Ensemble theatre for everyone



# EDWARD ALBEE'S WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF?

11 MAY - 18 JUNE 2017



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In Edward Albee's superb masterpiece, academic couple George and Martha have invited their new colleagues over for drinks. It's a seemingly innocent occasion, but there's a hidden agenda at play. As the booze flows, the night gets darker and so does the conversation, until the drama spirals towards its explosive and cathartic conclusion.

The action of the play takes place in the living room of a house on the campus of a small college in New England 1962.

DIRECTOR

IAIN SINCLAIR

**CAST** 

CREW

**GEORGE** 

DARREN GILSHENAN

-NAN

SET AND COSTUME DESIGNER

MICHAEL HANKIN

MARTHA

GENEVIEVE LEMON

HONEY

ASSISTANT SET AND COSTUME DESIGNER

JEREMY ALLEN

CLAIRE LOVERING

LIGHTING DESIGNER
SIAN JAMES-HOLLAND

NICK
BRANDON MCCLELLAND

SOUND DESIGNER STEVE TOULMIN

SPECIAL THANKS

STAGE MANAGER

Brett Wilby and the Belvoir set construction team; Neil Mallard and Jessica Fitzpatrick for Scenic Art; and Margaret Gill for Costume construction (Martha costume)

DANI IRONSIDE

WARDROBE COORDINATOR RENATA BESLIK





#### FDWARD ALBEF - PLAYWRIGHT

Edward Albee was born on March 12, 1928, and began writing plays 30 years later. His plays include THE ZOO STORY (1958), THE DEATH OF BESSIE SMITH (1959), THE SANDBOX (1959), THE AMERICAN DREAM (1960), WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF? (1961-62, Tony Award), TINY

ALICE (1964), A DELICATE BALANCE (1966, Pulitzer Prize; 1996, Tony Award), ALL OVER (1971), SEASCAPE (1974, Pulitzer Prize), LISTENING (1975), COUNTING THE WAYS (1975), THE LADY FROM DUBUQUE (1977-78), THE MAN WHO HAD THREE ARMS (1981), FINDING THE SUN (1982), MARRIAGE PLAY (1986-87), THREE TALL WOMEN (1991, Pulitzer Prize), FRAGMENTS (1993), THE PLAY ABOUT THE BABY (1997), THE GOAT OR, WHO IS SYLVIA? (2000, 2002 Tony Award), OCCUPANT (2001), AT HOME AT THE ZOO: (ACT 1, HOMELIFE. ACT 2, THE ZOO STORY.) (2004), and ME, MYSELF & I (2007). He was a member of the Dramatists Guild Council, and President of The Edward F. Albee Foundation. Mr. Albee was awarded the Gold Medal in Drama from the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters in 1980. In 1996 he received the Kennedy Center Honors and the National Medal of Arts. In 2005, he was awarded a special Tony Award for Lifetime Achievement.



#### IAIN SINCLAIR - DIRECTOR

lain is a director, translator and dramaturg. As Director: for STC: MOJO by Jez Butterworth, BLOOD WEDDING by Federico Garcia Lorca (translation by lain Sinclair), OUR TOWN by Thornton Wilder. For QTC: BRISBANE by Matthew Ryan. For Belvoir: THE SEED by Kate Mulvany, KILLER JOE

by Tracey Letts, BEYOND THE NECK by Tom Holloway, MY ARM by Tim Crouch, for MTC: THE BEAST By Eddie Perfect, For the Eternity Theatre: ALL MY SONS by Arthur Miller, GOOD WORKS by Nick Enright. For NIDA: LOST ILLUSIONS by Alana Valentine, A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM by William Shakespeare. For Sport for Jove: OF MICE AND MEN by John Steinbeck. He has been assistant director to Max Stafford Clark and Cate Blanchett and is the resident dramaturg at Playwriting Australia. He holds a Masters Degree from the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art and King's College, London.

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#### DARREN GILSHENAN - GEORGE

After graduating from NIDA in '88, Darren began his career in Musicals before spending 10 years with The Bell Shakespeare Company.

Sketch comedy followed with three years on FULL FRONTAL, followed by roles in high-profile Australian TV series including; A MOODY CHRISTMAS, TOP OF THE LAKE, RAKE 3, JANET KING, THE KILLING FIELD, MAXIMUM CHOPPAGE and NO ACTIVITY. Film credits include; the upcoming A FEW LESS MEN, AACTA nominated WOMEN HE'S UNDRESSED, SAVE YOUR LEGS and THE OUTLAW MICHAEL HOWE. Theatre

credits include ABSENT FRIENDS (Ensemble Theatre); STRICTLY BALLROOM the Musical directed by Baz Luhrmann; Arthur in MOTHER AND SON alongside Noelene Brown; TARTUFFE (Black Swan Theatre Company); ELLING, DON PARTIES ON (Melbourne Theatre Company); MACHU PICCHU, FOOL'S ISLAND, LOOT, OUR TOWN and THE BEAUTY QUEEN OF LEENANE (Sydney Theatre Company). Darren has won a Best Actor Helpmann Award for THE SERVANT OF TWO MASTERS, Equity Ensemble Awards for THE MOODY'S and A MOODY CHRISTMAS, and has been nominated for Green Room, Sydney Critics and Glugs Awards.



#### GENEVIEVE LEMON - MARTHA

Genevieve's theatre credits include: for Ensemble Theatre: TRIBES, BROKEN GLASS; for Griffin: THE HOMOSEXUALS OR 'FAGGOTS', THE BIG

PICTURE; for Belvoir St Theatre: THE BLIND GIANT IS DANCING, THE COSMONAUT'S LAST MESSAGE, DEATH OF A SALESMAN, SEVENTEEN; for Melbourne Theatre Company: PIAF. SUMMER OF THE SEVENTEENTH DOLL: for Sydney Theatre Company: THE GIRL WHO SAW EVERYTHING, THE HANGING, HANGING MAN, HARBOUR, HAY FEVER, THE MADRAS HOUSE, MERRILY WE ROLL ALONG, MIRACLE CITY, MORNING SACRIFICE, NOISES OFF, ONCE IN A LIFETIME, THE RECRUIT, THE REPUBLIC OF MYOPIA, THE SEAGULL, SUMMER RAIN, VICTORY, THE WHARF REVUE; for Queensland Theatre: SUMMER RAIN, BRILLIANT LIES. THE VENETIAN TWINS. Genevieve was in the London and Sydney seasons of Working Title's production of BILLY ELLIOT, for which she

received a Helpmann Award for Best Female Actor in a Musical, the Sydney Theatre Critics Award - the Judith Johnson Award for Best Performance by an Actress in a Musical and the Green Room Award for Female Artist in a Leading Role. Genevieve's television credits include: AFTER THE BEEP, HEARTLAND, NEIGHBOURS, PRISONER, RAKE, REDFERN NOW, THE SECRET RIVER, THREE MEN AND A BABY GRAND, and TOP OF THE LAKE. for which she received an Equity Ensemble Award for Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble in a Telemovie Or Mini-Series. Film credits include: BILLY'S HOLIDAY, THE DRESSMAKER, HOLY SMOKE, THE PIANO, SOFT FRUIT, SUBURBAN MAYHEM, THE WATER DIARY and SWEETIE, for which she was the recipient of the Australian Film Critics Award for Best Actress. Genevieve has sung on cabaret stages the world over, and released a live album of her Sydney Opera House concert, ANGELS IN THE CITY.



#### CLAIRE LOVERING - HONEY

Claire graduated from WAAPA in 2010 and was awarded the Leslie Anderson Award and the Sally Burton Award that same year. Her theatre credits

include the role of Elaine Robinson opposite
Jerry Hall in the Australian production of THE
GRADUATE (Kay & McLean Productions),
RISING WATER (MTC/Black Swan),
MANAGING CARMEN (QTC/Black Swan), DAY
ONE, A HOTEL, EVENING and THE DAMNED
(Black Swan), DETROIT (Darlinghurst Theatre
Co) and THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING
EARNEST (Sport for Jove). Claire's debut self-

penned, solo show, RIVER won the Adelaide Fringe Weekly Award for Best Theatre and Sydney's Spectrum Now ANZ Blue Rooms Series for most promising emerging theatre talent. As a recipient of a 2015 Major Mike Walsh Fellowship, Claire travelled to New York last year to study method acting at the Lee Strasberg Theatre and Film Institute. Claire's screen credits include: SAN ANDREAS (Warner Brothers), WONDERLAND (Network Ten), most recently, as Detective Tanya Martin in the crime thriller HYDE AND SEEK (Channel Nine) and she will next be seen in the ABC comedy series, THE LETDOWN.



#### BRANDON MCCLELLAND - NICK

Brandon graduated from the National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA) in 2012. Brandon's theatre credits include: THE PRESENT

(STC & Broadway Tour), A MIDSUMMERS NIGHT'S DREAM (STC), FRACTURE (New Ghosts & Old Fitz), THE GOLDEN AGE (STC), SUDDENLY LAST SUMMER (STC), A TOWN NAMED WAR BOY (ATYP), and M.ROCK (STC & ATYP). His feature film credits include: STAR SAND and TRUTH, and the short films SETACEOUS, WAKING MOON, andWALK RIGHT IN. His television credits include: HERE COME THE HABIBS, LOVE CHILD, ANZAC GIRLS, and THE DEVILS' PLAYGROUND. Brandon received a 2015 Logie Award nomination - the Graham Kennedy Award for Most Outstanding Newcomer, and was awarded The Equity Award for an Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble in a Drama Series, both for ANZAC GIRLS.



#### MICHAEL HANKIN - SET AND COSTUME DESIGNER

Michael is a NIDA trained Set and Costume Designer for theatre, dance, opera and film. Some of his stage credits include THE GLASS

MENAGERIE, ANGELS IN AMERICA, IVANOV, MARK COLVIN'S KIDNEY, JASPER JONES, TWELFTH NIGHT, THE GREAT FIRE, A CHRISTMAS CAROL, THE DARK ROOM and FOOL FOR LOVE (Belvoir St Theatre); THREE LITTLE WORDS (Melbourne Theatre Company);
JUMPY (STC/MTC); TARTUFFE (STCSA); LAKE
DISAPPOINTMENT (Carriageworks); OTHELLO
and AS YOU LIKE IT (Bell Shakespeare);
THE ASPIRATIONS OF DAISE MORROW
(Brink Productions, Adelaide); ICH NIBBER
DIBBER (Sydney Festival); DIRTY ROTTEN
SCOUNDRELS (Theatre Royal); 247 DAYS
(Chunky Move/Malthouse /Netherlands tour);
UGLY MUGS (Malthouse Theatre/Griffin

Theatre); SONGS FOR THE FALLEN (Sydney Festival and New York Music Theatre Festival); THE PEASANT PRINCE (Monkey Baa); RUST AND BONE, THE UGLY ONE (Griffin Theatre Company); MIRACLE CITY (Hayes Theatre); THE LIGHTHOUSE, IN THE PENAL COLONY (Sydney Chamber Opera); DEATHTRAP, MISS JULIE, THE PARIS LETTER, MACBETH

(Darlinghurst Theatre); GREAT FALLS and LIBERTY EQUALITY FRATERNITY (Ensemble Theatre). Michael has been nominated for several Sydney Theatre Awards for Best Stage Design, winning twice for independent productions of TRUCKSTOP in 2012 and OF MICE AND MEN in 2015, and he is currently Associate Lecturer of Design at NIDA.



#### JEREMY ALLEN - ASSISTANT SET AND COSTUME DESIGNER

Jeremy is a Sydney-based designer and is a graduate of the NIDA Design course. Prior to NIDA, Jeremy completed a degree in Architectural Studies

at the University of South Australia and it was there he developed a passion for spatial, architectural and graphic design. Since a very young age, Jeremy has been involved in Youth and Fringe theatre in Adelaide, including work presented in the Adelaide Fringe Festival from 2008 – 2011 and with Urban Myth Theatre of Youth. In 2015, Jeremy worked on creating the set and costumes for Shakespeare's THE TEMPEST, directed by Jim Sharman. He

also devised the scenography and graphics for UNEND, presented as part of the 2015 Sydney Fringe Festival, and then toured to his home city as part of the 2016 Adelaide Fringe. His most recent work includes the set, properties and costume design for Lewis Treston's new play REAGAN KELLY, directed by Benjamin Schostakowski, the set and costume design for the Sydney premiere of SAVAGES by Patricia Cornelius, presented by Darlinghurst Theatre Company, PROOF at the New Theatre (Freefall Productions, dir. Derek Walker) and BETWEEN THE STREETLIGHT AND THE MOON at KXT (Mophead Productions, dir. Anthony Skuse).



#### SIAN JAMES-HOLLAND -

Sian is an Australian based lighting designer whose career has seen her design for productions across Australia, in Asia, Europe

and throughout North America. Sian is a Graduate of WAAPA and HKAPA. In 2010 Sian embarked on summer residency at The Banff Centre, Canada, by generous support of the Lazlo Funtec Scholarship and is currently completing a Masters of Design Science (illumination), University of Sydney. Other design credits: THE POOL

#### LIGHTING DESIGNER

(Venice Architecture Biennale, Australian Pavilion 2016 in association with the Australian Institute of Architects and Aileen Sage), MODEL CITIZENS (Circus Oz), HENRY V (Bell Shakespeare), MONKEY A JOURNEY TO THE WEST (Theatre of Image), SAVAGES, VENUS IN FUR, GOOD WORKS (Darlinghurst Theatre Company), ROOTED, RIVERS OF CHINA, INNER VOICES and BABES IN THE WOODS (Don't Look Away), OF MICE AND MEN (Sport for Jove), WEIMAR CABARET (Barry Humphries and The ACO International Tour, 2013 & 2016).



#### STEVE TOULMIN - SOUND DESIGNER

Steve's credits as Composer and/or Sound Designer for Theatre include: for Ensemble Theatre - GREAT FALLS. LIBERTY EQUALITY

FRATERNITY and CIRCLE MIRROR
TRANSFORMATION; for Bell Shakespeare RICHARD III and OTHELLO; for Belvoir - THE
BLIND GIANT IS DANCING, JASPER JONES,
IVANOV, LA TRAVIATA, BLUE WIZARD,
IS THIS THING ON? and THE SEED; for
Sydney Theatre Company - BLACK IS THE
NEW WHITE, A FLEA IN HER EAR, POWER

PLAYS, LITTLE MERCY and Edward Gant's AMAZING FEATS OF LONELINESS; for Griffin Theatre Company - THE HOMOSEXUALS (OR "F\*GGOTS"), GLORIA, THE BLEEDING TREE, BEACHED and A HOAX (co-production with La Boîte Theatre Company); for Queensland Theatre Company - SWITZERLAND and THAT FACE; FOR STRUT & FRET: BLANC DE BLANC; for Sydney Festival: ALL THE SEX I'VE EVER HAD. Music: As a songwriter and music producer he has worked with artists including Megan Washington, Ricki-Lee Coulter and Samantha Jade. Education: NIDA.



#### DANI IRONSIDE - STAGE MANAGER

Dani graduated from Charles Sturt University in 2008 with a Bachelor of Arts in Design for Theatre and Television. Dani's Stage Management

credits with Ensemble Theatre include: 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 St, 2015 CHINESE NEW YEAR CONCERT for Hunan Orchestra of Chinese Music, DMITRY SINKOVSKY RUSSIAN BAROQUE VIOLIN for Australian Brandenburg Orchestra, THE SHOE-HORN SONATA for Riverside Theatre and A SECRET PLACE for Australian Theatre for Young People. For television, Dani has worked on THE VOICE, THE VOICE - KIDS and SO YOU THINK YOU CAN DANCE. Dani's greatest production is being a mother to Summer Ironside.



#### RENATA BESLIK - WARDROBE COORDINATOR

Renata is a costume supervisor, maker and buyer. She graduated from NIDA in 2007 with a Bachelor's Degree in Costume Production. Supervising credits

include THEODORA (Pinchgut Opera), THE WINTER'S TALE, HENRY V, MACBETH, ABC SHAKESPEARE and INTIMATE LETTERS for Bell Shakespeare and THE TEMPEST, WOYZECK, A LIE OF THE MIND, PORT, THE THREESOME, A BRIGHT ROOM CALLED DAY and SWEET CHARITY for NIDA. For Ensemble Theatre Renata has supervised David Williamson's ODD

MAN OUT, A HISTORY OF FALLING THINGS, BETRAYAL and BAREFOOT IN THE PARK. Buying credits include Channel 7's THE SECRET DAUGHTER. As a costume maker, Renata has worked on THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA, LOVE NEVER DIES, various Opera Australia productions, THE CRUCIBLE (Sport for Jove), KING KONG (Global Creatures) and IN THE NEXT ROOM (STC). Renata has a special interest in millinery working on Baz Lurhman's THE GREAT GATSBY, VICTORY OVER THE SUN (Sydney Biennale), THE 7 SOPRANOS (Crea8ion) and Opera Australia's CARMEN, AIDA and MY FAIR LADY.





















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