

# PHOTOGRAPH 51

BY ANNA ZIEGLER | DIRECTED BY ANNA LEDWICH

# **WELCOME**

Sometimes you come across amazing stories of amazing women and hope their story can be told. Anna Ziegler has done just that with her beautiful and clever play, PHOTOGRAPH 51, mapping out the incredible journey of scientist Rosalind Franklin, in an arresting theatrical storytelling style. I am thrilled we have Anna Ledwich directing this remarkable story, bringing together such a superb cast. Rosalind Franklin's courage and drive is an inspiration to all, fighting to be heard in a scientific world run by men. I hope you find this as incredible and as fascinating as I did when I first came across the play and take away a reminder of what can be achieved when you dedicate your life to unravelling the truth.

MARK KILMURRY ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

# **WRITER'S NOTE**

I was so thrilled to learn that PHOTOGRAPH 51 would be produced at the venerable Ensemble Theatre. I have yet to get to Sydney myself, but I'm glad one of my plays will precede me.

I very much hope you enjoy the play – this one is near and dear to my heart. I wrote it when I was in my 20s and it's taken me on an incredible and unpredictable journey, both around the world and into a previously inaccessible world of science. Because of this play I've met movie stars and stars of biochemistry and physics; most impactfully (and surprisingly) I met a number of the scientists depicted in the play and also many members of Rosalind Franklin's family. It's all been a gift. But I also can't forget that this play wouldn't exist if not for the incredibly inspiring scientist at its center, a woman whose life lends itself to drama in part because it ended so tragically. Needless to say I'd trade it all to bring her back.

**ANNA ZIEGLER** 

Ensemble Theatre proudly acknowledges the Cammeraigal 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.



# **DIRECTOR'S NOTE**

The story of Rosalind Franklin, and her pivotal role in unlocking the structure of DNA, has been dissected, debated, politicised and dramatised ever since that momentous discovery in 1953. The exact nature of her contribution has fuelled conflicting versions of events. Was she a woman at odds with the scientific patriarchy, or one half of a tragic mismatch, incapable of collaborating?

Did she unwittingly sideline her own contribution, or was she a victim of scientific skull-duggery? It depends on who you believe. Perhaps the truth lies between all of these things. Perhaps, as one of the characters in the play says: "It's the tricky thing about time, and memory. Whole worlds of things we wish had happened are as real in our heads as what actually did occur."

#### **ANNA LEDWICH**

# **SYNOPSIS**

It's 1951 and the race is on to unlock the secret to life. An ambitious young scientist, Rosalind Franklin, holds the key to decoding DNA and has a Nobel Prize worthy discovery within her reach.

Franklin's pioneering work using x-ray diffraction photography could lead to the biggest breakthrough in biological history. Hindered by her own perfectionism and rival scientists hot on her heels, Franklin grapples with the unjust consequences.

Inspired by true events, in a world dominated by men, Rosalind Franklin sacrificed her life in a relentless pursuit of science.

**RUNNING TIME** 90 MINS NO INTERVAL

REC. AGES 12+

#### **CAST**

TOBY BLOME JAMES WATSON
GARTH HOLCOMBE MAURICE WILKINS
ROBERT JAGO FRANCIS CRICK
AMBER MCMAHON ROSALIND FRANKLIN
JAKE SPEER DON CASPAR
GARETH YUEN RAY GOSLING

UNDERSTUDIES
JEREMI CAMPESE
MATILDA RIDGWAY
JEREMY WATERS

**CREATIVES** 

DIRECTOR ANNA LEDWICH
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR SOPHIE KELLY
SET & COSTUME DESIGNER EMMA VINE
LIGHTING DESIGNER TRUDY DALGLEISH
COMPOSER & SOUND DESIGNER

**JESSICA DUNN** 

STAGE MANAGER ERIN SHAW
COSTUME SUPERVISOR RENATA BESLIK
HAIR STYLIST LAUREN PROIETTI
DIALECT COACH LINDA NICHOLLSGIDLEY

### **SPECIAL THANKS**

Dr Christopher Marjo (University of New South Wales), Potts Point Vintage and Opera Australia.

ANNA ZIEGLER
PLAYWRIGHT

Anna Ziegler's plays include the widely produced PHOTOGRAPH 51 (West End, directed by Michael Grandage and starring

Nicole Kidman; named the number one play of 2019 by the Chicago Tribune; winner of London's WhatsOnStage Award for Best New Play; available on Audible; published in Bloomsbury's Modern Classics series), THE LAST MATCH (Roundabout; Old Globe; Writers Theatre), THE WANDERERS (Old Globe and upcoming at The Roundabout, winter 2023), ACTUALLY (Geffen Playhouse: Williamstown; Manhattan Theatre Club; Trafalgar Studios and many more; L.A. Ovation Award winner for Playwriting for an Original Play). She holds commissions from Roundabout Theatre Company, Second Stage Theatre and The Geffen Playhouse. Bloomsbury/Oberon Books has published a collection of her work entitled ANNA 7IFGLER: PLAYS ONE



ANNA LEDWICH DIRECTOR

Anna has worked extensively in the UK as a theatre director and writer. She was Resident Director at Chichester Festival Theatre

where she assisted Richard Eyre and received the Gate Theatre New Directions Award for her adaptation of LULU. Her work has been nominated for two Olivier Awards: Outstanding Achievement in an Affiliate Theatre for FOUR MINUTES TWELVE SECONDS and Best Comedy for DRY POWDER, both at Hampstead Theatre. Credits include COOKIES (Theatre Royal Haymarket); LABYRINTH (Hampstead); KISS ME (West End); BLUE REMEMBERED HILLS and A CHRISTMAS CAROL (both Chichester); DREAM STORY (Gate). Anna studied Creative Arts at VCA and Acting at Rose Bruford, London.





SOPHIE KELLY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Sophie is a recipient of the 2022 Ensemble Theatre Sandra Bates Director's Award. This year she worked as the Understudy Director

on A DOLL'S HOUSE, and Assistant Director/ Understudy Director on THE ONE. Outside of Ensemble, Sophie most recently directed Andy Griffith's JUST MACBETH! as a coproduction for Bell Shakespeare and the NSW Arts Unit. Her other directing credits include: JUST ROMEO AND JULIET for Bell Shakespeare's Players (2019-21 national tours); the highly acclaimed ATYP National Writer's Studio production, INTERSECTION: ARRIVAL (Griffin Theatre) and the Australian premiere of ATYP's Foundation Commission play, WONDERFLY. Sophie is also an Artist in Residence with The Sydney Opera House Creative Leadership in Learning Program. She is a graduate of VCA (Bachelor of Performing Arts (Acting)) and the University of Sydney Law School (LLB).



TOBY BLOME JAMES WATSON

Toby Blome is a graduate of NIDA's Bachelor of Fine Arts (Acting). His theatre credits include THERE WILL BE A CLIMAX (dir: Alexander

Berlage), A LITTLE PIECE OF ASH (dir: Megan Wilding), and HILTER'S DAUGHTER (dir: Sandra Eldridge) for Monkey Baa Theatre Company. He is also one half of the clowning duo RUDY & CUTHBERT, who have performed extensively in Sydney and at Melbourne's Southbank Theatre. Screen work includes Private 'Yank' Akell in Australian feature DANGER CLOSE, and Number 8, a main cast member in THE TWELVE currently airing on Foxtel. This is his Ensemble Theatre debut.



**GARTH HOLCOMBE**MAURICE WILKINS

Garth is a graduate of the National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA). Theatre highlights include: BLACK SUN/ BLOOD MOON

(Critical Stages), THE WOMAN IN BLACK, THE PLANT, TRIBES (Ensemble Theatre), ORLANDO (STC), SONGS FOR THE FALLEN (Old Fitz/New York/New Zealand/Sydney Festival), TREVOR (KXT), THE SENTIMENTAL BLOKE (Haves Theatre), BENT (Belvoir), THE PIGEONS (Griffin), WYNGARDE! (G.Bod), MAMMON INC (Singapore Arts Festival), AS BEES IN HONEY DROWN (Darlinghurst), THE BALD SOPRANO (Parade Theatres). Other productions include MR KOLPERT, A WOMAN OF NO IMPORTANCE, DON'S PARTY, CYMBELINE, CLOSER and DON JOHN OF AUSTRIA for the Sydney Symphony Orchestra. 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, ALL SAINTS & HEAD START.



ROBERT JAGO FRANCIS CRICK

Rob graduated from NIDA in 2003. As an actor his theatre credits include THE ODD COUPLE (The Ensemble), TARTUFFE and

MACBETH (Bell Shakespeare Company), THE CRUCIBLE, CYRANO DE BERGERAC, MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING (Sport for Jove Theatre Co.), STOP KISS (Unlikely Productions), ALIENATION (Perth Theatre Company), DEATH IN BOWENGABI (Merrigong Theatre Co), HITLER'S DAUGHTER (Monkey baa Theatre Co), RICHARD III (Siren Theatre Co), THE MERCHANT OF VENICE (Downstairs Belvoir) and CLOUD 9 (Relaxed and Comfortable Group/Darlighurst Theatre Co). Film credits include LITTLE MONSTERS, AUSTRALIA











and WOLVERINE. Television credits include AMAZING GRACE, WAKEFIELD, LOVE CHILD, ALL SAINTS, SCORCHED and HOME AND AWAY. He has directed MACBETH in a co-production for The Arts Unit and Sport for Jove Theatre, FIGHT WITH ALL YOUR MIGHT THE ZOMBIES OF TONIGHT written by Matthew Whitett and GIRLS LIKE THAT written by Evan Placey both for ATYP.



AMBER MCMAHON ROSALIND FRANKLIN

Amber trained at Flinders University Drama Centre, the Stella Adler Company and SITI Company in New York. Best known for her

work in theatre, her recent credits include; TOP COAT (Sydney Theatre Company). NORTH BY NORTH WEST (Kay and McLean Productions) STOP GIRL, ANGELS IN AMERICA (Belvoir) and ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF AN ANARCHIST (Sydney Theatre Company). She was a member of the STC Actors Company appearing in WAR OF THE ROSES, THE LOST ECHO, MOTHER COURAGE AND HER CHILDREN amongst others. Other selected theatre credits include: TRIBES and THE APPLETON LADIES' POTATO RACE for Ensemble Theatre, BLISS and PICNIC AT HANGING ROCK for Malthouse, which included two seasons at Royal Lyceum Edinburgh and Barbican London. She has received two Helpmann

Awards for Best Female in a Supporting Role one for GIRL ASLEEP for Belvoir/Windmill and SCHOOL DANCE ONE for Windmill.



#### **JAKE SPEER DON CASPAR**

Jake Speer is a graduate of NIDA. During his training Jake made a memorable impact as Richard in Shakespeare's RICHARD III, amongst other roles. Following graduation

Jake moved into a series regular role on Australia's highest rating drama series. HOME & AWAY playing Oscar Maguire. Further television credits include DROP DEAD WEIRD S2 and Netflix's CLICKBAIT. In 2017 Jake founded Kensington House Entertainment and committed to developing and producing unique screen and theatrical content. This includes the award-winning short film INSIDE WATER and a theatrical production of William Shakespeare's HENRY V which he both directed and played the title role. Jake's stage credits include CATCH ME IF YOU CAN for Haves Theatre, KINKY BOOTS for Michael Cassell, MARJORIE PRIME and BAREFOOT IN THE PARK (Ensemble Theatre), HAND TO GOD (The Alex Theatre) and THE GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR (regional tour). Film credits include BACKYARD ASHES directed by Mark Grentell



**GARETH YUEN**RAY GOSLING

Gareth Yuen's career spans theatre, film, radio and television across Australia, New Zealand and the United States. Early TV credits:

HEADSTART for ABC/Foxtel: 'Hop Sing' in PONDEROSA (US Cable TVs prequel to BONANZA), ROUND THE TWIST; NEIGHBOURS; KATH & KIM and many others. He then took a three year hiatus from the industry to attend NIDA. Since araduatina, he's been seen on UNDERBELLY: and globally as the 'Blue Ranger' in the inimitable U.S. action series, POWER RANGERS: OPERATION OVERDRIVE. and in the acclaimed feature film, THE JAMMED. Gareth has regularly performed and developed new work with Melbourne Theatre Company. Recently, Gareth was the understudy in Ensemble Theatre's production of THE ONE. As Director, Gareth won best play in the inaugural Collingwood 24-hour Play Festival. More recently: Malthouse Theatre's adaptation of Lars von Trier's MELANCHOLIA, and the pilot reboot of L.A. CONFIDENTIAL for CBS (USA). Currently he can be seen in HUNGRY GHOSTS on SBS.



JEREMI CAMPESE UNDERSTUDY

Jeremi Campese's theatre credits include: HAMLET, IN A NUTSHELL and THE PLAYERS in 2019 for Bell Shakespeare; ROMEO AND

JULIET for Sport for Jove: Lysicrates Prize for Griffin Theatre Company; STILL, I RISE for Darlinghurst Theatre Company; GODSPELL for Hayes Theatre; INTERSECTION: CHRYSALIS for ATYP/Griffin Theatre Company; A CLOCKWORK ORANGE, MOTH and OEDIPUS DOESN'T LIVE HERE ANYMORE for ATYP (nominated at 2017 Sydney Theatre Awards); YEN, ROSALINE and DNA for KXT Bakehouse: NOSFERATU: A FRACTURED SYMPHONY and IF THIS BE NOTHING for Montague Basement. He is also currently undertaking Sport for Jove's 2021-22 director mentorship program, through which he is assistant directing under Damien Ryan's tutelage.



MATILDA RIDGWAY UNDERSTUDY

Matilda is an award winning actor, theatre maker and arts educator. Her theatre credits include NORMAN CONQUESTS.

PROOF, SEMINAR, MY WONDERFUL DAY, BROOKLYN BOY and RUBY SUNRISE







(Ensemble Theatre); RULES FOR LIVING (STC); JASPER JONES, ARTISTS AT WORK and REP SEASON (Belvoir); HAMLET, HENRY IV and THE PLAYERS (Bell Shakespeare); THIS, THIS IS MINE (Corinthian Food Store); MERCHANT OF VENICE, THE CRUCIBLE, MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, A DOLL'S HOUSE and MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING (Sport for Jove); THE BITTER TEARS OF PETRA VON KANT, KAYAK, COCK and SPROUT (Old Fitzroy Theatre); PLATONOV and SWEET NOTHINGS (ATYP).



JEREMY WATERS UNDERSTUDY

Jeremy is the Artistic Director of Outhouse Theatre Co. For Outhouse, as producer/ actor: HEROES OF THE FOURTH TURNING, ULSTER

AMERICAN, THE FLICK (Seymour Centre), THE ALIENS and FOUR MINUTES TWELVE SECONDS (Old Fitz), BU21 (Old 505) & FOUR PLACES (Tap Gallery). In NYC: RIDE, MERCY THIEVES & THE BOYS. For Outhouse, as producer: JOHN, GLORIA (Seymour), TREVOR, DRY LAND (KXT). Other theatre credits: THE BIG TIME (Ensemble Theatre) DRESDEN (Bakehouse), A MAN WITH 5 CHILDREN (Darlinghurst Theatre Co), A GIRL WITH SUN IN HER EYES (Red Line). 5 PROPERTIES OF CHAINMALE (Griffin Independent), BONDI DREAMING (10 Alphas), LOBBY HERO (Dudley St Prods), HARVEST: JERUSALEM: THE PILLOWMAN (The New Theatre). Screen credits include YOUNG ROCK (NBC Universal), PIECES OF HER (Netflix), TOTAL CONTROL (BB Prods), JANET KING (Screentime), the acclaimed web series, JADE OF DEATH (Last Frame) and the feature films SWEET RIVER (ACM Films), THE COMBINATION REDEMPTION (Pinnacle) and I AM WOMAN (Goalpost).



EMMA VINE SET & COSTUME DESIGNER

Emma's stage credits include: THE SUGAR HOUSE Costume (Belvoir); JESUS WANTS ME FOR A SUNBEAM Design (NTOP/Belvoir);

THE OVERCOAT Design (Belvoir 25A); THE MAN WITH THE IRON NECK Costume (Legs on the Wall); TURQUOISE ELEPHANT Costume (Griffin); THE MYSTERY OF LOVE AND SEX Design (Darlinghurst Theatre); ONLY HEAVEN KNOWS Costume (Hayes); HEATHERS Set (National tour); THE WAITING ROOM and WATER ANGEL Design (Sydney Opera House); ALL GOOD THINGS Design (ATYP); THREE SISTERS Costume, (Sport for Jove). Emma's screen credits include: FAMILY COURT MURDERS Production Design (ABC); THREE THOUSAND YEARS OF LONGING Illustration, DEAD LUCKY Design Placement; WOLF LIKE ME Graphics.



TRUDY DALGLEISH LIGHTING DESIGNER

Trudy Dalgleish's many awards for Lighting Design include a Helpmann Award for WHITE DEVIL (Best Lighting Design, Theatre), an

'Entech' Award for Best Lighting Designer - Live Events, the John Truscott Design Award for EXCELLENCE, and two Green Room Awards (EUREKA and HAIRSPRAY). Trudy is Associate Lighting Designer for the Gordon Frost productions of SHREK, CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY and CINDERELLA around Australia. Recent lighting designs include THE WOMAN IN BLACK (Ensemble Theatre), CUNNING LITTLE VIXEN (Victorian Opera, West Australian Opera, State Opera South Australia), MACBETH (West Australian Opera), SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER (Gordon Frost Organisation), and IN THE HEIGHTS (Haves Theatre and Sydney Opera House).



JESSICA DUNN COMPOSER & SOUND DESIGNER

Jessica is a composer, sound designer, and performing musician who studied Music at the Sydney

Conservatorium of Music. Recent theatre credits include: as composer and sound designer for CHALKFACE (Sydney Theatre Company/State Theatre SA), A IS FOR APPLE (Griffin), TRESTLE (Legs on the Wall), IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG WITH THAT LADY? (Griffin), GIRL IN A SCHOOL UNIFORM WALKS INTO A BAR (KXT Bakehouse), and THE MARES (Tasmanian Theatre Company/10 Days on the Island): as sound programmer for JULIUS CAESAR (Sydney Theatre Company); as associate sound designer for WONNANGATTA (Sydney Theatre Company), RANDOM (Belvoir) and COUNTING AND CRACKING (Belvoir); as Composer's Assistant for HARP IN THE SOUTH PARTS I & II (Sydney Theatre Company); as Performing Musical Director for the 2017 and 2019 seasons of BARBARA AND THE CAMP DOGS (Belvoir); as bassist for SIX THE MUSICAL (LWA/Sydney Opera House). Jessica is also Artistic Director of SIRENS BIG BAND, who was awarded the 2020 APRA Arts Music Award for Best Performance for their work on BRIDGE OF DREAMS.



**ERIN SHAW**STAGE MANAGER

Erin is a graduate of the Technical Theatre and Stage Management course at NIDA. Erin has worked as a stage manager on LITTLE

BORDERS and LOVE, ME for The Old 505; MOTH for ATYP, FOLK, DIPLOMACY (plus NSW/Vic tour), AN INTIMATE EVENING WITH PAUL CAPSIS, KENNY (plus tour), HONOUR and UNQUALIFIED 2: STILL UNQUALIFIED for Ensemble Theatre, ECHOES OF THE JAZZ AGE Tour, and as assistant stage manager on DIPLOMACY, THE WIDOW UNPLUGGED OR AN ACTOR DEPLOYS, BABY DOLL, THE NORMAN CONQUESTS and KILLING KATIE:
CONFESSIONS OF A BOOK CLUB for Ensemble Theatre, and A ROOM OF ONE'S OWN and BLISS for Belvoir. Erin has also worked as a dresser on GIRL ASLEEP for Belvoir. Erin feels privileged to have worked with such an incredible team on this production and looks forward to the season.



**RENATA BESLIK**COSTUME SUPERVISOR

Renata graduated from NIDA in 2007 with a bachelor in Costume Production. She has supervised costumes on over twenty shows for

Ensemble Theatre most recently THE ONE. Other supervising credits: ORONTEA, PLATEÉ, APOLLO AND DAFNE, A DELICATE FIRE, FARNACE, THE RETURN OF ULYSSES, ARTASERSE, ATHALIA, THE CORONATION OF POPPEA, RAMEAU: ANACREON AND PIGMALION, THEODORA (Pinchaut Opera); BETTY BLOKK-BUSTER (Sydney Festival); FANGIRLS (Belvoir); HAMLET, HENRY V, THE WINTER'S TALE, MACBETH (Bell Shakespeare): THE GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR, STAY HAPPY KEEP SMILING, THE TEMPEST, WOYCECK, A LIE OF THE MIND, PORT, THE THREESOME (NIDA). Renata is also an accomplished costume maker and milliner.









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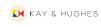
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BY HAROLD PINTER



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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.