

# Next <sup>TO</sup> Normal

MUSIC BY  
TOM KITT

BOOK & LYRICS BY  
BRIAN YORKEY

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NOV

HEATH  
LEDGER  
THEATRE

BLACK SWAN STATE THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS



STATE THEATRE OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

DURATION 2 hrs 40 mins [incl interval]

WARNING Contains strobe lighting, coarse language,  
simulated drug taking and sexual references.



black swan  
STATE THEATRE COMPANY

# Featuring

Shannen Alyce  
**NATALIE GOODMAN**

Rachael Beck  
**DIANA GOODMAN**

James Bell  
**GABE GOODMAN**

Michael Cormick  
**DR MADDEN & DR FINE**

Brendan Hanson  
**DAN GOODMAN**

Joel Horwood  
**HENRY**

David Young  
**KEYBOARD**

Michael Perkins  
**DRUMS/PERCUSSION**

Shane Pooley  
**BASS**

Andrew Weir  
**GIUITAR**

Brian Kruger  
**VIOLIN**

Laura McGorgan  
**CELLO**

Adam Mitchell  
**DIRECTOR**

David Young  
**MUSICAL DIRECTOR**

Bruce McKinven  
**SET & COSTUME  
DESIGNER**

Trent Suidgeest  
**LIGHTING DESIGNER**

Ben Collins  
**SOUND DESIGNER**

Claudia Alessi  
**CHOREOGRAPHER**

Julia Moody  
**VOICE COACH**

Hugo Lopez  
**STAGE MANAGER**

Christabel Fry  
**ASSISTANT STAGE  
MANAGER**

Show Works &  
Black Swan State  
Theatre Company  
**SET CONSTRUCTION**

Les Hickford  
**MASTER CARPENTER**

Nathan Fry, Rohin Best,  
Ruby Smedley  
**SHOW CREW**

Matt Van Leeuwin  
**ADDITIONAL CREW**

Andy Cross  
**PROPS MAKER**

Jenny Edwards  
**COSTUME MAKER**

Warwick Doddrell  
**DIRECTING  
ATTACHMENT/  
SECONDMENT**

Molly Werner  
**SET AND COSTUME  
INTERN**

Ellin Sears  
**ARTISTIC INTERN**

Sarah Courtis  
**ARTISTIC INTERN**

If you are struggling with anxiety or depression, support and counselling are available:  
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*Next to Normal* is presented through special arrangement with Hal Leonard Australia Pty Ltd on behalf of Music Theatre International.

Original Broadway production produced by David Stone, James L. Nederlander, Barbara Whittman, Patrick Catullo and Second Stage Theatre.

New York Premiere produced by Second Stage Theatre, New York, February 2008  
Carole Rothman, Artistic Director Ellen Richard, Executive Director

*Next to Normal* was subsequently produced by Arena Stage in November 2008.

Developed at Village Theatre, Issaquah, WA.  
(Robb Hunt, Executive Producer, Steve Tomkins, Artistic Director)

An earlier version was presented in the 2005 Musical Theatre Festival Festival.  
Support for the development of *Next to Normal* was provided by the Jonathan Larsen Foundation.

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# Synopsis

DIANA GOODMAN IS A CARING WIFE AND MOTHER THAT WANTS NOTHING MORE THAN FOR HER FAMILY TO GET ALONG. UNFORTUNATELY FOR HER, THERE ARE SEVERAL OBSTACLES IN THE WAY: HER DAUGHTER NATALIE IN THE THROES OF TEENAGE ANGST, HER HUSBAND DAN GROWING DISTANT AND DEPRESSED, AND OF COURSE HER OWN BIPOLAR DISORDER. DESPITE ALL THIS, SHE'S KEEPING POSITIVE, DETERMINED TO SING, DANCE AND DOSE HER TROUBLES AWAY.

Her doctor is all too happy to help, and does so by altering her medications until Diana doesn't feel anything at all. Now Diana must decide if she enjoys the stability or if she prefers the dizzying highs and the devastating lows.

However, her husband is not so conflicted. Dan is sure that Diana needs help, and encourages her to try everything from hypnosis to electroconvulsive therapy to help his wife find some semblance of

sanity in their fractured life. It seems as though things are getting better, but Diana is still haunted by the past.

The twisting, tumultuous road to recovery is one filled with music, mayhem and manic depression, but with a supportive family Diana is sure to make it out with sanity intact. Although, given that her family consists of a bunch of dysfunctional misfits, nothing is ever quite so simple!

# Acknowledgements

Black Swan State Theatre Company would like to acknowledge the Wadjuk people from the Noongar nation who are the traditional owners and custodians of this land. We pay respect to the Elders; for they hold the history, the cultural practice and traditions of their people. It is a privilege to be together on Noongar country.

Black Swan would like to thank Miles Hull, General Manager and Sandy Lovell, Functions & Events Manager of the Alex Hotel; Jody Williams; Jorge Nelson

of Benelli Shoes; Spencer Herd, work experience in Lighting Design; Tim White for supplying all percussion; Tim Collins for supplying the Cole Clark guitar and going above and beyond the call of duty; Brian Heller and the Arts Angels; and Cathy Penglis. We would also like to thank the team at the State Theatre Centre of Western Australia for their support and assistance.

## Music TOM KITT



Tom received the 2010 Pulitzer Prize for Drama as well as two Tony Awards for Best Score and Best Orchestrations for *Next to Normal*. In addition, his work on *Next to Normal* received the Frederick Loewe Award and the Outer Critics Circle Award for Best New Score. Tom is responsible for the music supervision, arrangements and orchestrations for Green Day's *American Idiot* on Broadway, and provided additional arrangements for their studio albums, *21st Century Breakdown* and *¡Uno! ¡Dos! ¡Tré!* As a composer, credits include the Broadway shows, *High Fidelity* and *Bring It On: The Musical*; *The Winter's Tale* and *All's Well That Ends Well* (The Public's NYSF). Tom has composed songs for *Sesame Street* and he co-wrote with Lin-Manuel Miranda, *Bigger*, which opened the 2013 Tony Awards. As an arranger, conductor, and musical director, other credits include *Pitch Perfect*, *Everyday Rapture*, *13*, *Laugh Whore*, and *Debbie Does Dallas*.

## Book & Lyrics BRIAN YORKEY



Broadway: *Next to Normal* (Pulitzer Prize for Drama, Tony Award, Outer Critics Circle Award for Best Score, Tony Nomination for Best Book); *The Last Ship*, with Sting and John Logan, coming to Broadway in the fall of 2014. Films in development: *Time After Time* for Lionsgate/Summit and Anonymous Content, as well as *Score!* for Team Downey and Warner Bros. Other theatre credits: *Making Tracks* (Off-Broadway, regional, international), the musical adaptation of Ang Lee's *The Wedding Banquet*, and the country musical *Play It By Heart*. Brian has directed Off-Broadway and regionally and for seven years was Associate Artistic Director at Village Theatre in Washington State, one of the nation's leading producers of new musicals. He's a graduate of Columbia University, where he was Artistic Director of the Varsity Show, an alum of the BMI/Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop and a proud member of the Dramatists Guild and the WGA. For Bev.

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# A Note from the Director

NEXT TO NORMAL HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS 'THE MUSICAL THAT CHANGED THE RULES'. IT WON THE PULITZER PRIZE FOR DRAMA, MULTIPLE TONY AWARDS AND OPENED THE POSSIBILITY FOR INVESTMENT IN A NEW KIND OF BROADWAY MUSICAL, ONE THAT GOES DEEPER THAN THE GLITZ AND GLAMOUR OF DISNEY OR REMOUNTS OF MUSICALS FROM THE MID-CENTURY.

I fell in love with this amazing score, incredible lyrics and the fastest moving series of scenes in the music theatre business when I first saw the show in 2009. The reason I love this work is simply that it gives me 'all the feels'. Music takes us higher; as theatre makers we can have a more direct impact on an audience in song and there is no better medium to investigate 'the manic magic days and the dark depressing nights' of Diana Goodman, the character at the centre of this work.

The show had humble beginnings in the late 90's with a 10 minute workshop showing of Tom Kitt and Brian Yorkey's collection of songs called *Feeling Electric*. It critiqued the medical establishment and focussed on the inadequate diagnosis and treatment of Diana's Bipolar Disorder. Over nearly a decade of development, the show's focus shifted, songs were cut and new ones written, resulting in a full length musical focussing now on Diana's family and how everyone is implicated in this invasive illness.

The jumping off point for our team was to try and gain insight into Bipolar. A surprising discovery for us was how many sufferers, although reporting the low moments as bone-crushingly painful, when asked if they could take a magic pill to rid them of their Bipolar, would choose to keep it - the mania, the depression and rhythms of this illness are completely tied to them, the way they live their lives and their identity.

I'm hopeful we are at turning point. There seems to be a far greater understanding and support for sufferers of mental illness in the public sphere. The first week of rehearsal coincided with the ABC's fantastic *Mental As* (a week-long program designed to de-stigmatise mental illness), and furthermore *Next to Normal* will appear on the Year 12 study list in WA high schools from next year.

I want to thank the Black Swan team, Kate for generously programming one of my favourite works, our wonderful Musical Director, David Young for his tireless precision and craft, and our entire creative team. I'd like to thank our truly inspiring performers who have not only conquered one of the most difficult Broadway scores, but nightly enter the unrelenting world of *Next to Normal* and deliver so very much. I hope you enjoy this wondrous, cathartic and heartfelt show as much as I've loved making it!

a.



## Adam Mitchell DIRECTOR



**BLACK SWAN:** *Flood, Death of a Salesman, The Motherf\*\*ker with the Hat, Boy Gets Girl, When The Rain Stops Falling.* The HotBed Ensemble: *Yellow Moon: The Ballad Of Leila and Lee, The Shape of Things, pool (no water), The Dark Room, Portraits of Modern Evil, The Caucasian Chalk Circle, The Laramie Project, Falling Petals.* Be Active BSX Theatre: *Heart's Desire.* **OTHER THEATRE:** The Blue Room Theatre: *Those Who Fall In Love Like Anchors Dropped Upon the Ocean Floor.* The MOXY Collective: *The Polite Gentleman.* WAAPA: *Pride and Prejudice, The Children of Eden, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, The Comedy of Errors, Beauty and the Beast.*

Artrage: *Loving the Alien.* The Cabaret Soiree Series DownStairs at the Maj: *Damaged, Ramblings of a Random Redhead.* The Hayman Theatre: *Beyond the Neck, Away, Attempts on Her Life.* **OPERA:** WAAPA: *Little Women.* **ASSISTANT DIRECTOR:** Sydney Theatre Company: *True West.* Melbourne Theatre Company: *The Pillowman.* **POSITIONS:** Adam was Black Swan's Associate Director from 2007-2010, Resident Director 2013 and the Director of The HotBed Ensemble from 2008-2010. He is a member of the Lincoln Center Theater Directors Lab (New York). **AWARDS:** 2015 Blue Room Award for Best Production for *Those Who Fall In Love...* 2014 PAWA Award for Best Production for *Boy Gets Girl.* 2013 Equity Guild Award for Best Director for *When The Rain Stops Falling,* 2010 Equity Guild Award for Best Direction and Best Production for *The Shape of Things,* 2008 Equity Guild Award for Best Director for *The Caucasian Chalk Circle.*



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# Cast

## Natalie Goodman SHANNEN ALYCE



**BLACK SWAN:** This marks Shannen's debut with the Company. She is a 2015 Emerging Artist. **OTHER THEATRE:** CPCA: *Spring Awakening*. Australian Shakespeare Company (Bravehearts): *Romeo and Juliet*. **OTHER:** Shannen was featured in the music video for *Reckless* by band San Cisco. Proud member of Equity since 2014. **TRAINING:** WAAPA Graduate 2014.

## Diana Goodman RACHAEL BECK



**BLACK SWAN:** This marks Rachael's debut with the Company. **OTHER THEATRE:** Sydney Theatre Company: *Summer Rain*, *Secret Bridesmaid's Business*, *A Little Night Music*, *Henry IV*, *Me and My Girl*. TML Enterprises: *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*. Queensland Theatre Company/McLaren House: *Mother and Son*. Harvest Rain: *Into The Woods*. Disney: *Beauty and the Beast*. Cameron Mackintosh: *Les Miserables*, *Cats*. The Production Company: *Call Me Madam*, *The Pajama Game*. Essgee Entertainment: *Eureka*. IMG: *Cabaret*, *Singing in the Rain*. The Gordon/Frost Organization/SEL: *The Sound of Music*. **TV:** *It Takes Two* (Ch 7), *City Homicide*, *Stingers*, *Mercury*, *The Feds*, *This Man This Woman*, *GP*, *Flying Doctors*, *Home & Away*, *Hey Dad*. **OTHER:** Rachael performed in *Jeff Wayne's Musical Version of The War of The Worlds* and toured with Jason Robert Brown on his Australian tour. Rachael released her debut CD *This Girl* in 2014.

## Gabe Goodman JAMES BELL



**BLACK SWAN:** *National Interest*. **OTHER THEATRE:** Melbourne Theatre Company: *The Joy of Text*. Global Creatures: *War Horse*. Sydney Theatre Company: *Children of the Sun*. **TV:** *Sleepover Club II*. **FILM:** *Crossroad*, *Sand Boondie*, *The Shark Net*. **OTHER:** Proud member of Equity since 2010. **TRAINING:** 2010 WAAPA graduate with a BA in musical theatre.



## Dr Madden & Dr Fine MICHAEL CORMICK



**BLACK SWAN:** This marks Michael's debut with the Company. **OTHER THEATRE:** *Annie The Musical - Australia*. *The Music Of Andrew Lloyd Webber*. *Mamma Mia*. *The Rocky Horror Show*. *Cats*. *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*. *Grease*. *Falsettos*. *Eureka*. *Sunset Boulevard*. *Beauty and the Beast*. Free Rain Theatre: *The Phantom of the Opera*. *Calamity Jane*. *Romeo & Juliet*. *Chess*. *Evita*. Edinburgh Festival: *End of the Rainbow*. Andrew Lloyd Webber: *The Woman in White*. **TV:** *Reef Doctors*, *Sea Patrol*, *City Homicide*, *Bluebird*. **OTHER:** Michael has performed in numerous live and television concerts throughout Europe, including Royal Command performances of *The Phantom of the Opera* and *Les Misérables*, the Christmas Festival opening at Royal Albert Hall and frequent guest appearances on the *Terry Wogan Show* (BBC London). He has also performed his own one-man cabaret show, *Michael Cormick Sings Burt Bacharach*, throughout Australia and in London. In 2011, he released his first solo album. Last year Michael played the narrator in *Blood Brothers* in Melbourne and Sydney.

## Dan Goodman BRENDAN HANSON



**BLACK SWAN:** *As You Like It*, *Midsummer [a play with songs]*, *Arcadia*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Twelfth Night*, *Much Ado About Nothing*. **OTHER THEATRE:** Brainbox Productions: *The Last Five Years*, *Lebensraum*. Deckchair Theatre: *Checklist for an Armed Robber/The Lonely Hearts Club*, *Twelfth Night*, *The Comedy of Errors*, *As You Like It*. Logos Productions: *The Spook*. Shakespeare Festival NSW: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Sydney Theatre Company: *Neon Street*. Mildura Arts Festival: *Water to Wine*. Brainstorm Theatre: *Misfits*. Agelink Theatre: *As Ships Pass By*. **TV:** *I Will Survive*, *Air Australia*, *Under One Roof*. **FILM:** *South Pacific*. **OPERA:** *Lost and Found: The Telephone*. Opera Australia: *Tristan und Isolde*. WA Opera: *The Tales of Hoffman*, *Tosca*, *Carmen*, *Orpheus in the Underworld*, *The Magic Flute*. Nova Ensemble: *Into the Shimmer Heat*. Singapore Lyric Opera: *Die Fledermaus*. **MUSICALS:** Musae: *Oklahoma!*. ICW Productions: *Les Miserables*, *Company*, *Cats*. David Atkins: *Singin' in the Rain*. Cameron Macintosh: *Les Miserables*. Production Company: *Mame*, *She Loves Me*. Action Theatre, Singapore: *Chang & Eng - The Musical*. Gordon Frost: *Grease*. **OTHER:** Brendan is a regular on the Perth cabaret scene and has appeared in *Sharing's not for Everyone*, *Who Threw that Jaffa?* and *Are We There Yet?* for the Brainbox Project, Downstairs at the Maj. He toured his one man show *Homeward Bound and Gagged* around Australia in 2000. Proud member of Equity since 1990. **AWARDS:** Equity Guild Award for Best Actor for *Lebensraum*. **TRAINING:** WAAPA graduate.

## Henry JOEL HORWOOD



**BLACK SWAN:** This marks Joel's debut with the Company. He is a 2015 Emerging Artist. **OTHER THEATRE:** Said&Done: *Many Moons*. *Spring Awakening*. **TV:** *The War That Changed Us*. **SHORT FILMS:** *The Paper Company*, *Stapleman*, *Madhouse*. **OTHER:** Joel has performed in a number of independent theatre productions and short films and was recently involved in the devising and subsequent premiere of *Decay* by Melissa Lee Speyer. Proud member of Equity since 2014. **TRAINING:** WAAPA Graduate 2014.

# Creatives

## Musical Director & Keyboard DAVID YOUNG



**BLACK SWAN:** This marks David's debut with the Company. **MUSICAL DIRECTOR:** *Wicked* (Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth, Singapore, Seoul, Auckland, Manila, Melbourne, Sydney). **ASSISTANT MUSICAL DIRECTOR:** *Mamma Mia* (Australasia/Asia), *Dusty* (Australia, Musical Director in Brisbane), *Jersey Boys*, *Hairspray* (Melbourne). **PIANIST:** *Crazy for You*, *Company*, *Into The Woods*, *Annie*, *Grease*, *Cabaret*, *The Lion King*, *The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber* (China), *Phantom of the Opera*. The Production Company: *Mack and Mabel*, *How To Succeed...*, *Sunset Boulevard*, *Kiss Me*, *Kate*. **COMPOSER/LYRICIST:** *Dear Katherine*. Wimbledon Theatre London: *Immaculate Deception*. *The Happy Prince* (Melbourne, Sydney). Adelaide Cabaret Festival: *The Beauty Spot*. WAAPA: *Literaturelly Speaking*. **MUSIC STAFF:** *Les Miserables*. *The Sound of Music*. *Singing in the Rain*. *Spamalot*. **TRAINING:** Graduate of Auckland University with a Bachelor of Music (Composition) and an L.T.C.L.

## Set & Costume Designer BRUCE MCKINVEN



**BLACK SWAN:** SET DESIGNER: *The White Divers of Broome*. Black Swan/Queensland Theatre Company: *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. **OTHER THEATRE:** DESIGNER: Queensland Theatre Company: *Betrayal*, *25 Down*, *The August Moon*, *The Prisoner of Second Avenue*, *Heroes*, *Private Fears in Public Places*, *Constance Drinkwater and the Final Days of Somerset*, *American Buffalo*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Hitchcock Blonde*, *Mano Nera*, *Vincent in Brixton*, *God is a DJ*, *Eating Ice Cream With Your Eyes Closed*, *Proof*, *The Lonesome West*, *A Conversation*, *Bill & Mary*. Queensland Theatre Company/Bell Shakespeare: *The Alchemist*. Sydney Theatre Company: *The 7 Stages of Grieving*. Griffin Theatre Company: *The Story of the Miracles at Cookie's Table*. La Boite Theatre Company: *The Chairs*, *Walking By Apple Tree Creek*, *Last Drinks*, *Long Gone Lonesome Cowgirls*, *Urban Dingoes*. State Theatre Company of South Australia: *The Dying Gaul*. Perth Theatre Company: *A Number*, *Alienation*. SET DESIGNER: Perth Theatre Company: *The Song Was Wrong*. Queensland Theatre Company/State Theatre Company of South Australia: *Hamlet*. COSTUME DESIGNER: Company B Belvoir: *Yibiyung*. Company B Belvoir/La Boite: *Gwen In Purgatory*. Sydney Theatre Company: *Tusk Tusk*, *Like a Fishbone*. Bell Shakespeare: *Othello*. **DANCE:** DESIGNER: Singapore Dance Theatre: *Don Quixote*. Expressions Dance Company: *The Red Shoes*, *R&J*, *Where the Heart Is*, *Dancemakers*, *Lines in the Sand*, *Sketches* (seasons 1998, 1999, 2003). Clare Dyson: *The Voyager*, *Absence(s)*, *Being There*. Australian Dance Theatre: *The Return of Plastic Space*. Tasdance: *In Her Footsteps*. Brian Lucas: *Underbelly*. Lisa Wilson: *Lake*, *Elbow Room*. COSTUME DESIGNER: Independent: *Helix*. Force Majeure: *The Age I'm In*. **FILM:** COSTUME DESIGNER: *Aunty Maggie and the Womba Wakgun*. **EVENTS:** Adelaide Festival 1994 to 2015 – Current Role: Adelaide Writers' Week Site Designer. **AWARDS:** The Mike Walsh Fellowship and subsequent work with Dublin dance company Cois Ceim, 2001. **TRAINING:** 1997 NIDA Design Graduate. 1994 QUT Visual Arts graduate.

## Lighting Designer TRENT SUIDGEEST



**BLACK SWAN:** *The Red Balloon*, *Extinction*, *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*, *Dust*, *The House on The Lake*, *Midsummer [a play with songs]*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *The Motherf\*\*ker With The Hat*, *Boy Gets Girl*, *Arcadia*, *The White Divers of Broome*, *When The Rain Stops Falling*, *Ninety*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream (with Graham Walne)*. Black Swan/Belvoir: *The Sapphires*. Black Swan/Queensland Theatre Company: *Gasp!*, *Other Desert Cities*, *Managing Carmen*. Black Swan/Melbourne Theatre Company: *National Interest*. The HotBed Ensemble: *pool (no water)*, *The Dark Room*. SET AND LIGHTING DESIGNER: *Dinner*, *Shrine*, *Death of a Salesman*. **OTHER THEATRE:** Opera Australia/Barking Gecko: *The Rabbits*. Barking Gecko: *Jasper Jones*, *Duck*, *Death and the Tulip*, *This Girl Laughs*, *This Girl Cries*, *This Girl Does Nothing*, *The Amber Amulet*, *Fatty Wombat*. Yirra Yaakin: *Waltzing The Wilarra*. Sydney Festival: *I Am Eora*. The Production Company: *Nice Work If You Can Get It*, *Kismet*, *The King and I*. Perth Theatre Company: *An Oak Tree*. Steps Youth Dance Company: *Try Hard*, *Compact Dance*, *Moonwebs & Scorched Thongs*. Strut Dance/Alice Lee Holland: *Tiny Little Tragedies*. Aimee Smith: *Borderline*, *Wintering*. Buzz Dance: *Genie(us)*. Steps Youth Dance Company: *Fights & Flights*. **INSTALLATIONS:** Jackman Furness Foundation of Performing Arts Launch. Perth Festival Gardens 2012–2015. **POSITIONS:** DCA Young People and the Arts Funding Panelist 2009–2012, WAAPA Board 2007–2008. **GRANTS:** 2010 Artstart Grant, 2014 Australia Council Creative Professionals, 2015 DCA Young People Fellowship, 2015 Mike Walsh Fellowship. **TRAINING:** 2008 WAAPA graduate.

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Sound Designer **BEN COLLINS**



**BLACK SWAN:** *Extinction, Shadowboxing, Glengarry Glen Ross, Laughter on the 23rd Floor, A Streetcar Named Desire, Flood, Midsummer [a play with songs], Shrine, Death of a Salesman, Boy Gets Girl, Signs of Life, The White Divers of Broome, When The Rain Stops Falling, Ninety, Madagascar.* The HotBed Ensemble: *pool (no water), The Dark Room.* Black Swan/Queensland Theatre Company: *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof.* Black Swan/Melbourne Theatre Company: *National Interest.* Black Swan/Onward Production: *Seven Deadly Sins, Four Deadly Sinners.* SOUND EDITOR: *The Swimming Club.* **OTHER THEATRE:** little y: *Glengarry Glen*

*Ross.* Moxy Collective: *Those Who Fall in Love Like Anchors Dropped Upon The Ocean Floor.* The Hayman Theatre: *Attempts on Her Life.* **FILM:** *The Expert, Happy Haven, Eternus, Dox, Miss Coolbaroo, Time Enough, The Adjuster.* **OTHER:** Ben has composed for the West Australian Youth Jazz Orchestra, Mace Francis Orchestra and St Hilda's Concert Orchestra and played Saxophone in Black Swan's production *The Sapphires.* Mixed Media Dance Project: *Reality In a Box.* Buzz Dance: *Behind the Veneer.* Ben has performed with many artists including James Morrison, Don Burrows, Tommy Tycho, Ben Folds, Peter Farnan, Rob Guest, Anthony Warlow, Lesley Garrett, Grace Knight, Pete Murray, Christine Anu and Casey Donovan. **AWARDS:** 2008 WA Screen Award for Best Original Score for *Dox*, 2004 WA Youth Jazz Orchestra Award for Scholarship for Contribution, 2004 Jaxter Artist Award in the Jazz Category for Big Mama Nelson. **GRANTS:** 2013 Australia Council Creative Professionals Development Grant. **TRAINING:** 2003 WAAPA graduate.

Choreographer **CLAUDIA ALESSI**



**BLACK SWAN:** *Signs of Life, The White Divers of Broome, When The Rain Stops Falling, The Clean House, The Swimming Club, The Lady Aoi, The Crucible.* The HotBed Ensemble: *Yellow Moon: The Ballad of Leila and Lee, pool (no water), The Caucasian Chalk Circle.* **CHOREOGRAPHER/PERFORMER:** Claudia has worked with Chrissie Parrott Dance Company, skadada, Sydney Theatre Company,

WA Opera in collaboration with Leigh Warren's Australian Dance Theatre, Foundation Jean-Pierre Perreault of Canada, Fieldworks Performance Group, Shadow Industries Theatre, Spare Parts Puppet Theatre, Media Lab France, Thwack Dance Company, Co Loaded, Plasticien Volants of France, Legs On The Wall, Australian Dance Theatre, STRUT dance and Steamworks. Claudia has produced and performed in her own works, *Point of Entry, 4by2 A Series of Encounters, Twisting the Straight Line* and now operates her collective company Complesso. **POSITIONS:** Lectures and choreographs at WAAPA for Dance, Acting and Musical Theatre departments. Claudia is currently co-vice president for Ausdance National.



Voice Coach **JULIA MOODY**



**BLACK SWAN:** *The Red Balloon, Venus in Fur, Laughter on the 23rd Floor, The Seagull, Dust, Midsummer [a play with songs], Other Desert Cities, The Importance of Being Earnest, Madagascar, The Glass Menagerie, The Laramie Project.* Black Swan/Queensland Theatre Company: *Other Desert Cities, The Clean House.* **ACTOR:** *When The Rain Stops Falling, The Memory of Water.* **OTHER THEATRE:** Perth Theatre Company: *The Matchmaker.* Julia also works as a voice consultant for SBS TV and Radio, and many other corporations, organisations and individuals.

**ACTOR:** Onward Productions: *The Deep Blue Sea.* Melbourne Theatre Company: *Educating Rita.* Company B: *Pallas, Walking Long Country.* Deckchair Theatre: *The Removalists.* Theatre South: *Europe, Daylight Savings.* Perth Theatre Company: *The Mule's Foe, Soul Mates.* WA State Theatre Company: *Sweeney Todd, The Last Wake at Sheoak Creek.* Hole in the Wall Theatre Company: *Educating Rita, Virginia, Approaching Simone, Visions.* **TV:** *Rafferty's Rules, Sons and Daughters.* **POSITIONS:** Associate teacher at Fitzmaurice Voicework. Head of Voice in the Acting Department at WAAPA. Board member of the Australian Voice Association. **OTHER:** Julia is a proud member of Equity. **TRAINING:** Bristol Old Vic Theatre School, and NIDA (Grad Dip in Voice Studies).

Fight Director **ANDY FRASER**



**BLACK SWAN:** *Extinction, Glengarry Glen Ross, Dinner, Venus in Fur, Laughter on the 23rd Floor, The Seagull, Dust, As You Like It, A Streetcar Named Desire, Flood, Midsummer [a play with songs], Death of a Salesman, The Motherf\*\*ker with the Hat, Signs of Life, The White Divers of Broome, Ninety, Boundary Street, Twelfth Night, Much Ado About Nothing, The Web, Cyrano de Bergerac, The Female of the Species, Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?, The Crucible, The Carnivores, Accidental Death of an Anarchist, Zastrozzi: The Master of Discipline.* Black Swan/Queensland Theatre Company: *Other Desert Cities.* Black Swan/Big Sky Entertainment: *Shakespeare Shenanigans.*

**OTHER THEATRE:** Perth Theatre Company: *The Removalists, The Haunting of Daniel Gartrell, Speed-the-Plow, Hamlet, Talk About the Passion.* Yirra Yaakin: *King Hit, Waltzing the Wilarra, Mother's Tongue, The Honey Spot, Muttacar Sorry Business.* Deckchair Theatre: *The Danger Age, Mimmie le Blanc, Love, Prayer to an Iron God.* Onward Production: *Private Lives, The Deep Blue Sea.* Shakespeare in the Park: *As You Like It, Comedy of Errors, Twelfth Night, Much Ado About Nothing, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Romeo and Juliet.* Barking Gecko: *Jasper Jones, Trains of Thought.* **OPERA:** West Australian Opera: *Faust, Otello, Tosca, Carmen, Don Giovanni.* **TV:** *Lockie Leonard Human Torpedo, The Shark Net.* **FILM:** *Otherlife, Teesh & Trude.* **TRAINING:** Fully certified Fight Director and Stage Combat Instructor holding accreditation from the Society of Australian Fight Directors and the British Academy of Dramatic Combat.



Stage Manager **HUGO LOPEZ**



**BLACK SWAN:** *Extinction, The House on The Lake, Twelfth Night. The HotBed Ensemble: The Shape of Things. ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER: Madagascar. OTHER THEATRE:* Perth Theatre Company: *From the Rubble.* Lockwood Productions: *I Honestly Love You. PRODUCTION & TOURING MANAGER:* Perth Theatre Company: *The Ugly One, Africa, The Pride, The Disappearances Project, Tender Napalm, The Adventures of Alvin Sputnik: Deep Sea Explorer, Blackbird, It's Dark Outside. PRODUCTION & STAGE MANAGER:* Side Pony Productions: *The Pride* (Blue Room Season & Under The Radar Festival Brisbane tour).

**WAYTCO:** *Sweat. ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER:* BBC: *Doctor Who Symphonic Spectacular.* Shakespeare WA: *Taming of the Shrew. FESTIVAL & EVENTS:* Stage Manager at Joondalup Festival 2014 (Eco Stage), Valentines Concert 2010-2011, Little Feet Festival 2010, Blues and Roots 2010, AUSDANCE WA's Dance Live (2013-2015), Up Late in Mount Hawthorn (2013) & Variety WA's Christmas Party (2013-2014). Staff Coordinator at the Joondalup Festival 2010. Staff on the Roller Disco at Future Music Festival 2010. **OTHER:** Academic Staff at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (2012-2015) **AWARDS:** 2009 HAWAIIAN Award for Outstanding Achievement in Stage Management. **TRAINING:** 2009 WAAPA Advanced Diploma of Stage Management, CERTIV in Training and Assessment 2013 and Bachelor of Performing Arts 2014

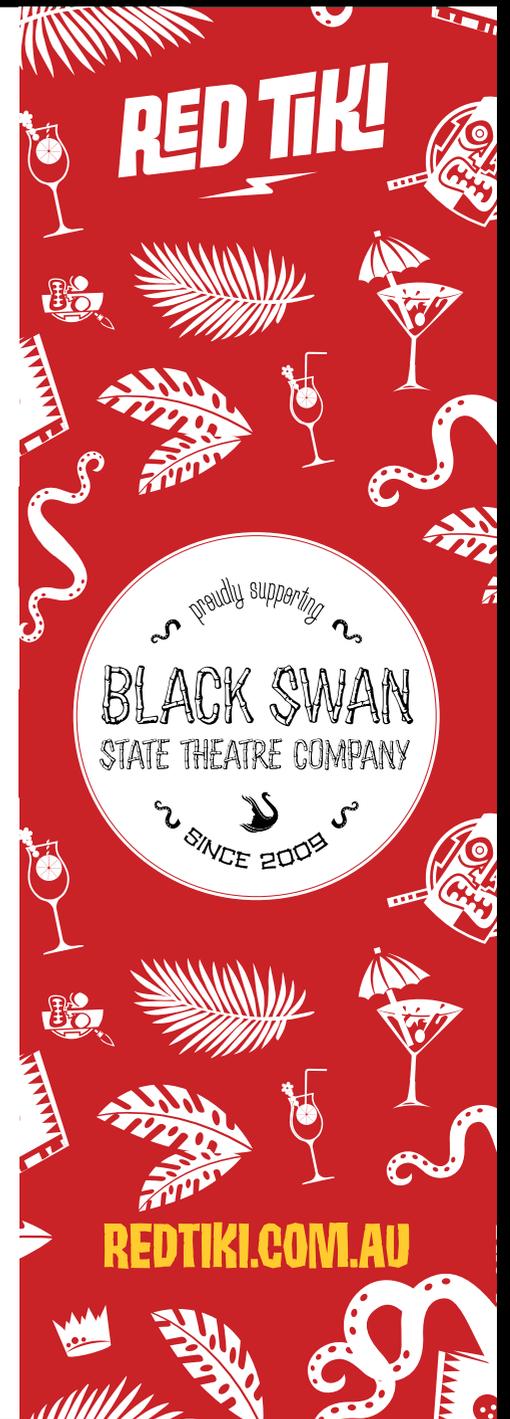
Assistant Stage Manager

**CHRISTABEL FRY**



**BLACK SWAN:** *Venus in Fur. OTHER THEATRE:* The Australian Ballet: *The Dancers Company Tour 2015. ICW Productions: Cats. STAGE MANAGER:*

Lost & Found Opera: *Médée.* The University of Western Australia: *Perth Writers Festival 2014.* Perth Fringe Festival 2014: *Fat Pig.* The University of Western Australia/Perth School of Ballet: *Annual Concert.* Perth Fringe Festival 2013: *Lifted!* **PRODUCTION INTERN:** American Repertory Theater: *Finding Neverland.* Global Creatures: *Walking with Dinosaurs. TRAINING:* 2014 WAAPA graduate in Stage Management.




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## And the winner is...

BY KATIE SOUTHWELL

IT WAS THIRTEEN YEARS SINCE A MUSICAL WON A PULITZER PRIZE IN THE DRAMA CATEGORY BEFORE TOM KITT AND BRIAN YORKEY'S MUSICAL *NEXT TO NORMAL* RECEIVED THE AWARD IN 2010. SINCE 1917, WHEN THE PULITZER PRIZE WAS FIRST ESTABLISHED, THERE HAVE ONLY BEEN SEVEN OTHER MUSICALS THAT HAVE WON THIS PRESTIGIOUS AWARD. DID YOUR FAVOURITE MAKE THE LIST?

The Pulitzer Prize represents the highest standard in American Drama and each musical or play nominated has to be written by "an American author, preferably original in its source and dealing with American Life." The award normally acknowledges writers of long standing, recognizing their lifetime body of work. Occasionally, the award will be bestowed to a writer in his/her early career due to their stand out script.

### **RENT (1996)**

Based loosely on Puccini's Opera *La Bohème*, *Rent* involves a group of bohemian artists many of whom are living under the shadow of HIV/AIDS in New York's East Village. It was inspired by Larson's own relationship and experiences living in downtown New York and was billed as "The Rock Opera of the Nineties."

### **SUNDAY IN THE PARK WITH GEORGE (1985)**

Based on the life of French impressionist Georges Seurat, the musical focuses on his painting and deals with emotional connections, re-evaluation about art and community.

### **A CHORUS LINE (1976)**

This collaborative production looks at a group of seventeen Broadway dancers who audition for a chance in a chorus line and slowly start revealing things about themselves that have made them the dancers they are today.

### **HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS WITHOUT REALLY TRYING (1962)**

This musical comedy looks at a young, ambitious window washer in New York City, and his climb up the corporate ladder.

### **FIORELLO! (1960)**

Initially set during World War I, this musical follows the life of Fiorello H. La Guardia through his time as Major of New York City and how he politically reformed the city.

### **SOUTH PACIFIC (1950)**

Interracial love relationships and racial prejudice were explored in this story set against the backdrop of World War II. The racial themes in the musical triggered controversy at the time of its release.

### **OF THEE I SING (1932)**

This satirical musical focused on political parties battling it out over a new national anthem in the United States.

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# About Black Swan

FOUNDED IN 1991, WE ARE WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S FLAGSHIP THEATRE COMPANY, EARNING CRITICAL AND POPULAR ACCLAIM FOR OUR WORLD PREMIERE PRODUCTIONS AND HIGHLY DISTINCTIVE RE-INTERPRETATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL THEATRE CLASSICS.

Landmark productions under Kate Cherry's artistic leadership include: *A Streetcar Named Desire* which broke box office records; three world premieres by Tim Winton – *Shrine* (Perth, Albany and Centenary Festival in Canberra), *Rising Water* (Perth, Albany and Melbourne Theatre Company) and *Signs of Life* (Perth, Albany and Sydney Opera House); *The Sapphires*

(Perth, Canberra, London and Korea); and *Boundary Street* (Perth and Brisbane Festival).

Black Swan produces an annual season of exceptional theatre, as well as an extensive education and regional engagement programs, commissions program and artist development program.

## KEY PROGRAM AREAS

### EDUCATION

We are committed to supporting educators in developing an appreciation of the performing arts, with selected performances, workshops, quality resources and value adding experiences that support and complement the Western Australian and Australian curriculum. Heavily subsidised student ticket prices and school subscription packages are offered in addition to work experience internships and high school and tertiary student ambassador programs.

This year's, special in-school and regional touring is *Shadowboxing* written by Ella Hetherington and directed by Jeffrey Jay Fowler. *Shadowboxing* explores what happens when we define ourselves by the opinions of others rather than who we are. In a digital landscape full of answers to unasked questions – *Shadowboxing* offers questions truly worth contemplating.

Suitable for ages 12-17 years, *Shadowboxing* will tour schools and regional areas in Western Australia in 2015.

### REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT

Black Swan aims to develop long-term, reciprocal relationships with regional and remote Western Australia, embed theatre in the lives of all Western Australians, regardless of location, and support vitality, pride and strength in communities.

Underpinning this strategy is the appointment of regional ambassadors, who act as a conduit between the company and their communities in the delivery of live broadcasts, regional tours and other community engagement activities. The 2015 Live Broadcast will be Noël Coward's *Blithe Spirit* in late July.

### RIO TINTO BLACK SWAN COMMISSIONS

This program, supported by our Principal Partner Rio Tinto, enables Black Swan to commission Australia's leading playwrights to develop new works. These works will reveal to Western Australians, stories about ourselves and showcase our work to the world. In 2015, we presented another commission in the adaptation of *The Red Balloon* by Hilary Bell.

### BLACK SWAN LAB

We have programmed two exciting and ambitious artistic collaborations as part of our second year of the Black Swan Lab. *Venus in Fur* by David Ives, part of the FRINGE WORLD Festival 2015 and *The Red Balloon* by Albert Lamorisse, with a stage adaptation by Hilary Bell, part of the 2015 AWESOME Festival. The Black Swan Lab allows emerging artists to work with us in a comprehensive and supportive environment.

It also allows us to develop works that may be suitable for future regional touring.

*Supported in part by the Patrons Club.*

*Venus in Fur supported in part by Wild Swans.*

### EMERGING ARTISTS

A critical component of our creative agenda is to provide professional pathways for emerging artists, including high potential directors, designers, writers, composers and actors. Black Swan supports them as they work towards establishing themselves on the national stage. This program provides access to training, mentoring and state-of-the-art theatre practice, to facilitate professional development within the realms of a state theatre company. It gives emerging artists the opportunity to work with Artistic Director Kate Cherry and our experienced creative teams, who mentor them throughout the year.

The Emerging Artists for 2015 are:

- Shannen Alyce
- Hannah Day
- Ella Hetherington
- Joel Horwood
- Patrick Howe
- Joe Lui
- Felicity McKay
- India Mehta
- Brett Smith

*Supported in part by the McCusker Charitable Foundation.*

### RESIDENT ARTISTS

The Resident Artists Program targets a range of experienced artists, including directors, designers, writers and composers, looking to advance their careers. The program provides opportunities for mentoring and interaction with Artistic Director Kate Cherry and our artistic team, as well as significant profiling and showcasing opportunities. Resident Artists also provide support and mentoring to the emerging artists. The Resident Artists for 2015 are:

- Ben Collins
- Andy Fraser
- Luke Hewitt
- Brendan Hanson
- Chrissie Parrott
- Hellie Turner

*Supported in part by the Ian Potter Foundation.*

### EMERGING WRITERS GROUP

Black Swan's Emerging Writers Group will guide a group of playwrights who display determination, promise and originality through a one year script development program with the aim of creating scripts of an international standard. The program will equip emerging playwrights with the skills, networks and techniques to foster their own careers and give them the ability and confidence to manage their works and rights effectively.

The group is led by Black Swan's Associate Director Jeffrey Jay Fowler. The playwrights are encouraged to develop a clear understanding of Black Swan's creative vision, audience demographics and style. Black Swan will provide sustainable pathways for emerging writers wanting to produce work for the stage that can be considered in the future for Black Swan programming.

*Supported in part by the Malcolm Robertson Foundation.*

# Giving to Black Swan

Founding Patron, **Janet Holmes à Court AC** has played a significant role in the development of Black Swan's artistic development and education programs. Her generosity has provided a platform for the future development of arts and culture in Western Australia.

The generous contribution of **Andrew and Nicola Forrest** to Black Swan is assisting our future development and security as Western Australia's State Flagship Theatre Company.

Thanks to our Patron **Sam Walsh and Leanne** for their support and leadership that has been a significant factor in Black Swan's success.

## BLACK SWAN BOARD

Thank you to our Board for giving generously in many ways and showing outstanding leadership.

- Mark Barnaba AM
- Alan Cransberg
- Nicola Forrest
- Andrew Harding
- Rob McKenzie
- Kate O'Hara
- Vicki Robinson
- Linda Savage
- Craig Yaxley

## PATRONS CLUB

Patrons Club members give generously, to bring the Black Swan Lab to life and continue to create opportunities for artist development and the staging of new works. Thank you.

- Janet Holmes à Court AC
- Michela & Adrian Fini
- Ungar Family Foundation
- Stan & Jean Perron

## FOUNDATIONS

We thank you for nurturing the talents of Western Australian artists through our education, development and international programs.

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## WHITE SWANS

Michela Fini, Sandy Honey and Sallie-Anne Manford have led this successful and innovative private giving circle to collectively help enrich WA's growing enthusiasm for the arts. Thank you.

- Jo & Ian Adamson
- John & Linda Bond
- Katrina & Craig Burton
- Debbie & Peter Chappell
- Warren & Linda Coli
- Tracey & Charles Crompton
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- Camillo & Joanne Della Maddalena
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- Linda Savage & Stephen Davis
- Carolyn Stewart
- Natasha & Ross Taylor
- Debbie & Joe Throsby
- Julie & Eddie Van Beem
- Anonymous (1)

## LOCAL LARRIKINS

Janet Holmes à Court created this giving circle and with the help of other Larrikins it continues to engage young Western Australians with theatre and bring Western Australian artists, creatives and stories to Black Swan audiences each year. Thank you.

- Janet Holmes à Court AC
- Bill Bloking
- Bernard Cresswell
- Diana & Peter Hammond
- Lloyd Houthuysen
- Garrod Keightley
- Judith Kozak
- Meredith & James McClements
- Kate O'Hara
- Stephen Scaffidi
- Simon & Alison Stewart
- Tim & Chris Ungar
- Terri-ann White
- Anonymous (2)

## WILD SWANS

Perth's emerging arts enthusiasts are collectively giving to drive a new generation of theatre audiences and artists. Thank you.

Committee:

- Belinda Buratto
- Rachel Huber
- Jane McEvoy
- Belinda Lake
- Trina Mahon

Members:

- Tamryn Barker
- Leandro Cavalcanti
- Ashley Chan
- John Drennan
- Michelle Kerr
- Vincenzo Nici
- Samantha Rees
- Andrea Righetti
- Josh Starick
- Toni O'Brien

## ENCORE!

Thank you to the following people who have kindly donated to Black Swan's giving program Encore! to support the 2015 season.

### ENCORE! \$10,000 AND ABOVE

- Janet Holmes à Court AC
- Feilman Family Foundation
- Malcolm Robertson Foundation
- McCusker Charitable Foundation
- Playking Foundation
- Sidney Myer Fund
- The Stan Perron Charitable Trust
- Linda Savage
- Sam & Leanne Walsh
- The Ian Potter Foundation
- In memory of Bern Ranford

### APPLAUSE \$5,000 TO \$9,999

- Rick & Carol Crabb
- Richard Tarala & Lyn Beazley AO
- Macquarie Group Foundation
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### OPENING ACT \$2,500 TO \$4,999

- Dr Rob Larbalestier
- Walter Millsted
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- Andrew Drayton & Alecia Benzie
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- Andrew Crocker & Dianne Sunderman
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- Peter & Lesley Davies
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- Robyn Tamke
- Bradley Van Luxemborg
- Anonymous (1)

### BEHIND THE SCENES \$500 TO \$999

- David & Minnette Ambrose
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- Ben & Shannon Carter
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- Natalie Jenkins
- Ryan Kucharski
- Francis Landels
- Megan Lowe
- Amanda Luke
- Deborah Luke

### \$50 TO \$499

- Helen Ackroyd
- David Ambrose
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- Anne Price
- Michael & Wendy Price
- Angel Quintella

### LEGACY LEADERS

Leave a legacy to ensure WA theatre remains sustainable for generations to come. A bequest cements a legacy in your memory and marks a meaningful bond with theatre and Black Swan. Thank you to those who have chosen to become Black Swan Legacy Leaders..

*Thank you to our patrons who support Black Swan as donors or by leaving a bequest. To support Black Swan please contact Andree McIntyre, Philanthropy Manager on 0417 187 025 or andree@bsstc.com.au.*

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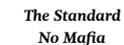
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