



CREATIVE TEAM

Director Johann Walraven
Set Designer David Marshall-Martin

Lighting Designer Paris Bell

Costume Designer

Sound Designer

Clean Braithwaite

Nick Curpow

Dialect Coach Nick Curnow Fight Director Tim Dashwood

CAST (in order of appearance)

McLeavy Nicholas Papademetriou

Mrs McLeavy Ali Davies

Fay
Hal
Dennis
Truscott
Meadows

Shannon Ryan
Oliver MacFadyen
Andrew Waldin
Alexander Spinks
Saro Lepejian

PRODUCTION TEAM & CREW

Stage Manager Rosane McNamara

LX/SX Operators Ricci Costa, Atlas Andrews

Sarah Djurichkovic

Props Assistants Ella Rose, Zara Pittioni

Greg Maslen (wreaths)

Set Construction/Bump-in David Marshall-Martin

Tom Bannerman, Rodger Wishart Andrew Tucker, Stephen Kirby

Boris Kudryavstev, Mehran Mortezaei

Production Photography Bob Seary

Hero image: © Aleksandar Kosev/Adobe Stock

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the country on which we meet today, the Gadigal people of the Eora nation, and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

THE BEST SEATS - ON THE HOUSE!

We're looking for fun and friendly volunteers to join our Front of House team.

Work a couple of hours behind the bar, looking after our patrons,
and we'll give you free tickets to use for any New Theatre show.

FOH volunteers must hold a current RSA certificate.

INTERESTED? CONTACT OUR THEATRE MANAGER: MANAGER@NEWTHEATRE.ORG.AU



JOHN KINGSLEY 'JOE' ORTON PLAYWRIGHT (1933 - 1967)

On 10 August 1967, 34 year old Joe Orton's brains were beaten out with a hammer by his long-term partner, Kenneth Halliwell, who then killed himself with an overdose. At the time, Orton's gruesome death was more famous than his plays, but the brilliance of his plays far outshone the sensational headlines and they have now been appreciated for over half a century.

Orton's short life was as complex and outrageous as some of the material in his plays. "I never thought of myself as ordinary", he said. He was born into humble beginnings in Leicester, England. At fifteen he was considered

semi-literate; couldn't spell or put a sentence together and spoke with a local accent and a lisp. He set about educating himself - reading avidly, listening to classical music and joining an amateur dramatics group. At age 16 he wrote in his diary "My ambition is and has always been to act and act. To be connected with the stage in some way, with the magic of the Theatre and everything it means."

He took voice lessons, got rid of his accent and lisp and applied to RADA. He succeeded and started there in 1951. It was at RADA that he met Kenneth Halliwell. They became lovers and remained together for the rest of their lives. For several years neither of them had any success as a writer. They lived in a teeny flat in Islington and decorated its walls with illustrations stolen from library books. They also took to defacing the covers of the books in the library, for example pasting a nude on the cover of a book on etiquette by Lady Lewisham. In 1962 they were charged with malicious damage of 83 books and were sent to prison for six months. Orton emerged with renewed vigour, a different insight into society and a fresh outlook on his writing.

In 1964 his play Entertaining Mr Sloane opened with Sir Terence Rattigan calling it "the best first play he had seen in thirty odd years". Orton wanted to create visual and verbal anarchy and said in Sloane he "wanted to break down all the sexual compartments that people have". Orton followed up with Loot which was a flop in its first production. Orton put this down to lack of understanding of his intention. "Loot is a serious play. Unless it is directed and acted perfectly seriously the play will fail. A director who imagines that the only object is to get a laugh is not for me." The remount of Loot in 1966 was a huge success and it won the Evening Standard Award for best play of the year. Orton was suddenly in huge demand and sold the film rights to Loot. Between 1966 and 1967 Orton wrote The Erpingham Camp, The Good and Faithful Servant, Funeral Games and What The Butler Saw. He also wrote a screenplay for The Beatles, at the behest of their manager Brian Epstein, but it was never produced.

Orton's hallmarks as a playwright were black humour, deliberate bad taste, surreal situations and attacks on hypocrisy. His subversive nature helped him to stand out from his peers. He was a funny writer and full of life, but he was furious about society and sexual inequality. Farce allowed him to create characters that behaved with no thought for conventional morality, something that was to become his signature style and spawn a new literary term – 'Ortonesque'.

Helen Tonkin, Artistic Associate, 2023



JOHANN WALRAVEN DIRECTOR

Johann trained as an actor at NIDA, graduating in 2003. For New Theatre: Director, *The Removalists, Silent Disco, Consensual, The Chekhov Term*; as actor, *Dying For It, Hamlet, Features of Blown Youth.*Other directing credits include: *Relativity* (Riverside), *Never Let Me Go* (Griffin), *Buried* (Old 505), *This Boy's In Love* (Ensemble), *Ruby Moon* (Samsonite Productions), *Beyond Therapy* (King St Theatre), *Ado Saves The Gay World* (TRS), and as Assistant Director, *Travesties* (STC), *Miss Julie* (Darlinghurst TC). Acting credits include the role of 'Vincent van Gogh'

in Vincent in Brixton (Ensemble), The Rood Screen (Darlinghurst TC), Silence, Checklist for an Armed Robber (Belvoir), Dinner, Boy in Summer (Griffin), The Carnivores (TRS), As You Like It (Shakespeare Centre), Alaska (ATYP), Behind These Lines (The Tunnel Project), Angry Harriet (Drop Bear Theatre), Hamlet (Harlos), The Best Brothers (Old 505), One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest (Sport for Jove). Television performances include Fireflies, Home and Away, All Saints, Underbelly, Rescue Special Ops, Rake, and film includes the U.S feature Stealth, and numerous short films, plus TVC's and music videos.



DR DAVID MARSHALL-MARTIN SET DESIGNER

David is a Doctor of Philosophy in Theatre Arts from The Florida State University in Tallahassee Florida. David has been a professional theatre practitioner all his life, lecturing and teaching at many institutions as well as having been on the board of several theatre companies.

For New Theatre: Set Designer, Off the Record, Control, Beautiful Thing, Little Miss Sunshine, Australia Day, The Heidi Chronicles, Hay Fever; Costume Designer, Take Me Out; Set and Costume Designer, Lord of the Flies; Set and Lighting Designer, The Clean House; Costume Assistant,

The Women; Set and Props Designer, Dinkum Assorted; Lighting Designer, Angry Fags, Fucking Men; Director, The Ritz.

David is currently Wardrobe Coordinator for New Theatre. Additionally he is the Licensee for New Theatre and Honorary Secretary of New Theatre (Properties) Ltd.



PARIS BELL LIGHTING DESIGNER

Paris is a Sydney-based creative and tech, with a passion for writing, building, and all things electrical. They currently study Animation at JMC, and completed a Diploma of Live Production Design at TAFE Enmore. Professionally, they work as a tech at Monkey Baa Theatre Company, at FlightPath Theatre and in Staging at the Sydney Opera House.

For New Theatre: Sound Designer, Chimerica, The Other End of the Afternoon.

Other credits include Set Designer, Rhomboid (KXT), as well as writing and directing Alan Turing, Joan of Arc, and Vincent van Gogh Walk Into A Bar (SUDS).



KATHLEEN KERSHAW COSTUME DESIGNER

Kathleen is a set and costume designer working across Canberra and Sydney. She completed her studies at the National Institute of Dramatic Art in 2022, graduating with a Bachelor of Fine Arts, Design for Performance. For New Theatre: Debut.

Her credits while at NIDA include: Costume Designer, *Picnic at Hanging Rock*, Production and Costume Designer, *The Job I Took* (Sophisticated Dingo, as winners of the NIDA Triple J Music Video Competition), Set and Costume Designer, *Prem Patr*, with a second season at Jawahar Kala Kendra in Jaipur,

India. In 2023, Kathleen has designed both set and costumes for *Good Works* (Mill Theatre) and *You Can't Tell Anyone* (Canberra Youth Theatre).



GLENN BRAITHWAITE SOUND DESIGNER

Glenn is a live performance professional who specializes in directing. He trained at the Victorian College of the Arts and has over 30 years' experience in the performing arts industry. Glenn has worked in diverse roles including creative design, video design, stage management, sound design, acting, and tutoring.

For New Theatre: Assistant Director and Sound Designer, *The Spook*, Sound Designer, *Glengarry Glen Ross*, Associate Director and Costume Designer, *Beautiful Thing*.

Other credtis include: Sound Designer, Relativity, Babette's Feast (Joining the Dots Theatre Co), Shackleton's Carpenter (Strange Duck), The Caretaker (Throwing Shade Theatre Co), Hell Hole, Speak...easy; Video Controller and ASM, Chorus (Bontom), SM and Operator, Safe (Sotto Theatre Co); Assistant Director, Cosi (Zootango) and Much Ado About Nothing (MTC). In Canberra he taught, directed, devised and designed many of Perform Australia's productions over a five-year period, with his last production being Ruthless the Musical!. In Tasmania his directing credits include Beautiful Thing, La Serva Padrona, Big River, The Secret Garden, The Fantasticks, The Big Angst and Only Heaven Knows.



NICK CURNOW DIALECT COACH

Nick is an actor, director, and voice & dialect specialist with 20 years experience in the industry. He has coached extensively in film, television, and national and local theatre companies such as Sydney Theatre Company, Opera Australia, Company B Belvoir, Ensemble Theatre, STCSA, QTC, Red Line, and New Theatre. He has also worked extensively in voice over, and voice over training. He holds an MFA (Voice) from NIDA, Graduate Diploma from University of New England, BA (Performance) with Distinction from Western Sydney University (formerly Theatre Nepean, UWS), and is Australia's first Certified Teacher of the Miller

Voice Method (mVm).

For New Theatre: as actor, Jumpers for Goalposts, My Night With Reg, Enron, Take Me Out, Don Juan in Soho, Airsick, James and the Giant Peach, The Boys in the Band; as Dialect Coach, Broadway Bound, The Ritz, To Kill A Mockingbird, The Weir, as Director, Canary.

Other recent coaching credits include: Blaque Showgirls (Griffin), The Turn of the Screw (Tooth & Sinew), Fear Below (film), The Enforcer (film), Interceptor (film), Les Miserables (ECMT).

Nick currently teaches at the Actors Centre Australia. He has been a proud member of MEAA since 2002. Check out all his credits at www.nickcurnow.com



TIM DASHWOOD FIGHT DIRECTOR

Tim holds a Bachelor of Theatre Arts from the University of Southern Queensland, and is Certified by the Society of Australian Fight Directors incorporated.

For New Theatre: The Removalists.

Other theatre includes: The Importance of Being Earnest, The Tempest (associate), City of Gold, Julius Caesar, Death of a Salesman, No Pay? No Way!, Lord of the Flies (STC), Fourteen, Fantastic Mr Fox, Jane Eyre, George's Marvellous Medicine (shake & stir TC), Miss Saigon, Whiteley,

West Side Story on Sydney Harbour, Krol Roger, Faust (Opera Australia), Jailbaby (Griffin TC), Into the Woods (associate), Jungle & The Sea (associate), Tell Me I'm Here, Fangirls, Opening Night, The Life of Galileo (Belvoir), Girls in Boy's Cars (National Theatre of Paramatta), Gentlemen Prefer Blondes, Dubbo Championship Wrestling (Hayes TC), A Streetcar Named Desire (RedlineTC), Let The Right One In (Darlinghurst TC), One Hour, No Oil, Ate Lovia (Kwento), The Deb (ATYP), As Luck Would Have It (Merrigong TC), Ulster American (Outhouse TC), The Sweet Science of Bruising (Theatre Travels), Cyprus Avenue (Empress Theatre), Les Miserables (Packemin Productions), Rose Riot, Servant of Two Masters, Measure for Measure, Fallen (Sport for Jove), Arrival, War Crimes (Intersections), Macbeth (NSW Public Schools). Tim's acting work includes Fantastic Mr Fox, Animal Farm, Dracula, Wuthering Heights, George's Marvellous Medicine (shake & stir TC), The Graduate (Kay & McLean Productions), Richard III (Bell Shakespeare), A Chorus Line (understudy), Deathtrap (Darlinghurst TC), Fame: the Musical (Gordon Frost Organisation), Managing Carmen, The Odd Couple, Romeo & Juliet, Macbeth, Rabbithole, The Importance of Being Earnest, The Exception and the Rule (QTC), Packed (The Escapists), The Year Nick McGowan Came to Stay (La Boite).



ALI DAVIES MRS MCLEAVY

As a trained drama teacher (BA/Dip Ed, UNE), Ali has taught in regional and metro secondary schools, at Erskineville Public School, and the adult drama course at City East Community College. As a Widening Participation practitioner at UNSW and now at the University of Technology, Ali uses a variety of techniques including forum and verbatim theatre to develop programs for young and/or marginalized people to tell their stories and explore their potential. As a storyteller, Ali facilitated workshops with the team at The Story Factory, and loves the physical impro aspect of

Playback theatre and Theatre Sports. Her acting training includes NIDA short courses, Actors Centre Sydney, International Academy of Theatre, Italy, and Improv Theatre Sydney. For New Theatre: Debut. Ali is currently Assistant Director on our end-of-year production,

The Ballad of Maria Marten.

Other credits include: performing and directing political theatre for Community Aid Abroad and later Oxfam, gaining skills in Street Theatre and Community Engagement, and she directed and performed a local ensemble of *The Vagina Monologues*. She has also appeared in three short films for AFTRS.



SARO LEPEJIAN MEADOWS

Made in Syria, partly assembled in Armenia, and sent via express post to Sydney, Australia, Saro is a graduate of Actors Centre Australia's Bachelor program.

For New Theatre: Silver Gull Play Awards presentation night readings. Other recent credits include: *Gundog* (Secret House), *How to Defend Yourself* (Outhouse Theatre/Redline) and *Hit Me Baby* (Flight Path).

When he is not auditioning or battling the existential dread of capitalism, Saro spends his time playing the guitar and spending his life savings on

unnecessary purchases. He is repped by Benchmark Creative.



OLIVER MACFADYEN HAL

Oliver is originally from Newcastle and moved to Sydney to study acting. He graduated from Actor's Centre Australia's degree program in 2022.

For New Theatre: Debut.

Other recent credits include *The Removalists* and *The Shape* of *Things* (ACA Company). While training, he appeared in *Cosi, Kid Stakes, Anna Karenina, As You Like It, The Other Place, The Treatment* and *Cloud Nine*.

Oliver is repped by Loxton Management.



NICHOLAS PAPADEMETRIOU MCLEAVY

Since graduating from WAAPA (1984) Nicholas has worked extensively in all facets of the industry, although his main love is theatre.

For New Theatre: The Angry Brigade, Laughter on the 24th Floor, Tartuffe, Can't Pay, Won't Pay.

Nicholas has worked for all the major companies in Australia (including STC, MTC and Company B Belvoir) and has appeared in productions in London, Athens, New York and Edinburgh. Most recently he appeared as 'Einstein' in *Relativity* (Riverside) and acted in and directed *It's A Wonderful*

Life (Joining the Dots Theatre). His screen work is extensive, including a Best Supporting Actor Award for Dead, Not Dying from In Depth of Field International Film Festival, Los Angeles, roles in Death in Brunswick, MI-2, Significant Others, Home and Away and the lead role in ABC's Stringer,. Next year he will appear at the Ensemble Theatre in Uncle Vanya. Nicholas is repped by Liberty Artists.



SHANNON RYAN FAY

Shannon trained at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts where she completed a Bachelor of Arts in Acting.

For New Theatre: The Removalists.

Other theatre credits include: 'Beatrice' in *Much Ado About Nothing*, 'Viola' in *Twelfth Night* (Bar'd Work), *Cool Pool Party* (Ban Shakespeare). Recent screen credits include the short films *DUSTY* (Little Dusty productions) and *Boogey Man* (Gadunk Films), and the feature film *First Moon* (One Tree Productions).

During her time at WAAPA, Shannon was awarded the 2018 Shakespeare Award, and in 2019 was nominated for two BroadwayWorld Sydney Awards - Best Actress and Best Supporting Actress for her portrayal of 'Beatrice', and 'Viola', respectively.

Shannon is a proud member of MEAA.



ALEXANDER SPINKS TRUSCOTT

Alexander is an Actor's Centre Australia graduate of 2016. An actor, writer, director, producer, and casting director, Alexander has spent a decade in the industry in Sydney, and loves every part of it.

For New Theatre: Debut.

Other recent credits include: The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged [again]), produced with his own company Precipice Creative, The Woman and the Car (Ship's Cat TC), Much Ado (Attractive, Not Model Attractive) and Broccoli (O'Brien Films).



ANDREW WALDIN DENNIS

Andrew is a Sydney Theatre Awards nominated (Best Newcomer) actor and performer and holds a Diploma of Musical Theatre from NIDA and a Bachelor of Performing Arts from ACA).

For New Theatre: Debut.

Other recent credits include: *Nice Work If You Can Get It* (Michelle Guthrie Presents), *Gloom* (Epic Games), *Wakefield* (ABCTV), *Carols in the Domain* (Woolworths), *The Songs That Got Away* (Naidu Productions), *Arcadia* and *Hamlet* (ACA).

Andrew is the proud developer and head presenter of the program *Getting Into the Game of Life with Marnus Labuschagne* in conjunction with Beautiful Minds.



ROSANE MCNAMARA STAGE MANAGER

Rosane has Bachelor's and Master's degrees in English and Drama and she studied acting at the Ensemble Theatre with Hayes Gordon.

For New Theatre: as actor, Hard Times; as director, A Man for All Seasons, The Chapel Perilous, King Lear, Oh What a Lovely War Mate, Summer of the Seventeenth Doll, Entertaining Mr Sloane, Hay Fever, The Clean House, Broadway Bound, The Spook. She has also stage managed, production managed and operated lights/sound on many productions.

For other companies: as actor, Pride & Prejudice (Ensemble Rep); The Diary

of Anne Frank (Voices Theatre); as director, The Crucible (Ensemble Rep); Prelude to a Kiss (Belvoir Downstairs); and Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? (Voices Theatre). Rosane is a Life Member of New Theatre and currently serves as President.

Facebook: @NewTheatreSydney Insta: @newtheatresydney

ATLAS ANDREWS LX/SX OPERATOR

Atlas is currently training for the Certificate III in Live Production Services, and completing Year 11.

For New Theatre: Stage Manager, Banging Denmark, ASM, All My Sons.

Other credits include: Follow Spot Operator, *Ignite* (Riverside Theatre), Stage Crew, *Noir Cabaret* (Southern Cross), Lighting Assistant, *Aladdin Jr* (Marist Penshurst). They will soon be undertaking a work experience week at NIDA in Stage Management.

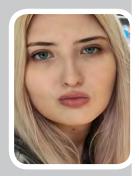


RICCI COSTA LX/SX OPERATOR

Ricci trained at NIDA.

For New Theatre: SX/LX Operator, Jumpers for Goalposts, Broadway Bound; SX Operator, Chimerica, The Spook, Glengarry Glen Ross, Picnic at Hanging Rock, Neighbourhood Watch, My Night With Reg, Next Lesson, The Elements of an Offence, Stupid Fucking Bird; LX Operator, Little Miss Sunshine, The Grapes of Wrath; SM, Collaborators, The Clean House; SM/SX Operator, Birdland; SM/cast, Marat/Sade; ASM/cast The Ritz; ASM/props, Dinkum Assorted.

Other credits: Assistant Costume/Set Designer, A Midsummer Night's Dream and Pericles



SARAH DJURICHKOVIC LX/SX OPERATOR

Sarah is a current student at the Academy of Film Theatre and Television completing a Bachelor of Arts in Acting, set to graduate in 2024. Prior to this, in 2022, she completed the Intermediate Short Screen Acting Course at Screenwise.

For New Theatre: Debut.

Her credits at AFTT include: *Spring Awakening, Cymbeline,* and *Red Thread* which she wrote and designed. She made her professional acting debut in 2022 as 'Bianca' in *Othello* (Such Stuff Productions) and

completed extra work in *Erotic Stories* (SBS).



COMING NEXT



WHO'S WHO AT NEW THEATRE 2023

STAFF

THEATRE MANAGER & PRODUCTION COORDINATOR Gemma Greer

PUBLICIST Alice Livingstone

TECHNICAL MANAGER Mehran Mortezaei

FRONT OF HOUSE MANAGERS Eddy S Dharmadji (Coordinator) Robyn Arthur

PLAY ASSESSORS

John Keightley (Coordinator)
Annie Bilton
Michael Briggs
Doug Cairns
Susan Jordan
Sahn Millington
Raymond Patman (Administrator)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PRESIDENT

Rosane McNamara

VICE PRESIDENT Elizabeth Ivory

TREASURER

Michael Pedersen

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR Louise Fischer

ARTISTIC ASSOCIATE Helen Tonkin

WARDROBE COORDINATOR & LICENSEE Dr David Marshall-Martin JP

PROPS COORDINATOR Robyn Arthur

PREMISES MANAGER Ole Borch

SECRETARY (EX-OFFICIO)
Gemma Greer

EMERITUS THEATRE CAT 'Mouse'

MANY THANKS TO NEW THEATRE'S PARTNER

SUMMER HILL WINE SHOP

If you are interested in becoming a New Theatre Partner, please contact our Theatre Manager to discuss your options: manager@newtheatre.org.au

MANY THANKS TO NEW THEATRE'S SUPPORTERS

Your donation to New Theatre, no matter how large or small, will make a very real difference, ensuring that we are able to continue the invaluable work that we do. New Theatre is vital to Sydney's cultural life, continually encouraging high standards of creativity and artistic excellence in our community and providing audiences with quality theatre that provokes, stimulates and entertains.

All donations of \$2 and above are tax deductible. To make a donation, please visit our website: newtheatre.org.au or contact manager@newtheatre.org.au

SPECIAL THANKS FROM THE 'LOOT' TEAM

Actors Centre Australia New Theatre Management Committee, staff and volunteers

NEW THEATRE MEMBERSHIP

If you want to join the New Theatre family, why not join our membership? For \$30 a year you receive the following benefits:

- regular members' newsletters keeping you up to date with all the theatre goss.
- Notice of all auditions via email plus a guarenteed audition if the part is right for you
- \$22 tickets to all productions
- Voting rights at company meetings and the eligibility to stand for Management Committee positions
- Use theatre facilities at discounted rates

IF YOU LIKE WHAT WE DO, HELP US DO WHAT WE DO

PLEASE CONSIDER:

NAMING A 'STEP' - \$150

MAKING A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION

LEAVING A BEQUEST

SPONSORING A PRODUCTION

CONTACT OUR THEATRE MANAGER TO DISCUSS YOUR OPTIONS MANAGER@NEWTHEATRE.ORG.AU