

COMPANY B

BELVOIR ST THEATRE

25 BELVOIR STREET SURRY HILLS NSW 2010

EMAIL mail@belvoir.com.au WEB www.belvoir.com.au

ADMINISTRATION (02) 9698 3344 FACSIMILE (02) 9319 3165 BOX OFFICE (02) 9699 3444

JOSEF BER
Mark Courtney, Norman Nicholas,
Peter Macourt

ROY BILLING
George Piggins, Alan Jones,
Robert Taylor, Justice Finn,
Phillip Pike

WAYNE BLAIR
Nicholas Pappas, Danny Munk,
Eric Simms, Alan Catt

TYLER COPPIN
Andrew Denton, Roger Harvey,
John Hartigan, Tom Cocking

JULIE HAMILTON
Barbara Selby, Eileen McLaughlin,
Mike Gibson, Freya Courtney

JODY KENNEDY
Marcia Seebacher, Josh Kemp,
Bronte Courtney, Bradley Hunt

RUSSELL KIEFEL
Denis Fitzgerald, Norm Lipson,
Alan Jones, Greg Wilkinson

ELIZA LOGAN
Nolene Piggins, Caroline Jones,
Rupert Murdoch, P. Geraghty,
Norm Mearns

GEORGINA NAIDU
Helen Grasswill, Cindy Hawkey,
Rupert Murdoch, Jeff Cook,
Natasha (Tasha) Lawrence

ALEX SIDERATOS
Jimmy La Hood, Ian Heads,
Mike Cleary, Brian Raynor,
Robert Corra, Barry Murray,
Anyia Courtney

SET DESIGN
Brian Thomson

COSTUME DESIGN
Genevieve Dugard

LIGHTING DESIGN
Mark Howett

SOUND DESIGN
Jeremy Silver

RUN RABBIT RUN



COMPANY B PRESENTS

RUN RABBIT RUN

Written by
ALANA VALENTINE
Directed by
KATE GAUL

STAGE MANAGER KYLIE MASCORD
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER
GEORGINA (BABS) TABSLEY
ORIGINAL MUSIC MICK THOMAS
DRAMATURG CHRIS MEAD
DIRECTING MENTOREE JESSICA SYMES
DESIGN ASSISTANT NICHOLAS DARE
REHEARSAL ROOM OBSERVER
ANDREW FILMER
GRAPHIC DESIGN DE LUXE & ASSOCIATES
COMPANY B PHOTOGRAPHER
HEIDRUN LOHR

SPECIAL PRODUCTION THANKS TO:
TRANSCRIBERS - OFFICE ASSIST,
CONSTRUCTION, FORESTRY, MINING AND
ENERGY UNION (CFMEU), SOUTH SYDNEY
JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE CLUB, MARCIA
SEEBACHER, SOUTH SYDNEY RABBITOHS.

PLEASE NOTE: PARTIES INTERVIEWED
FOR THE PURPOSE OF WRITING *RUN
RABBIT RUN* HAD NO ROLE IN PRODUCING
THE PLAY AND SPECIFICALLY DISAVOW
ANY INVOLVEMENT AND RESPONSIBILITY
IN RELATION TO ITS PRODUCTION.

COVER PHOTO: JULIE HAMILTON.

'yes'
OPTUS
CORPORATE PARTNER

**Arrive
alive**
PRODUCTION PARTNER

The company B presentation of
Run Rabbit Run
opened at Belvoir St Theatre on
Wednesday 7 January, 2004.



WRITER'S NOTE

All the words in 'Run Rabbit Run' are verbatim from interviews with the people in this story, or from transcripts on the public record – from court transcripts, newspapers and Annual reports. This play is a drama of both what these people said and how they said it, capturing the rhythms and music of the Australian vernacular.

It is also very much my version of the events, arranged and edited to elucidate the themes that I think that this story evokes and explores. It is not a definitive history of the politics of sport, it is certainly not a definitive history of the politics of the South Sydney Rugby League Club. It has not been my priority to write about whether Souths are a good team, whether they deserved to be in the NRL, or even what their struggle says about the corporatization of sport. It has been my ambition to look at the aspects of our Australian nature that this story reveals – the contradictions, the obsessions, the passions and the pain and to draw from them a story for which the struggle around Souths is simply the lens through which we might view something infinitely more complex and confronting about ourselves.

Neil Armfield, in introducing the 2003 season wrote about 'the complications of empathy: perhaps the most valuable of all human capacities'. It is my hope that

this play will make the Belvoir audience – both passionate sports fans and those who have never been to a Rugby League game in their life (and even secretly detest all sport) –

empathise with people who may be their most unlikely soul mates ever.

My thanks go to all the interviewees and copyright holders who have given me permission to use their words in my play, to Neil and Rachel and all at Company B for their encouragement and

enthusiasm for this project, to everyone who has assisted my research, to Chris Mead, Kate Gaul and the cast and crew for their incredible work to bring the play to the stage, to Brian Thomson for his astonishing set, and to Sharne MacDonald and Vicki Gordon for their consistent genius in Valentine-wrangling. And finally thank you to the people of South Sydney and all the many other places where Souths fans lurk for enacting a contemporary miracle on Belvoir's doorstep.



Alana Valentine, 2003

TIMELINE

OCTOBER 10, 1999 'Reclaim the Game' downtown Sydney rally draws 40,000 supporters onto the streets in the biggest political sporting rally in history.

OCTOBER 15, 1999 Souths receive news that they have been culled from the Rugby League Premiership after 92 seasons.

DECEMBER 8, 1999 Justice Peter Hely dismisses Souths application for an injunction for readmission to the 2000 Premiership.

JUNE – JULY, 2000 Souths allege in the Federal Court of Australia that News Limited has contravened the Trade Practices Act and engaged in 'misleading and deceptive conduct'.

AUGUST, 2000 Kerry Stokes pledges \$3 million to Souths Sydney to satisfy Justice Finn's desire for Souths to prove long-term financial backing.

OCTOBER, 2000 In a 181 page judgement Justice Paul Finn rejects Souths claims that News Limited has breached the Trade Practices Act.

NOVEMBER 12, 2000 80,000 people respond to Finn's decision in an emotional public display of the 'red and green army' and their supporters.

MAY, 2001 Souths appeal to the Full Bench of the Federal Court on the grounds that Justice Finn had 'erred nine times in his November judgement'.

JULY 6, 2001 After almost two years and \$2 million in court costs, the Full Bench of the Federal Court vote two to one to support Souths appeal. Soon after the NRL invites Souths to rejoin the 2002 Competition.

AUGUST, 2001 News Limited serve Souths with papers, indicating their intention to appeal the Federal Court decision in the High Court of Australia.

DECEMBER, 2001 South Sydney Rugby League Football Club boast some 20,000 members, a number unprecedented in the history of the game.

MARCH, 2002 Souths run onto the field at the SCG in the resurrected Charity Shield match against St George/Illawarra (and retain the shield in a draw) and subsequently begin participation in the 2002 NRL Premiership League.

AUGUST, 2003 Four of five judges in the High Court overturn the Federal Court ruling that Souths exclusion from the NRL competition breached the TPA. News Limited meet all costs for the hearing.



THE KEY PLAYERS

GEORGE PIGGINS Ex-South Sydney RLFC Chairman (13 year term), current Chairman South Sydney Leagues Club, public face of the fightback campaign.

NICHOLAS PAPPAS Australian Greek solicitor, now Souths Chairman.

ANDREW DENTON Television and radio personality.

NORM LIPSON Feisty, Australian Jewish journalist, ex Media Manager at Souths.

JIMMY LA HOOD Australian Lebanese doctor, currently Souths board member.

NOLENE PIGGINS Wife of Souths ex-Chairman, George Piggins.

HELEN GRASSWILL ABC 'Australian Story' television journalist.

ALAN JONES Radio broadcaster and former Souths Football Club manager.

JOHN HARTIGAN CEO of News Limited.

ROBERT CORRA 2SER 'View from the Hill' broadcaster.

JOSH KEMP 25 year old factory worker, co-ordinates Souths fan and volunteer clubs.

EILEEN MC LAUGHLIN Salt-of-the-earth Australian Irish volunteer.

BRIAN RAYNER Parish Catholic priest, Maroubra.

ROGER HARVEY Blind Souths supporter.

MARCIA SEEBACHER Supporter who organised merchandise during the fightback.

BARBARA SELBY Marcia's mother, also organised merchandise.

ERIC SIMMS Former Souths player (1965 - 1975). Indigenous heritage.

DENIS FITZGERALD CEO Parramatta Leagues Club. Public rival of George Piggins.

IAN HEADS Journalist. Resigned over Telegraph treatment of Souths.

MARK COURTNEY Souths supporter, author 'Moving the Goalposts'

CINDY HAWKEY Wife of Mark, mother of Anya, Bronte, and Freya.

ANYA COURTNEY Aged 11, daughter of Mark and Cindy.

BRONTE COURTNEY Aged 9, daughter of Mark and Cindy.

FREYA COURTNEY Aged 7, daughter of Mark and Cindy.

GREG WILKINSON Souths fan, friend of Mark Courtney.

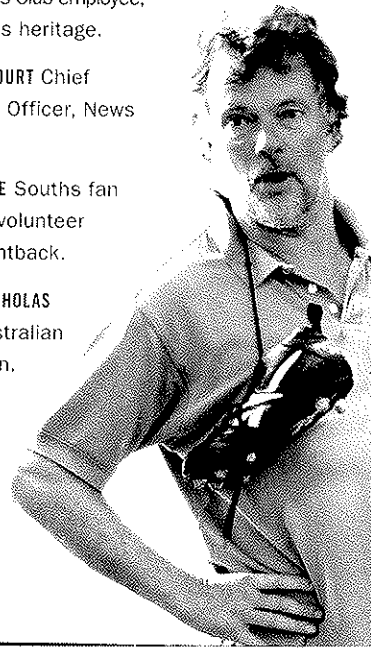
ROBERT TAYLOR Juniors referee, Indigenous heritage.

NATASHA (TASHA) LAWRENCE Ex- Leagues Club employee, Indigenous heritage.

PETER MACCOURT Chief Operating Officer, News Limited.

PHILLIP PIKE Souths fan and core volunteer during fightback.

NORMAN NICHOLAS Greek Australian Souths fan.



BIOGRAPHIES



**Alana
VALENTINE**
WRITER

Alana was awarded the 2003 NSW Writer's Fellowship, the 2002 Rodney Seaborn Playwrights' Award, and an International Writing Fellowship at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London. She has also received a 2001 commendation for the Louis Esson Prize, a 1999 AWGIE Award, a residency at the Banff Playwrights' Centre, the ANPC/New Dramatists Award, a Churchill Fellowship and a NSW Premier's Award. Her stage plays include *Radio Silence* (Australian War Memorial 2003), *Titania's Boy* (Riverina Theatre Company, Wagga Wagga and Griffith 2003), *The Mapmaker's Brother* (Australian National Maritime Museum 2002), *The Story of Anger Lee Bredenza* (Chapel off Chapel 2002), *Savage Grace* (Performing Lines 2003, Subiaco Arts

Centre 2002, Blue Room 2001, Religion, Literature and Arts Festival 2001, Adelaide Festival Centre 2000), *The Prospectors* (ANMM 2001), *Row of Tents* (New York Fringe Festival 2001), *The Conjurers* (Playbox 1997, La Boite 1998), *Ozone* (Brisbane Festival 1998), *Spool Time* (Vitalstatistix 1998) and *Swimming the Globe* (Freewheels 1996, Northern NSW Tour 1997, Commonwealth Games Cultural Festival, Malaysia 1998).

Two of her plays are published by Currency Press.



Kate is a graduate of the NIDA director's course (1996). As a freelance theatre director, her projects include: *Svetlana in Slingbacks*, *The Laramie Project* (Company B), *Confidentially Yours* (HotHouse Theatre), *Lobby Hero* (Ensemble Theatre); *Wicked Sisters*, *Rabbit* (Griffin); *Coup D'Etat* (MTC) *The Beggar's Opera* (Sydney Conservatorium) and projects for ATYP and the Actors College of Theatre and Television. Kate is the Artistic Director of Siren Theatre Co. - an independent company whose productions include: *Frozen* (by Michael O'Brien), *Hard Swallow* (by Mirra Todd); *Polly Blue* (by Belinda Bradley); *Wanna Go Home, Baby?* (devised by the company); *Connie and Kevin and the Secret Life of Groceries* (by Nöelle Janaczweska) and *Blue Heart* (Caryl Churchill).

Josef is a graduate of the National Institute of Dramatic Arts. Theatre credits include *Bash* (Glen St), *Lobby Hero* (Ensemble), *The Tempest* (Bell Shakespeare), and *Grease* (Gordon Frost Organisation) and *Frozen*, *Wanna Go Home, Baby?* and *Polly Blue* for Siren Theatre Co. Television credits include *Wildside*, *Water Rats*, *Murder Call*, *Young Lions* and *All Saints*. Film credits include *Ned*, *Hoppin Mad* and *Powder Burn*. For Company B, Josef previously appeared in the 2001 sell-out season of *The Laramie Project*.



**Kate
GAUL**
DIRECTOR



**Josef
BER**
MARK COURTNEY,
NORMAN NICHOLAS,
PETER MACCOURT



Roy BILLING

GEORGE PIGGINS,
ALAN JONES,
ROBERT TAYLOR,
JUSTICE FINN,
PHILLIP PIKE

Roy has worked extensively in theatre, film and television over the last 30 years throughout Australia and New Zealand. Recent theatre productions include: *Art, Scam*, and the New Zealand classic rugby play *Foreskin's Lament* (his fifth production since appearing in the first production in 1980). Television credits include recurring roles in *Always Greener*, *Don't Blame Me*, *Blue Heelers*, *Bad Cop Bad Cop*, *Dossa and Joe* and the New Zealand series *The Strip* plus guest roles in *Fat Cow Motel*, *Wildside*, *Murder Call* and *All Saints*. In 2003, Roy completed shooting on feature films *Strange Bedfellows* and *Thunderstruck* in Australia, and *Skin and Bone* in New Zealand. Other recent films include *Rabbit Proof Fence*, *The Dish* and *Siam Sunset*. Roy has received AFI Award

and Film Critics Circle Award nominations in Australia and won Film and TV acting awards in New Zealand. Previously for Company B, Roy played Sam Pickles in the 2001 sell-out season of *Cloudstreet* as well as the international tour.



Wayne graduated from the Queensland University of Technology in 1997. His work for Queensland Theatre Company includes the education shows *Load-ed Stories*, *Black-ed Up* (Brisbane season and regional Queensland tour) and *The Sunshine Club*. Other theatre credits include *Romeo & Juliet* (Bell Shakespeare); *Black Shorts*, *Purple Dreams* (Kooemba Jdarra); *Inheritance* (Melbourne Theatre Company); *The Sunshine Club*, *The Cherry Pickers*, *Inheritance* (Sydney Theatre Company); *Skin* (Bangarra Dance Theatre) for the 2000 Olympic Arts Festival and 2002 Adelaide Festival and *Seeking Truths Out* (Queensland Opera Company). Wayne's television work includes *Wildside*, *All Saints*, *Water Rats*, *BackBerner*, *FireFlies* and *Small Claims*. He has appeared in the short films *Grace* and *The Tower*, and wrote and directed *Fade 2 Black*, *Jubulj*, *Black Talk* and *Kathy*. He also appeared in the film *Mullet*. Wayne studied film directing at New York University in the summer of 2002 and completed a director's attachment on *McLeods Daughters* working on two episodes with Donald Crombie. For Company B, Wayne has appeared in *Cloudstreet* (2001 international tour), *The Dreamers* and *Conversations with the Dead*. He is a member of the comedy duo *Didjeridont*.



Wayne BLAIR

NICHOLAS PAPPAS,
DANNY MUNK,
ERIC SIMMS,
ALAN CATT



Tyler COPPIN

ANDREW DENTON,
ROGER HARVEY,
JOHN HARTIGAN,
TOM COCKING

Tyler's extensive range of theatre credits include Baz Luhrmann's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Opera Australia), *Cabaret* (IMG Group), national and international tours of his solo play *Lyrebird: Tales of Helpmann*, including seasons at the Sydney Opera House for Sydney Theatre Company, the City of London Festival and the Edinburgh Fringe Festival – where it won a Fringe First Award in 1999. Other stage credits include *Inside the Island*, *Volpone* and *The Choir* (NIMROD); *The Country Wife*, *The Ham Funeral* (STC) and *Glengarry Glen Ross* (Sydney Opera House). Tyler has also appeared as Miss Texas in *Pageant* (Harry M Miller), and Greg Brady in *The Real Live Brady Bunch* (Footbridge, Melbourne Comedy Festival). Film credits include *Dark City*, *Doing Time For Patsy Cline* and *Mad Max II*. Previously for Company B, Tyler has appeared in *Emma's Nose*, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, *WASP*, *Cockroach Opera*, *The Small Poppies* and *Buzz* (co-writer and director).



Nicholas DARE

DESIGN ASSISTANT

Nicholas is a graduate of the National Institute of Dramatic Art's design course. Recent productions include *Brokenville* (ATYP), which toured to the National Theatre in London. In 2003 Nicholas also designed productions of *Fiddler on the Roof* (Superstar Productions, Darwin), *The Good Woman of Setzuan* (McDonald College) as well as *Birth of the Cool* for the Sydney Festival. Other design credits include *Sparkleshark* and *Hamlet* (ATYP) as

well as *Our Country's Good* (McDonald College). Nicholas was Head Scenic Artist on the feature film *Ned*, and designed the Old Fitzroy's sell-out production of the *Decameron*. This is Nicholas' first production with Company B. His work can be seen at www.endaredesign.com.

Genevieve trained in set and costume design at WAAPA, graduating in 2001. Since then she has been designing both sets and costumes for a range of productions. Her favourite design experiences include *Summerfolk* with Nick Enright (WAAPA), self devised *Abode of The Vacancy* with Neill Gladwin (WAAPA), *Mamu* (Black Swan Theatre Co - Adelaide & Hamburg Festivals 2002) *Leaves Falling at Midnight* (Art, Cackle & Hoot Entertainment), *Paper City*, *The Cave* (Buzz Dance Theatre) *Top Shorts 2002* (Naked Theatre Co.) *Rabbit*, *Songket* (Griffin Theatre Co), *Love That Dog* (Scorch Theatre / B Sharp 2003), *These People* (STC Blueprints) and *First Date* (Haywire Films). Later this year Genevieve will team up with Kate Gaul again for *Kimberley Akimbo* at the Ensemble Theatre.



Genevieve DUGARD

COSTUME DESIGN





**Julie
HAMILTON**

BARBARA SELBY,
EILEEN
MCLAUGHLIN,
MIKE GIBSON,
FREYA COURTNEY

Julie's extensive stage credits include six years as a member of the State Theatre Company of South Australia where she performed in some 30 productions including *Pygmalion*, *Measure For Measure*, and *As You Like It*. Other theatre credits include *A Handful of Friends*, *Wild Duck*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *The Perfectionist* (Melbourne Theatre Company); *Galileo*, *Travelling North*, *Are You Lonesome Tonight?* (Nimrod); *When the Wind Blows* (Belvoir St Theatre); *Nicholas Nickleby*, *The Seagull*, *Pericles*, *Shirley Valentine*, *Mongrels*, and *Lady in the Van* (Sydney Theatre Company). Television credits include *No Room For The Innocent* (Penguin Award winner for Best Drama Performance as well as Best Actress Logie nomination), *The Oracle*, *I Can Jump Puddles* (Best Actress Logie nomination), *The Shiralee* and *GP*. Film appearances include *A Place at the Coast* (AFI Best Supporting Actress nomination), *Fresh Air* and *Holy Smoke*.



**Mark
HOWETT**
LIGHTING DESIGN

Mark gained his initial experience with Perth's National Theatre Company between 1980 and 1984 when, with the aid of a West Australian Arts Council grant, he toured the US and the UK observing lighting design at Yale University under Jennifer Tipton. He has designed lighting for many Australian and overseas theatre and opera companies including: Sydney Theatre Company, Queensland Theatre Company, Black Swan Theatre Company, the National Theatre UK, The Australian Ballet, Opera Australia, Western Australia Opera Company, and Auckland Opera.

He has toured internationally with the Aboriginal Islander Dance Theatre (AIDT), Danceworks and One Extra Company. Mark also lit the ABC TV simulcast *Rites* for the Australian Ballet and Bangarra Dance Theatre, created the lighting for the international tour of *Stalkers' Crying Baby* and completed lighting for the opening ceremony of the 2002 Adelaide Festival. His many productions with Company B include; *Conversations with the Dead*, *Buried Child*, *The Dreamers*, *Aliwa*, *Cloudstreet* (for which he won the 2002 Helpmann Award for Best Lighting Design), *Dead Heart*, *Up the Road*, *No Sugar*, *Buzz*, *The Popular Mechanicals*, *Pop Mechs 2* and *As You Like It*. With a distinguished career in lighting design under his belt, Mark made his debut as a director in 2003 with Deckchair Theatre's production of *Strategy for Two Hams*.

Since graduating from NIDA in 2002, **Jody** has most recently performed in Naked Theatre Company's production of *Story Time* (Old Fitzroy), as well as the Melbourne Theatre Company/Sydney Theatre Company production of *Inheritance*. She is also a member of State of Play Theatre Company, founded by Nick Enright. Film and TV credits include: *Water Rats*, *Breakers*, and the documentary series, *Bondi Dreaming*. Prior to NIDA, Jody performed with the Australian Theatre for Young People (ATYP) in productions of *Macbeth*, *Troilus and Cressida*, *Ritual* and *The Greek Theatre Project*. She is also trained in various forms of dance. This is her first production with Company B.



**Jody
KENNEDY**
MARCIA
SEEBACHER, JOSH
KEMP, BRONTE
COURTNEY,
BRADLEY HUNT



**Russell
KIEFEL**
DENIS FITZGERALD,
NORM LIPSON,
ALAN JONES,
GREG WILKINSON

Russell is a graduate of the National Institute of Dramatic Art. He has worked extensively in Australian theatre and television for over 20 years. A broad range of theatre credits, many with the State Theatre Company of South Australia, include *Don's Party*, *King Golgrutha*, *The Winter's Tale*, *Mother Courage*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Lulu*. Other theatre credits include *Macbeth*, *Saint Joan*, *Sydney Stories I* and *King Lear* (Sydney Theatre Company); *Rabbit and Passion I & II* (Griffin Theatre Company); *Nowhere*, *Insouciance* and the *Prodigal Son* (Playbox Theatre); *King Lear* (Bell Shakespeare); *Simpatico* and *Hotel Sorrento* (Royal Queensland Theatre Company). Some of Russell's many television credits include *Something in the Air*, *Stingers*, *Wildside*, *Blue Heelers*, and *The Leaving of Liverpool*. Film credits include *The Singer and the Dancer*, *Breaker Morant*, *Radiance* and *Children of the Revolution*.

Russell is currently playing Sharpie in the new ABC TV series, *FireFlies*. Previous productions with Company B include *The Blind Giant is Dancing*, *The Alchemist*, *Hamlet* and *The Tempest*.



Eliza graduated with a BA (Performance Studies) from UWS (Nepean) in 1994. Previously for Company B, Eliza performed in both *Cloudstreet* (International Tour 2001) and *The Laramie Project*. For Siren Theatre Company: *Frozen*, *Wanna Go Home*, *Baby?*, *Polly Blue*, *Hard Swallow* (B-Sharp, Downstairs Belvoir), and *Blue Heart* (Stables Theatre). Other theatre credits include: *Confidentially Yours* (Hothouse Theatre), *Rope* (Cabin Crew @ The Old Fitzroy), co-adaptor and performer in *The Wild Party* (Café de Laine & Melbourne International Comedy Festival), *Bus* (Stables Theatre), and *Beyond a Doll's House* (Sydney Theatre Company). Film and television credits include: *Without Prejudice*, *Jessica*, *Changi*, *All Saints*, *Water Rats*, *Backberner*, *Home & Away*, and *If Seven People Wish It*. Eliza has supplied a number of voices for multi-award-winning animations *Kangaroo Creek Gang* (Series I & II) and *Tracey McBean* (Series II) and also for radio drama *Sixpack* (OUT FM & JJJ), and *Super Mahi Tiki* and *The Fuzz* (FWAK! Animation). Eliza is a core member of Milkcrate Theatre - an interactive theatre event for the homeless and people in crisis accommodation, and teaches regularly with Darlo Drama for Darlinghurst Theatre.



**Eliza
LOGAN**
NOLENE PIGGINS,
CAROLINE JONES,
RUPERT MURDOCH,
P. GERAGHTY,
NORM MEARNS





**Kylie
MASCORD**
STAGE MANAGER

Kylie graduated from the technical production course at NIDA in 2000 and has since worked as Production Assistant for the Paralympic Arts Festival, Assistant Event Coordinator for the 2001 Australia Day Celebrations, Event Coordinator for the 2002 Australia Day Celebrations, Program Coordinator for 2003 Australia Day and Stage Manager for *Choral Island* which was held at Port Arthur for Tasmania's 2003 *Ten Days On The Island* Festival. This is Kylie's seventh production with Company B having also stage-managed *The Fever*, *The Lieutenant of Inishmore*, *Macbeth* and *Buried Child* and was Assistant Stage Manager on *My Zinc Bed*, *The Laramie Project* and *Emma's Nose*.



**Chris
MEAD**
DRAMATURG

Chris has been directing for theatre since 1987 when he wrote and directed his first play while at SUDS (Sydney University Dramatic Society). For *Kicking and Screaming*, directorial credits include *Been So Long* and *Turnstiler* (Stables); *Imago* and *Pussy Boy* (B Sharp at Downstairs Belvoir St); and *Three Hundred and Sixty Positions in a One Night Stand*, (2001 Sydney Festival). Chris is the Curator of the 2004 Australian National Playwrights' Conference and has just finished his tenure as the Festival Director of World Interplay '03, the International Festival for Young Playwrights. Most recently he directed sell-out seasons of *Howie the Rookie* (Mark O'Rowe) in Auckland and Wellington in February/March 2003. He has a PhD in Australian history from the University of Sydney, and was nominated by the

Sun Herald as one of 2001's best directors. Chris was Literary Manager of Company B Belvoir from 2000-2003.

Georgina graduated from the Victorian College of the Arts in 1994. She is best known for her role as Phrani Gupta in the ABC TV series *Seachange*. Other television credits include *Something in the Air*, *Blue Heelers*, *Stingers* and *Guinevere Jones*. Film credits include *Mall Boy*, *Dead Letter Office*, *Road to Nhill* and *Cheek to Cheek*. In the last year Georgina has performed in *The Vagina Monologues* (Adrian Boehm Productions), *Alkestis* (Sidetrack Performance Group), *The Daphne Massacre* (Parramatta Riverside), *Titania's Boy* (Riverina Theatre Company), *The Book Keeper* (Sidetrack/Carnivale), *FatSex* (Carnivale) an episode of MDA (ABC TV) and the film *Tackle* (AFTRS).

Alex graduated from the National Institute of Dramatic Art in 1998. Recent theatre credits include *Alkestis* (Sidetrack Theatre); *Snugglepoot and Cuddlepoot* (Canute Productions); *The Imaginary Invalid* and *Leaning Towards Infinity* (Ensemble Theatre) and *The Last Night of the Ballyhoo* (Marian St Theatre). Television credits include *The Camera Trap*, *All Saints* and *Water Rats*. Alex has also appeared in the short film *Muffled Love* and *Play'n Hard to Get*, which were Tropfest finalists in 2001. This is Alex's first production with Company B.



**Georgina
NAIDU**
HELEN GRASSWILL,
CINDY HAWKEY,
RUPERT MURDOCH,
JEFF COOK,
NATASHA (TASHA)
LAWRENCE



**Alex
SIDERATOS**
JIMMY LA HOOD,
IAN HEADS,
MIKE CLEARY,
BRIAN RAYNOR,
ROBERT CORRA,
BARRY MURRAY,
ANYA COURTNEY



**Jeremy
SILVER**
SOUND DESIGN

Jeremy graduated from NIDA in 2001. Recent sound design and composition credits include *Morph* (Sydney Theatre Company); *Woyzeck* (Old Fitzroy); *Hamlet* and *Lucky* (ATYP), as well as the short film *First Date*, that won second place in the Getting Smashed festival. This is Jeremy's sixth production with Company B. He was most recently sound operator for *The Threepenny Opera*, the technician on *Macbeth*, assistant stage manager for *The Lieutenant of Inishmore*, and *Ubu*, and also sound operator on *My Zinc Bed*. Jeremy has his own production company, Silver Productions, which produced *Chicks Will Dig You* for the 2003 B Sharp Season. Other productions he has worked on include sound design for *Hamlet* (Pork Chop Productions), sound design for *Bodyline 2* and *Crazy Brave*.



**Jessica
SYMES**
DIRECTING MENTOREE



"Spark has been made possible by the Young and Emerging Artists Initiative of the Commonwealth Government through the Australia Council, its arts and advisory body."

Jessica is a graduate of Newtown High School of the Performing Arts and Charles Sturt University Bathurst, with a BA Communications - Theatre/ Media. Jessica was an Australia Council for the Arts grant recipient for theatre directing, and undertook a directorial secondment with Kate Gaul for Brendan Cowell's *Rabbit* (Griffin 2003) and completes her directing traineeship on *Run Rabbit Run*. Co-Director of Prompt Theatre she has produced, directed and performed in their independent productions over the past five years including directing *Tracked* (The Old Fitz Theatre 2003). Former Coordinator of The Australian Theatre for Young People (ATYP), Jessica has directed for Naked Theatre Company's *Write Now* readings and B Sharp's Rough

Cuts, as part of Company B's Downstairs Theatre season. Jessica's role is funded by Spark, managed by Youth Arts Queensland.

Mick is a composer and singer-songwriter. After 15 years and eight albums with Australia's roots/rocking cult icon, *Weddings, Parties, Anything*, Mick decided that it was time to branch out a little bit. Since 1998 he has been involved with his record label Croxton Records, tours with his band, *The Sure Thing*, and works on theatre projects such as *Over in the West* and *The Tank*. He has released three solo albums, and written soundtracks for a number of films. All of these display his distinctive blend of humour, music, pathos, loneliness and longing. He has a gold record and four Aria awards.

Design credits include *Arcadia*, *Billy Budd*, *Coriolanus*, *Death in Venice*, *The Eighth Wonder*, *Centenary of Federation Ceremony*, *Grease*, *Hair*, *Intimate and Live* (Kylie Minogue 98 concert tour), *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *King and I*, *Love Burns*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Night Of Shadows*, Sydney 2000 Olympic Games Closing Ceremony and medal podiums, *Pandora's Cross*, *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, *Sweeney Todd* (Royal Opera House 2003), Tony Award (best scenic design 1996), *Up For Grabs*, *Voss*, 2003 Rugby World Cup Opening and Closing Ceremonies, *Extremities*, *Jekyll and Hyde*, *My Zinc Bed*.



**Mick
THOMAS**
ORIGINAL MUSIC



**Brian
THOMSON**
SET DESIGN



**Georgina
(Babs)
YABSLEY**
ASSISTANT
STAGE MANAGER

Babs worked on the original production of *Cloudstreet* as assistant designer, and as costume supervisor for the 1999 & 2001 world tours. Company B credits include: Company B Production Coordinator; design secondment for *The Governor's Family* and costume coordinator for *As You Like It* and *Suddenly Last Summer*; assistant stage manager for *The Marriage of Figaro* and production coordinator for *Twelfth Night*. Other credits include: set & costume design for *Pussy Boy* (kicking&screaming) part of *B Sharp 2002*; set & costume design for *Music, Mandy and Scott* (Mandy Bishop); costume assistant for *Love for Love* (Sydney Theatre Company) and costume buyer for *Rent* (Cameron MacIntosh/STC). Film credits include: costume assistant *My Mother Frank* and costume designer *The Gift* (AFTRS). Babs is a design graduate of Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts.



COMPANY **B**

The originality and energy of Company B Belvoir productions arose out of the unique action taken to save the Nimrod Theatre building from demolition in 1984. Rather than lose a performance space in inner city Sydney, more than 600 arts, entertainment and media professionals as well as ardent theatre lovers, formed a syndicate to buy the building. The syndicate included nearly every successful person in Australian show business.

Company B is one of Australia's most prestigious theatre companies. Under the artistic leadership of Neil Armfield, the company performs in major arts centres and festivals both nationally and internationally and from its home, Belvoir St Theatre in Surry Hills, Sydney. Company B engages Australia's most prominent and promising directors, actors and designers to present an annual artistic program that is razor-sharp, popular and stimulating.

During the past few years artists of the calibre of Geoffrey Rush, Cate Blanchett, Jacqueline McKenzie, Noah Taylor, Richard Roxburgh, Max Cullen, Bille Brown, David Wenham, Deborah Mailman and Catherine McClements have performed on the Belvoir St Theatre stage.

Sell-out productions like *Cloudstreet*, *The Judas Kiss*, *The Alchemist*, *The Diary of a Madman*, *Hamlet* and *The Small Poppies* have consolidated Company B's position as one of Australia's most innovative and acclaimed theatre companies.

Up to 3,000 people a week pass through the Belvoir foyer to see a show at one of its two theatres, the Downstairs Theatre which seats up to 80 people and the Upstairs Theatre which seats up to 356 people. Company B also presents an annual season in the Downstairs Theatre called *B Sharp*.

Belvoir St Theatre Limited is the owner of Belvoir St Theatre. Company B is the resident production company.

For more information visit www.belvoir.com.au

COMPANY B

Belvoir St Theatre 25 Belvoir Street Surry Hills NSW 2010

Email mail@belvoir.com.au Web www.belvoir.com.au

Administration (02) 9698 3344 Facsimile (02) 9319 3165 Box Office (02) 9699 3444

Artistic Director Neil Armfield General Manager Rachel Healy

Company B Board

Neil Armfield
Anne Britton
Russell Dykstra
Rachel Healy
Louise Herron
John Kitney
Michael Nearhos
Brian Thomson
Orli Wargon
Peter Watts

Belvoir St Theatre Board

Hugh Barry
Andrew Cameron
Tim Game
Yvonne Kux
Tim McKenzie
Russell Mitchell
Geoffrey Murray

ADMINISTRATION AND PROGRAMMING

Artistic Administrator
John Woodland
Downstairs Theatre Director
Lyn Wallis
Acting Literary Manager
Katrina Foster
Administration Coordinator
Annika Korsgaard
Sassica Baker

FINANCE

Business Manager
Nigel Smith
Financial Administrator
Ann Brown

MARKETING

Marketing Manager
Joseph Hocking
Marketing Coordinator
Lisa Montgomery
Publicity
Carli Ratcliffe
(Mollison Communications)



DEVELOPMENT

Development Manager
Carmen Prince

PRODUCTION

Production Manager
Brenna Hobson
Production Coordinator
Ewen Duncan
Technical Manager
Tristan Ellis
Head Mechanist
Jan S. Goldfeder
Downstairs
Technical Manager
Allison Jeny
Costume Coordinator
Sarah Douglas
Wilson Street Site Managers
Di Human
Paul Stanley

EDUCATION

Education Officer
Jane May

FRONT OF HOUSE

Front of House Manager
Damien Storer
Assistant Front of House Manager
Bianca Rowe
Cleaner
Reecie Harter

BOX OFFICE

Box Office Manager
Anne Cooper
Assistant Box Office Managers
Lucy Wirth
Carly Leonard

COMPANY B KEEPERS

B Keepers are a unique group of individuals whose financial support is a reflection of their passion for, and commitment to, Company B. The B Keeper program is one of the ways we can continue to create the kind of theatre that we love and that has attracted and inspired audiences here at Belvoir, around Australia and across the world.

We gratefully acknowledge our B Keepers for their loyal and generous support

CORPORATE B KEEPERS

Arts Projects Australia, Artwise Amazing Paper, Celebration Innovation, Enviro Doctor, HLA Management, Shanahan Management, Sterling Mail Order

PATRON B KEEPERS

Anonymous (8)
Robert & Libby Albert
Gillian Appleton
Peter & Cherry Best
Bev & Phil Birnbaum
Dashiell Blanchett Upton
Max Bonnell
Denise & Neil Buchanan
Andrew Cameron
Penny Chapman
Jane Christensen
Hugh Colman
Peter Colquhoun
Peter Cudlipp
Rae de Teliga
Janet Donald
Peter Fay
Margaret Fink
Jennifer Glasson
Peter Graves

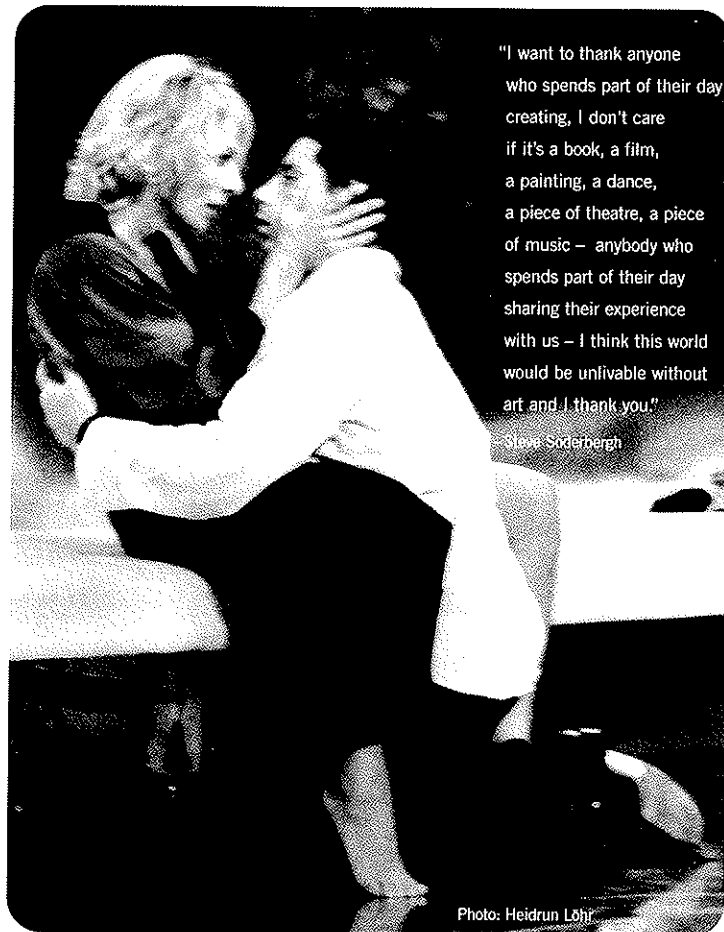
David Haertsch
Erica Hahn
Andrew & Wendy Hamlin
Marion Heathcote &
Brian Burfitt
Louise Herron
Anita Jacoby
Shirley Jarzabek
Margaret Johnston
Sue Kennedy
Nicole Kidman
Ian & Nan Landon-Smith
Antoinette Le Marchant
Jennifer Ledger & Bob Lim
Hilary Linstead
Charles Little
Carolyn & Peter Lowry
Andrew Lumsden
Sue Masters
Tracey McArdle

David & Barbara Millons
Anne & John Murphy
Michael Nearhos
Zula Nittim
Stephen Page
Timothy & Eva Pascoe
Rebel Penfold-Russell
Bob, Sheila & Katie Pitts
Robin Ramsay
Richard Refshauge
Nikki & Greg Roger
Geoffrey Rush
Judith & Howard Smith
Victoria Taylor
Brian Thomson &
Budi Hernowibowo
Vanessa Toomey
Mary Vallentine
Orli Wargon
Kim Williams

BEQUESTS AND DONATIONS

As a not for profit organisation you are able to make a bequest or leave a legacy to support Company B. Donations are also gratefully accepted and fully tax-deductible. Your gift will be used to further the artistic goals of Company B and provide employment and project opportunities for the artists of Company B.

If you would like to consider making a bequest or donation, or would like further information about becoming a B Keeper please call our Development Manager on (02) 8396 6209 or email supporter@belvoir.com.au



"I want to thank anyone who spends part of their day creating, I don't care if it's a book, a film, a painting, a dance, a piece of theatre, a piece of music – anybody who spends part of their day sharing their experience with us – I think this world would be unlivable without art and I thank you."

Steve Soderbergh

Photo: Heidrun Lohr

Optus is proud to be supporting Company B.

Just say the word **'yes'**
OPTUS

The 'Arrive alive' message promotes safety on our roads



If you drink, don't drive!

www.Arrivealive.com.au

The Motor Accidents Authority of NSW is a proud supporter of Company B's 'Run Rabbit Run'

Not all of us
have 9 lives
to waste getting our
IT infrastructure right

Let Getronics get it
right the first time

Getronics is a leading
Information and Communication Technology
company and proud supporter of Company B

www.getronics.com.au

plain talk practical solutions

Dan Wyllie & Patrick the cat
"Lieutenant of Inishmore"

when does
work turn
to play?

wednesday



COMPANY B
INDEPENDENT THEATRE

Sydney Airport and Company B bringing
theatre to the community through the free
performance programme.



MG GARAGE RESTAURANT

Proud Supporter of Company B Belvoir

PRE-THEATRE MENU

2 Course \$32
3 Course \$40

Menu changes weekly
Available 6-7pm Tuesday to Saturday

Phone 9360 7007
Email cnelson@mggaragesydney.com.au
www.mggaragesydney.com.au

We're proud to play a
supporting role in
Company B's
performances.

ERNST & YOUNG
Quality In Everything We Do

SHAKE OUR PASSION FOR QUALITY CINEMA?



LOST IN TRANSLATION
a new film by Sofia Coppola



THE SPANISH APARTMENT
Audience Award Winner at Sydney Film Fest



GOODBYE LENIN!
a warm-hearted, feel-good comedy



A HEART ELSEWHERE
a hopelessly romantic Italian charmer



DOGVILLE
a brand new film from Lars von Trier



COLD MOUNTAIN
a new film by Anthony Minghella

Enquire at the box office about the **PALACE MOVIE CLUB** - \$9.50 tax every day, all day

PALACE CINEMAS
Email: palace@palace.net.au www.palace.net.au

ACADEMY TWIN
3A OXFORD STREET, PADDINGTON (02) 9331 3457
NORTON STREET
99 NORTON STREET, LEICHHARDT (02) 9564 5620
VERONA
17 OXFORD STREET, PADDINGTON (02) 9360 6266

FOR HAIR AS INFLUENTIAL AS MUSIC
Company B thanks

HEAD OVER HEELS

Hair and Make-up

Shop 3 / 325

Cnr King & Eliza St, Newtown 2042 Ph: 95503422

BURWOOD
•PRESS•

"The Performing Arts Printers"

Congratulations to Kate Gaul
& Company B on another
successful production.

93 Rookwood Road, Yagoona 2199
Phone: (02) 9796 3000 Fax: (02) 9790 4885
Email: sales@burwoodpress.com.au



OUR NEXT PRODUCTION

WHAT THE BUTLER SAW

*Just when one least expects it,
the unexpected happens...*

Written by JOE ORTON
Directed by JIM SHARMAN
With ISABELLA DUNWILL,
MAX GILLIES, SAM HAFT,
DEBORAH KENNEDY
and MICHAEL MCCALL

FEBRUARY 26 ~ APRIL 11
Book now!



B QUICK

Subscriptions for our 2004
season are selling fast! The
priority booking period for
subscribers ends soon so
to ensure you get the best
available seats for next year,
now is the time to send us
your booking form.

COMPANY B
BELVOIR ST THEATRE

FOR A BROCHURE CALL 9699 3444
OR GO TO WWW.BELVOIR.COM.AU

★ COMPANY B THANKS YOU ★

CORPORATE PARTNER

'yes'
OPTUS

PRODUCTION PARTNER

**Arrive
alive**

EDUCATION PARTNER

Freehills

MEDIA PARTNERS

The Sydney Morning Herald
TOMORROW'S PAPER

2GB
93.7 FM

GOVERNMENT PARTNERS

nsw **arts**

Australia Council
for the Arts

MAJOR SPONSORS

BAKER & MCKENZIE

ERNST & YOUNG

Getronics



ASSOCIATE SPONSORS

DigitalEskimo

MG GARAGE

QW

Queens Parklands



PALACE

SUPPORTERS

3AM Wigs, 3Arts and Makeup, ANZ Foundation, Avant Card, Brays Books, Buds & Flowers, Burwood Press, Culla Change, de Luxe & Associates, Head Over Heels, Hong Kong Tourism Board, HPM, Julian Watt Photography, PIMM, Sonic Telecom, South Sydney Council, South Sydney Rabbitohs, Souths Juniors, Vincent Fairfax Foundation

For more information on Corporate Partnership opportunities please contact our Development Manager on (02) 8396 6209 or email supporter@belvoir.com.au