

SHAKE & STIR THEATRE CO, QUEENSLAND PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE AND BRISBANE FESTIVAL,
IN ASSOCIATION WITH CPL – CHOICE, PASSION, LIFE PRESENT

TAE TAE IN THE LAND OF YAAAS!

CREATED BY SHAKE & STIR



WHO NEEDS GLASS SLIPPERS
WHEN YOU HAVE WHEELS OF STEEL?

25 AUG – 17 SEP 2023
CREMORNE THEATRE, QPAC

SHAKE
& STIR
THEATRE CO

qpac
QUEENSLAND
PERFORMING
ARTS CENTRE

BRISBANE
FESTIVAL



Produced with the support of the Queensland Government and the Queensland Performing Arts Centre

CREATIVES

Writer | Nelle Lee

Director | Ross Balbuziente

Creative Producer | Nick Skubij

Set Designer | Josh McIntosh

Costume Designer | Angela White

Lighting Designer | Trent Suidgeest

Sound Designer | Guy Webster

Choreographer | Dan Venz

Disability Sensitivity & Access Consultant | Madeleine Little

Vocal Coach | Helen Howard

CAST

Maxi Shield, Maya Dove, Johnny Balbuziente, Helen Cassidy and Nelle Lee

Understudy | Zoë Schramm

CREW

Production Manager | Jono Harrison

Stage Manager | Jeremy Gordon

Head of Audio | Caitlyn Kidney

Head of Lighting | Simon Hardy

Senior Assistant Stage Manager | Madison Penglis

Head of Wardrobe / Assistant Stage Manager | Michelle Hair

Assistant Stage Manager Intern | Hayley Smith

Occupational Therapist | Kerry Knight

SFX Consultant | Dale Norris

Special Effects | Skylighter

Assistant Wardrobe | Nicholas James, Kristina Marjanac, Jenny Merritt, Lara Rix

Wigs | Medea Munro

Promotional Photography | Damien Bredberg

Rehearsal Photography | Jade Ellis

Special Thanks | CPL – Choice, Passion, Life, Skylighter, Shania Manning, Andrew Whittaker

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

shake & stir theatre co, Queensland Performing Arts Centre, Brisbane Festival and CPL – Choice, Passion, Life, pay our respects to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ancestors of this land, their spirits and their legacy. The foundations laid by these ancestors – our First Nations Peoples – gives strength, inspiration and courage to current and future generations, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous, towards creating a better Queensland.

FROM SHAKE & STIR THEATRE CO



Nick, Nelle and I were just three friends in 2005. We hung out a lot. On one particular night, after a few martinis, a dream was schemed, and a wish was hatched...

The following year shake & stir was founded, and the rest is, well... continues to be an utter joy. They remain my best friends – and we have been creative collaborators for close to two decades.

Over the past 18 years the company has produced and created productions of all sorts, of various scale, and has been fortunate to stage them in all of the major venues across the country.

Tae Tae In The Land Of Yaaas! is our most personal.

Nelle has crafted a work that beautifully balances trauma and tragedy with light and love – her words are delicate, authentic, and raw – always underscored with hope and cheeky humour.

This is a story for everyone that needs a reminder that no matter how grim, no matter how debilitating, no matter how lost hope can become – do not lose your spark. There is always glitter at the end of the tunnel.

To our creatives – all Kweens in their own right – Joshy, Guy, Angie, Trent, Dan, Helen, Maddie and of course Nick – thank you for your sparkle and friendship. To our dream team crew – Jeremy, Maddison, Michelle, Hayley, Cat, Simon and our Production Manager Jono – snaps to you all.

To our incredible cast, you have made me laugh and cry and laugh again – I'm in awe. Maya Dove you are fierce! Nelle, Helen and Johnny – thank you for being fearless and breathtakingly generous and Ms Maxi Shield – you can now add Thespian to your fabulous feather boa – you are a star!

Big thanks to our co-producers QPAC, Brisbane Festival and CPL – you all shared shake & stir's passion in bringing this important work to life – it has been a beautiful journey.

Finally, to Estee (Tae Tae) Lee – thank you for allowing us to share your story. You are the true Queen.

I hope you enjoy your time in Yaaas!

Ross Balbuziente

Co-Artistic Director, shake & stir theatre co
Director, *Tae Tae in the Land of Yaaas!*

FROM QPAC



Tae Tae in the Land of Yaaas! It's a title that piques curiosity, conjures a joyous, imaginary place, and suggests the story that might lead there. This is a story shake & stir theatre co is uniquely placed to tell and to which the company is personally connected.

The stories that resonate most are those that come from direct experience and it is a unique privilege to be witness to Nelle and Estee Lee's brave step to share their lived experience. It's a story of trauma and tragedy, but also of triumph over adversity and finding the joy in life through it all.

To tell such a story, especially through the art of theatre, can be life changing for both audience and storyteller alike. Theatre has the potential to help us see the world through another person's eyes in an immediate and powerful way.

We hope this is one such experience for all involved and – with our friends at Brisbane Festival and CPL – Choice, Passion, Life – we are grateful for the opportunity to present *Tae Tae in the Land of Yaaas!* It promises to be a season that sparks curiosity and joy, inviting us into a world that we hope will change us all for the better.

John Kotzas AM

Chief Executive, QPAC

FROM BRISBANE FESTIVAL



I am thrilled to welcome shake & stir back into the Brisbane Festival family for the second year. Last year's smash hit production *Fourteen* was such a highlight of Brisbane Festival and this year's World Premiere, *Tae Tae in the Land of Yaaas!* will be no exception. This groundbreaking new work brings a fresh and innovative perspective to theatre making. This production presented in association with CPL – Choice, Passion, Life is the perfect demonstration of the festival's commitment to diversity and inclusivity, made by local superstars.

Tae Tae in the Land of Yaaas! represents more than just a performance, it is a celebration of identity, culture and artistic expression. It is a personal story and I applaud Nelle and Estee Lee for their bravery and vulnerability in opening their world to us in a tale of courage, that inspires us to see the world through a different lens. Blending humour, spectacle, and thoughtful storytelling, shake & stir have managed once again to craft a production that speaks to a broad audience whilst offering an important platform for underrepresented voices.

I am honoured to have such an incredible new work in the festival by a Brisbane company that continues to shine nationally and internationally. Tell everyone to see this work and support new Australian theatre, made in Queensland.

Louise Bezzina

Artistic Director, Brisbane Festival

WRITER'S NOTES



While this play is fictional, it is undeniably rooted in and inspired by events from my life. Names have been altered, experiences merged, and creative liberties have absolutely been taken. Yet, at its core, it is based on a true story.

Writing a piece so close to my heart has been a challenge – a labour of love and, most importantly, a celebration of the indomitable spirit of my extraordinary sister, Estee, aka Tae Tae. As COVID-19 began its global spread, Tae found herself confined to a hospital bed, navigating complications from another spinal surgery. With our family overseas, I chose to stay by her side, rediscovering the bond we once shared as children, but now experiencing it as two grown women. Through early morning chats and late-night Uber Eats orders, we weathered the challenges of the hospital, enveloped by its constant sounds and rhythms.

Tae's resilience during that time deeply resonated with me, reminding me of the incredible story she holds within. It became clear that her journey deserved to be shared, not just with our family, but with the world. Thus, the idea for *Tae Tae in the Land of Yaaas!* was born – a play designed to encapsulate her spirit, entertain with a twist on classic fairytales, and convey a poignant message.

A bunch of people aided in shaping this script, playing significant roles in moulding its characters and narrative. Maya and Maxi, thank you for being game. We might have thrown you into deep waters, but you've swum gracefully alongside us. Johnny and Helen, you effortlessly infuse love and joy into the story – collaboratively sculpting these characters has been a joy. My two partners in crime, Ross and Nick – thank you for believing in this story. I've needed your support and strength more than ever throughout this process, and I am forever grateful for your friendship and encouragement.

A heartfelt thanks to my wonderful family. Special shout out to my two older sisters Estee and Emma who helped craft this story with me. And, of course, a huge thank you to my mum, Lesley, and stepdad, Pete – thank you for, well, everything.

Thank you for being a part of this experience, and I can't wait to see you in the Land of YAAAS!

Nelle Lee











Q&A WITH THE REAL TAE TAE (ESTEE LEE)

The question you are asked most?

Can I help you with that? And sometimes... Let me help you with that!

To you, "Disability" means...?

To me the word disability means impacting on life. This impact goes beyond the person living with the 'disability' – everyone in this person's life feels the impacts of this disability. Whether or not this impact holds you back from living an amazing life totally depends on your mindset, your resilience and human connection with others.

What would you tell your 16-year-old self?

Even though life seems pretty shitty right now and you wish you were like all the other girls, you are going to have the most fabulous, exciting, successful life. You don't need to be like anyone else, you just need to be yourself! Different is normal – so let your differences shine, own this shit and make the world yours girl!

Oh and PS: That guy who you love but he won't give you the time of day or even talk to you because he is too busy hitting on the girls that are 'perfect' – he turns out to be not all that!

What's it like seeing your story on stage?

I knew this would be an emotional process, but when I actually heard the cast read the script for the first time, it was surreal – so deeply emotional.

Seeing this story on stage does take me back to the shitty, horrible times in my life, but instead of remembering them as shitty and horrible, I remember them as obstacles that I had to get through to get to my life now – which is pretty bloody fantastic. Humour and connection is how my life rolls and my sister has so perfectly captured this.

I don't think that anyone could have coupled humour with such a dramatic true story other than Nelle. I am so humbled that shake & stir see my life, well parts of my life, as worthy of putting on stage. I am really proud to be able to support s&s with showcasing this story which I think is going to mean so much to so many people for so many different reasons. I have always been shake & stir's Number 1 fan so it goes without saying that I am so, so proud of my little sis and the creatives, cast and crew of this incredible company.

I have never thought that I was doing anything special or 'inspiring' (hate that word) because I have been living my life just like everyone else, but this has been a special experience. This show presents very challenging themes that we all may go through – and how we overcome them is such a strong thread in the story. I love that it's based on fact but dusted in magic. If only I had had a Maxi Shield Fairy Godmother growing up – she is FAB and symbolises so much more than a Tinker Bell.

Any advice for those struggling with motivation at the moment?

You got this! Own your choices – they are yours and no one else's. Accept your reality – life is what it is, if we could magically go back in time of course we would, but sadly we don't have a Fairy Godmother, so this is it – you are here and your mind can overcome anything! Love and value the people who have and do come into your life – and I promise, life will soar for you!

Your life in three words?

Tenacious, Grateful, Vulnerable.



CAST MEMBERS

JOHNNY BALBUZIENTE



For shake & stir: *The Twits, Fourteen* (with Brisbane Festival), *Fourthcoming*, *Fantastic Mr Fox* (presented by Sydney Theatre Company), *George's Marvellous Medicine* (2016, 2017-2018 national tour). Johnny was a full-time member of shake & stir's in-schools touring team from 2012-2016 and has performed throughout QLD, NSW, VIC and TAS in performances including: *Romeo & Juliet*, *Macbeth*, *Hamlet*, *Shake Up!*, *Tragic Magic* and *Statespeare*. **As Director:** *Much Ado About Nothing* (QLD Youth Shakespeare Festival). Johnny is a Resident Director of shake & stir's in-school touring productions and has directed: *Dirty Beasts*, *Prankster*, *Troll*, *Macbeth*, *Bad Lads*, *Great Shakes* and *The Boy, The Bear, The Baron, The Bard*. **Television:** In 2021, Johnny won Australian hearts when he appeared on the country's most controversial social experiment – *Married At First Sight* (MAFS) Australia Series 8 (Endemol Shine / Channel Nine). **Campaigns:** Johnny has featured in large-scale social campaigns for brands including *Dolce & Gabbana*, *Disney+*, *Suzuki*, *Jack Daniels*, *Woolworths*, *Snooze*, *McCain*, *Van Heusen* and is a proud Ambassador for the *National Breast Cancer Foundation*. **Positions:** shake & stir's Director of In-Schools (2014-present). **Awards:** 2022 Matilda Award nomination for Best Lead Actor for *Fourthcoming*.

HELEN CASSIDY



For shake & stir theatre co: *Fourteen, Fantastic Mr Fox*. **Other Theatre:** *As You Like It, Family Values, The Glass Menagerie, Boston Marriage, The Seagull, Orphans, Man Equals Man, Long Days Journey into Night, Scapin, Backseat Drivers, Mrs Warren's Profession, A Christmas Carol* and *Absurd Person Singular* (Queensland Theatre); *As You Like it, The Wishing Well, Rio Saki and Other Falling Debris, The Drowning Bride* and *Post Office Rose* (La Boite); and *Dirty Fame Flash Candles Club* (Western Standard Productions). Helen played London and the UK with Unlimited Theatre in *The Moon The Moon*. She spent 2018 in Las Vegas appearing in Spiegelworld's *Opium* at the Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas. Her solo show *Erotic Intelligence for Dummies* played sold out crowds in Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne and Brisbane, *The Furze Family Variety Hour* and *Death in a Statesman* for deBase Productions; and with Shock Therapy Productions playing *Medea, A Midsummer Night's Dream* for 4MBS Shakespeare Festival and *Alice in Wonderland*. **Film and Television:** *Thirteen Lives, Sisters of War, Wanted, Australia Day* and *Through My Eyes*. **Awards:** Helen has received four Matilda Awards and is a proud Equity member.

CAST MEMBERS



MAYA DOVE

For shake & stir: Debut. **Editorial:** Maya has appeared in *Vogue Australia* and *Harper's BAZAAR*. **Film and Television:** *We Are Sexual Beings* (SBS). Maya is a proud disabled woman who has lived with a spinal cord injury since birth. Maya is passionate about seeing disability representation in the performing arts.



NELLE LEE

For shake & stir: As actor: *The Twits*, *Jane Eyre* (2019, 2022 national tour), *Fantastic Mr Fox* (presented by Sydney Theatre Company), *A Christmas Carol* (2018-2021), *George's Marvellous Medicine* (2016, 2018 national tour), *Roald Dahl's Revolting Rhymes & Dirty Beasts* (2014, 2015 and 2019 national tours), *Wuthering Heights* (2014, 2016 national tour), *Animal Farm* (2011, 2013 national tour), *Dracula* (2015, 2017 national tour), *1984* (2012, 2014 national tour), *Tequila Mockingbird* (2013, 2016 Qld tour), *Statespeare* (2009, 2011 national tour) and *Out Damn Snot* (shake & stir / La Boite). **As adapter / Writer:** *Fourteen*, *The Twits*, *Fourthcoming*, *Jane Eyre*, *A Christmas Carol*, *George's Marvellous Medicine*, *Dracula*, *Tequila Mockingbird*, *1984*, *Out Damn Snot* and *Statespeare*. **Other Theatre:** *The Crucible*, *Maxine Mellor's Mystery Project*, *Property of the Clan* (Queensland Theatre). *Complete Works of William Shakespeare by Chicks* (Brisbane Festival). **Film and Television:** *The Inbetweeners 2*, *Sea Patrol* seasons 2 & 3, *Mortified* and the feature film *JUCY*. **As Director:** *Fourthcoming*. **Positions:** Nelle is a Co-Artistic Director of shake & stir and has written and performed in productions that have toured across the country (2006 - present). **Training:** Bachelor Theatre Arts (Acting) from the University of Southern Queensland. **Awards:** 2011 USQ Alumnus Award, 2011 USQ Arts Faculty Award. Numerous Matilda Awards including: Gold Matilda Award in recognition of shake & stir's national touring work (2020), Best Musical or Cabaret for *Green Day's American Idiot* (2017), Best Mainstage Production and Gold Matilda Award for creating *Tequila Mockingbird* (2014), Best Independent Production for *Animal Farm* (2012). Helpmann Award nominations include: Best Presentation for Children (2012, 2016), Best Regional Touring Production (2016).

CAST MEMBERS



MAXI SHIELD

For shake & stir: Debut. She's once, twice, three fifths a lady – even on heavy days! Maxi is Sydney's drag de jour. Flying in the face of the seven-foot-tall drag stereotype, this pocket rocket of a performer knows a high kick from a shimmy and gives great lip... sync. Recently "slaying" the first season of *RuPaul's Drag Race Down Under*, Maxi had the world on their feet with her iconic *Absolutely Everybody*, glittered microphone performance. Maxi recently threw her sparkly wig into the comedy world with a sell-out season of her duet one woman show *Maxi the Whole TIT and a Kaboodle*. From Entertainer of the year to touring and performing with Madonna, is there anything this Sydney Legend can't do? Like Madonna and Cher, Ms Shield is better known simply as Maxi. Up close, probably more like Liberace than Cher...

CREATIVE TEAM



ROSS BALBUZIENTE // DIRECTOR

shake & stir: As director: *The Twits*, *Fantastic Mr Fox* (presented by Sydney Theatre Company), *George's Marvellous Medicine*, *Ronald Dahl's Revolting Rhymes & Dirty Beasts*, *Shakespeare* and *Out Damn Snot* (with La Boite); *The Frog Prince*, *Hansel & Gretel*, *FIZZI!* (for Opera Queensland). shake & stir's in-school productions including: *Romeo & Juliet*, *Macbeth*, *Hamlet*, *Shake Up!*, *Smile & Be A Villain*, *Tragic Magic*, *Chop Logic*, *Bard to the Bone*, *Say it to My Face Book*, *Try Hard*, *Oversharer*, *Vacant* and *Popular*. **As actor:** *A Christmas Carol* (2018-2021), *Dracula* (2015, 2017 national tour), *Wuthering Heights* (2014, 2016 national tour), *1984* (2012, 2014 national tour), *Tequila Mockingbird* (2013, 2016 Qld tour), *Animal Farm* (2011, 2013 national tour) and *Shakespeare* (2009, 2011 national tour). **Other Theatre: As actor:** *Romeo & Juliet* (Queensland Theatre), *Julius Caesar* (La Boite), *Citizen Jane* (JUTE), *Assassins* (Warehaus Theatre / QPAC), *As You Like It*, *The Comedy of Errors*, *Titus Andronicus* and *Monkey and His Magic Journey to the West* (Grin & Tonic), *Shakespeare's Strangers* (Globe Stage London). **Positions:** Ross is a founding member and Co-Artistic Director of shake & stir and has created and produced over 100 productions (2006-present). **Awards:** Numerous Matilda Awards including: Gold Matilda Award in recognition of shake & stir's national touring work (2020), Best Musical or Cabaret for *Green Day's American Idiot* (2017), Best Mainstage Production and Gold Matilda Award for creating *Tequila Mockingbird* (2014), Best Independent Production for *Animal Farm* (2012). Helpmann Award nominations include: Best Presentation for Children (2012, 2016), Best Regional Touring Production (2016). Matilda Award nominations include: Best Director, Best Male Actor in a Supporting Role.

CREATIVE TEAM



MADELEINE LITTLE // DISABILITY SENSITIVITY AND ACCESS CONSULTANT

For shake & stir: Debut. **Other credits:** Madeleine Little is an actor and theatre maker based in Brisbane. She wrote, directed and performed in her most recent work, *Hold*, which tested accessible theatre practice. It was presented at the Roundhouse Theatre in April 2019, and was expected to return in 2020 (before COVID-19... but we don't talk about that!). Since 2015, she has been a member of the Indelibilityarts Ensemble, co-devising the show *Love Me*; and co-devising and performing in *Look Mum... No Hands! [The Legless Bar Years]*, most recently at Adelaide Fringe and on the regional QLD tour in October 2018. In 2018, Madeleine performed in Restless Dance Theatre's Helpmann-nominated work *Intimate Space* at Festival 2018. In 2017, with IndelibilityArts, Madeleine worked with Khemistry on the Queensland Government's 'All Abilities' Campaign, starring in *The No Pile* music video. Madeleine was the Access Consultant for the Festival of Australian Student Theatre 2018. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts (Drama) from Queensland University of Technology and a Master of Arts (Creative Arts) through University of Southern Queensland, researching accessible theatre practice. She previously worked as a research assistant for The Last Avant Garde – Disability and the Performing Arts in Australia research project under chair Kath Duncan at University of Melbourne (ARC, AAV, UniSyd). Madeleine now works as Festival Director for Undercover Artist Festival, presented by Access Arts in Queensland and as a tutor/lecturer at University of Southern Queensland.



JOSH MCINTOSH // SET DESIGNER

shake & stir theatre co: *Fourteen, The Twits, Fourthcoming, Jane Eyre, Fantastic Mr Fox, A Christmas Carol, Green Day's American Idiot* (2017, 2018 national tour), *Endgame, George's Marvellous Medicine* (2016, 2018 national tour), *Dracula, Revolting Rhymes & Dirty Beasts* (2014, 2015, 2019 national tours), *Wuthering Heights* (2014, 2016 national tour), *Tequila Mockingbird* (2013, 2016 Qld tour), *Out Damn Snot, 1984* (2012, 2014 national tour), *Animal Farm* (2011, 2013 national tour) and *Statespeare* (2011 national tour).

Other Theatre: Josh has designed *Country Song, Rabbit Hole* and was Design Consultant for *Thom Pain* (Queensland Theatre), *Treasure Island* (Matrix & Queensland Theatre). For La Boite he has designed *Pale Blue Dot, The Kursk* (with Critical Stages & Matrix), *The Wishing Well* (with Matrix), *The Danger Age, The Year Nick McGowan Came to Stay, and Red Cap* (with QMF). For Queensland Ballet: *Peter & the Wolf, The Little Green Road to Fairyland* (with QMF). This year's production designs have included *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* (Matt Ward Entertainment) and *Jersey Boys* (Legend House) at Gold Coast's Star Casino, immersive theatre experience *Love, Lust, Lost* for Broad Encounters, *Slow Boat* for Playlab Theatre and *From Campfire to Stagelight* for Jute Theatre. Josh regularly designs for Strut'n'Fret, Debase Productions, Flipside Theatre, Homunculus Theatre, Matrix Theatre and many others.

CREATIVE TEAM

Festival Design: Josh is Site Designer for the Brisbane Festival and will design Queensland Music Festival's *Music Trails* program throughout Queensland in 2023. Other festival design includes QPAC's *Out of the Box* children's festival and elements of Strut'n'Fret's *The Garden of Unearthly Delights*. **Awards:** Matilda Gold Award: *Body of Work* (2011). Matilda Silver Award: Best Set Design for *Roald Dahl's Revolting Rhymes & Dirty Beasts* (2019); Best Design for *A Christmas Carol* (2018); Best Set Design for *Green Day's American Idiot* (2017), Best Set Design for *Dracula* (2016).

NICK SKUBIJ // CREATIVE PRODUCER



For shake & stir: As actor: *The Twits*, *Fantastic Mr Fox* (presented by Sydney Theatre Company), *A Christmas Carol*, *George's Marvellous Medicine* (2016, 2018 national tour), *Dracula* (2015, 2017 national tour), *Revolting Rhymes & Dirty Beasts* (2014, 2015 and 2019 national tours), *Tequila Mockingbird* (2013, 2016), *1984* (2012, 2014 national tour), *Animal Farm* (2011, 2013 national tour), *Statespeare* (2009, 2011 national tour) and *Out Damn Snot* (with La Boite). **As Adaptor / Writer:** *Fourteen*, *Jane Eyre*, *Fantastic Mr Fox*, *George's Marvellous Medicine*, *Dracula*, *Wuthering Heights*, *1984*, *Animal Farm* and *Out Damn Snot*. **As Director:** *Fourteen*, *Fourthcoming*, *Wuthering Heights* (2014, 2016), *Statespeare* (2009), *La Bohème* (for Opera Queensland) and *FiZZ!* (for Opera Queensland). **Other Theatre:** *Romeo & Juliet* (Queensland Theatre), *Eurobeat* (QPAC), *Citizen Jane* (JUTE), *Crackle, Snap, Pop* (JUTE / Queensland Theatre), *Surviving Jonah Salt* (KEDT / JUTE), *The Fiveways* (Brisbane Festival), *Macbeth*, *Franz Kafka's The Trial*, *As You Like it*, *Titus Andronicus* (Grin and Tonic). **Film and Television:** *Toybox season 2* (Channel 7). **Positions:** Nick is a founding member and Co-Artistic Director of shake & stir theatre co (2006-present). **Awards:** Numerous Matilda Awards including: Gold Matilda Award in recognition of shake & stir's national touring work (2020), Best Musical or Cabaret for *Green Day's American Idiot* (2017), Best Mainstage Production and Gold Matilda Award *Tequila Mockingbird* (2014), Best Production for *Animal Farm* (2012); Matilda Award nomination for Best Mainstage for *Fourteen* (2021), Best Director for *Fourteen* (2021), Lead Actor for *Dracula* (2015). Helpmann Award nominations include: Best Presentation for Children (2012, 2016), Best Regional Touring Production (2016).

CREATIVE TEAM

TRENT SUIDGEEST // LIGHTING DESIGNER



For shake & stir: *Fourteen*. **Other Theatre:** *Muriel's Wedding The Musical* (Global Creatures/STC), *The Eighth Wonder*, *Carmen*, *The Rabbits* (Opera Australia), *The Tenant Of Wildfell Hall*, *Appropriate*, *Hay Fever*, *Accidental Death Of An Anarchist*, *Talk* (Sydney Theatre Company), *Miss Peony*, *The Sapphires* (Belvoir St Theatre), *Prima Facie*, *Kill Climate Deniers*, *The Homosexuals or Faggots* (Griffin Theatre), *Dubbo Championship Wrestling*, *Young Frankenstein*, *Calamity Jane*, *Gypsy*, *The View UpStairs* (Hayes Theatre Co), *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Dusty*, *The Boy From Oz* (The Production Co), *GASPI*, *Other Desert Cities*, *Managing Carmen* (QT/BSSTC), *RENT* (Sugary Rum/LPD/Sydney Opera House) **At Sydney Festival:** *Betty Blokk-Buster Reimagined* (Red Line Productions), *I Am Eora* (Performing Lines), *44 Sex Acts In One Week* (Club House Productions) and *Black Cockatoo* (Ensemble Theatre). **Events / Installations:** *Night Mass: Exstasia* (Dark Mofo 2023) and *A Mirrored City* (Vivid Sydney). **Training:** Bachelor of Performing Arts (Production & Design) from the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts. Website: trentsuidgeest.com

DAN VENZ // CHOREOGRAPHER



For shake & stir: *Fourteen*. **Other Theatre:** *As You Like It*, *Drizzle Boy*, *First Causality* (Queensland Theatre). *Cry Baby*, *Urinetown*, *Heathers The Musical*, *42nd Street* (Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University), *Grease* (QPAC/Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University), *The Mystery of the Valkyrie*, *A Very Naughty Christmas Cabaret Series*, *Sweet Charity*, *Yank!* *A WWII Love Story* (Woodward Productions), *Boy&Girl Cabaret Series*, *Six Inches* (Oscar Production Company), *Razzle Dazzle Riot*, *Divine Bar* and *Arcadia Entertainment* (Brisbane Festival/Oscar ProCo.), *Seven On Sinatra* (Melt Festival/Brisbane Powerhouse), *Carrie: The Musical* (Wax Lyrical Productions), *Footloose*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Legally Blonde*, *Xanadu* (Hayward Street Theatre), *Margaret Fulton The Musical* (Jally Entertainment), *Alice in Wonderland*, *The Jungle Book*, *The Little Mermaid* (Pen2Stage), *Dora The Explorer*, *Shimmer & Shine*, *Paw Patrol Live Shows* (Nickelodeon and Nick Jr.), *Bluey's Big Play - Development* (Andrew Kay and Windmill Theatre Co.) and *Würst Almost All Male Review* (Wonderland Festival/ Jacqueline Furey).

CREATIVE TEAM



GUY WEBSTER // SOUND DESIGNER

shake & stir: *Fourteen, The Twits, Fourthcoming, Jane Eyre, Fantastic Mr Fox, Endgame, George's Marvellous Medicine* (2016, 2018 national tour), *Dracula* (2015, 2017 national tour), *Revolting Rhymes & Dirty Beasts* (2014, 2015, 2019 national tours), *Wuthering Heights* (2014, 2016 national tour), *Tequila Mockingbird* (2013, 2016 Qld tour), *Out Damn Snot, 1984* (2012, 2014 national tour), *Animal Farm* (2011, 2013 national tour) and *Statespeare* (2009, 2011 national tour). Guy Webster is a performer, composer, musician, sound designer and teacher. While his live performances have earned him a reputation as a prolific and inspiring songwriter, his work in interactive composition and sound design has featured in festivals, galleries, conferences and theatres in Australia, Japan, UK, Europe, USA and China.

Other Theatre: *L'Appartement, Constellations, The Seagull, Brisbane, The Effect, Kelly, Venus in Fur, Orphans* (Queensland Theatre), *Naked & Screaming, From Darkness, Lysa and the Freeborn Dames, The Tragedy of King Richard III, A Streetcar Named Desire, As You Like It, Ruben Guthrie, I Love You, Bro, The Pineapple Queen, The White Earth, Kitchen Diva, Summer Wonderland, The Narcissist, Last Drinks, Urban Dingoes and Crèche & Burn* (La Boite), *The Rising* (Circus Corridor), *Welcome To Sameville, Locked In, Viral* (Shock Therapy Productions), *Torrent* (Lisa Wilson / DanceNorth), *Bunker* (Lisa Wilson / Nathan Sibthorpe), *La Bella Figura, To Kill A Cassowary, Here We Are All Assembled* and *The Salt Remains* (JUTE). **Other Music:** Guy has released several CDs and performed on many stages supporting the likes of Beth Orton, Ed Harcourt, Powderfinger, The Cruel Sea, Mad Professor, Eskimo Joe, Ben Lee and Sarah Blasko.



ANGELA WHITE // COSTUME DESIGNER

For shake & stir: Debut. **Other Credits:** Angela White is an Avant Garde fashion and costume designer who creates stage performance pieces for pop stars and designs musical theatre shows. Angela won Best Costume Design in the 2015 Sydney Theatre Awards for her work in *Heathers the Musical*, and received a nomination for *Sideshow* in 2016. More recent shows Angela has designed are: *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes, Moulin Scrooge, Godspell, The Lyin' Queen* and *The Bodybag*. Angela's other biggest achievements include co-designing and making costumes for Jessica Mauboy's 2023 Mardi Gras performance, her 'All The Hits' tour in 2017, and co-making Jessica Mauboy's 2018 Eurovision dress. Angela also designed and made costumes for Trevor Ashley's performances on *Queen of the Universe* 2023.

CREW

JONATHAN "JONO" HARRISON // PRODUCTION MANAGER

For shake & stir: Debut. For La Boite Theatre: *Poison of Polygamy*, *AWAY*, *7 Methods for Killing Kylie Jenner*, *The Last 5 Years*, *An Ideal Husband*, *TIDDAS* (Production Manager), *CAESAR*, *Bigger & Blacker*, *Naked & Screaming*, *Christmas Actually* (Technical Coordinator). For Disney Cruise Line: *Frozen A Musical Spectacular*, *Aladdin*, *Disney's Believe*, *Disney Wishes*, *WAVs*, *The Golden Mickey's*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Disney Dreams: An Enchanted Classic*, *Tangled the Musical*, *Twice Charmed* (Senior Technician), *Stage Track*, *Frozen a Musical Spectacular*, *Aladdin*, *Disney's Believe*, *Disney Wishes*, *WAVs*, *The Golden Mickey's*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Disney Dreams: An Enchanted Classic*, *Tangled the Musical*, *Twice Charmed*, *Villains Tonight* and *Toy Story the Musical* (Show Control Technician).

JEREMY GORDON // STAGE MANAGER

For shake & stir: *Fourteen*, *Fantastic Mr Fox*, *The Twits*. **As Stage Manager:** *Wilbur the Optical Whale*, *Love Me* (Indelibilityarts), *Trade Winds* (Polytoxic), *Let's Be Friends Forever*, *One Bottle Later*, *That's What She Said*, *I've Been Meaning to Ask You*, *I Just Came to Say Goodbye*, *I Want to Know What Love Is* (The Good Room), *Tower of Babel*, *Vis & Ramin* (Baran Theatre), *What I'm Here For* (Elbow Room), *Statum* (Flipside Circus & Counterpilot), *Rovers*, *Hanako* (Belloo Creative), *Wireless* (Judith Wright Centre), *Macbeth* (The Danger Ensemble), *Happy Days* (Queensland Theatre), *Dust*, *Superfamouslynobodies* (Griffith University). **As Programmer:** *Night of the Nerds* (World Science Festival), *Lord Mayor's Christmas Carols 2021* (Little Red Company), *Institute of Light*, *Avoidable Perils*, *Statum*, *Crunch Time* (Counterpilot). **Other:** Matilda Awards Recipient, QUT Creative Industries Backstage Award (2022).

MICHELLE HAIR // HEAD OF WARDROBE / ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER

For shake & stir: As Head of Wardrobe: *A Christmas Carol* (2022). As Costume Maker: *The Twits* (2023). **Other Credits:** As Wardrobe Technician & Dresser: *Holding Achilles* (Dead Puppet Society, 2022-2023). As Costume Maker/Sourcing: *From Little Things...* (Flipside Circus), *Raise the Roof – Dionysus Redux* (Brisbane Festival). As Wardrobe Maintenance: *At What Cost?* (Queensland Theatre), *Winnie the Pooh* (Life Like Touring), Sydney Festival 2023. Session Academic (School of Creative Practice, QUT). **Training:** Bachelor of Fine Arts (Technical Production) QUT.

SIMON HARDY // HEAD OF LIGHTING & LIGHTING PROGRAMMER

For shake & stir: **As Head of Lighting & Lighting Programmer:** *Fourteen*, *The Twits*, *Fourthcoming*, *Jane Eyre* (2022 National Tour), *Fantastic Mr Fox*, *Revoluting Rhymes & Dirty Beasts* (2019 National Tour), *A Christmas Carol*, *George's Marvellous Medicine* (2018 national tour). **Other Credits:** Programmer & HDLX: *Lord Mayor's Christmas Carols* (2021-2022), Lighting Technician: *Perth Fringe Festival* (2019-2020), *Gluttony Adelaide Festival* (2021-2023), Lighting Programmer: *Polytoxic Demolition*, Lighting Designer: *Elements Collective MINDED* (2019), *Seth Sentry* (2016) Brisbane Festival. **Training:** Bachelor of Fine Arts (Technical Production) QUT. **Positions:** Senior Technician Festivals (ongoing); Freelance Lighting Programmer and Designer

CREW

CAITLYN KIDNEY // HEAD OF AUDIO

For shake & stir: *Fourteen, Jane Eyre, Fourthcoming, The Frog Prince* (with Opera Queensland). **Other Theatre Credits:** QLab Programmer of *Queer as Flux* (2021), Sound Engineer *Dinosaur Time Machine* (2021), Video Systems + Operator *The Design Conference BPH* (2021), Stage Manager *The Underground Hour* Madhouse Dance (2020), Sound Technician Stage B *SBS Naidoc Week Live Concert 2020 BPH*, Sound Engineer *The Lastlings* BPH (2021), Sound Engineer *Magpie Playlab* (2019), RX Technician *Phantom of the Opera* (2017), RX Technician *Legally Blonde Musical* (2017), RX Technician *Cats the Musical* (2018). **Festival Credits:** Technical Coordinator Brisbane Festival (2021) (Brisbane Powerhouse Theatre, Metro Arts Theatre West Village and Parade Ground), Site + Roving Technician Botanica Arts Festival (2021) Buck Outdoor, Sound Engineer Melt Festival (2021), Sound + Video Engineer Comedy Festival (2021), Venue Manager + Roving Technician Adelaide Gluttony Fringe Festival (2021), AEC Sydney Festival Carriageworks (2021), Sound + Video Engineer Ocean Film Festival (2020), Sound Engineer Roxie Stage Wynnum Festival (2020), Sound Engineer Street Serenades Brisbane Festival Roxie Stage (2020), Roving Technician Adelaide Gluttony Fringe Festival (2020), AEC Sydney Festival Carriageworks (2020), Video and Audio Operator Wonderland Festival (2019), Venue Manager + Technician Our Place of QMF (2019), Video + Audio Engineer Supercell Festival (2019), Technical Coordinator Theatre Republic Brisbane Festival 2019, Venue Manager + All round Technician Gluttony Festival (2019), AEC Sydney Festival Carriageworks (2019), Technical Manager Fast Festival (2018), Sound Engineer Anywhere Festival (2018). **Training:** Bachelor of Fine Arts (Technical Production) QUT. **Positions:** Technical Coordinator Festivals (ongoing); Freelance Video and Audio Engineer + Systems Designer (ongoing across theatres, conferences, and festivals).

MADDISON PENGLIS // SENIOR ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER

For shake & stir: As Stage Manager: *Animal Farm* (2021 National Tour), *QLD Youth Shakespeare Festival* (2020). As Assistant Stage Manager: *The Twits, Jane Eyre* (2019, 2022 national tour), *Fantastic Mr Fox* (2019-2023), *Revolting Rhymes & Dirty Beasts* (2019 national tour), *A Christmas Carol* (2018 - 2022), *George's Marvellous Medicine* (2018 national tour) and *QLD Youth Shakespeare Festival* (2018). **Other Credits:** As Stage Manager: *Tiny Beautiful Things* (Queensland Theatre). *The Mystery of the Valkyrie* (Woodward Productions). *Maze* (The Naughty Corner Collective). As Assistant Stage Manager: *Chez Nous on Chevron* (Bleach Festival), Sydney Festival 2019: Carriageworks; Sydney Festival 2018: Sydney Opera House. As Event Coordinator: Sydney Festival 2022 & 2023: Sydney Opera House. As Assistant Event Coordinator: Sydney Festival 2021: Town Hall. **Training:** Bachelor of Fine Arts (Technical Production) at QUT.

WE CARE

We love that art has the capacity to amplify important questions, stories and messages. Art can help us explore what it is to be human and plays a vital role in truth-telling and healing, promoting understanding and empathy.

We're also aware that engaging with art that gives voice to truth-telling can sometimes raise concerns or issues for our audiences.

Please take care as you immerse yourself in the experience of this production. We encourage you to reach out for help from family, friends or professionals if the stories or issues you interact with raise any concerns for you.

If you or someone you know needs information or support, these organisations are there to help:

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Grief Australia 1800 642 066

Headspace 1800 650 890

Kids Helpline 1800 551 800

Lifeline 13 11 14

MIND Australia 1300 286 463

ReachOut reachout.com

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Artistic Director **Nelle Lee**

Artistic Director **Nick Skubij**

Director – In-Schools **Johnny Balbuziente**

Manager – In-Schools **Nick James**

Assistant – In-Schools **Zoë Schramm**

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Production & Technical Manager **Jonathan Harrison**

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Company Touring Actors

Isabella Berlese, Josie Cross, Brendan Kater, Alex Swanston, Liam Wallis, Gabriel Wighton

Primary Instructors

Eliza Allen, Chelsea August, Lucy Bancroft, Carmelo Bucolo, Elizabeth Clarke, Mickey Dando, Dominic Graves, Nicholas Hargreaves, Peter Hatton, Elizabeth Elliott Haynes, Mikayla Hosking, Lydia Humphries, Aoife Kissane, Jiordie Lobwein, Adelaide Lukin, Jacinta Maxwell, Piper Rosenblatt

shake & stir theatre co is supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland

Tae Tae in the Land of Yaaas! is supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland

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For Richard Lee, this play is but a humble tribute
to the boundless love and lessons you left behind.
In every line and every scene, you live on.

QUEENSLAND PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

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The Honourable Leeanne Enoch MP: Minister for Treaty,
Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships,
Minister for Communities and Minister for the Arts

Director-General, Department of Treaty, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships,
Communities and the Arts: Ms Clare O'Connor

We pay our respects to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ancestors of this land, their spirits and their legacy. The foundations laid by these ancestors – our First Nations Peoples – gives strength, inspiration and courage to current and future generations, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous, towards creating a better Queensland.

QPAC warmly thanks our key donors who help us engage broadly across the state and continue enriching lives through performing arts.

Tim Fairfax AC and Gina Fairfax AC, Dr Lee and Professor Peter Coaldrake AO, Leigh Tabrett PSM, Susan Rix AM, Dr Sally Pitkin AO, Dare Power, Dr Cathryn Mittelheuser AM, Queensland Community Foundation, de Groot's Charitable Fund, Sandi Hoskins, Klaus Beckmann, Barbara Snelling, Jill Hutchins, Leigh Wheeler, Frank and Karen Alpert, Alison Iverach, Jenny Morton, John Ryan, Margaret Heggie, Natalie Nelson, Ben Castleton, Helen Astbury, Meg Bock, Anthony Wade-Cooper and several donors who wish to remain anonymous.

Patrons are advised that the Performing Arts Centre has EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURES, a FIRE ALARM system and EXIT passageways. In case of an alert, patrons should remain calm, look for the closest EXIT sign in GREEN, listen to and comply with directions given by the inhouse trained attendants and move in an orderly fashion to the open spaces outside the Centre.



YAAAS!

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