

# WIFE

BY SAMUEL ADAMSON



8 OCTOBER - 2 NOVEMBER 2024



# WIFE

## CREATIVE TEAM

Director  
Set Designer  
Lighting Designer  
Costume Designers  
  
Sound Designer  
Assistant Director

Darrin Redgate  
Dr David Marshall-Martin  
Jay Murrin  
Aibhlinn Stokes  
Burley Stokes  
Matthew Forbes  
Caroline L. George

## CAST (in order of appearance)

Suzannah  
Peter / Landlord / Ivar at 50  
Character Actress /  
Embassy Assistant / Marjorie  
Daisy / Clare  
Robert / Ivar at 28 / Finn  
Eric / Cas

Julia Vosnakis  
Pete Walters  
  
Alison Brooker  
Imogen Trevillion  
Will Manton  
Henry Lopez Lopez

## PRODUCTION TEAM & CREW

Production Coordinator  
Stage Manager  
ASMs  
  
LX/SX Operator  
Set Construction/Bump-in  
  
Production Photography

Gemma Greer  
Radhika Lal  
Carissa Quintana  
Guy Verge Wallace  
Alice-Rose Nolan Lucchetti  
David Marshall-Martin  
Tom Bannerman, Rodger Wishart  
Bob Seary

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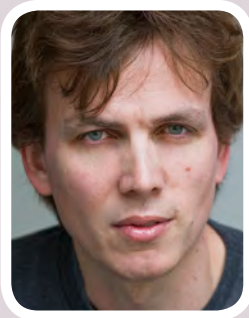
Hero image: © NeydtStock/Shutterstock

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.

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## SAMUEL ADAMSON PLAYWRIGHT

Samuel Adamson is an Australian playwright and screenwriter who has lived and worked in the UK since 1991. He was born in Adelaide in 1969 and lives in London.

His plays, musicals and adaptations include: *The Ballad of Hattie and James*, *Wife, Running Wild* (a children's theatre piece based on the book by Michael Morpurgo), *Gabriel* (created for the trumpeter Alison Balsom), *The Light Princess* (music by Tori Amos), *Southwark Fair* (National Theatre), *Mrs Affleck* (from Ibsen's *Little Eyolf*, National Theatre), *Breakfast at Tiffany's* (from the Truman Capote novella), *Frank & Ferdinand*, *Fish and Company*, *Clocks and Whistles*, *Drink, Dance, Laugh and Lie*, *Grace Note*, *Some Kind of Bliss* and *All About My Mother* (from Pedro Almodóvar's

film).

His versions of theatre classics include: Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya*, *The Cherry Orchard* and *Three Sisters*, and Ibsen's *Pillars of the Community* and *A Doll's House*.

He has worked with many of the leading directors of UK theatre, as writer and dramaturg/textual advisor, including Nicholas Hytner, Marianne Elliott, Dominic Dromgoole, Sean Matthias and Thea Shorrocks.

He is the recipient of the Kevin Elyot Award 2023 (supporting a writer-in-residence at the University of Bristol Theatre Collection). He was Artistic Associate on the Tony Award-winning stage adaptation of Michael Morpurgo's *War Horse* and writer-in-residence at the Bush Theatre in 1997-8. In 2019, he delivered the Annual Ibsen Lecture at the Centre for Ibsen Studies at the University of Oslo.

His adaptation of Peter Carey's Miles Franklin Award-winning novel *Jack Maggs* will be given its world premiere by the State Theatre Company South Australia in November 2024.

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Samuel Adamson's delicious script is full of layers, so many that I don't doubt different audience members will take different things away from the performances.

Adamson uses Ibsen's classic *A Doll's House* as a core and tips his hat to the power of theatre. In each of the four time-frames depicted in *Wife*, our characters have just witnessed a performance of Ibsen's play and each have been affected either positively or negatively as a result.

Central to *Wife* is the character of 'Daisy' in our first chapter set in 1959. The decisions Daisy makes here affect the lives of the following three generations right up to our final chapter set in 2042.

*Wife* is a moving piece of writing that depicts the struggles of queer people during that time and what society forced many to become. This alone was enough to draw me to the play. We are all, in some way, shaped by who has come before us and the struggles they had to endure. We should never lose sight of that and I'm so pleased that we have a play that reminds us to reflect and respect.

The Cast and Creative team on this project are exceptional, all have given everything they have to make this production special. I am humbled to have been able to share this experience with every single one of them. Enjoy the show, pay attention, be in the moment whether that moment is 1959, 1988, 2019 or 2042.

Darrin Redgate, 2024

## 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**



#### **DARRIN REDGATE DIRECTOR**

Darrin is an actor, director and producer, based in Sydney. He studied acting at both the University of Technology and the Australian Academy of Dramatic Art where he graduated with a Diploma. For New Theatre: Debut.

Darrin has run his own theatre company Boyslikeme Productions since 1993, producing theatre in Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide.. He was also a founding member of the queer radio program *Wild Gals* which ran from 1991 to 1994.

His acting credits include: *Ubu Roi, Annie's Coming Out, Gross Indecency, Seeing Things, Heir Raising, Next Fall, Love Valour Compassion, A Prehistoric Ritual* and *Boys In The Band*.

Directing credits include: *Retro Me, Seeing Things, Still At Risk, Next Fall, An Unseasonable Fall of Snow* and *Cock*.

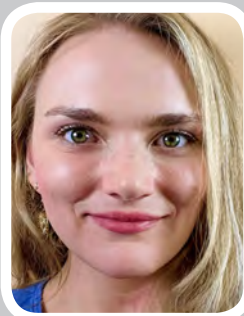


#### **DR DAVID MARSHALL-MARTIN SET DESIGNER**

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, *Loot, 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 Premises Manager for New Theatre. Additionally he is the Licensee for New Theatre and Honorary Secretary of New Theatre (Properties) Ltd.



#### **AIBHLINN 'AVIE' STOKES COSTUME DESIGNER**

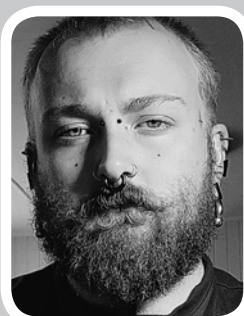
Avie is a Designer and Arts Educator. She studied Fine Arts (Printmaking/Textile Design) at UNSW Art & Design (UNSWAD) and has a Cert IV in Arts and Cultural Administration from TAFE NSW. She is currently freelancing across a variety of Costume and Art Department roles within theatre, film and television. Previously she taught Art and Textiles workshops at the Headland Park Artists Precinct.

Avie has a research-intensive and collaborative design process and a strong interest in how fashion history maps the connections of society, culture, technology and design. Her design work is informed by how each character might navigate the intersectional impact of gender, class, politics, economics, art, social movements, the media and manufacturing advancements on the textile design and fashion trends of their era.

For New Theatre: Costume Designer, *Ink, The Spook*.

For other companies: Assistant Production Designer on the short film *Diagnosis* (2020).

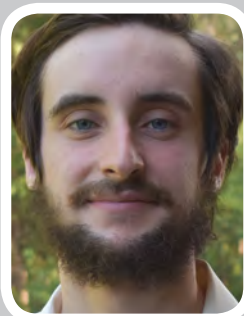
Exhibitions: *Dead/Centre* at UNSW Art & Design (2017), *Symbiosis* with the WasPrinted Collective at Chrissie Cotter Gallery (2018). Avie received an industry award for textile designs that were then featured in *Future Textiles Future Design* at AD Space (2018).



#### **BURLEY STOKES COSTUME DESIGNER**

Burley is a multidisciplinary artist, dressmaker, wig stylist, makeup artist, painter and drag performer with a Bachelor's Degrees in Applied Fashion, Illustration, and Pattern making. He has collaborated with artists such as legendary Club Kids James St James and Amanda Lepore and has been a performer and creative for 13 years. His areas of interest are in historical fashion and hair design as well as classical art.

For New Theatre: Costume Designer and Maker, *Ink*.



#### **MATTHEW FORBES SOUND DESIGNER**

Matt is a composer and sound designer living and working on Wallumettagal land.

For New Theatre: LX/SX Operator, *Ink*; musician, *One Man, Two Guvnors*.

Other theatre projects have included: *The New Stigma* (Milk Crate Theatre), *My Name is Rachel Corrie* (Sydney Acting Studio). He has written original scores for several short films, including the award-winning *Bare Bones* (dir. Yarno Rohling, 2021). Outside of his work in composition and sound, he plays bass in the band Finding Better Health and makes mashups strictly for his own amusement.



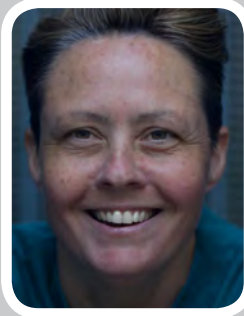
#### CAROLINE L. GEORGE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Caroline is an actor, writer, voice artist and presenter with training and credits from Sydney, London and Los Angeles.

For New Theatre: Debut.

Her varied and most recent work includes: Assistant Director, *Terminus* (Controlled Chaos Productions), and performing in *Prem Patr* (NtoP), *Darkness* (Newtheatricals), *The Marriage Agency* (KXT), *Three Fat Virgins Unassembled* (KXT) and the award-winning feature films *Risen*, *Lux in Tenebris* and *Breathe*. She has also appeared in commercials for Step One, LenovoPRO, Society One and Temple & Webster and can be heard on Audible as an audiobook narrator for *Lillian's Eden*, *I Can See Clearly Now* and *Weaving Words*.

Caroline is represented by Smith and Macdonald Creative Management.



#### ALISON BROOKER MARJORIE / EMBASSY ASSISTANT / CHARACTER ACTRESS

Alison is an emerging actor who was originally from the UK but has been living happily in Sydney as an Australian for over 14 years. Alison's passion for acting came late in life and by accident when two years ago she had a trial class at Sydney Acting Studio. The idea was to help her get a better understanding of characters to improve her writing skills, but the acting bug bit. She then trained with Kevin Jackson.

For New Theatre: Debut.

Alison recently landed her first acting job, on a short film.

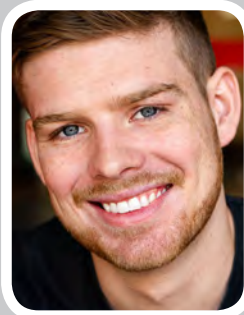


#### HENRY LOPEZ LOPEZ ERIC / CAS

Henry is a Colombian-Australian actor with a Bachelor of Dramatic Arts from Excelsia College. After completing his degree, he then continued developing his craft in California where he studied at the Los Angeles Performing Arts Conservatory, specialising in the Meisner Technique. Henry is also a passionate theatre maker with a particular focus on writing, physical theatre and singing. He is currently in the process of forming a production company with his partner.

For New Theatre: Debut.

Other credits include: *In the Heights* (PACA), *Some Things Change* (Sydney Fringe Festival), *Macbeth* (Excelsia College) and *The Way You Move* (Wavelength Productions).



#### WILL MANTON ROBERT / IVAR AT 28 / FINN

Since graduating from ACA in 2020 with a Bachelor of Acting, Will has featured in several theatre productions around Sydney.

For New Theatre: *Beautiful Thing*.

For other companies: *'Tis a Pity She's a Whore* (The Company/Flow Studios), *The Removalists* (ACA). He is currently working on a short film that will be shooting in October.



#### IMOGEN TREVILLION DAISY / CLARE

Imogen has had continuous and extensive acting training since she was very young. She recently graduated from Queensland University of Technology with a Bachelor of Fine Arts (Acting).

For New Theatre: Debut.

For other companies: *Three Sisters* and *Dinner* (QUT). Imogen also performed in numerous plays as a member of Queensland Theatre's Youth Ensemble, and has appeared in various short films and two independent feature films, *Hood Safari* (dir Jake Moss) and *Mr Red Bean* (dir Tony Chu).

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**<http://newtheatrehistory.org.au>**



#### **JULIA VOSNAKIS SUZANNAH**

Originally from Adelaide, Julia graduated from Flinders University Drama Centre, where she was awarded the prestigious Flinders University Medal for her excellence in performance. She co-founded The Corseted Rabbits theatre company, co-producing and starring in *Di and Viv* and *Rose* (RUMPUS Theatre).

For New Theatre: Debut.

Other credits include: *Amphibian* (Windmill Theatre), *Anatomy of a Suicide*, *Top Girls*, and *Testosterone*, and Bina Bhattacharya's feature film *From All Sides*. Inspired by her background, she has written the Greek-centred rom-com *The Disappointments*, which is currently in development under Bina Bhattacharya's mentorship, with plans for Julia to produce and star in the project. Julia is represented by Diana Stenta – Icon Artist Management.



#### **PETE WALTERS PETER / IVAR AT 50 / LANDLORD**

Pete is a graduate of the The Sydney Acting School, with further study at the Upright Citizens Brigade New York, and over the years has gravitated towards theatre .

For New Theatre: *Poor Superman*, *Translations*, *Fucking Men*, *The Viagra Monologues*.

Pete has also had guest appearances in a number of Australian television series: *All Saints*, *Water Rats*, *Home and Away*, *Farscape*, *Heartbreak High*.



#### **RAHDIKA LAL STAGE MANAGER**

With her recent relocation back to Sydney, Radhika brings her stage management experience from Vancouver, Canada.

For New Theatre: Debut.

Radhika's Sydney shows as a Stage Manager this year are: *The Arrogance* and *The 39 Steps*. Notable shows in Vancouver include: *The Catering Queen*, *Under Milk Wood*, Assistant Stage Manager: *Catfish* (rEvolver Festival and Vancouver Fringe Festival). Radhika also has a background in Stand-up comedy and Improv.



#### **CARISSA QUINTANA ASM**

Carissa grew up in the Philippines. She and her husband recently moved to Sydney and enjoy exploring nature together. She works in the sustainability field, trying to help solve some big problems. Outside of work, Carissa's interests include nature, animals, books, and musicals.

For New Theatre: Debut.



#### **ALICE-ROSE NOLAN LUCCHETTI LX/SX OPERATOR**

With a passion for theatre and sound since childhood, she pursued a Music and Sound Design degree, graduating from The University of Sydney Technology. Her education led her to enriching experiences, including crafting immersive sound design for the podcast *Sounds of Reason* and executing digital audio campaigns for podcasting at the Australian Radio Network

For New Theatre: LX/SX Operator, *Ink*.

#### **GUY VERGE WALLACE ASM**

Guy has worked in animation, motion graphics and education. He is a passionate Muai Thai boxer and avid reader.

For New Theatre: Debut.

**COMING NEXT**

# SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE

**BASED ON THE  
SCREENPLAY**

**12 NOV - 14 DEC**



## **WHO'S WHO AT NEW THEATRE 2024**

### **STAFF**

THEATRE MANAGER &  
PRODUCTION COORDINATOR  
Gemma Greer

PUBLICIST  
Alice Livingstone

TECHNICAL MANAGER  
Mehran Mortezaei

FRONT OF HOUSE MANAGERS  
Eddy S Dharmadji (Coordinator)  
Marica Fumanti  
Harlee Timms

### **PLAY ASSESSORS**

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

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

PRESIDENT  
Rosane McNamara

VICE PRESIDENT  
Elizabeth Ivory

TREASURER  
Michael Pedersen

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR  
Louise Fischer

ARTISTIC ASSOCIATE  
Margaret Thanos

LITERARY MANAGER  
Helen Tonkin

PREMISE MANAGER & LICENSEE  
Dr David Marshall-Martin JP

SECRETARY (EX-OFFICIO)  
Gemma Greer

EMERITUS THEATRE CAT  
'Mouse'

## *MANY THANKS TO NEW THEATRE'S PARTNERS*

SUMMER HILL WINE SHOP

YOUNG HENRYS BREWERY NEWTOWN

If you are interested in becoming a New Theatre Partner, please contact our Theatre Manager to discuss your options: [manager@newtheatre.org.au](mailto: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](http://newtheatre.org.au) or contact [manager@newtheatre.org.au](mailto:manager@newtheatre.org.au)

## *SPECIAL THANKS FROM THE 'WIFE' TEAM*

Benjamin Purser, Anna Greer and Gry Finstad-Pederson for assistance with the Norwegian language and accents.

Fabric supplied by The Fabric Store Newtown

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 guaranteed audition if the part is right for you
- \$25 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](mailto:MANAGER@NEWTHEATRE.ORG.AU)**