

ENS
THEATRE
MLE

LIP SERVICE

BY JOHN MISTO



17 AUGUST – 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

LIP SERVICE

BY JOHN MISTO

DIRECTOR
NICOLE BUFFONI

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
SHAUN RENNIE

CAST

PATRICK O'HIGGINS
TIM DRAXL

HELENA RUBINSTEIN
AMANDA MUGGLETON

ELIZABETH ARDEN
LINDEN WILKINSON

WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO:
Marianne Hinton, Caitlyn Elliot for costume construction
for Elizabeth Arden, Martelle Hunt for Linden Wilkinson's
Hair styling and Caroline Lee from 3 AM Wigs

VOICEOVERS
MICHELLE DOAKE, CATHERINE MCGRAFFIN,
MICHAEL ROSS, NICK CURNOW & ANDREW CUTCLIFFE.

CREW

DESIGNER
ANNA GARDINER

LIGHTING DESIGNER
CHRISTOPHER PAGE

SOUND DESIGNER
DARYL WALLIS

STAGE MANAGER
DANI IRONSIDE

WARDROBE COORDINATOR
MARGARET GILL

DIALECT COACH
NICK CURNOW

MAKEUP
PEGGY CARTER

RUNNING TIME APPROX 2HRS INCLUDING INTERVAL

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JOHN MISTO – **PLAYWRIGHT**

John Misto has been writing plays for Ensemble Theatre since 1992. His other plays include DARK VOYAGER (the Bette Davis – Joan Crawford feud), HARP ON THE WILLOW (starring Marina Prior) and THE SHOE-HORN SONATA. He is also co-writer of PEACE TRAIN: THE CAT STEVENS STORY. LIP SERVICE had a sell-out season at London's Park Theatre earlier this year (under the title MADAME RUBINSTEIN) and was published in the United Kingdom by Bloomsbury Methuen. Misto is also an established scriptwriter and his plays and scripts have won many awards including two Premier's Literary Awards, three AFI Awards, the Rodney Seaborn Award, the Australia Remembers National Playwriting Competition and a Gold Plaque at the Chicago Television Awards. John Misto was fortunate enough to meet Marianne Hinton, the niece of Patrick O'Higgins ("Irish" in LIP SERVICE). She generously shared her memories and photographs of her uncle Patrick and was delighted with the play.



NICOLE BUFFONI – **DIRECTOR**

Nicole studied under Hayes Gordon AO OBE and Zika Nester OAM at the Ensemble Studios. She worked as an Assistant Director for Mark Kilmurry and Sandra Bates on numerous productions between 2008 and 2013. In 2008 she received the Order of Australia Emerging Director's Grant and in 2012 the Walter Reid Memorial Prize at Sydney University. Nicole also serves as one of the Ensemble Theatre's Literary Coordinators. Directing credits include: A HISTORY OF FALLING THINGS, LADIES IN LAVENDER, A PICASSO (Ensemble Theatre), PUSH UP (Newtown Theatre), THE QUIET BROTHER- AWGIE Nominated (Belvoir Downstairs), THE THINGS GOOD MEN DO (Tap Gallery) THE HISTORY OF THEATRE and LOVE, DEATH AND A LITTLE MADNESS (HGR Shakespeare in Schools Program), SOMEONE WHO'LL WATCH OVER ME, BOMBSHELLS, CRIMES OF THE HEART, PLAYING SMALL (self devised), LOYALTIES and GIRL INTERRUPTED for which she wrote the stage adaptation (Ensemble Studios).



SHAUN RENNIE – **ASSISTANT DIRECTOR**

Shaun is thrilled to be one of two recipients of the 2017 Sandra Bates Directors Award at the Ensemble Theatre. Most recently Shaun directed ONLY HEAVEN KNOWS at the Hayes Theatre Co (Luckiest Productions) and a staged reading of Tennessee Williams' BABY DOLL (Ensemble Theatre). Other directing credits include RENT (2016 Broadway World Award for Best Director of a Musical), YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN (nomination for Best Director of a Musical, 2016 Sydney Theatre Awards), I AM MY OWN WIFE (Oriel Group/Redline), CARMEN: DEAD OR ALIVE (Oriel Group), WICKED (Freerain Theatre Company, Canberra), Assistant Director on A CHRISTMAS CAROL (The Tabard Theatre, London) and Resident Director on ONCE WE LIVED HERE (The Kings Head, London). I AM MY OWN WIFE toured to 45 Downstairs, Melbourne and The Brisbane Powerhouse. As a recipient of the Sandra Bates Directors Award, Shaun recently worked as Assistant Director on NEVILLE'S ISLAND. Shaun co-created LIGHT THE NIGHT, an annual benefit concert for leukaemia research, which he produced and directed for 10 years. Following this project, he will direct BLOODY BLOODY ANDREW JACKSON for the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA).



TIM DRAXL – PATRICK O’HIGGINS

Tim Draxl is widely known for his role as Dr Henry Fox in the acclaimed series A PLACE TO CALL HOME for FOXTEL.

Other television credits include telemovie MOLLY, the critically acclaimed series SERANGOON ROAD, MRS BIGGS, HOME & AWAY, MISS FISHER’S MURDER MYSTERIES, CROWNIES, DAY ONE, TANGLE, HEADLAND, SUPERNOVA, DYNASTY and THE SHARK NET. Tim’s theatre credits include MOTHERS AND SONS (Ensemble), FREEWAY – THE CHET BAKER JOURNEY (Melbourne Festival), NAILED (Griffin

Theatre Company) and A MIDSUMMER NIGHT’S DREAM (Belvoir). His film credits include: A FEW BEST MEN, UNDOCUMENTED, IVORY, IN MY SLEEP, RED CANYON, RIGHT HERE RIGHT NOW, TRAVELLING LIGHT, SWIMMING UPSTREAM and DIRTY DEEDS. Tim received an ASTRA Award Nomination for Most Outstanding Performance by an Actor for SUPERNOVA (2006) and a Logie Award Nomination for Most Outstanding Actor in a Drama Series for THE SHARK NET (2005). Tim was recently seen at Hayes Theatre Company in ONLY HEAVEN KNOWS and as the co-host of the 2017 Helpmann Awards.



AMANDA MUGGLETON – HELENA RUBINSTEIN

Amanda wowed Ensemble audiences last year with her one-woman tour de force in THE BOOK CLUB (Glug Award).

Prior to this she appeared in JUST THE TICKET, LOSING LOUIS and THE RUBY SUNRISE. Some of her formidable theatre credits include for STC: THREEPENNY OPERA, MASTER CLASS (Helpmann & Green Room Awards), SOULMATES, THE RISE AND FALL OF LITTLE VOICE, NICHOLAS NICKLEBY; for MTC: THE MAN FROM MUKINUPIN, ENTERTAINING MR SLOANE, THE SEAGULL, SHIRLEY VALENTINE; for QTC: DUET FOR ONE, BOSTON MARRIAGE, THE WINTER’S TALE, WE WERE DANCING; for SATC: TWELFTH NIGHT; BLITHE

SPIRIT and FEMALE OF THE SPECIES; for Black Swan: MADAGASCAR. Stand out. Stand out commercial theatre credits: LOVE LOSS and WHAT I WORE, STEAMING, CALENDAR GIRLS and PRIVATE LIVES. An accomplished music theatre and cabaret performer, EUREKA! (Helpmann Award), ANNIE (Norman Kessel Award), HMS PINAFORE, HELLO DOLLY!, TORCH SONG TRILOGY, and BLOOD BROTHERS. On TV she is best known for PRISONER, RICHMOND HILL and CITY HOMICIDE (AFI Nomination). She had a sell-out season of THE BOOK CLUB in London where she also had a guest role on Channel 4’s HOLLYOAKS! After playing Helena Rubinstein, Amanda will play iconic opera singer Maria Callas in Australia and the U.K.



LINDEN WILKINSON – ELIZABETH ARDEN

Linden makes her return to the Ensemble, having previously appeared in LOSING LOUIS, LIFE SUPPORT and DAYLIGHT SAVING. Recent stage credits

include WUTHERING HEIGHTS (Shake & Stir), BIDDIES (Christine Dunstan), NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH (Illuminate Educate), GIRL IN TAN

BOOTS (Griffin Independent), Moogahlin Performing Arts’ THIS FELLA, MY MEMORY. She has performed for many other major theatre companies: THE RIVERS OF CHINA, A CHEERY SOUL (STC), THREE SISTERS, VIRGINIA, THE HOTOUSE, THE MAN WHO CAME TO DINNER and THE MAIDS (MTC), BEYOND THERAPY and EXTREMITIES (Playbox), WICKED SISTERS,

VOCATIONS (Griffin), GLAD BAGS and WHAT THE BUTLER SAW (Q Theatre). On film Linden appeared in THE MONKEY'S MASK, LOOKING FOR ALIBRANDI, THANK GOD HE MET LIZZIE and WITH MOTHER. On the small screen

DEAREST ENEMY, HOME & AWAY, WATER RATS, MURDER CALL, GP, A COUNTRY PRACTICE. TV mini-series: THE LEAVING OF LIVERPOOL, COME IN SPINNER, NAKED – FISHERMAN'S WAKE and SEVEN DEADLY SINS: PRIDE.



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 MERCHANT OF VENICE; 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. For Don't Look Away – Set and Costume Design for ROOTED, 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); 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.



CHRISTOPHER PAGE – LIGHTING DESIGNER

Christopher is a creator of worlds and has crafted unique lighting environments for a diverse range of shows.

For Ensemble Theatre Chris' credits include ODD MAN OUT, BETRAYAL, A HISTORY OF FALLING THINGS, THE GOOD DOCTOR, BLUE/ORANGE and video design on e-BABY. Other recent credits include: LA CALISTO (Sydney Conservatorium of Music); A LIFE IN THE THEATRE, THE MAN WITH FIVE CHILDREN and RIDE/FOURPLAY (Darlinghurst Theatre); BU21, 4:12 (Outhouse Theatre); GIRLS LIKE THAT , JOURNEY'S END (ATYP);

LIGHTEN UP, THE WITCHES, FIVE PROPERTIES OF CHAINMALE (Griffin Theatre); BETWEEN THE STREETLIGHT AND THE MOON, HOUSE OF RAMON IGLESIA, PLATONOV (Mop Head); BLACK JESUS, HIS MOTHER'S VOICE, GREAT EXPECTATIONS (Bakehouse Theatre); THE DARK ROOM, WINDMILL BABY, AS YOU LIKE IT (Belvoir). Site-specific works includes: THIS IS A VOICE, ANCIENT LIVES (Powerhouse Museum), WARATAH (Vivid); EL ANATSUI (Carriageworks); ACTION STATIONS (National Maritime Museum); BECALMED HEART, MET YOU IN A CITY THAT ISN'T ON A MAP (Underbelly Arts Festival) and MANGROVES (Kate Richards & UNSW).



DARYL WALLIS – SOUND DESIGNER

Daryl is a composer, keyboard musician, vocal coach and musical director. He has composed music for Belvoir, Ensemble, Griffin, Merrigong, Studio, ATYP, Monkey Baa, CDP, Milkcrate, Karnak and Siren Theatre Companies. He won first prize in the 2012 Federation Bells Composing Competition, the 2013 Sydney Theatre Award for best Score & Sound Design in a Mainstage Production with Elena Kats-Chernin for their work on the Ensemble Theatre production of

FRANKENSTEIN and he won a Green Room award as musical director for the STRANGE BEDFELLOWS. Recently he was pianist/sound designer for the Circa production RECLAIMED PIANOS, was sound designer/composer for the Circa Indian collaboration ONE BEAUTIFUL THING as part of the Asia Topia Festival and oversaw two new performances of the immersive spiritual song cycle THE AUROBINDO PROJECT. He performs with jazz/soul singer Ali Hughes as ALI & THE THIEVES and has just completed a NSW tour of their LEONARD COHEN KOANS show.



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: WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOLF?, 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.



MARGARET GILL – WARDROBE COORDINATOR

Margaret is a freelance theatre milliner, costume cutter / maker. Film credits: AUSTRALIA; THE GREAT GATSBY; X MEN ORIGINS, WOLVERINE; UNBROKEN; THE GODDESS; PETER RABBIT. Theatre credits: FAME (John Frost); KING KONG (Global Creatures); HENRY V (Bell); HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON (Global Creatures / Dreamworks); THE KING &

I (OA); THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST (Sport for Jove); THE NUTCRACKER (Aust Ballet); ALADDIN (Disney); MY FAIR LADY (Gordon Frost/OA); SIDESHOW ALLEY; LET'S MISBEHAVE; VELVET ROPE; SEVEN; LIFE AS WE KNOW IT (Grayboy Entertainment/Nigel Shaw Designs). TV: SO YOU THINK YOU CAN DANCE; A PLACE TO CALL HOME; HI 5; BROCK. For Ensemble: SEMINAR; CAMP; A YEAR WITH FROG AND TOAD;

OTHER DESERT CITIES; DARK VOYAGER; LADIES IN LAVENDER; RELATIVELY SPEAKING; THE GOOD DOCTOR; 6 DANCE LESSONS IN SIX WEEKS; DREAM HOME; WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF?; EDUCATING RITA; THE

ANZAC PROJECT; THE SHOEHORN SONATA. This year Margaret has had the pleasure of working on the soon to be released film PETER RABBIT (2018) as costume maker and as a milliner on THE MERRY WIDOW (0A).



NICK CURNOW – DIALECT COACH

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

Sydney's major theatre companies including Company B, Opera Australia and the Ensemble, as well as respected independents like Darlinghurst Theatre Company, Red Line and the New Theatre. Recent coaching credits include DRY LAND, BENGAL TIGER AT THE BAGHDAD ZOO, BLINK, VINCENT RIVER, A HISTORY OF FALLING THINGS, DISCO PIGS,

BELLEVILLE, e-baby, GOOD PEOPLE, MOTHERS AND SONS, BLONDE POISON, GROUNDED (QTC), WHEN THE RAIN STOPS FALLING, ORPHANS, and John Misto's DARK VOYAGER. 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. More info at www.nickcurnow.com



PEGGY CARTER – MAKEUP

Peggy trained at Artransa Film Studios, London BBC – Thames TV, then in special effects at Universal Studios in LA.

Throughout her distinguished career Peggy has worked with Robin Williams, Jack Nicholson, Sydney Pollack, Denzel Washington, Danny De Vito, Jeff Goldblum, Hugo Weaving, Garry McDonald, Ruth Cracknell, Greta Scacchi, Bryan Brown, Barry Humphries, Jacki Weaver, Judy Davis, Toni Collette, Barry & Miranda Otto, Googie Withers, Gordon Chater, Jose Carreras, Carl Malden, Zsa Zsa Gabor and Lauren Bacall. She has designed the make-up for many Ensemble Theatre and STC productions. Other theatre credits include NEVILLE'S ISLAND,

THE BIG DRY, RAPTURE BLISTER BURN, FRANKENSTEIN, 2015, 2016, 2017 AND 2018 SEASON BROCHURES (Ensemble Theatre) CATS, KING LEAR (RQTC), JOSEPH, HELLO DOLLY, 42ND STREET, ST JOAN, HERETIC, COMEDY OF ERRORS, SHOWBOAT, CYRANO DE BERGERAC & RENT. For Television, THE LOVE BOAT, CIRCUS OF THE STARS, RACE RIOTS. Other film credits include The GREAT GATSBY, LILLIAN'S STORY, MOULIN ROUGE, MATRIX, HOWLING II, AGE OF CONSENT, WALKABOUT, DON QUIXOTE, SUNDAY TOO FAR AWAY and CADDIE. Peggy has taught Masterclasses at NIDA. In 1999 she won the Makeup Award for KING LEAR (Bell Shakespeare) and in 2000 a National Makeup Award for overall contribution to the industry.





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