

# *The* Red Balloon

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STUDIO  
UNDER-  
GROUND

BLACK  
SWAN  
LAB

BY ALBERT  
LAMORISSE

ADAPTED BY HILARY BELL

A RIO TINTO BLACK SWAN COMMISSION

STATE THEATRE OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

DURATION 45 mins [no interval]



black swan  
STATE THEATRE COMPANY

BLACK SWAN STATE THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS

# Featuring

Pascal A  
Various Characters  
Pigeon  
The Girl with the Blue Balloon A  
Pascal B  
Rat  
Cat  
Pascal C  
The Girl with the Blue Balloon B

DYLAN CHRISTIDIS  
ST JOHN COWCHER  
ELLA HETHERINGTON  
ELOISE HUNTER  
RORY MCLAUGHLIN  
BEN MORTLEY  
SARAH NELSON  
JACK O'NEILL  
KATIE PRICE

Director  
Creative Mentor  
Set & Costume Designer  
Lighting Designer  
Sound Designer/Composer  
Voice Coach  
Stage Manager  
Assistant Stage Manager

CHRISSE PARROTT  
KATE CHERRY  
INDIA MEHTA  
TRENT SUIDGEEST  
ASH GIBSON GREIG  
JULIA MOODY  
GEORGIA LANDRE-ORD  
CLAUDIA BLAGAICH

Set Construction & Scenic  
Bully Head Maker  
  
Pascal Puppet Maker  
Chaperone

ONSTAGE ARTS  
JOHN TOLLIDAY &  
VELVET WORM DESIGN  
CLOE FLOCKART  
COURTNEY TURNER

Choreography by Chrissie Parrott. All puppeteering and prop manoeuvres developed in collaboration with the cast.

Black Swan State Theatre Company's licence to present this stage adaptation of Albert Lamorisse's THE RED BALLOON is granted by Rosica Colin Limited, London.

THE RED BALLOON IS PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY

Principal Partner

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# Synopsis

ON HIS WAY TO SCHOOL ONE DAY, PASCAL, A FRIENDLESS LITTLE BOY, IS DELIGHTED TO FIND A BIG RED BALLOON. HE UNTIES IT FROM THE LAMP POST AND TAKES IT WITH HIM, SOON DISCOVERING IT HAS A MIND OF ITS OWN!

With the balloon in hand, everything becomes an adventure. Observed by a Rat, a Pigeon, and a world-weary Cat, the new friends explore their city together, protecting each other from its dangers and briefly encountering a little girl, who has her own balloon.

balloon encourages Pascal to stop worrying and have fun. But what happens when Pascal is confronted by a gang of bullies who are jealous of his balloon friend? Will the three animals come to their rescue?

Pascal's round companion is not welcome everywhere they go, but the mischievous

The red balloon shows Pascal that even the most ordinary moments can become magical, with a friend by your side.

# 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 Pat Ryan from Dismantle for the donation of the School Bus; Helen and Lijana Galas; Balloon World Myaree; Carine Bounague, Alliance Française; Xoe Baird; the UWA Chapel Choir; Brian Heller and the Arts Angels; Cathy Penglis; and James Calligaro from Northside Books. *The Red Balloon* book is available for purchase at Northside Books, located within the State Theatre Centre.

We would also like to thank the team at the State Theatre Centre of Western Australia for their support and assistance.



Playwright **ALBERT LAMORISSE**



Born in Paris, Albert Lamorisse was a French filmmaker, film producer and writer who is best known for his award-winning short films which he began making in the late 1940s. He has acquired

an international reputation for the poetic quality of his short and medium-length films involving the fantasy world of children.

Lamorisse first came into prominence for directing and producing *White Mane* (1953), an award-winning short film that tells the story of a young boy who befriends an untamable white stallion in the marshes of Camargue.

His best known work is the short film *The Red Balloon* (1956), which earned him the Palme d'Or Grand Prize at the Cannes Film

Festival, and an Oscar for Best Original Screenplay in 1956.

Lamorisse also wrote, directed and produced the well-regarded films *Stowaway in the Sky* (1960) and *Circus Angel*, as well as the documentaries *Versailles* and *Paris Jamais Vu*. In the mid-sixties Lamorisse shot parts of *The Prospect of Iceland*, a documentary about Iceland, which was made by Henry Sandoz and commissioned by NATO.

Lamorisse died in a helicopter crash while filming the documentary *Le Vent des amoureux* (*The Lovers' Wind*), during a helicopter-tour of Iran in 1970. His son and his widow completed the film, based on his production notes, and released the film eight years later. It was nominated for a posthumous Oscar for best documentary.

Lamorisse also invented the popular strategy board game, Risk in 1957.

Playwright **HILARY BELL**



**BLACK SWAN:** *The Seagull, The White Divers of Broome, Boundary Street* (dramaturg). **OTHER THEATRE:** Griffin Theatre: *Wolf Lullaby, Fortune, The Falls, Angela's Kitchen* (associate writer). Atlantic: *Wolf Lullaby*. Steppenwolf: *Wolf Lullaby*. Vitalstatistix: *The Anatomy Lesson of Doctor Ruysch, Mimmie Le Blanc*. Deckchair Theatre: *Mimmie Le Blanc*. Sydney Theatre Company: *The Splinter, The Mysteries: Genesis*. State Theatre Company of South Australia: *The Seagull*. WAAPA: *Open-Cut*. NORPA: *The Bloody Bride*. National Theatre, London: *Victim Sidekick Boyfriend Me*. **OPERA:** Anchorage Opera: *Mrs. President*. New York Film Festival: *Faust*. **MUSICALS:** NIDA: *The Wedding Song*. **OTHER:**

Hilary writes for stage, radio, screen and music theatre. Current projects include a musical, *Do Good And You Will Be Happy*, and commissions for Sydney Theatre Company and Black Swan. She is also co-creator of best-selling children's book *Alphabetical Sydney*. She is a member of playwrights' company 7-On. **POSITIONS:** Hilary has been resident at the Eugene O'Neill Playwrights' Conference in the US, the Russian Playwrights' Conference, and the Australian National Playwrights' Conference. She was the 2003 Tennessee Williams Fellow in Creative Writing at the University of the South in Tennessee and the 2012 Patrick White Fellow at Sydney Theatre Company. **AWARDS:** Hilary was a recipient of the Philip Parsons Young Playwrights' Award, Jill Blewitt Playwrights' Award, Bug'n'Bub Award, Aurealis Award for Fiction, the Eric Kocher Playwrights' Award, the 2007 Inscription Award and an AWGIE for Music Theatre. **TRAINING:** A graduate of the Juilliard Playwrights' Studio, NIDA, and the Australian Film, Television and Radio School.

Director **CHRISSIE PARROTT**



**BLACK SWAN:** This marks Chrissie's debut as a director with the Company. **MOVEMENT DIRECTOR:** *The Seagull, Dust, A Streetcar Named Desire, Shrine*.

**OTHER:** Chrissie has directed and choreographed works for Perth Theatre Company, Sydney Theatre Company, Malthouse Theatre, West Australian Ballet, Australian Dance Theatre, Queensland Ballet, Tasdance, Sifonietta de Lorraine (France), Theater Vorpommern (Germany), Crameer Balletten (Sweden) and Tanz Forum (Germany). She has created a repertoire of over 70 works that have been performed in Holland, France, Germany, Japan, Indonesia and all across Australia. **TV & FILM:** *Wrath, Coppélia, Hawk II, Motel Deception*. **POSITIONS:** Previous positions include: Festival Director with Theatre Vorpommern;

Associate director at One Extra Dance Company; Adjunct professor at Queensland University of Technology; Senior Research Fellow ECU; Program Manager at PICA; Consultant to the PIAF dance program; and Founding Director of LINK Dance Company. **AWARDS:** Sidney Myer Performing Arts Award. Swan Gold Theatre Award. Sounds Australia Award. Western Australian Citizen of the Year 2000. Centenary Medal. Numerous Ausdance Awards for choreography and design and a Lifetime Achievement Award in 2014.

## A Note from the Director

In 1956 Albert Lamorisse wrote and directed a multi award-winning fantasy featurette working with child actors and minimal text. This stunning little work of art became immediately popular with children and educators worldwide. *The Red Balloon* went on to win many awards including the Palm d'Or for Best Short Film at the Cannes Film Festival. It won an Oscar in 1957 for Best Writing, Best Screenplay, even though it has little dialogue.

It is tender, humorous and full of poignant symbolism, addressing the power of creative imagination, transcendence and the joy that children make of companionship and friendship.

I am very excited about this project and absolutely 'over the moon' to have an exceptional team of collaborators with hand-picked performers who are all experienced in puppetry, circus, acting and dance. The child actors are adorable and very smart little folks. My designers are outstanding individuals who are working closely with me to re-imagine this magical piece and bring it from celluloid to the stage. In this new adaptation for stage by the brilliant Hilary Bell, we see our story set in the run-down, post-war, Ménilmontant neighbourhood of Paris with some reworked

underlying ideas. Hilary has coaxed out the existing peripheral animals into a scrawny gaggle of half-human, half-animal, ragged storytellers who drive the story. Our main character, little Pascal, lives in his own fantasy. He sees the world through innocent, picture book eyes - buildings that literally come to life as they move around the stage to represent the very scary town bullies who are up to no good! Eyeballs peering from every window and from behind the painted backcloths, with puppets, slide projectors and 'old school' contraptions that pop up and out of the set to surprise the audience both young and old.

I really want to attract the double demographic of grandparents (those who saw the film when it first appeared in the late 50's - a chance to relive the well-loved fantasy) together with their grandchildren. Ready to enter this dark but beautiful place, hand in hand, where the big, red balloon with a life of its own offers the presence of a loving friend, a symbol of spirituality, friendship, love, and the knowledge that real magic exists in the world.

**Chrissie Parrott**  
Director

# A Note from the Set & Costume Designer

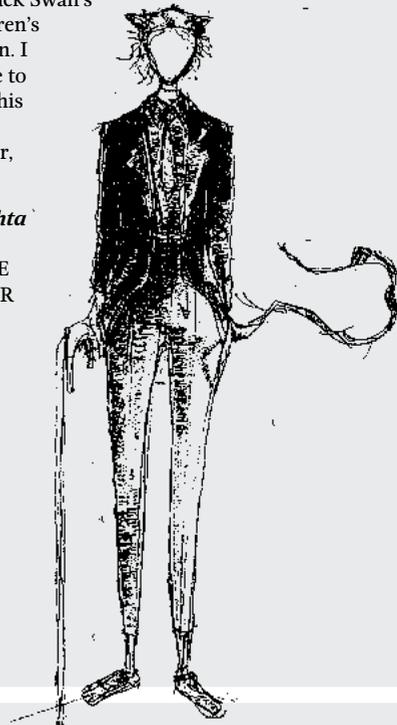
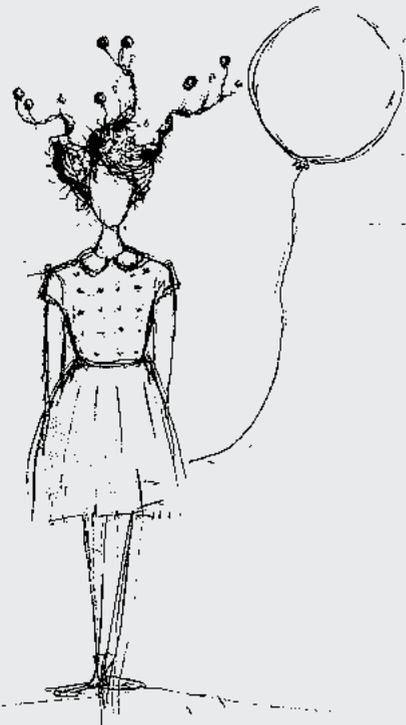
An absolute dream come true, the idea to bring this film to the stage is all thanks to my beautiful mother showing me the film and book as a very young girl.

Still today this story resonates and inspires so many of us of all ages and walks of life. Re-watching *The Red Balloon* as an adult, I noticed a huge sense of nostalgia. How has a single red balloon opened up such a can of worms? Have we lost the ability to find the beauty in the most simple of things? Are we longing to get back in touch with our inner child? Do we really have the courage to stand out of the crowd, be a little different, own our voice and fight for what we as individuals believe in? And so my design journey began...

I have been extremely lucky to work so closely with Chrissie Parrott and Hilary Bell over the past year. This experience has allowed me to look at the world through a child's mindset, through Pascal's eyes – a very barren, ugly and empty space. The set and costumes have the essence of Paris in the late 1950s, post war, still trying to pull itself to its feet. The inspiration for our towers came from the idea of a young boy alone in a vast landscape who is caught up in his own world of fantasy and imagination, surrounded by a city of 'lost souls', creatures that only hope to survive from one day to the next.

I am extremely grateful to have this opportunity to collaborate with such talented creatives and the AWESOME Festival, and to be part of Black Swan's first children's production. I would like to dedicate this design to my mother, Kerstine.

**India Mehta**  
SET &  
COSTUME  
DESIGNER



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# Cast

## Pascal A DYLAN CHRISTIDIS



**BLACK SWAN:** This marks Dylan's debut with the Company. **OTHER THEATRE:** Dylan has enjoyed being on stage since he was 5 years old. He performed in a dance routine for *Bounce Hip Hop*; he played a Monkey in Wesley College's production of *Aladdin* in 2012; and he had three roles in the Wesley College's production of *The Wizard of Oz*. **OTHER:** Dylan enjoys dancing, being outdoors, camping, cycling and learning new tricks on his skateboard.

## Various Characters ST JOHN COWCHER



**BLACK SWAN:** This marks St John's debut with the Company. **OTHER THEATRE:** Spare Parts Puppet Theatre: *Blueback, Farm, The Bugalugs Bum Thief, The Velveteen Rabbit, Hachiko, Spellbound*. The Last Great Hunt: *Alvin Sputnik: Deep Sea Explorer*. Polygot: *Paper Planet*. Variegated Productions/Blue Room Theatre: *These Guys*. Cracked Egg Productions/Blue Room Theatre: *See Ya, Sailor Man*. Wet Weather Ensemble/PICA/Blue Room: *Bird Boy, Adam and Eve, A Reptile Dreamed*. Wet Weather Ensemble/The Duck House: *The Bearskinner*. **FILM:** *Imperial, The Legend of Gavin Tanner and the Loop, Peak, The Road to the Sandman,*

*Alice*. **AWARDS:** Blue Room Theatre Audience Award for *The Bearskinner*. **OTHER:** St John is a founding member of performance company The Wet Weather Ensemble and Spare Parts Puppet Theatre associate artist. He also performs in improvised comedy group The Big HOO-HAA. **TRAINING:** Contemporary Performance, Edith Cowan University 2009.

## Pigeon ELLA HETHERINGTON



**BLACK SWAN:** *Blithe Spirit, Shadowboxing* (also writer), *Red Dog*. **OTHER THEATRE:** The Comedians: *A Circle of Buzzards*. Weeping Spoon Productions: *Trampoline*. Barking Gecko Theatre Company: *Duck, Death and The Tulip, This Girl Laughs, This Girl Cries, This Girl Does Nothing, The Red Tree, The Lost Girl, Fatty Wombat, Castle Rascals*. Look Left Look Right/PIAF: *You once Said Yes*. Renegade Productions: *The Tribe, The Book of Death, A Story of Life*. LittleY Theatre Company: *Glengarry Glen Ross*. La Fura Del Baus/PIAF: *The Experience*. Legs On The Wall/NIDA: *Extend*. Bizircus: *Flaming Idiots*. Pinstripe Circus: *Ayers Rock*

*Surf Lifesaving Club, Dreamhouse*. Kaleidoscope Ensemble: *Little Bobo, Ferdinand the Bull, Edward and Edwina*. Nicole in Red: *Velvet Sushi, Topsy*. Road Physical Theatre: *Nights Norns, Light Cloud*. Other work includes WASO (Presenter), Steamworks. Performing Lines, Strut and Fret, Perth Theatre Company, Night Train Production and The MoxyCollective. **FILM/TV:** *The War That Changed Us, 209 Nights*. **WRITER:** WASO: *Witches and Wizards, Beethoven's World*. Bizircus: *To The Rescue, Tree's a Crowd*. **OTHER:** Ella is a teaching artist for Black Swan, Barking Gecko, NIDA, Actors Hub, DADAA and the WA Circus School. She has worked on numerous community arts projects locally and regionally and toured internationally with the award winning *Ayers Rock Surf Lifesaving Club*. Proud Equity member since 2010. **TRAINING:** Total Theatre Graduate 2004.

## The Girl with the Blue Balloon A ELOISE HUNTER



**BLACK SWAN:** This marks Eloise's debut with the Company. **OTHER THEATRE:** Eloise has performed in Wembley Theatre Company's annual shows since 2013. **OTHER:** Eloise enjoys acting, dancing, singing and playing the ukulele, clarinet and piano. She writes and illustrates books and poems, and creates puppets and puppet shows. She is training at Ali Roberts' Stage and Screen workshops.

## Pascal B RORY MCLAUGHLIN



**BLACK SWAN:** This marks Rory's debut with the Company. **OTHER THEATRE:** Santa Maria College: *The Trojan Women*. **OTHER:** Rory performs as a member of BOUNCE hip-hop dance group and has also busked on the streets of New York. He enjoys dancing, acting, singing, reading and making people laugh. He received training at TADA Youth Theatre workshop in New York in 2014.

## Rat BEN MORTLEY



**BLACK SWAN:** *Glengarry Glen Ross, Laughter on the 23rd Floor, The Seagull, Dust*. **OTHER THEATRE:** The Moxy Collective: *Those Who Fall in Love Like Anchors Dropped Upon The Ocean Floor*. Spare Parts Puppet Theatre: *The Night Zoo*. Sydney Theatre Company: *Waikiki Hip, The Crucible, Beautiful*. Company B Belvoir: *The Lieutenant of Inishmore*. Bell Shakespeare Company: *King Lear*. Ensemble Theatre: *Between Us, Kimberly Aimbo*. Belvoir Bsharp: *Whore, Duck*. Stables/Griffin Theatre Company: *Live Acts on Stage, Kayak/Borderlines*. Darlinghurst Theatre: *Breathing Corpses*. The Blue Room: *Robots Vs Art*. Perth Festival: *You*

*Once Said Yes*. **FILMS:** *Dingo, Lantana, Drift, Foreshadow* and the soon to be released *Pinch*. **TV:** *Cloudstreet, McLeod's Daughters, Home and Away, Backberner*. **AWARDS:** Best Performance Award Blue Room Awards 2014 for *Those Who Fall in Love*. **TRAINING:** 1997 Graduate of the National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA). 2002-2003 Ecole Philippe Gaulier in Paris. 2005 Shakespeare and the Voice with Cicely Berry. In 2013 Ben completed his Post Graduate Diploma in Film & Television at Curtin University.

## Cat SARAH NELSON



**BLACK SWAN:** This marks Sarah's debut with the Company. **OTHER THEATRE:** National Theatre of Great Britain and Global Creatures: *War Horse*. Perth Theatre Company: *The Song Was Wrong*. Barking Gecko: *This Girl Laughs, This Girl Cries, This Girl Does Nothing, Aesop & His Fables*. Spare Parts Puppet Theatre: *Night Zoo, Blueback, Together*. Look Left Look Right: *You Once Said Yes*. La Fura Dels Baus: *The Experience*. Erth Visual & Physical Inc: *Murder*. Mondo Di Corpo/The Blue Room Theatre: *Myth of Julian Rose*. Movementworks/The Blue Room Theatre: *The Yellow Wallpaper*. James Berlyn/Performing Lines: *Crash Course*.

Road Physical Theatre: *Night Norns, Light Cloud*. DADAA: *Marsh Art, Artlink, Sight Unseen*. **FILM/TV:** *Prank Patrol Road Trip Series, Mother's Group, Grid Face*. **OTHER:** Sarah is creator of the award-winning film portraiture project *Mobile Moments* (Marsh Art, Proximity Festival, The Blue Room Theatre Summer Nights), is an associate artist with Spare Parts Puppet Theatre and resident artist at Artsource Studios Fremantle. **TRAINING:** Total Theatre: Annie Stainer School of Physical Theatre, Bachelor of Performing Arts, Monash University.

Pascal C JACK O'NEILL



**BLACK SWAN:** This marks Jack's debut with the Company. **OTHER THEATRE:** Jack has performed in multiple productions at St Stephen's School including *Hey Joe!*, playing the lead role in *Jack and the Beanstalk*, and participating in the 2013 IPSHA Performing Arts Festival. **FILM:** *Emily, La Chienne Francaise, The Story of a Toymaker*. **AWARDS:** 2013 ATOM Awards People's Choice Award for *Toilet World*. **OTHER:** Jack enjoys acting, art, making films on his iPad, horse riding, music, dancing and the outdoors. He has trained with Filmbites since 2011.

The Girl with the Blue Balloon B KATIE PRICE



**BLACK SWAN:** This marks Katie's debut with the Company. **OTHER THEATRE:** Katie has performed in the role of Marta in ICW Production's *Sound of Music* at the Regal Theatre; played the lead role in Stagedoor's *Beauty & the Beast*; and performed with the Perth Youth Theatre in *Wizard of Oz*. **OTHER:** Katie enjoys singing, playing the violin, guitar and piano, and writing songs and plays.

## Creatives

Set & Costume Designer INDIA MEHTA



**BLACK SWAN:** *The House on The Lake, Flood*. **COSTUME & PROPS STYLIST:** *Dinner*. **ASSISTANT SET & COSTUME DESIGNER:** *A Streetcar Named Desire, As You Like It*. **OTHER THEATRE:** Jo Morris & TheMOXYcollective: *Those Who Fall in Love Like Anchors Dropped Upon The Ocean Floor*. Tim Solly & Steamwork Productions: *The Dirty Cowboy*. Yirra Yakkin: *King Hit*. Renegade Productions: *The Tribe*. Happy Dagger Theatre: *The Boat Goes Over The Mountain*. Gilbert and Sullivan Society WA: *The Land of Smiles*. John Curtin College of the Arts: *Cloudstreet*. **FILM COSTUME DESIGNER:** *The Burning Kiss*. **EVENT DESIGNER:** Jackman Furness Foundation Launch, Janet Holmes a Court Birthday. **OTHER:** India designed and performed in *2011 Prague Quadrennial: Street Stories* in Prague Czech Republic. **AWARDS:** Blue Room Theatre Awards: 2014 Best Design Award, Best Production Award, Members Choice Award, Best Performance Award for *Those Who Fall In Love Like Anchors Dropped Upon The Ocean Floor*. 2013 Best Production for *The Boat Goes Over the Mountain* & Best Production Team for *The Tribe*. 2011 David Hough Award for Design. **TRAINING:** 2011 WAAPA Live Production for Theatre and Events (Design).

Lighting Designer TRENT SUIDGEEST



**BLACK SWAN:** *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 & 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, 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)*. **SET AND LIGHTING DESIGNER:** 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 Panellist 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.

Sound Design/Composer ASH GIBSON GREIG



**BLACK SWAN:** *Blithe Spirit, Dinner, The Seagull, As You Like It, Day One, A Hotel, Evening, The Importance of Being Earnest, Arcadia, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Twelfth Night, Much Ado About Nothing, The Memory of Water, The Messiah, The Lady Aoi*. Black Swan/Queensland Theatre Company: *The Clean House*. **OTHER THEATRE:** Malthouse: *The Trial*. The Last Great Hunt: *Falling Through Clouds*. ThinIce: *The Red Shoes, Bed, The Gathering, The Visit*. Barking Gecko: *Storm Boy, The Amber Amulet, Aesop's Fable, Gogo Fish, The Troll From the Bowl, Hidden Dragons*. **TV:** *Who Do You Think You Are* (Australia), *The War That Changed Us, The Lloyd Rayney Story, Dream House, Boom Town, Murdoch, Yagan, Singapore 1942, Jandamarra's War, Desert War, Leaky Boat, Ned's Head, Desperately Seeking Doctor, Time Trackers*. **FILM:** *Frackman, Big Mamma's Boy*. **AWARDS:** 2014 AACTA Award Best Sound in a Documentary for *Desert War*, 2014 WA Screen Award Best Music Long Form and Best Music Short Form, 2013 WA Screen Award Best Music Long Form for *Desert War*, 2009 WA Screen Award for Excellence in Craft (Composition), 2007 APRA/AGSC Awards for Best Music for a Short Film, *Iron Bird*.

Voice Coach **JULIA MOODY**



**BLACK SWAN:** *Venus in Fur, Laughter on the 23rd Floor, The Seagull, Dust, Midsummer [a play with songs], Other Desert Cities, The Importance of Being Earnest, A Midsummer Night's Dream, 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 Foal, 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:** Head of Voice in the Acting Department at WAAPA. **OTHER:** Julia is a proud member of Equity. **TRAINING:** Bristol Old Vic Theatre School, and NIDA (Grad Dip in Voice Studies). Associate teacher at Fitzmaurice Voicework.

Stage Manager **GEORGIA LANDRE-ORD**



**BLACK SWAN:** *Shadowboxing, Blithe Spirit, Glengarry Glen Ross.* Assistant Stage Manager: *Flood, Midsummer [a play with songs], The Importance of Being Earnest.* Black Swan/Sydney Theatre Company: *Signs of Life.* **OTHER THEATRE:** *Evita* (UK national tour). Bill Kenwright Ltd: *Scrooge, Cabaret* (England national tour). Walleystack International: *Strong.* **TRAINING:** WAAPA Advance Diploma in Stage Management.

Assistant Stage Manager **CLAUDIA BLAGAICH**



**BLACK SWAN:** *Blithe Spirit, Glengarry Glen Ross, Dinner, Laughter on the 23rd Floor.* **STAGE MANAGER:** *Venus in Fur.* **OTHER THEATRE:** Louise Withers and Associates: *A Murder is Announced.* **PRODUCTION MANAGER:** ICW Productions: *The Mikado.* **EVENTS:** Right Angle Events & Accolade Event Management: *White Night Melbourne 2014, Tom Hoad Cup International Water Polo Tournament 2012.* Spirit Entertainment: *Oz Concert 2011.* City of Perth: *Christmas Nativity 2011.* **FILM:** ABC Raw Nerve Funding: *Tartan* (Associate Producer). **AWARDS:** 2012 Hawaiian award for Stage Management. **TRAINING:** 2012 WAAPA graduate in Stage Management. 2013 WASA graduate in Producing.

# Little Inspirations

BY CHANTEL DYBALL

ALBERT LAMORISSE WAS A FRENCH FILMMAKER WHO CELEBRATED THE WHIMSY AND MAGIC OF CHILDHOOD THROUGH HIS AESTHETICALLY BEAUTIFUL FILMS.

*The Red Balloon* premiered in 1956 and continues to delight imaginations with its simplicity and stirring themes of liberty, justice and humanity. Lamorisse's film starred his own children, real-life Pascal being the inspiration for the boy with his balloon, and his daughter Sabine playing the girl. He is not the first creative to be inspired by a little person. Here are several of our favourite children's stories and characters inspired by those with the very largest imaginations – children themselves.

**WINNIE-THE-POOH, CHRISTOPHER ROBIN**

A.A. Milne's beloved series was based on his son, Christopher Robin Milne, and the playtime spent with his teddy bear. Christopher Robin is a small boy and the only human in the Hundred Acre Wood. His animal friends include Tigger, Eeyore, Owl, Piglet and Pooh, all of whom look to Christopher for advice and friendship. Christopher is a cheerful, fun-loving, kind and helpful friend, particularly when it comes to adventuring. The gang spend their days searching for honey, exploring the Hundred Acre Wood and playing games together.

**THE BFG, SOPHIE**

One of Roald Dahl's most treasured novels was inspired by his daughter, Olivia. The character of Sophie comes to readers as a bespectacled orphan, who is suddenly "kidsnatched" by the Big Friendly Giant. Soon realising that the BFG is more interested in collecting dreams than in eating her, Sophie strikes up a friendship

with her humongous companion. Sophie journeys to Giant Country, hides in snozzcumpers and drinks frobscottle; all in order to save England from some very bad giants! Dahl created a very affable giant and one exceptionally brave little girl to honour his daughter's memory.

**HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS, CINDY LOU**

The quirky Theodor "Dr. Seuss" Seuss Giesel wrote the children's book, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* as a dedication to his niece Peggy, and the birth of her son Theodor (named after his great-uncle). The story follows the Grinch as he attempts revenge on the Whos of Whoville by thwarting their Christmas celebrations. But the generous spirit of little Cindy Lou, a Who with a heart of gold in comparison to the Grinch with his heart "two sizes too small", eventually wins him over. The Grinch abandons his treacherous plans and returns to Whoville to live happily ever after.

# 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 was 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. The adaptation of *The Red Balloon* by Hilary Bell is a commission.

### 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
- Patrick Howe
- Hannah Day
- Joe Lui
- Ella
- Felicity McKay
- Hetherington
- India Mehta
- Joel Horwood
- 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
- Luke Hewitt
- Andy Fraser
- Chrissie Parrott
- Brendan Hanson
- 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

## PATRONS CLUB

BLACK SWAN GREATLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE MEMBERS OF OUR PATRONS CLUB FOR THEIR GENEROUS COMMITMENT TO SUPPORTING THE BLACK SWAN LAB AND THE ACTIVATION OF THE STUDIO UNDERGROUND.

The Patrons Club will help implement this essential development program for artists in Western Australia. They will ensure the WA theatre industry remains vibrant and sustainable through the Black Swan Lab and promote opportunities for collaboration between emerging and experienced artists.

We thank the Patrons Club members for their support:

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



McCusker  
Charitable  
Foundation



FEILMAN  
FAMILY  
FOUNDATION

### PLAYING YOUR PART

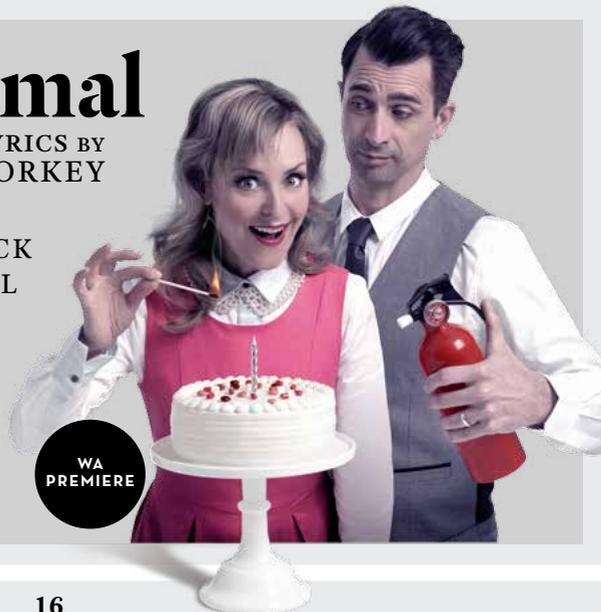
If you are interested in supporting Black Swan, please contact our Philanthropy Manager Andree McIntyre on [andree@bsstc.com.au](mailto:andree@bsstc.com.au) or 0417 187 025.

# Next to Normal

MUSIC BY TOM KITT  
BOOK & LYRICS BY BRIAN YORKEY

AN ELECTRIFYING ROCK  
MUSICAL OF FAMILIAL  
PROPORTIONS.

01 – 17 OCT 2015  
STUDIO UNDERGROUND  
STATE THEATRE CENTRE OF WA



black swan  
STATE THEATRE COMPANY

# Black Swan State Theatre Company

**FOUNDING PATRON**  
Janet Holmes à Court AC  
**PATRON**  
Sam Walsh AO  
**CHAIR**  
Mark Barnaba AM  
**DEPUTY CHAIR**  
Kate O'Hara  
**TREASURER**  
Craig Yaxley  
**DIRECTORS**  
Alan Cransberg  
Nicola Forrest  
Andrew Harding  
Rob McKenzie  
Vicki Robinson  
Linda Savage

**ARTISTIC DIRECTOR**  
Kate Cherry  
**GENERAL MANAGER**  
Natalie Jenkins  
**ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS**  
Jeffrey Jay Fowler &  
Stuart Halusz  
**LITERARY DIRECTOR**  
Polly Low  
**ARTISTIC COORDINATOR**  
Jessica Knight  
**FINANCE MANAGER**  
Amanda Luke  
**PRODUCTION MANAGER**  
Garry Ferguson  
**TECHNICAL MANAGER**  
Alex Fisher  
**WARDROBE MANAGER**  
Lynn Ferguson  
**CUTTER**  
Mandy Elmitt  
**WARDROBE ASSISTANT**  
Marie Nitschke-McGregor

**PARTNERSHIPS MANAGER**  
Monique Beaudoire  
**PARTNERSHIPS COORDINATOR**  
Jordan Nix  
**PHILANTHROPY MANAGER**  
Andree McIntyre  
**PHILANTHROPY OFFICER**  
Amber Craike  
**MARKETING & AUDIENCE  
DEVELOPMENT MANAGER**  
Maria Sioulas  
**MARKETING COORDINATOR**  
Kerry Miller  
**TICKETING & SUBSCRIPTION  
OFFICER**  
Jessica Wedlake  
**PUBLICITY**  
Irene Jarzabek  
**EDUCATION & COMMUNITY  
ACCESS MANAGER**  
Alena Tompkins  
**EDUCATION & COMMUNITY  
ACCESS ASSISTANT**  
Goya Zheng  
**2015 INTERNS**  
Chantel Dyball  
Harry McGrath  
Sarah Nelson  
Jess Russell  
**OVERSEAS REPRESENTATIVES**  
London Diana Franklin  
and Yolande Bird,  
New York Stuart Thompson



**PERTH THEATRE TRUST**  
**CHAIRMAN**  
The Hon. Peter Blaxell  
**TRUSTEES**  
Max Kay AM  
Morgan Solomon  
Rob Butler  
Janet Davidson  
Jim Adamos  
Michelle Tremain  
Duncan Ord (Ex-officio)  
**ACTING GENERAL MANAGER**  
Rudi Gracias

**STATE THEATRE CENTRE  
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA  
MANAGER**  
Alice Jorgensen  
**ASSISTANT MANAGER**  
Sarah Wells  
**TECHNICAL MANAGER**  
Graham Piper  
**EVENT OPERATIONS  
COORDINATOR**  
Ashlee Karpinczyk  
**EVENT SUPERVISOR**  
Brittany Woodhams  
**ASSISTANT TECHNICAL MANAGER**  
Mitch Thomas  
**HEAD OF LIGHTING**  
Sam Elbery  
**HEAD OF AUDIO**  
Tim Collins  
**HEAD MECHANIST**  
Jason Berry

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Education & Regional Partner



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Season Partners



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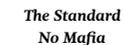
Foundation Partners



Private Giving Circles



Company Partners



Would your company benefit from a partnership with Black Swan?

Contact Monique Beaudoire, Partnerships Manager on (08) 6212 9305 to discuss how we can help you do business.



*See The World  
Through Your Imagination*

Proudly supporting Black Swan  
State Theatre Company since 1998

Principal Partner

**RioTinto**