

ENSE
THEATRE
MBE
FOR EVERYONE

WEST END THRILLER

11 JUN –
24 JUL
2021

THE WOMAN IN BLACK

BY SUSAN HILL AND STEPHEN MALLATRATT



WELCOME



When I first saw *THE WOMAN IN BLACK* in its debut west end run over 30 years ago, I remember the curious sensation of being terrified in a theatre. I was used to being scared in a cinema and at home watching the late-night horror on television - but in a theatre? It was an experience I had not had before (or since).

I think one of the reasons for the scare factor in *THE WOMAN IN BLACK* is that it is so well written. Stephen Mallatratt's very clever adaptation of the classic modern novel by Susan Hill, takes you elegantly into the old spooky house ghost story, while giving the play its own theatrical slant. All the scares and jumps in the dark come beautifully from story and words as we invest in the atmosphere of Eel Marsh House.

A huge part of the world of *THE WOMAN IN BLACK* is this atmosphere and I am so grateful to this wonderful team of creatives for their care and attention to detail, bringing an empty stage to ghostly life. Also, I am so blessed with this superb cast, Garth Holcombe and Jamie Oxenbould, who take the words and make them real. Directing *THE WOMAN IN BLACK* has been a long time coming and with this great creative team, it has been well worth the wait.

Enjoy, if that's the right word... and let the nightmares begin.

Mark Kilmurry
Artistic Director

Ensemble Theatre proudly acknowledges the Cammaeraigal 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

Mr Kipps is troubled by disturbing memories of his journey to fog bound Eel Marsh, where Mrs Drablow's lonely house stands in isolation. Trapped by the fog, he witnessed mysterious events he would rather forget, but cannot. In desperation, he enlists the help of an actor to tell his tale and exorcise the demons that haunt his dreams. As the two men become immersed in Kipps' story, eerie events materialise from the mists of the past and begin to haunt the present.

CAST

ACTOR **GARTH HOLCOMBE**

MR KIPPS **JAMIE OXENBOULD**

DIRECTOR **MARK KILMURRY**

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR **RACHEL CHANT**

SET & COSTUME DESIGNER **HUGH O'CONNOR**

LIGHTING DESIGNER **TRUDY DALGLEISH**

SOUND DESIGNER **MICHAEL WATERS**

STAGE MANAGER **RUTH HOLLOWES**

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER **JACK WILSON**

COSTUME SUPERVISOR **MARGARET GILL**

SPECIAL EFFECTS **BRONTE BAILEY**

ASSISTANT SOUND DESIGNER **DAVID GRIGG**

RUNNING TIME

APPROX. 2 HRS INCL INTERVAL

SPECIAL THANKS

Chameleon Touring Systems

Hattie and Tilly Hickey

Men's Tailor Suzannah McRae

Hillary Shephard

Ned Waters

Rehearsal images
by Prudence Upton



SUSAN HILL AUTHOR

Susan Hill's writing career has encompassed acclaimed literary novels, ghost stories, children's books, detective novels and memoirs. She has won the

Whitbread, Somerset Maugham and John Llewelyn Rhys awards, as well as having been shortlisted for the Booker Prize. *THE WOMAN IN BLACK*, her terrifying ghost story, is still running as a play in the West End and is now a successful film. Her most recent books are the eight novels in the *SIMON SERRAILLER* crime series, and new ghost novels including *THE SMALL HAND*, *DOLLY*, *PRINTERS DEVIL COURT* and *THE TRAVELLING BAG*. Susan Hill was awarded a CBE in the 2012 Queen's Birthday and Diamond Jubilee Honours. www.susan-hill.com



STEPHEN MALLATRATT ADAPTOR

Stephen wrote his early plays while working as an actor in Alan Ayckbourn's Scarborough Company. Several of these

were produced and directed by Ayckbourn at Scarborough, and commissions from other theatres followed. *COMIC CUTS* was written for the Contact Theatre in Manchester, won the Thames TV Theatre Writers Award, was produced in many British theatres, and culminated ten years later in the West End

retitled as *THE GLORY OF THE GARDEN*. In addition to original plays, he wrote adaptations of books for both TV and theatre including Henry James *THE TURN OF THE SCREW* and Daphne Du Maurier's *REBECCA*. His television work includes *THE INNOCENT* and *CORONATION STREET* and *THE FORSYTE SAGA* for Granada TV. *THE WOMAN IN BLACK* is now in its 26th year at the Fortune Theatre in the West End. It has been translated into at least 12 languages and performed, at last count, in 41 countries.



MARK KILMURRY DIRECTOR

Mark is the Artistic Director of Ensemble Theatre. Recent directing credits include: *OUTDATED*, *KENNY*, *CRUNCH TIME*, *THE ODD COUPLE*, *THE*

LAST WIFE, *MURDER ON THE WIRELESS*, *THE BIG TIME*, *THE NORMAN CONQUESTS*, *SHIRLEY VALENTINE*, *TAKING STEPS*, *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 is the recipient of many awards and recently the North Sydney Community Award.







RACHEL CHANT
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Rachel is an award-winning theatre director, dramaturg, and Festival Director of Bondi Festival. She is the recipient of the 2020 Ensemble Theatre

Sandra Bates Director's Award, a member of Melbourne Theatre Company's 2019 Women in Theatre Program, and has worked as a director, script assessor, teaching artist and dramaturg for independent and mainstage theatre companies across Australia. Recent projects include: CYBEC ELECTRIC for Melbourne Theatre Company; GOOD DOG for Kings X Theatre; LOVE for Darlinghurst Theatre Company; INTERSECTION: CHRYSALIS for ATYP @ Griffin; THE VILLAGE BIKE at Old Fitz Theatre; MOTH for ATYP; LEAVES at Kings X Theatre; WHEN THE RAIN STOPS FALLING for New Theatre. As Assistant Director: COSI, dir. Sarah Goodes; for MTC + STC; MORTIDO, dir. Leticia Caceres; for Belvoir + STCSA. Rachel has a Masters of Applied Theatre Studies from the University of New England.



GARTH HOLCOMBE
ACTOR

Garth is a graduate of the National Institute of Dramatic Art, (NIDA) 2006. He has featured in numerous theatre productions with selected credits

including THE PLANT and TRIBES for Ensemble Theatre, ORLANDO for STC, SONGS FOR THE FALLEN for Old Fitz/New York/New Zealand/ Sydney Festival, TREVOR at Kings X Theatre, THE SENTIMENTAL BLOKE for Hayes Theatre, BENT for Belvoir, THE PIGEONS for Griffin, WYNGARDE! for G.Bod Theatre, MAMMON INC for Singapore Arts Festival, AS BEES IN HONEY DROWN for Darlinghurst Theatre, THE BALD SOPRANO at Parade Theatres and MR KOLPERT for PantsGuys Productions. Australian National tours include ACTORS AT WORK for Bell Shakespeare, and both RAINBOW'S END and R&J for Parramatta Riverside Theatres. Selected screen credits include HOME AND AWAY and ALL SAINTS for Seven Network, HEAD START for ABC-TV and numerous short films.



JAMIE OXENBOULD
MR KIPPS

Recent theatre credits include: for Griffin Theatre - FAMILY VALUES; for Bell Shakespeare - THE MISER; for Bell Shakespeare & Griffin Theatre - THE LITERATI;

for Opera Australia - ERNANI, LA TRAVIATA ; for Outhouse Theatre - TREVOR; at The Old Fitz - EURYDICE, THE VILLAGE BIKE; for Apocalypse Theatre company - THE DAPTO CHASER; for Darlinghurst Theatre Company - GOOD WORKS, THE HYPOCHONDRIAC; for Ensemble Theatre - BABY DOLL, CHAPTER TWO, CASANOVA, FULLY COMMITTED, LAST OF THE RED HOT LOVERS, NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH, DIARY OF AN OLYMPIC CABBIE, THE SPEAR CARRIER, WHEN DAD MARRIED FURY; and for Sydney Theatre Company - THE TEMPEST, MACBETH. His screen credits include: for ABC - MY PLACE, PLAYSCHOOL, SECRET CITY 2; BEING GAVIN (feature) and many animated series including FLIPPER & LOPAKA, GASPI, OH YUCK.



HUGH O'CONNOR
SET AND COSTUME DESIGNER

Hugh is a designer and creative director. With an interest in work that is playful and theatrical, Hugh works across theatre, dance, musicals, cabaret,

experimental performance and events. Hugh has created designs for directors including: Craig Baldwin, David Berthold, Richard Carroll, Lucas Jervies, Mark Kilmurry, Paige Rattray, Iain Sinclair, and Imara Savage. Design for theatre includes: ONCE, SILENT NIGHT, GOODWORKS, RIDE AND FOURPLAY, A LIFE IN THE THEATRE and DAYLIGHT SAVINGS for Darlinghurst Theatre Co.; THE WITCHES for Griffin/Malthouse; THE FLICK, THE ALIENS, 4 MINUTES 12 SECONDS for Outhouse Theatre Co.; HIDDEN SYDNEY: THE GLITTERING MILE for Vivid Festival; THE ODD COUPLE, FOLK, THE NORMAN CONQUESTS, RELATIVELY SPEAKING and NEVILLE'S ISLAND for Ensemble Theatre; THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS and COSI for La Boite; 4000 MILES for Critical Stages; THE FANTASTICKS for Hayes Theatre; A RIFF ON KEEF for Griffin Independent.

Hugh was nominated for Best Set Design at the Sydney Theatre Awards. Hugh holds a Bachelor of Design from NIDA.



TRUDY DALGLEISH
LIGHTING DESIGNER

Trudy Dalglish is one of Australia's leading lighting designers and a graduate of The National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA). She has been nominated and won many awards for her work, including a 'Mo' Award for outstanding contribution to musical theatre, a Helpmann Award, and seven Green Room Awards. Trudy has worked extensively with Opera Australia, Sydney Theatre Company and Sydney Dance Company. She is best known for her work in commercial musical theatre both in Australia and overseas. She has worked in the West End and on Broadway, and extensively in Asia and the Middle East. She is also known for her many arena shows as she was head of lighting at the Sydney Entertainment centre for seven years.



MICHAEL WATERS
SOUND DESIGNER

Michael's original sound designs include: MURIEL'S WEDDING, CHESS, SHREK, THE TIME MACHINE, MY FAIR LADY, FANGIRLS, DRUMMER QUEENS, THE TAP PACK (USA tour 2020), BRAN NUE DAE, DREAM LOVER, ATOMIC (Sydney & Off Broadway, New York), IN THE HEIGHTS for Sydney Opera House, THE BOY FROM OZ, Anthony Warlow With Faith Prince DIRECT FROM BROADWAY, and Hugh Jackman's BROADWAY TO OZ. Operas include: THE RABBITS, DEAD MAN WALKING, ORPHEUS IN THE UNDERWORLD, and PLÁCIDO DOMINGO & KATHERINE JENKINS in Concert. Michael's awards include: Helpmann for Best Sound Design; MURIEL'S WEDDING; THE KING AND I; THE WOMAN IN BLACK; DUSTY – THE ORIGINAL POP DIVA; Green Room Awards for Best Sound Design; MY FAIR LADY; DIRTY DANCING; Italy's DAPA Award for Best Sound Design; PRISCILLA QUEEN OF THE DESERT.



RUTH HOLLOWS
STAGE MANAGER

Ruth Hollows is delighted to be working on her debut production at Ensemble Theatre. She holds a Bachelor of Arts (Theatre and Performance Studies) from

UNSW and an Advanced Diploma of Producing from AFTRS. Credits include: for Bell Shakespeare: HAMLET, TITUS ANDRONICUS, ROMEO AND JULIET, MACBETH and three seasons of THE PLAYERS. For City of Sydney: SYDNEY CHRISTMAS and VILLAGE CONCERTS and SYDNEY LUNAR FESTIVAL. Other credits include: ROSALINE for Kings X Theatre, THE HAPPY PRINCE for Griffin, SENIOR MOMENTS for Rapid Fire Productions and EAR TO THE EDGE OF TIME for Sport for Jove.



JACK WILSON
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER

Jack is a recent WAAPA, Stage Management graduate that has recently moved over to Sydney to start his career. He was lucky enough to work on several

different forms of performance during his studies and found a love for intimate theatre. This passion is what lead him to Ensemble Theatre and THE WOMAN IN BLACK.



MARGARET GILL
COSTUME SUPERVISOR

Margaret studied Fashion at East Sydney Technical College. She works in film, theatre and TV as a costume cutter/maker and theatre milliner. Her film

credits include THE GREAT GATSBY, LADIES IN BLACK, PETER RABBIT and the recently released I AM WOMAN. Her stage shows include ALADDIN and MY FAIR LADY. Margaret was ladies cutter on OPERATION BUFFALO ABC 2020 which was nominated for several AACTA awards. Margaret worked as a cutter and specialty seamstress on SHANG CHI AND THE LEGEND OF THE TEN RINGS. Margaret was also head of headwear on George Miller's new film THREE THOUSAND YEARS OF LONGING starring Idris Elba and Tilda Swinton. She has more recently been a ladies cutter on FRAYED Season 2 ABC and specialty seamstress on THOR.

WE'RE STILL HERE

THANKS TO YOU!



You're an essential part of our Ensemble community and thanks to you WE'RE STILL HERE. Your generous ongoing support enabled us to welcome back audiences and return to what we do best – presenting live theatre for everyone.

To ensure we can continue to share our stories, provide opportunities for artists and entertain audiences for generations to come, please donate at ensemble.com.au/support or call **Stephen Attfield**, Philanthropy & Partnerships Manager, on **02 8918 3400**.

SPOTLIGHTS \$10000+

Michael Adena & Joanne Daly
The Balnaves Foundation
Clitheroe Foundation
Graf Family Foundation
Jinnie and Ross Gavin
Ingrid Kaiser
Prue & Andrew Kennard
Mark Kilmurry
Jeanette & Graham McConnochie
Todd McKenney
Neilson Foundation
Victoria & Ian Pollard
Jenny & Guy Reynolds AO
Diana & George Shirling
Southern Steel Group Pty Ltd
John & Diana Smythe Foundation
Anonymous x 1

BRIGHT LIGHTS \$5000 - \$9999

Ellen Borda
David Z Burger Foundation
Emma Hodgman & John Coorey
Jane Tham & Philip Maxwell
Peter EJ Murray
Merryn & Rod Pearse

SHINING LIGHTS \$1000 - \$4999

The Hilmer Family Endowment
Geoffrey Atherden
Fiona Hopkins & Paul Bedbrook
Phil Breaden
Anne Bruning
David & Louise Byrne
Fertility First
Helen Devenish Meares
Debby Cramer & Bill Cautkill
Dutta Path Pty Ltd
Smiths Pty Ltd
Brent & Vicki Emmett of the
Brent & Vicki Emmett Giving
Fund at the APS Foundation
D K Faithfull
The Shirley Ward Foundation

Sid & Margaret French
Belinda Gibson
Warren & Verity Kinston
Jocelyn Goyen
Roger Hewitt
Susie Hope
Margaret Johnston
Adrienne and David Kitching
Pamela Lamont
Pamela Lee
Dr Carolyn Lowry OAM &
Peter Lowry OAM
Helen Markiewicz
Barbara Osborne
Maggie & Jim Pritchitt
Jim & Irene Richardson
Gary & Monica Robinson
Alison Scott
Christine & Russell Stewart
Wendy Trevor-Jones
Dr Elizabeth Watson
Laura Wright
Anonymous x 2

STARLIGHT \$500 - \$999

America Family
Margie Bowen-Jones
Alexandra & Axel Buchner
Anne Carmine
Judy & Martyn Chapman
John Crocker
Lynne Crookes OAM
Joanne & Susan Dalton
Jennifer Darin & Dennis Cooper
Jim Dominguez
Meryl Duke
Onofrio & Michele Ferrara
Nancy Fox & Bruce Arnold
Vicki & Stephen Gellert
Debra Graves
Warren & Elizabeth Gray
Anna & Richard Green
Richard Gulley & Catrina Lake

Bruce and Heather Hando
Jill Hawker
James Henderson
Syd Jones
Anthony Larkum
John Lewis
David Millons AM
Georgina Moodie
John Mulquiney
Brian & Jocelyn Munday
Caroline Phillips
Jill & David Pumphrey
Greg & Renee Pynt
Robyn Raffles
Antony C.G Secrett
Emine Sermet
Andy & Jenny Small
Holly Stein
Michael Stokes
Lesley Taylor
Rob Thomas
Christine Thomson
Margaret Tilley
Janice Wilkinson
Maurice Wrightson
Anonymous x 6

LEAVE A LEGACY

We would like to thank the following Estates for their generous donations:
Estate of Freddie Bluhm
Estate of Leo Mamontoff
Estate of Dimitry Nesteroff
Estate of Margaret Stenhouse

ENCORE CIRCLE

Thank you to the following people for bequests in their wills:
Joe Sbarro

**Ensemble Theatre supporters are recognised for 12 months from the date of donation.
Current at 25 May 2021.**



OUR PARTNERS

Thank you to our partners for playing a vital role in our success.

MAJOR PARTNER



GOVERNMENT SUPPORT



ASSOCIATE PARTNER



SUPPORTING PARTNERS



STRATEGIC PARTNERS



ENSEMBLE ED PARTNERS



ENSEMBLE THEATRE TEAM

Artistic Director **Mark Kilmurry**
Chief Financial Officer **David Balfour Wright J.P.**
Executive Director **Loretta Busby**
Artistic Producer **Claire Nesbitt-Hawes**
Casting & Events **Merran Regan**
Literary Manager **Sarah Odillo Maher**
Artistic Coordinator **Anna Williamson**
Production Manager **Simon Greer**
Deputy Production Manager **Romy McKanna**
Technical Supervisor **Glenn Seage**
Marketing Manager **Rachael McAllister**
Marketing Content Coordinator **Charlotte Burgess**
Marketing Assistant **Emma Garden**
In-House Graphic Designer **Cheryl Ward**
Media Relations **Susanne Briggs**
Philanthropy & Partnerships Manager
Stephen Attfield
Ticketing & IT Manager **Holly McNeilage**
Ticketing & Customer Service Coordinator
Bronte Bailey
Box Office Team **Anita Jerrentrup,**
Kathryn Siely& Anna Williamson
Front of House Manager **James Birch**

Front of House Supervisors **Abby Gallaway & Hannah-Rae Meegan**
Accounts **Gita Sugiyanto**
Caretaker **Bing Barry**
Maintenance **Paul Craig**
Head Chef **Nathan Jackson**
Sous Chef **Ian Paul Aguilar Alarcon**
Restaurant Manager **Luke Nicola**

ENSEMBLE LIMITED BOARD

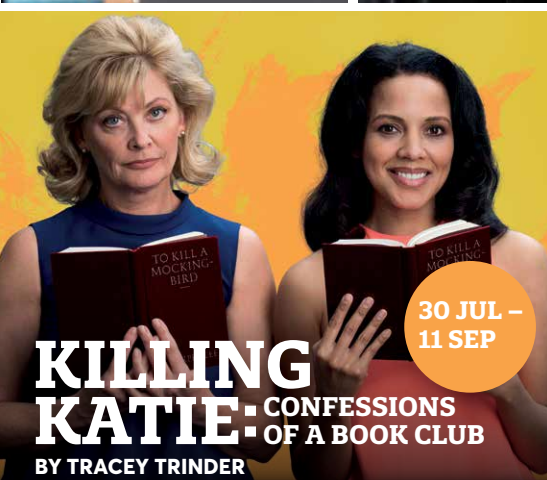
Chair **Graham Bradley AM, Hamish Balnaves,**
John Bayley, Narelle Beattie, Mark Kilmurry
Anne-Marie McGinty, James Sherrard

ENSEMBLE FOUNDATION BOARD

Chair **Paul Clitheroe AM, Diane Balnaves,**
Graham Bradley AM, Joanne Cunningham,
Ross Gavin, Emma Hodgman, Mark Kilmurry,
Victoria Pollard, Guy Reynolds AO, Margo Weston

ENSEMBLE AMBASSADORS

Todd McKenney, Brian Meegan, Georgie Parker
& Kate Raison



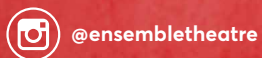
**BAY
LY'S**
BISTRO

Downstairs at Ensemble Theatre
Spectacular harbour views
Delicious food and wine



CONNECT WITH US

Join our mailing list at ensemble.com.au to receive our monthly e-newsletter packed with news, what's on and special offers plus a handy pre-show reminder email with details about your upcoming show.



(02) 8918 3400
ensemble.com.au
78 McDougall St, Kirribilli

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.