

CREATIVE LIGHTING FOR PERFORMANCE

Verity Hampson

Verity is an award-winning lighting and projection designer working across theatre, dance, opera, film and television. Since graduating from NIDA in 2005, she has designed more than 130 productions for many of Australia's leading companies, including Sydney Theatre Company, Belvoir, Griffin Theatre Company, Queensland Theatre, Bell Shakespeare, Malthouse Theatre, Ensemble Theatre, La Boite, Hayes Theatre, National Theatre of Parramatta, ATYP and B Sharp, as well as Sydney Dance Company, Dancenorth and Sydney Chamber Opera.

Her extensive theatre collaborations include work with leading directors and choreographers such as Judy Davis, Jessica Arthur, Shari Sebbens, Leticia Caceres, Sarah Goodes, Kate Champion, Meryl Tankard and Sam Strong.

Verity's award-winning designs include *The Drover's Wife*, *Faith Healer*, *The Bleeding Tree*, *Machinal* and *Blackie Blackie Brown*. She has won three Sydney Theatre Awards, a Green Room Award and an APDG Award for Best Lighting Design, and was awarded the Mike Walsh Fellowship, taking her to Broadway to work with projection designers 59 Productions.

Verity is also a partner in Vexran Productions, specialising in digital content generation and presentation for theatre.

STORYTELLING THROUGH SONG

Kat Hoyos

Kat Hoyos is a highly accomplished actor, singer and dancer.

Kat holds a Bachelor of Performance (Music and Theatre) from the University of Wollongong and a Cert IV in Dance from Brent Street. She has studied in Los Angeles at The Groundlings, the Ivana Chubbuck Studio, and the Margie Haber Studio.

She has worked with Griffin Theatre Company and Australian Plays Transform (formerly Playwriting Australia), is on the faculty of Improv Theatre Sydney and is a NIDA Open Teaching Artist.

Kat's television credits include Layla Habib on Channel 9's *Here Come The Habibs*, which was nominated for Best Comedy in the TV Week Logie Awards and Best International Comedy at the Golden Nymph and Rose d'Or Awards.

Kat also played midwife Sasha Lorente in the Channel 9 drama *Amazing Grace* alongside Sigrid Thornton and Kate Jenkinson.

Her stage credits include *Jersey Boys* (Australian and New Zealand Tour), *Hairspray* (Australian Tour), *Xanadu*, and *They're Playing Our Song* at the Hayes Theatre.

STANDARD ENGLISH ACCENT

Laura Farrell

Laura Farrell is a Voice and Dialect Coach based in Sydney.

She holds a Master of Fine Arts in Voice from NIDA, a Postgraduate Diploma in Voice from the Victorian College of the Arts (VCA), and a Bachelor of Music Theatre from VCA. Laura is also a certified teacher of Knight-Thompson Speechwork and Vocal Combat Technique.

Laura is a lecturer within NIDA's Bachelor of Fine Arts and Diploma actor training programs and serves as the resident Voice and Dialect Coach at Belvoir St Theatre. She works extensively with actors to develop vocal technique, speech, dialect acquisition and text analysis, supporting performers to communicate with clarity, authenticity and confidence.

Her recent coaching credits for Belvoir include *Big Girls Don't Cry* (dir. Ian Michael), *Song of First Desire* (dir. Neil Armfield), *August: Osage County* (dir. Eamon Flack), *Counting and Cracking* (dir. Eamon Flack), *Never Closer* (dir. Hannah Goodwin), *Lose to Win* (dir. Jessica Arthur), *Holding the Man* (dir. Eamon Flack), and *Master and Margarita* (dir. Eamon Flack).

DIRECTING

Kim Hardwick

Kim Hardwick is a stage director and theatre producer, and a graduate of VCA and WAAPA. She is the Artistic Director of White Box Theatre and has directed and produced extensively across Sydney and Australia.

Recent directing credits include *Babyteeth* by Rita Kalnejais with White Box Theatre at KXT On Broadway, *Partying with Manson* by Stephen Sewell for the Adelaide Fringe, *The Children's Hour* at Old Fitz Theatre, *Dog* by Shayne de Groot at KXT, and *Wild Thing* by Suzanne Hawley for Arts on Tour NSW.

Her extensive credits include productions with Griffin Theatre Company, Darlinghurst Theatre Company, Seymour Centre, KXT, Old Fitz Theatre, Sport for Jove, B Sharp and Workhorse Theatre, as well as national and international tours. Selected productions include *The House on the Lake*, *The Walworth Farce*, *The Shifting Heart*, *Blackrock*, *Hurt*, *Ditch*, *Starstruck The Musical*, *The Hatpin* and *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*.

Kim's production *Hurt* won the 2016 Sydney Theatre Award for Best Independent Production, and she was Griffin Theatre Company's Resident Studio Artist in 2015.

SHAKESPEARE AND HIGHTENED LANGUAGE

Sean O’Riordan

Born in London Sean worked for several years as a journalist then retrained as an actor graduating with a Graduate Diploma from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, Cardiff, Wales. After London stand-up comedy he toured UK theatre for 7 years with several theatre companies. In Sydney he toured Shakespeare to schools, performed stand up, began teaching and directing at drama schools and in 1996 formed Barestage theatre writing, directing, producing and performing in 12 plays. Film and tv work includes Candy with Heath Ledger, The Man Who Sued God with Billy Connolly, The Kangaroo Gang, Hard Nut and Crime Investigations Australia. He also directed and was executive producer of *Macbeth: The Installation* which played live to You Tube, September 2020 - sponsors City of Sydney and Darlo Drama. Most of his work is now focussed on directing, in particular Shakespeare, at drama schools and Sydney independent theatre companies. As well as freelance directing, he also teaches/directs for JMC Academy, NIDA, and Darlo Drama. In 2024 he gained a Master of Philosophy from the University of Sydney on the relevance of Shakespeare to contemporary actor training.

MAKE-UP

Teaching Artist TBC