

ENS  
THEATRE  
MLE

# TAKING STEPS

BY ALAN AYCKBOURN



23 NOVEMBER 2017 – 13 JANUARY 2018

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# TAKING STEPS

BY ALAN AYCKBOURN

First presented at the Stephen Joseph Theatre in the Round, Scarborough, on 28th September 1979.

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**ACT 1:** THE PINES – VICTORIAN HOUSE – EVENING 6:00 PM

**ACT 2:** THE PINES – VICTORIAN HOUSE – EARLY MORNING 6:45 AM

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## DIRECTOR

MARK KILMURRY

## ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

FRANCESCA SAVIGE

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## CAST

### KITTY

EMMA HARVIE

### ROLAND

PETER KOWITZ

### TRISTRAM

DREW LIVINGSTON

### MARK

SIMON LONDON

### ELIZABETH

CHRISTA NICOLA

### LESLIE

ANDREW TIGHE

## CREW

### DESIGNER

ANNA GARDINER

### LIGHTING DESIGNER

SCOTT ALLAN

### STAGE MANAGER

DANI IRONSIDE

### STAGE MANAGEMENT INTERN

ABBY GALLAWAY

### WARDROBE COORDINATOR

ALANA CANCERI

### DIALECT COACH

NICK CURNOW

### CHOREOGRAPHY

KATIE FITCHETT

RUNNING TIME APPROX 2 HOURS 20 MINUTES, INCLUDING INTERVAL

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## ALAN AYCKBOURN – **PLAYWRIGHT**

Alan Ayckbourn's work has been translated into over 35 languages, and has been performed on stage and television throughout the world winning numerous awards. 2018 marks Alan's 57th year as a theatre director and his 59th as a playwright. He is perhaps best known for his plays *RELATIVELY SPEAKING*, *HOW THE OTHER HALF LOVES*, *ABSURD PERSON SINGULAR*, *BEDROOM FARCE*, *A CHORUS OF DISAPPROVAL* and *THE NORMAN CONQUESTS*. In 2009, he retired as Artistic Director of the Stephen Joseph Theatre, a post he held for 37 years and where almost all his plays have been and continue to be first staged. Since 2005 he and the SJT Company have been regular visitors to the Brits-off-Broadway Festival at 59E59 Theatres New York, where his work always attracts uniformly excellent reviews. In 2017 he directed the premiere of his latest play, *A BRIEF HISTORY OF WOMEN*, at the Stephen Joseph as well as a revival of his and Andrew Lloyd Webber's *BY JEEVES* for The Old Laundry Theatre, Bowness. In August his epic narrative for voices, *THE DIVIDE*, saw its first ever staging in a co-production with the Edinburgh International Festival and The Old Vic directed by Annabel Bolton. Alan received the 2016 Oxford Literary Festival's Honorary Fellowship and in recent years he has been inducted into American Theatre's Hall of Fame, received the 2010 Critics' Circle Award for Services to the Arts and became the first British playwright to receive both Olivier and Tony Special Lifetime Achievement Awards. He was knighted in 1997 for services to the theatre.



## MARK KILMURRY – **DIRECTOR**

Mark is the Artistic Director of Ensemble Theatre. Recent directing credits include: *NEVILLE'S ISLAND*, *TWO, ODD MAN OUT*, *RELATIVELY SPEAKING*, *BAREFOOT IN THE PARK*, *BETRAYAL*, *GOOD PEOPLE*, *MY ZINC BED*, *EDUCATING RITA*, *ABSENT FRIENDS*, *OTHER DESERT CITIES*, *THE ANZAC PROJECT*, *RICHARD III*, *THE GLASS MENAGERIE*, *FRANKENSTEIN*, *MANAGING CARMEN*, *RED*, *THE SPEAR CARRIER* and *HAMLET*. Mark's recent acting credits include: Frank in *EDUCATING RITA*, Richard in *RICHARD III*, Hamlet in *HAMLET*; Otto in *THE ACT*; Angus in *THE DRAWER BOY* and Serge in *ART*. Mark's recent plays and adaptations include: *RICHARD III* (with Patrick Dickson); *HAMLET* (with John Trutwin); *THE BIG DRY* (based on the novel by Tony Davis); *CASANOVA* (based on the TV series by Russell T Davis); *DIARY OF AN OLYMPIC CABBIE* (based on the book by Anthony Sharwood); *MERCY THIEVES*; *HAPPY AS LARRY & VIV* and *ONE SHOT*. Mark is the recipient of two Norman Kessell Memorial Awards for an Outstanding Performance by an Actor for his roles in *HAMLET* and *JAPES*, was awarded the 2006 Hayes Gordon Memorial Award for Important Contribution to Theatre and the 2017 North Sydney Community Award.



## FRANCESCA SAVIGE – **ASSISTANT DIRECTOR**

Francesca graduated in Theatre and Acting from QUT Brisbane, and furthered her training in Shakespeare at RADA London, and Shakespeare & Company in the US. In 2015 she received a Globe International Actors Fellowship to train at Shakespeare's Globe, London. Directing includes *SUCH SWEET SORROW* for Bell Shakespeare's Actors at Work; assistant directing *ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST*, *OTHELLO* (SFJ); *CYMBELINE* (QUT) and co-writing and directing Sport For Jove's youth theatre program *THE SECOND AGE PROJECT* (2013, 2014 & 2016) as part of their summer outdoor season. A 2010 Churchill Fellow, Frankie travelled to Grahamstown, South Africa to co-direct *ROMEO AND JULIET* for Ubom Theatre Company, and toured the production nationally to School Festivals. Francesca is a recipient of the 2017 Sandra Bates Directors Award, for which she assistant directed *BUYER AND CELLAR*, and directed a staged reading of *WOLF LULLABY*. Frankie has adapted and co-directed Carlo Goldoni's *THE SERVANT OF TWO MASTERS* with George Banders for Sport for Jove's 9th Annual Summer Outdoor theatre festival. As an actor, Francesca has worked with Sport for Jove, Bell Shakespeare, QTC, Griffin, Riverside and Old Fitz. Frankie is a proud member of Equity.



## EMMA HARVIE – KITTY

Emma is a graduate from Actors Centre Australia (ACA), and has studied at The Atlantic Acting School in New York.

THEATRE: RAUSCH (NIDA),

ASYLUM (Apocalypse Theatre Company), ORFEO ED EURIDICE in the Art Gallery of NSW for Spectrum Now Festival, THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL (New Theatre), UNEND (Never

Never Theatre Company), THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF DISSOCIA (The Kings Collective), SPORTSPRAY (NIDA), A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM (Sydney Theatre Company). SHORT FILMS: LADYLIKE, TOESUCKER. Emma has just finished touring as one of the 2017 Bell Shakespeare Players. She is a proud Equity member and is excited to be making her Ensemble Theatre debut.



## PETER KOWITZ – ROLAND

One of Australia's most versatile and accomplished actors, Peter has 4 times been nominated for AFI awards; three times for drama BODYSURFER,

THE LONG WAY HOME, and GP and comedy SUPERNOVA, winning Best Actor twice for BODYSURFER and THE LONG WAY HOME.

In 1989 he received the Variety Heart award for Television Actor of the Year. He has been a regular and guest performer in numerous series, mini-series and tele-movies in the last thirty years, most recently as Crown Prosecutor Tony Gillies in CROWNIES and the critically

acclaimed sequel JANET KING. Peter is a regular theatre performer and has appeared with all major Australian theatre companies and toured to Germany and New Zealand with the Cate Blanchett directed production of BLACKBIRD for the Sydney Theatre Company. He received the Sydney Theatre Award for Best Actor in a Leading Role in a Main Stage Production for his performance in THE FLOATING WORLD for Griffin Theatre in 2013. Peter has appeared regularly with Melbourne Theatre Company most recently with DOUBLE INDEMNITY and this year appeared with Sydney Theatre Company in TALK and AUSTRALIAN GRAFFITI.



## DREW LIVINGSTON – TRISTRAM

Drew toured Australia in the multiple award-winning WAR HORSE. His Shakespeare credits include playing Fluellen in Bell Shakespeare's award-

winning HENRY V, for which he also composed the music, earning him a Sydney Theatre Award. Ensemble audiences will remember him for his portrayal of Stevie in GOOD PEOPLE. He has played Bottom in A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, Lord Amiens in AS YOU LIKE IT, Antonio in THE TEMPEST, Friar Lawrence in ROMEO & JULIET (Sport for Jove), and Martius in TITUS ANDRONICUS (Cry Havoc). He was also part

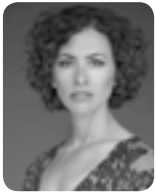
of the cast in the highly-acclaimed Sydney Theatre Company's UNDER MILK WOOD. He has performed at the Sydney Opera House, playing Terry in THE 52 STOREY TREEHOUSE and BABIES' PROMS for CDP Theatre Producers. On television Drew has appeared in Channel 9's TRICKY BUSINESS. Drew is an accomplished musician and composer, and has released an album of songs inspired by Shakespeare's sonnets SO LONG LIVES THIS in collaboration with his wife Naomi. He has recently appeared in Sport for Jove's CYRANO DE BERGERAC. He graduated from the West Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA) in 2010.



## SIMON LONDON – MARK

Simon has established a fine career, acting in film, theatre and television in Australia, New Zealand and the UK. He has worked extensively in theatre, highlights including the critically acclaimed *THE PRIDE* for Darlinghurst Theatre Company, *THE JUDAS KISS* for Redline, *WHEN THE RAIN STOPS FALLING* for Silo Theatre and *THE DUCHESS OF MALFI* and *THE GIFT* for Auckland Theatre Company. Simon was a key creative and performer in *THE GENERATION OF Z*, which

enjoyed two successful New Zealand seasons and subsequently toured to the Edinburgh Festival and London. Simon's feature films include *THE HOBBIT: THE DESOLATION OF SMAUG*, *THE HOBBIT: BATTLE OF THE FIVE ARMIES*, *MY WEDDING AND OTHER SECRETS* and *SHOCK ROOM*. In television, Simon has most recently been seen in *LOVE CHILD*, *DOCTOR DOCTOR* and *WONDERLAND*. Further screen credits include *LEGEND OF THE SEEKER*, *GO GIRLS*, *SHORTLAND STREET*, *THE CULT*, *THE BILL*, and the tele features *BLISS* and *WAITANGI: WHAT REALLY HAPPENED*.



## CHRISTA NICOLA – ELIZABETH

Christa developed an interest in the arts at a very young age. From the age of four she took up dancing, singing and acting and won several awards in each category. At fifteen Christa's passion for the performing arts grew so she auditioned for the Exclusive CPA in South Australia. During Christa's first year at CPA the Director encouraged her to audition for The National Institute of Dramatic Arts (NIDA). After playing several lead roles at NIDA including roles in musical theatre productions, Christa graduated and went straight into the popular Australian TV series *HOME AND AWAY*. After a run on local Australian television Christa's yearning and love

of theatre eventually took her to London where she performed in shows on and off the West End such as Kate from *TAMING OF THE SHREW*, Hermia from *A MIDSUMMER NIGHTS DREAM* and Portia and Jane from the record breaking *VEGEMITE TALES*. Christa returned home in the last few years where she is pursuing film and television and reconnecting with the industry. On returning to Sydney Christa was fortunate to secure a major starring role in the 20th Century Fox feature film titled *THE PYRAMID* which completed principle photography in Morocco. Christa is very happy to return to Ensemble Theatre after having an excellent season playing Kelli in David Williamson's *JACK OF HEARTS*.



## ANDREW TIGHE – LESLIE

Andrew has had a successful acting career in theatre and television spanning 30 years. Most recently, Andrew was on stage as part of a wonderful cast in Sydney Theatre Company's *TALK*, and *HANSARD MONOLOGUES* for Seymour Centre. His theatre credits include *TRAVELLING NORTH*, *UNCLE VANYA* (for STC, New York and Washington Tour), *IN A HEART BEAT*, *AUGUST OSAGE COUNTY*, *INFLUENCE*, *THE WAY OF THE WORLD*, *THE REAL THING*, *THE LADY IN THE VAN*, *ARCADIA*, *THE HOMECOMING*, *THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO*, *KING LEAR*, *HAMLET*, *SUNNY SOUTH*, *CLOSE OF PLAY*, *NO NAMES NO PACK DRILL* and *CYRANO DE BERGERAC* for Sydney Theatre Company, *MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING*

and *THE ALCHEMIST* for Bell Shakespeare, *THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST* for Melbourne Theatre Company, *RICHARD III*, *PETER PAN*, *ON THE RAZZLE*, *BIG AND LITTLE*, *PRAVDA*, *THE RECRUITING OFFICER*, *THINGS WE DO FOR LOVE*, *BLITHE SPIRIT* and *PRIVATE LIVES* for the State Theatre Company of South Australia, *DERRIDA IN LOVE*, *NOISES OFF* and *LIFE SUPPORT* for Ensemble Theatre and *WAR HORSE* for National Theatre of Great Britain and Global Creatures, among many others. Andrew has also directed for Sydney Theatre Company, Belvoir St and Sydney Symphony Orchestra. His television credits include *RAKE*, *HOME AND AWAY*, *PENELOPE K – BY THE WAY*, *ALL SAINTS*, *HOME AND AWAY*, *GRASS ROOTS*, *HEARTBREAK HIGH*, *WATER RATS*, *BIG SKY* and *G.P.*



## ANNA GARDINER – DESIGNER

A WAAPA Design graduate, Anna has designed numerous productions across Sydney including; Costume Design: for Sport for Jove - ROMEO AND JULIET; AS YOU LIKE IT; MACBETH; HAMLET. Set and Costume Design: for Sport for Jove - THE TEMPEST; TWELFTH NIGHT; THE CRUCIBLE; THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST; THE TAMING OF THE SHREW, CYRANO DE BERGERAC. For Ensemble Theatre - A YEAR WITH FROG AND TOAD; CAMP; DARK VOYAGER; ABSENT FRIENDS; EDUCATING RITA; LADIES IN LAVENDER; JACK OF HEARTS; A HISTORY OF FALLING THINGS; BETRAYAL; ODD MAN OUT; LIP SERVICE. For Don't Look Away – Set and Costume Design for ROOTED, NIGHT SLOWS DOWN (Co Designer Martelle Hunt), Set Design for INNER VOICES. For Redline Productions - Set and

Costume Design for ORPHANS; Set Design for THIS MUCH IS TRUE. Other companies - HENRY V (Bell Shakespeare); BLOOD BROTHERS (Enda Markey Presents); SHELLSHOCK (Riverside Theatre); TITLE AND DEED (Belvoir); HYSTERIA (Darlinghurst Theatre Co); BLINK (Stories Like These); BIG FISH (Co Designer Martelle Hunt, RPG Productions); THE VILLAGE BIKE (Co Designer Martelle Hunt, Cross Pollinate Productions). Anna has been nominated for three Sydney Theatre Awards for her work on CYRANO DE BERGERAC, THE TAMING OF THE SHREW and INNER VOICES. Anna was nominated for a Greenroom Award for HENRY V (Bell Shakespeare) and was the winner of the 2014 Sydney Theatre Award for Best Stage Design of a Mainstream Production for HENRY V. Anna received the 2015 APDG Emerging Designer for Stage Award for her work on THE CRUCIBLE.



## SCOTT ALLAN – LIGHTING DESIGNER

Scott first worked for the Ensemble Theatre in 1997, and has designed the lighting for many productions including BAREFOOT IN THE PARK, THE OLDEST PROFESSION, MOTHERS AND SONS, THE BOOKCLUB, OTHER DESERT CITIES, FOUR FLAT WHITES IN ITALY, LAST OF THE RED HOT LOVERS, BECKY SHAW, AT ANY COST, WISH I'D SAID THAT, and THE GINGERBREAD LADY. Other productions include: THE MAIDS, BENT, DIARY OF A MADMAN, ROOTED (Hunter Valley Theatre Company), DAMN YANKEES, CRAZY FOR YOU (The Production Company), SEX WITH

STRANGERS, BAKERSFIELD MIST, THE HAUNTING OF DANIEL GARTRELL, (Straightjacket/Tasmanian Theatre Co.), SONDHIEM ON SONDHIEIM, STARTING HERE STARTING NOW, BLOOD BROTHERS (Manilla Street), DER FREISCHÜTZ, LA TRAVIATA, CARMEN, I PURITANI, THE MERRY WIDOW, TOSCA, FAUST, LA BOHEME, FIDELIO, THE PEARL FISHERS, THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO, THE BARBER OF SEVILLE (Melbourne Opera). Scott has been the Technical Group Manager for the Arts Faculty at Deakin University for twelve years, and was the Resident Lighting Designer to the Arts Centre Gold Coast for the eight years prior. [sallanld.com](http://sallanld.com)



## DANI IRONSIDE – STAGE MANAGER

Dani is a graduate from Charles Sturt University, holding a Bachelor of Arts in Design for Theatre and Television. Dani's Stage Management credits with Ensemble Theatre include: LIP SERVICE, WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF?, ODD MAN OUT, e-baby, JACK OF HEARTS, MY ZINC BED, LADIES IN LAVENDER, ABSENT

FRIENDS, OTHER DESERT CITIES, CRUISE CONTROL, NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH, SEMINAR, HAPPINESS, MANAGING CARMEN, SKYLIGHT, GINGERBREAD LADY and WARNING: EXPLICIT MATERIAL. Other Stage Management credits include SAMSON for Belvoir, 2015 CHINESE NEW YEAR CONCERT for Hunan Orchestra of Chinese Music, DMITRY SINKOVSKY RUSSIAN BAROQUE VIOLIN for Australian Brandenburg Orchestra,

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THE SHOE-HORN SONATA for Riverside Theatre and A SECRET PLACE for Australian Theatre for Young People. Dani is also a Stage Management Mentor & Supervisor at NIDA and Technical

Stage Manager at City Recital Hall – Angel Place. For television, Dani has worked on THE VOICE, THE VOICE- KIDS and SO YOU THINK YOU CAN DANCE.



### ALANA CANCERI – **WARDROBE COORDINATOR**

Alana is a Sydney-based costume designer, maker and supervisor. She trained at Ultimo TAFE where she received Diplomas in Costume for

Performance, Fashion Design & Technology and Printing & Graphic Arts. Alana has predominantly spent the past few years working as a costume supervisor for Ensemble Theatre where she has worked on shows including NEVILLE'S ISLAND, THE PLANT, THE RASPUTIN AFFAIR, TWO, e-baby, THE BIG DRY, TRIBES, GOOD PEOPLE, JACK OF HEARTS, BLOOD BANK, MY ZINC BED,

THE BOOK CLUB, MOTHERS AND SONS and THE ANZAC PROJECT. Other credits include ASSASSINS (Hayes Theatre Company, costume supervisor), MURIEL'S WEDDING THE MUSICAL (Sydney Theatre Company, assistant supervisor), CHINESE NEW YEAR FESTIVAL (City of Sydney, assistant supervisor/ maker), THAT EYE, THE SKY (New Theatre, costume designer), 8TH WONDER-SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE THE OPERA (Opera Australia, dresser) and MY FAIR LADY (Opera Australia, maker). Alana has also worked as a stylist for the Ensemble Theatre 2016, 2017 & 2018 Season Brochures.



### NICK CURNOW – **DIALECT COACH**

Nick Curnow graduated from Theatre Nepean (2002), UNE (2006), and NIDA (2007). As a dialect specialist he has coached productions with some

of Sydney's major theatre companies including Company B, Opera Australia and Ensemble Theatre, as well as Darlinghurst Theatre Company, Red Line and New Theatre. Recent coaching credits include LIP SERVICE, A HISTORY OF FALLING THINGS, e-baby, GOOD PEOPLE, MOTHERS AND SONS, DARK VOYAGER, BLONDE POISON, GROUNDED (QTC), DRY LAND, BENGAL TIGER AT THE BAGHDAD ZOO,

BLINK, VINCENT RIVER, DISCO PIGS, BELLEVILLE, WHEN THE RAIN STOPS FALLING, and ORPHANS. He has just returned from coaching PlayMakers Repertory Theatre in North Carolina's production of SENSE & SENSIBILITY. Film and TV work includes RIP TIDE, OUTBACK, WILD WOMAN, UNDERBELLY, DISTANCE, SEA PATROL, and THE SLAP. Nick teaches for NIDA's Open Program, AFTT, Federation University, NSW Department of Education's Arts Unit, and regularly engages in private tuition with some of Australia's most well known and loved performers. He has been a proud member of Equity since 2002.

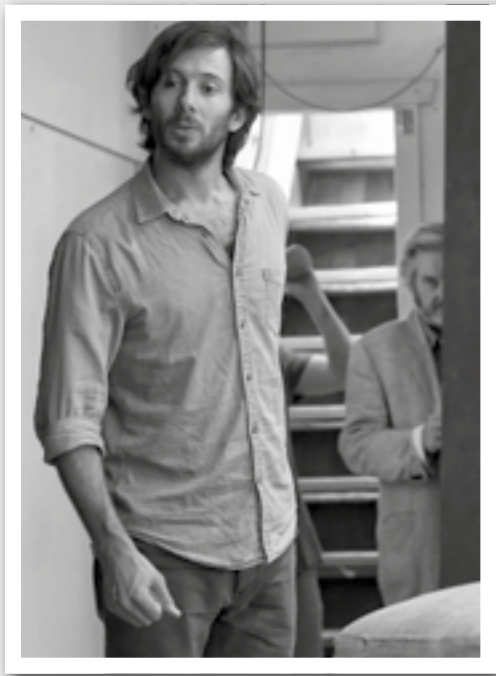
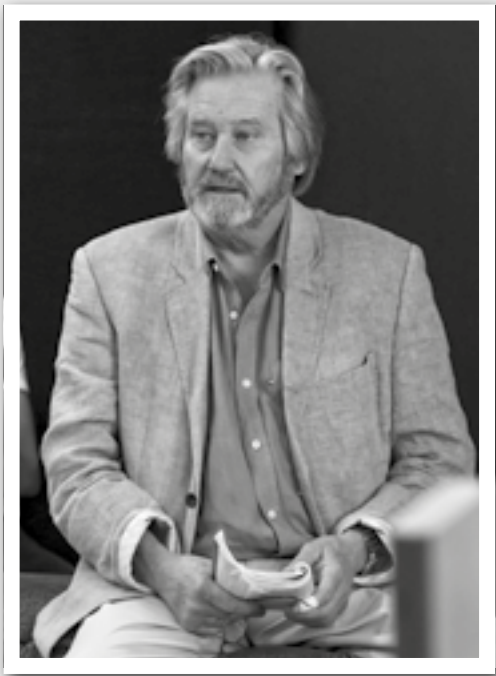


### KATIE FITCHETT – **CHOREOGRAPHY**

Katie graduated from The Australian Ballet School and also The Victoria College of the Arts. She has worked solidly as an actor in theatre, television

and film. Theatre roles include ALL ABOUT MY MOTHER for the Melbourne Theatre Company, playing Miss Julie in B-Sharps production OF MISS JULIE, A VIEW OF CONCRETE and

ANTIGONE for Belvoir Theatre's Company, HOLDING THE MAN for the Griffin Theatre at the Sydney Opera House, FRANKENSTEIN, LITTLE NELL, A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE and CASANOVA for Ensemble Theatre. Katie's television credits include SPIRITED, ROGUE NATION, ALL SAINTS and DARWIN'S BRAVE NEW WORLD. She also appeared in the ABC series CROWNIES and Channel Nine's TRICKY BUSINESS.







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The management reserves the right to make any alteration to cast which may be rendered necessary by illness or any other unavoidable cause. Patrons are reminded that out of consideration for others, latecomers cannot be admitted until a suitable place in the performance.