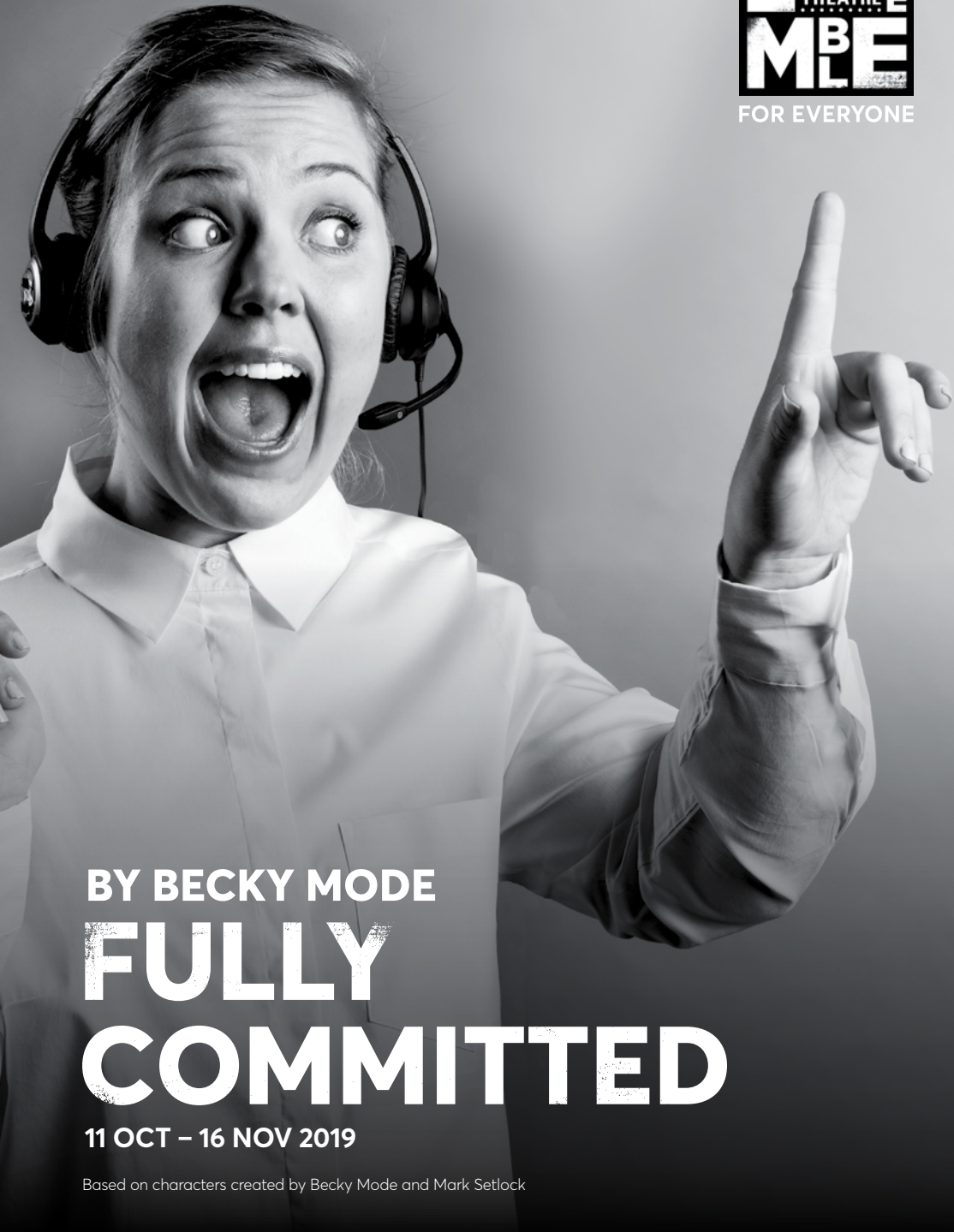




FOR EVERYONE



BY BECKY MODE

FULLY COMMITTED

11 OCT – 16 NOV 2019

Based on characters created by Becky Mode and Mark Setlock

WELCOME

Becky Mode's hilarious play for a solo performer has been on my to do list for a very long time. I know we had a huge success with it in 2002 and I was pleased to see it had been a smash recently on Broadway. I felt we could do a version that swapped the gender – after all actors of both genders are out of work giving the material a fresh perspective – and have the play set in familiar surroundings with foodie references we recognise. I was excited by this idea and by the idea that Becky Mode's fabulous play is a universal story. In the hands of Kate Champion as director and the astonishing Contessa Treffone performing as Sam and an amazing creative team, I know we are in very safe hands. Enjoy FULLY COMMITTED, you'll be glad you booked early!

Mark Kilmurry

Artistic Director

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Have you ever lost your temper with a stranger on a phone call? They're not giving you the information or solution you so desperately need? Has it made you behave in ways you normally wouldn't? How do you think that stranger must feel on the receiving end of multiple versions of you?

FULLY COMMITTED brings this deeply inequitable social exchange to the stage. Written around the time when food became more about fashion and status than a function of survival, it evokes the questionable behaviour between upstairs and downstairs, those serving and being served and the abuse experienced by an employee on the end of the line who is just trying to do their job.

As our fascination with food grows evermore fetishised, the competition to be seen in elite restaurants has become increasingly ridiculous. It is only food of course, but in the end, it's so much more. It's ego, it's prestige, it's power.

FULLY COMMITTED is marinated in this heady mix of the delicious and the debauched. It's a role to relish for an actor who thrills to the discipline of an extreme challenge. Witnessing one actor take on dozens of characters is the equivalent of a high-wire act without a net. Contessa Treffone is one such actor and it's been an honour to witness her tackle the extraordinary provocation that this play delights in. Bon appetit!

Kate Champion

PROGRAMS: \$2 which helps enormously with the cost of printing.

Ensemble Theatre acknowledges the Cammeragal people of the Eora nation as customary owners of the land on which we work and share our stories. We pay our respects to Elders past and present.

SYNOPSIS

Nobody wants to hear that a chef-hatted, multiple-award-winning, ridiculously trendy Woolloomooloo restaurant is fully committed and can't take a booking.

Coercion, threats, bribes, melodramatics - when Sydney socialites and international A-listers stop at nothing in their zeal to secure a prime time or the right table, the booking schedule is harder to finesse than the perfect soufflé.

In a dingy basement office, far from the magic of molecular gastronomy, Sam skilfully manages the red-hot reservation line to keep over thirty demanding characters happy... and more importantly, keep her job!

CAST

CONTESSA TREFFONE

CREATIVES

DIRECTOR
KATE CHAMPION
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
ADAM DEUSIEN
SET & COSTUME DESIGNER
ANNA TREGLOAN
LIGHTING DESIGNER
VERITY HAMPSON
COMPOSER AND SOUND DESIGNER
NATE EDMONDSON

DRAMATURG
JANE FITZGERALD
STAGE MANAGER
BROOKE KISS
COSTUME SUPERVISOR
RENATA BESLIK
DIALECT COACH
AMY HUME
PRODUCTION MANAGER
ROMY MCKANNA

RUNNING TIME APPROX. 90 MINS NO INTERVAL

THANK YOU
Tim Petrie and Dennis Blumendeller
Sydney Theatre Company Ben Lightowlers, Luke Davis

"Lady Is A Tramp" Written by Rodgers R/Hart L
Published by Native Tongue Music Publishing Pty Ltd obo Williamson Music Company

FULLY COMMITTED received its World Premiere at the Adirondack Theatre Festival, Lake George, NY. Martha Banta, Artistic Director; David Turner, Producing Director.

FULLY COMMITTED received it New York premiere, September 1999 the Vineyard Theatre, New York City. Off-Broadway Production Produced by David Stone, Adam Pascal, Jesse L. Martin and Susan Quint Gallin.

AUTHOR'S NOTE: FULLY COMMITTED is a work of fiction. Any resemblance to actual persons living or dead is purely coincidental. While some of the characters bear the names of famous people, the portrayal of them in this play is entirely fictitious.





BECKY MODE

PLAYWRIGHT

Becky Mode is an American playwright, actress and television producer based in New York City. Raised in

Washington DC, she studied theatre and American History at Wesleyan University, graduating with Phi Beta Kappa honors. Her major accomplishments to date include the play FULLY COMMITTED co-created with Mark Setlock which achieved listing in Time Magazine's Top Ten Plays of 2000.^[1] In addition, she appeared as an actress in the 1995 film PARTY GIRL. Her credits also include several episodes of SMASH (the NBC TV series) that she wrote (episodes 2x07; 2x13).



KATE CHAMPION

DIRECTOR

Kate was the founding Artistic Director of Force Majeure (2002-15). She has worked in theatre, dance, film, circus, opera

and musical theatre with arts companies and institutes including Belvoir (UNDER THE INFLUENCE, CLOUDSTREET, FOOD, MY URRWAI, A TASTE OF HONEY), Sydney Theatre Company (NEVER DID ME ANY HARM, SPRING AWAKENING), STCSA (THAT EYE THE SKY, A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE), The English National Opera (THE PRISONER, LA STRADA), Opera Australia (BLISS, THE RING CYCLE, LA BOHEME), The Hayes (EVIE MAY), NIDA (NOT WHO I WAS, MEAT EATERS), National Theatre of Parramatta (SWALLOW) and DV8 Physical Theatre - London. Kate has also created and performed two critically acclaimed solo shows, FACE VALUE and ABOUT FACE. As Artistic Director of Force Majeure, Kate directed SAME, SAME BUT DIFFERENT, TENEBRAE – PART 1 and 2, ALREADY ELSEWHERE, THE AGE I'M IN, NOT IN A MILLION YEARS, and NOTHING TO LOSE. Kate has been awarded Helpmann, Green Room and Australian Dance Awards.

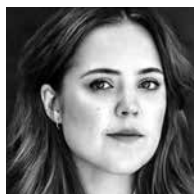


ADAM DEUSIEN

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Adam is Artistic Director of Lingua Franca Theatre, working extensively as a director/producer, presenting work regionally,

nationally and internationally, creating and directing work for the company including RIGHT BEHIND YOU, UNSUSTAINABLE BEHAVIOUR and MIGHTY. As a freelance artist, he has adapted and directed LYSISTRATA, THE BACCHAE, THE TROJAN WOMEN and THE FOX as well as working as Assistant Director for Ensemble Theatre, Griffin Theatre, Stalker Theatre and Siren Theatre Co. He is the recipient of CreateNSW's Regional Artist Fellowship and in 2017 was appointed Artistic Director of Artstate, NSW celebration of regional arts and culture. Adam is currently undertaking a Research Residency supported by the Australia Council with Sydney Festival, examining how festivals engage with regional artists, audiences and communities.



CONTESSA TREFFONE

ALL ROLES

After graduating NIDA in 2012, Contessa has had an extensive career in theatre. Her theatre credits include; LORD OF THE FLIES,

HARP IN THE SOUTH: PART ONE & TWO, TOP GIRLS, THREE SISTERS, ALL MY SONS (Sydney Theatre Company), ANATOMY OF A SUICIDE, THERE WILL BE A CLIMAX (Redline Productions), THE KITCHEN SINK (Ensemble Theatre), THE MYSTERY OF LOVE AND SEX (Darlinghurst Theatre), MINUSONESITER (Griffin Theatre) and many more.



ANNA TREGLOAN
SET & COSTUME DESIGNER

Anna Tregloan is a multi-award winning artist, designer and creative producer who collaborates and creates work with

major performing arts companies and cultural institutions and an array of smaller and independent companies, galleries and artists. She has an extensive history in contemporary performance, dance, physical theatre, opera, live-art, exhibition design and immersive installations. She has a Masters in Animateuring from VCA, University of Melbourne. Amongst other projects, in the last two years, she designed the concept and installation of a major exhibition for ACMI, Melbourne (WONDERLAND) which is now showing at the Art Science Museum in Singapore before touring to other locations including the Victoria and Albert Museum, London; she designed the immersive exhibitions, BLOOD and PERFECTION, for Science Gallery Melbourne; OSCAR AND LUCINDA for Sydney Chamber Opera & Bell Shakespeare's Australia-wide touring productions of JULIUS CAESAR and THE MISER.



VERITY HAMPSON
LIGHTING DESIGNER

Verity Hampson is an award-winning lighting and projection designer. Since graduating from NIDA, she has designed

over 120 productions, working with many of Australia's leading directors and choreographers. Previous productions at the Ensemble Theatre include CLYBOURNE PARK, LIBERTY EQUALITY FRATERNITY, GREAT FALLS and THE ANZAC PROJECT. Designs include: WINYANBOGA YURRINGA, AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE, SAMI IN PARADISE, FAITH HEALER, THE DROVER'S WIFE, RUBY'S WISH, THE BLIND GIANT IS DANCING, IVANOV (Belvoir); BLACKIE BLACKIE BROWN, HAMLET: PRINCE OF SKIDMARK, MACHINAL, LITTLE

MERCY (Sydney Theatre Company); DEATH OF A SALESMAN (Queensland Theatre); ONE THE BEAR, BLACKROCK (La Boite); TITUS ANDRONICUS, JULIUS CAESAR, A MIDSUMMER'S NIGHT DREAM, THE LITERATI (Bell Shakespeare); THE BLEEDING TREE, THE BOYS, THE FLOATING WORLD (Griffin); NEW BREED, WOOF (Sydney Dance Company). For television, Verity was Lighting Director for the ABC's LIVE AT THE BASEMENT and THE ROAST; and THE CROWN AWARDS for SBS. Awards include a Mike Walsh Fellowship, a Green Room Award and three Sydney Theatre Awards.



NATE EDMONDSON
COMPOSER & SOUND DESIGNER

Nate is an international, multi-award winning composer and sound designer for stage and

screen. His scores have been heard across the world, including his work on THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR SHOW (Rockefeller Productions), which has reached a global audience of one million people. Locally, he has worked on many critically acclaimed productions, including THE HARP IN THE SOUTH, BLACKIE BLACKIE BROWN, and CLOUD NINE (STC); MARK COLVIN'S KIDNEY, and SEVENTEEN (Belvoir); THE TEMPEST (Bell Shakespeare). Nate was awarded the 2016 and 2015 Sydney Theatre Award for Best Score / Sound Design of an Independent Production; the 2018 and 2016 Broadway World Award for Best Score / Sound Design of a Play; the 2014 Brian Dyer Trophy for Best Score / Sound Design [UK] (ALL MY SONS). In 2019, Nate was nominated for a Helpmann Award for Best Sound Design for his work on THE HARP IN THE SOUTH. Nate has previously worked with Ensemble on DIPLOMACY, and his work can also currently be heard in BABY DOLL.





JANE FITZGERALD
DRAMATURG

Jane is Resident Dramaturg at ATYP and was previously Literary Manager at Ensemble (shared role).

Recent productions include THE APPLETON LADIES' POTATO RACE, NEVILLE'S ISLAND (Ensemble), THE BIG DRY (co-production Ensemble/ATYP), INTERSECTION 2019: ARRIVAL, CHARLIE PILGRIM, BATHORY BEGINS (ATYP), LOST BOYS (Merrigong) and MROCK (co-production ATYP/STC). Jane has been a mentor on ATYP's Fresh Ink writers' program and at National Studio. For STC she has been Literary Manager, Artistic Associate and administrator of the Patrick White Playwrights' Award as well as a dramaturg on new writers' programs and on mainstage productions. She has worked as a script reader for the Royal Court London and has worked extensively as a Mentor with Year 12 students on HSC creative writing projects.



BROOKE KISS
STAGE MANAGER

This is Brooke's first show at Ensemble Theatre. Brooke's previous productions include the following. For Sydney

Theatre Company; Assistant Stage Manager on BANGING DENMARK, Assistant Stage Manager on ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF AN ANARCHIST, Stage Manager on THE REMOVALIST (staged reading) and Assistant Stage Manager on THE TESTAMENT OF MARY. For Belvoir; Assistant Stage Manager on BARBARA AND THE CAMP DOGS (2019 tour), Stage Manager on BLISS, Assistant Stage Manager on SAMI IN PARADISE, Rehearsal Stage Manager on BARBARA AND THE CAMP DOGS, Assistant Stage Manager Cover on MR BURNS. For Force Majeure, Stage Manager on YOU ANIMAL, YOU for both Sydney Festival 2018 and Dance Massive 2019. For Froudish & Cubby House Co production, Production Stage Manager on RUBY'S WISH (2018 tour). Brooke graduated from NIDA's Technical Theatre and Stage Management Course In 2016.



RENATA BESLIK
COSTUME SUPERVISOR

Renata graduated from NIDA in 2007 with a Bachelor's degree in Costume Production.

Costume Supervisor: A

VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE, FOLK, DIPLOMACY, THE BIG TIME, LUNA GALE, SHIRLEY VALENTINE, THE KITCHEN SINK, BUYER AND CELLAR, WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOLF?, ODD MAN OUT, BAREFOOT IN THE PARK, BETRAYAL, A HISTORY OF FALLING THINGS (Ensemble Theatre), FANGIRLS (Belvoir/Queensland Theatre), THE RETURN OF ULYSSES, ARTASERSE, ATHALIA, THE CORONATION OF POPPEA, RAMEU: ANACREON AND PIGMALION, THEODORA (Pinchgut Opera), HENRY V, THE WINTER'S TALE, MACBETH (Bell Shakespeare), STAY HAPPY KEEP SMILING, THE TEMPEST, WOYCECK, A LIE OF THE MIND, PORT (NIDA). Designer: A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, ROMEO AND JULIET, THE TEMPEST (Sport for Jove), THE COLOUR OF AUGUST (Newtown Theatre), Design Assistant: THE LIFE OF GALILEO (Belvoir)



AMY HUME
DIALECT COACH

Amy is a voice teacher at NIDA, voice and accents tutor at ATYP and founder of award-winning speech and drama studio, Viva

Voice. For Ensemble: Dialect Coach for FOLK, THE NORMAN CONQUESTS, SHIRLEY VALENTINE and THE KITCHEN SINK. For Belvoir: Dialect Coach on FANGIRLS, SAMI IN PARADISE; voice support on COUNTING AND CRACKING, THE ROVER and GHOSTS. Other theatre: Voice/Dialect Coach on BILLY ELLIOT THE MUSICAL 10th Anniversary Tour, Voice/Dialect Coach on the Sydney production of MATILDA THE MUSICAL (RSC/ Louise Withers), Voice Coach for MEASURE FOR MEASURE and THE SERVANT OF TWO MASTERS (Sport for Jove). For Film: Dialect Coach on THE UNLISTED (ABC/Netflix) and THE SECRETS SHE KEEPS (Lingo Pictures for Channel Ten). Amy is a Designated Linklater Teacher and also facilitates corporate voice and communication training for organisations across different industries.

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Your support, large or small plays an invaluable role. We are fortunate to have many supporters contribute to Ensemble Theatre during their lifetime, reflecting the important role the theatre plays in their lives.

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For more information contact:
David Balfour Wright
(02) 8918 3421
david@ensemble.com.au

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Georgie Parker Ambassador



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BY NEIL SIMON

THE ODD COUPLE

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