Graeme Seabrook
Prof Barry Sheehan and Pamela Waller
Steven Nicholls and Brett Sheehy AO
Diana and Jeffrey Sher
Diane Silk
Dr John M Sime
Reg and Elaine Smith OAM –
Earimil Gardens Charity
Tim and Angela Smith
Annette and Graham Smorgon ♦
Diana and Brian Snape AM
Jennifer Steinicke
Shirley Strauss
Ricci Swart
Rodney and Aviva Taft
Sylvia Taylor
Richard and Debra Tegneri
Frank Tisher OAM and Dr Miriam Tisher
Kevin and Elizabeth Walsh ■
Pinky Watson
Marion Webster ♦
Ursula Whiteside
Ann and Alan Wilkinson
John and Myriam Wylie Foundation ♦
Mandy and Ted Yencken
Graeme and Nancy Yeomans
Greg Young
Roz Zalewski and Jeremy Ruskin
Ange and Pete Zangmeister
Anita Zeimer ♦
Anonymous (18)

LEGACY CIRCLE

Acknowledging supporters who have made the visionary gesture of including a gift to MTC in their will

Mark and Tamara Boldiston
Bernadette Broberg
Peter and Betty Game

Irene Kearsey
Fiona Griffiths

Dr Andrew McAlicie and
Dr Richard Simmie
Anonymous (5)

LEGACY GIFTS

Remembering and honouring those who have generously supported MTC through a bequest

Estate of Leta-Rae Arthy
The Christine Brown Bequest
Estate of Ron Chapman
Estate of Gordan J Compton

Estate of Bettie Kornhauser
The Kitty and Leslie Sandy Bequest
Estate of James Hollis Minson
The Estate of Prudence Ann Tutton

The Estate of Freda E White
Estate of Dorothy Wood

Acknowledging Donors who join together to support innovative and inspiring programs for the benefit of our community

▲ ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S
CIRCLE

■ YOUTH AMBASSADORS
GIVING CIRCLE

♦ WOMEN IN THEATRE
GIVING CIRCLE

● FAMILY PROGRAMMING
GIVING CIRCLE



PACKER FAMILY
FOUNDATION

THE
Cybec
FOUNDATION

THE LITTLE
FOUNDATION

The
Vizard
FOUNDATION



Current as of December 2016

To find out more about supporting MTC please call 03 8688 0959 or visit mtc.com.au/support

Thank You

MTC would like to thank the following organisations for their generous support

Major Partners



Production Partners



Premium Season Partners



Season Partners



Marketing Partners



Southbank Theatre Partners



MTC is a department of the University of Melbourne.

MTC is assisted by the Commonwealth Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body, and by the State Government of Victoria through Creative Victoria.

MTC is a member of Live Performance Australia and the Australian Major Performing Arts Group.



If you would like to join our corporate family or host a private event, please contact partnerships@mtc.com.au

What's On



John by Annie Baker

MTC's Associate Director Sarah Goodes directs this mesmerising Australian premiere.

10 FEB – 25 MAR

CYBEC ELECTRIC

Brand new writing and electric storytelling come together in MTC's annual Cybec Electric program. Nine Asian-Australian writers are participating in this reading series, as part of Asia TOPA.

23 FEB – 25 FEB

Faith Healer by Brian Friel

Irish playwright Brian Friel's masterpiece arrives in Melbourne following an acclaimed season at Sydney's Belvoir St Theatre.

4 MAR – 8 APR



MTC ARTIST NIGHTS 2017

For a \$10 membership fee, practising theatre artists can access \$29 tickets to designated MTC productions in 2017.

MTC.COM.AU





Introducing our new daily A380 service from Melbourne

From 1 July 2017, enjoy our new Airbus A380 service flying daily from Melbourne to Doha, London and Paris. Immerse yourself in comfort and luxury as you indulge in gourmet cuisine and up to 3,000 in-flight entertainment options. Experience the skies like never before.



 Book today at qatarairways.com/au

GOING PLACES TOGETHER