



Belvoir presents

Every Breath

Written & Directed by
BENEDICT ANDREWS
Set & Costume Designer
ALICE BABIDGE
Lighting Designer **NICK SCHLIEPER**
Composer **OREN AMBARCHI**

With
JOHN HOWARD
SHELLY LAUMAN
ELOISE MIGNON
ANGIE MILLIKEN
DYLAN YOUNG

BELVOIR ST THEATRE | UPSTAIRS
24 MARCH – 29 APRIL

In 2012, critically acclaimed Australian theatre and opera director **Benedict Andrews** will add another title to his résumé: playwright. Andrews is making a highly anticipated return to **Belvoir** to direct his own play, *Every Breath*, for its world premiere.

Andrews has created dozens of thrilling productions in an internationally successful career. He has been the recipient of numerous Best Director awards, both in Sydney and Europe. As well as *Every Breath*, Andrews' *The Marriage of Figaro* for **Opera Australia** is now playing at the

Sydney Opera House, *Gross und Klein* (**Sydney Theatre Company**) is set to tour Europe, and his production of *Caligula* opens in May at the **English National Opera**. Despite such an international focus, Andrews relishes the opportunity to return to Belvoir. 'I always enjoy returning to Belvoir,' he says. 'I love the theatre's special intimacy... I'm very pleased that *Every Breath* will come into the world there...'

Every Breath features a stellar cast. Popular screen actor **John Howard** returns to the Sydney stage for the first time in over a decade, alongside **Angie Milliken**, who also returns to the Sydney theatre scene for the first time in nearly as long. **Shelly Lauman** (*As You Like It*) treads the Belvoir boards once again and is joined by **Eloise Mignon** (*The Wild Duck*) and **Dylan Young** (*The Seagull*).

In the world of *Every Breath*, Chris, the security guard, stands by the swimming pool at night, guarding a seemingly privileged family from an unseen threat. Husband, wife, son and daughter are all inexplicably drawn to their protector, and with each interaction, their needs and insecurities are laid bare.

Disturbing, humorous and eerily familiar, *Every Breath* is a play about need, human interaction, and the complexity and fragility of life. 'The meeting [of the characters] causes a kind of slow motion explosion,' says Andrews. 'A volatile chemical reaction that changes them all radically... *Every Breath* is also a play about writing and that perhaps gives it a special atmosphere – something hermetic – a rarefied, perfumed air.'

With an energetic and talented cast and crew, and Benedict Andrews at the helm, *Every Breath* will enthral Sydney audiences; a highly anticipated fable about privilege and desire.

NOTES FOR EDITORS

Please note rehearsals for *Every Breath* are taking place in Melbourne.

SEASON INFORMATION

Dates 24 March – 29 April 2012

Previews Saturday 24 & Sunday 23 March 2012

Opening night Wednesday 28 March 2012

Sunday Forum Sunday 22 April 3pm

Times Tuesday 6.30pm | Wednesday to Friday 8pm | Saturday 2pm & 8pm | Sunday 5pm | Wednesday 18 April 2pm

Tickets Full \$62 | Seniors (excluding Fri/Sat evenings) \$52 | Concession \$42

Venue Belvoir St Theatre | 25 Belvoir St, Surry Hills

Bookings 02 9699 3444 or belvoir.com.au

BELVOIR INFORMATION

The name of our company is **Belvoir**, not the Belvoir, Belvoir Theatre or Belvoir Theatre Company. Belvoir St Theatre is our venue.

BIOGRAPHIES**BENEDICT ANDREWS** Writer & Director

For Belvoir **Benedict** has adapted and directed *The Seagull* and *Measure for Measure*, and directed *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, *The Chairs*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *The Threepenny Opera*. His other directing credits include Monteverdi's *Return of Ulysses* at the Young Vic in London, a co-production with the English National Opera; *King Lear* (National Theatre of Iceland); *Gross und Klein*, *The War of the Roses*, *The City*, *The Season at Sarsaparilla*, *Julius Caesar*, *Far Away*, *Endgame*, *Life is a Dream*, *Old Masters*, *Three Sisters* with Beatrix Christian, *La Dispute*, *Mr Kolpert*, *Attempts on Her Life*, *Fireface* (Sydney Theatre Company); *The Marriage of Figaro* (Opera Australia); *Moving Target* (Malthouse Theatre/Adelaide Festival); *Eldorado* (Malthouse Theatre); *Ur/faust* (Weimar 99/Adelaide Festival); *Closer* (State Theatre Company of South Australia); *A Dream Play*, *Mojo* (Brink Productions); *Saved*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *The Dog*, *The Night*, *The Knife*, *Cleansed*, *Drunk Enough to Say I Love You*, *Stoning Mary*, *The Ugly One*, *Blackbird* (Schaubühne am Lehniner Platz, Berlin) and *The Eternity Man* (Almeida Theatre, London). Benedict's other adaptations for the stage include *The War of the Roses* (with Tom Wright), *Life is a Dream* (with Beatrix Christian) and *The Three Sisters*. From 2000 to 2003 Benedict was the Resident Director at Sydney Theatre Company and in 1997 was the Artistic Director of Magpie 2 Theatre at State Theatre Company of South Australia. *The Seagull* was nominated for four 2011 Sydney Theatre Awards. *Measure for Measure* received three Sydney Theatre Awards, including Best Direction and Best Mainstage Production, and was nominated for three Helpmann Awards. *The War of the Roses* received six Helpmann Awards and five Sydney Theatre Awards. Benedict was awarded the 2008 Green Room Award for Best Director for *The Season at Sarsaparilla*, 2005 Sydney Myer Performing Arts Award, 2000 Helpmann Award for Best Director for *La Dispute* and was the recipient of Gloria Payten and Gloria Dawn Foundation Fellowships in 1998.

ALICE BABIDGE Set & Costume Designer

Since graduating from NIDA's design course in 2004, **Alice** has designed costumes and sets for theatre, opera, film and TV. She was resident designer at Sydney Theatre Company for two years. For Belvoir Alice created the costumes for *Babyteeth*, *That Face*, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, *Parramatta Girls* and *Capricornia*. Her other costume credits include *Gross und Klein*, *True West*, *The Trial*, *Honour*, *The War of the Roses*, *The Season at Sarsaparilla*, *The Lost Echo*, *Boy Gets Girl*, *Julius Caesar* (Sydney Theatre Company). Alice designed both sets and costumes for *The White Guard*, *Next Stage Shorts*, *The Oresteia*, *The Women of Troy* (Sydney Theatre Company); *Self Esteem* (Wharf 2LOUD); *King Tide*, *The Nightwatchman*, *The Peach Season*, *Strangers in Between* (Griffin Theatre Company); *Weather* (Railway Street Theatre Company); *The Drowned World* (Darlinghurst Theatre); *Jumping and All That* (Big Shoes Theatre Company); *The Share*, *The Hour Before My Brother Died* (Old Fitzroy Theatre) and the opera *The Navigator* (2008 Brisbane Festival). She created the sets for *The Mysteries*, *The Year of Magical Thinking* and *The Wonderful World of Dissocia* (Sydney Theatre Company). Alice has designed music video clips for artists such as The Mess Hall, End of Fashion and You Am I, and works on film projects and TV commercials with Cherub Pictures. She most recently co-designed the costumes for the feature film *Snowtown*. Alice's work also includes costumes for the operas *Caligula*, *The Return of Ulysses* (English National Opera); *Rigoletto* (Komische Opera, Berlin); and *Bliss* and *The Marriage of Figaro* (Opera Australia). Alice received a 2011 Sydney Theatre Award for Best Costume Design for *Gross und Klein*.

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JOHN HOWARD

John graduated from NIDA in 1978 and his career has seen him work on the stage, in cinema and television. For Belvoir he has appeared in *A Doll's House* and *Ramaz 'Gala' Performance*. His other theatre work includes *The Cherry Orchard*, *The Life and Adventures of Nicholas Nickleby*, *Measure for Measure*, *The Philadelphia Story*, *Rivers of China*, *The Crucible*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Coriolanus*, *Dead White Males*, *The Life of Galileo*, *Mongrels*, *The Recruit* (Sydney Theatre Company); *Mourning Becomes Electra*, *Nothing Sacred* (Melbourne Theatre Company); *On Our Selection*, *King Lear* (Nimrod Theatre); *King Lear*, *The Seagull*, *The Rover* (State Theatre Company of South Australia); *Top Silk*, *Gift of the Gorgon* (Queensland Theatre Company); *God's Best Country* (West Australian Theatre Company); *Peer Gynt* (Anthill Theatre); *Mongrels* (Ensemble Theatre); *The Incorruptible* (Playbox Theatre); and *Rising Water* (Black Swan Theatre Company). John was appointed Associate Director of the Sydney Theatre Company in 1992, and also adapted and directed Kenneth Slessor's poetry for the company's HSC Program, *Cuckooz Country*. His films roles include *Razorback*, *Young Einstein*, *Evil Angels*, *Dating the Enemy*, *Blackrock*, *In a Savage Land*, *The Man Who Sued God*, *Take Away*, *Japanese Story*, *A Man's Gotta Do*, *Jindabyne* and most recently *Any Questions for Ben?* For TV, John has appeared in *A Country Practice*, *Flying Doctors*, *Blue Heelers*, *Wildside*, *Heartbreak High*, *SeaChange*, *Water Rats*, *Stingers*, *All Saints*, *Always Greener*, *Packed to the Rafters* and *City Homicide*; and the miniseries *A Town Like Alice*, *Changi* and *Jessica*. John was awarded a Sydney Critics' Circle Award for Best Stage Actor in 1991 and won a Silver Logie for his work on *SeaChange*.

SHELLY LAUMAN

Shelly works as an actor, writer and theatre-maker. She trained at the Victorian College of the Arts (Bachelor of Dramatic Art, Acting), graduating in 2005. Previously for Belvoir she has appeared in *As You Like It*. She has also appeared in productions for Sydney Theatre Company, Malthouse Melbourne, Queensland Theatre Company and Melbourne Theatre Company. Shelly is a core collaborator with the multi-award winning Melbourne-based company The Hayloft Project. Her work with Hayloft includes *3XSisters*, *Spring Awakening*, *The Suicide* and *The Only Child*. Shelly has recently been commissioned by Bell Shakespeare Company to write and develop the solo show *A Piece of Him*, as part of their artistic development arm Mind's Eye. Shelly has been a proud member of Equity since 2005.

ELOISE MIGNON

Previously for Belvoir, **Eloise** has appeared in *The Wild Duck*. Other stage credits include *Return to Earth* (Melbourne Theatre Company), *The Grenade* (Melbourne Theatre Company/Sydney Theatre Company); *In a Dark Dark House* (Red Stitch Theatre Company); *Rubeville* (The Black Lung Theatre and Whaling Company); *The Jaundice Table*, *As I Like You*, *The Desert* and *Entrails* (Oubykh Theatre). For television Eloise has been a regular in *Neighbours*, *Silversun*, *The Legacy of the Silver Shadow* and had a guest role in *City Homicide*. She also appeared in the feature film *Three Blind Mice*.

NICK SCHLIEPER Lighting Designer

Nick has designed lighting for all of the major performing companies in Australia, and works regularly in Europe. For Belvoir Nick's credits include *Measure for Measure*, *Lulu*, *Black Mary* and *The Unexpected Man*. Among his many other theatre credits are *Gross und Klein*, *Baal*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *The Wars of the Roses*, *The Wonderful World of Dissocia*, *Elling*, *The City*, *The Serpent's Teeth*, *Blackbird*, *The Season at Sarsaparilla*, *A Kind of Alaska*, *Reunion*, *Hedda Gabler*, *Victory*, *Endgame*, *The Three Sisters*, *Don Juan*, *Cyrano de Bergerac*, *A Delicate Balance*, *Les Parents Terribles*, *Pentecost*, *As You Like It*, *Threepenny Opera* (Sydney Theatre Company); *Richard III*, *Hamlet*, *Ninety*, *The Glass Soldier*, *Cyrano de Bergerac*, *Two Brothers*, *The Visit*, *Inheritance*, *Great Expectations*, *The Tempest*, *Comedy of Errors* (Melbourne Theatre Company); *'Tis Pity She's a Whore*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Marat/Sade* (State Theatre Company of South Australia); *Good Works* (and set design), *XPO* (Queensland Theatre Company); *King Lear*, *Hamlet*, *Othello*, *Troilus and Cressida* (Bell Shakespeare Company). Other productions include *Priscilla, the musical* and *Love Never Dies*. Nick's work in Europe includes productions for The Royal Shakespeare Company and the State Theatres of Berlin, Hamburg and Munich as well as productions in Vienna, Stuttgart and Theatre Clwyd in Wales. For opera his work includes *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Don Giovanni*, *Rinaldo*, *Nabucco*, *Tannhäuser*, *Il trovatore*, *Der Freischütz*, *L'elisir d'amore*, *Andrea Chénier*, *Falstaff* and The Abduction from *Seraglio* (Opera Australia); *The Flying Dutchman*, *Faust*, *Madam Butterfly* (Victorian State Opera); *The Ring Cycle* (also Associate Set Designer), *Parsifal* and *Salome* (State Opera of South Australia); *Don Giovanni* (and set) (Opera Queensland); *Macbeth* (and set) (Opera NZ); *Billy Budd*, *Midsummer Night's Dream* (Hamburg State Opera); *Tales of Hoffmann* (Wiesbaden). Nick has received four Green Room Awards, two Sydney Critics' Awards and Helpmann Awards in 2004 and 2009. Nick won both Best Stage Design and Best Lighting Design for *Baal* at the 2011 Sydney Theatre Awards.

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DYLAN YOUNG

Dylan made his Belvoir debut in *The Seagull*. He has performed in *Avast I* and *Avast II – The Welshman Cometh* (co-produced with Malthouse Theatre), *Rubeville* and *Sugar*. For The Hayloft Project he has performed in *Spring Awakening* and *B.C.* (co-produced with the Victorian Arts Centre/Full Tilt), *Fake Porno* (Brisbane Power House/ Ride On Theatre) and *Moth* (Malthouse Theatre/Arena Theatre Company/Sydney Opera House). For film and TV, Dylan's credits include *The Pacific* (HBO), *Rush* (Ten/Southern Star) and *Don't Be Afraid of the Dark* (Miramax). *Moth* earned him a 2010 Green Room Award nomination for Best Actor. Dylan also won Best Actor at the 2006 Melbourne Fringe Festival for his work in *Rubeville*.