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## **This Is Our Company**

# One building. Six hundred people. Thousands of stories.

When the theatre in an old tomato sauce factory at 25 Belvoir Street was threatened with redevelopment in 1984, more than 600 people – passionate lovers and makers of theatre – formed a syndicate to buy the building and save it.

It was an act of love, to theatre and to our city.

Thirty years later, Belvoir is still going strong – producing fresh, dynamic and challenging work here in Surry Hills. Belvoir has nurtured the finest theatrical talents in this country – actors, writers, directors, designers and arts workers. We fill our two beautiful theatres year-round with performances that are visionary, bold and risky.

Both the Upstairs and Downstairs stages have nurtured the talents of many renowned Australian artists: actors including Geoffrey Rush, Cate Blanchett, Toby Schmitz, Robyn Nevin, Deb Mailman and Richard Roxburgh; writers such as Tommy Murphy, Rita Kalnejais, Lally Katz and Kate Mulvany; directors including Simon Stone, Anne-Louise Sarks, Benedict Andrews, Wesley Enoch, Rachael Maza and former Belvoir Artistic Director Neil Armfield.

Belvoir's position as one of Australia's most innovative and acclaimed theatre companies has been determined by such landmark productions as The Glass Menagerie, Angels in America, The Wild Duck, The Diary of a Madman, The Blind Giant is Dancing, The Book of Everything, Cloudstreet, Keating!, Parramatta Girls, Exit the King, The Alchemist, Hamlet, Waiting for Godot, The Sapphires, Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?, Stuff Happens and Medea.

We love playing at our home in Surry Hills but our work also goes further afield to regional Australia, other capital cities and to overseas festivals and venues. Australian artists are fantastic cultural ambassadors and we are pleased to play our part. We believe in the intrinsic value of theatre and in its power to change our society for the better.

Belvoir receives government support for its activities from the federal government through the Major Performing Arts Board of the Australia Council and the state government through Arts NSW.

## **Acknowledgement**

We show our respect and acknowledge the Traditional owners of the land on which Belvoir St Theatre is built: the Gadigal tribe of the Eora Nation. We pay respect to their Ancestors and Elders past, present and future.

# **Core Values** and Principles

- Belief in the primacy of the artistic process
- Clarity and playfulness in storytelling
- · A sense of community within the theatrical environment
- · Responsiveness to current social and political issues
- Equality, ethical standards and shared ownership of artistic and company achievements
- · Development of our performers, artists and staff

## **Mission**

To produce theatrical works from a shared vision that question and affirm our culture, extend and develop our artists, and provide audiences with experiences of imaginative daring and emotional depth.



## **Chair's Report**

Andrew Cameron AM



2014 was another ambitious year for Belvoir. Again this year we presented 13 productions in total – nine in the Upstairs and four in the Downstairs Theatre. Of these, eight were new writing commissions. This has created a

large amount of work for young Australian theatre-makers – actors, writers, directors, designers and production teams. We are proud of the quality and quantity of work we continue to make in our two theatres, and the opportunities we create in the industry.

2014 also represented a significant milestone for the company. It had been 30 years since Belvoir St Theatre had been saved in 1984 from redevelopment by the tenacity of two theatre workers – Chris Westwood and Sue Hill – and a group of committed, theatre-loving individuals who bought shares in the building. We celebrated this anniversary with a lively, joyous afternoon in the theatre, which brought together many of the original shareholders who had saved Belvoir three decades ago.

Towards the end of 2014, Ralph Myers decided to step down as Artistic Director after five years with the company and having programmed five Belvoir seasons (2011-2015). He leaves us at the end of 2015. Ralph's tenure at Belvoir has been transformative. He has overseen generational change at the company artistically and within our audience. With great panache Ralph stepped into Neil Armfield's shoes, and immediately threw himself into the artistic role with vision and determination. While respecting the Belvoir tradition he has nurtured and developed the careers of a whole new generation of Australian theatre-makers. We all wish Ralph well for his future and will watch his

career with great interest. He has made an enormous contribution to Belvoir.

Following a detailed search, in late 2014 we were thrilled to announce the appointment of Eamon Flack as the new Artistic Director of Belvoir – responsible for the 2016 season onwards. Eamon is on staff at Belvoir already, as Associate Director – New Projects, and knows the company well. We are confident the transition will go smoothly.

During the year we further developed the range and breadth of our international touring. Our production of *The Wild Duck* played to great acclaim as part of the Barbican Centre's International Ibsen Season in London. *The Guardian* newspaper ranked it one of the Top Ten theatre productions of the year. We also toured shows to Mexico, Scotland and Europe, with *Thyestes* enjoying seasons in Germany and at the Holland Festival.

Once again, we were delighted to be able to present productions at Belvoir using funds from the Creative Development Fund and the Chair's Group. These are two of our valued donor groups that raise funds for Belvoir projects and productions, and both ensure that we can extend our reach and ambition. We are grateful for this support.

We are again extremely grateful to The Balnaves Foundation for their ongoing commitment to Belvoir towards supporting our Indigenous productions. In 2014, The Balnaves Foundation supported the staging of *Brothers Wreck* and *20 Questions*. The third annual Balnaves Foundation Indigenous Playwright's Award was awarded to writer/director/performer Leah Purcell for her ambitious proposed work – a radical adaptation of Henry Lawson's *The Drover's Wife*.

The Hive, our group of young, enthusiastic supporters, continued to gather momentum, and has yielded some exciting outcomes.

Each year the program supports one production in the Downstairs Theatre (this year it was *Cinderella*) and, in collaboration with Playwriting Australia, supports one resident playwright – this year, Jada Alberts.

Financially we are pleased to report a break-even result in very demanding trading conditions. Belvoir is not afraid to take risks in programming, and while some of our brave artistic choices are very important for the development of theatre practice in Australia and for the company, they do not always sell out. We remain committed to taking our work to the world, but this touring often requires subsidies from our ongoing operations. As an organisation and at Board level, we have had to make some tough choices and I would like to thank all the hardworking members of the Belvoir Board for their commitment, skill and financial support.

None of what we have achieved in 2014 would have been possible without the outstanding Belvoir team and the leadership of Executive Director, Brenna Hobson. Brenna has worked tirelessly and with great skill to strengthen the company internally and broaden Belvoir's activities and profile in the community. Finally, without the artistic leadership provided by Ralph Myers and the talented creative teams who have worked at Belvoir during 2014 we would not have the many productions that have sustained, intrigued and delighted us this year. They have played to great acclaim in our beloved Belvoir St Theatre, around Australia and overseas. On behalf of the Board. I thank and congratulate all of the staff and artists.

**Andrew** 

## **Awards**

Belvoir garnered five industry awards in 2014.

2014 Helpmann Awards

Best Play

Angels in America

Best Female Actor in a Supporting Role in a Play

Robyn Nevin (Angels in America)

**2014 Sydney Theatre Awards** 

Best Newcomer

**Hunter Page-Lochard** 

Best Ensemble Cast

Is This Thing On?

Best Lighting Design of a Mainstage Production

Benjamin Cistern (A Christmas Carol)



## **Artistic Director's Report**

Ralph Myers



Being an Artistic Director is a great pleasure. I know I'm just being wistful and romantic because I'm in the last few months of my tenure here as I write this in early 2015, but it really is great FUN a lot of the time. Sure, there are worky,

boring bits – all jobs have those – but sitting here at my desk and thinking back over the 13 new shows we produced last year has genuinely put a smile on my face. It's lovely to have a chance to reflect on the year and take the opportunity to note some of the moments that stick in my mind.

2014 was a year of new voices and new faces. The season was largely made by people who we've brought into the company since I began here four seasons ago – and those people are largely women. Only two of the 13 shows didn't have a woman as either director or writer, and eight of them had both. It's a long way from the bad old days of beardy blokes (although I still have a beard I confess, although slightly greyer than it was when I started).

It was also the year I came to the decision to leave this wonderful job, although not because of the beard. Jokes aside, it was a very hard decision. But a good one, I'm pretty sure. I'm looking forward to being a proper set designer again, and to having the pleasure of coming back to Belvoir as a civilian!

I also delivered the Philip Parsons Memorial Lecture in November. I might have ruffled a few feathers (I got called a 'borderline racist' in the SMH for poking other white men!) but it was a great opportunity to distil my thoughts on some of the threats to our delicate culture, and to note how vulnerable our structures are to distortion by well-meaning reforms.

It was also a year of a record number of international tours. Belvoir's work is gaining a strong following overseas, particularly in Europe. The Wild Duck at the Barbican got London into a fizz and Thyestes was the hit of the Theater der Welt in Germany and the Holland Festival. Lally Katz's Stories I Want to Tell You in Person played a one-night sell-out gig in Mexico City (with a Mexican bear!!) and Conversation Piece played to adoring houses in Glasgow and slightly confused but no less enthusiastic houses in Prague and Pilsen in the Czech Republic.

But back to our two wonderful theatres in Surry Hills. Here are the 10 moments that stick in my mind and make me smile from 2014 – in roughly chronological order.

- The bloodbath in the opening sequence of Oedipus Schmoedipus. Zoë Coombs Marr and Mish Grigor, two thirds of the troupe post, killed each other countless times (more times than is polite at least) and ended up bespattered in blood.
   I loved it! And surprisingly so did my mother! And what a start to the year!
- Helen Morse's wonderful, dignified mother to Brendan Cowell's great, troubled, troublesome author in Michael Gow's touching not-a-self-portrait Once in Royal David's City.

- The moment that Greg Stone found his trousers onstage in *The Government Inspector*, having just played the whole third act in his undies (and Rob Menzies' face when he noticed that, despite having just spent the entire third act onstage with Greg Stone, the man didn't have any pants on).
- Wesley Enoch when he realised that HE was the subject (or victim) of the grilling in the final installment of 20 Questions.
- Hunter Page-Lochard's devastating performance as an angry young man in Jada Alberts' brilliant Upstairs Theatre debut, Brothers Wreck.
- The wonderful murmur of excitement that rumbled through the audience when they realised just how real (and tragic) the second act of *Nora* was going to be.

- Peter Carroll one of the legends of the Australian stage – giving 'the performance of his lifetime' (to quote *The Australian*) in Adena Jacobs' eviscerating re-dreaming of *Oedipus Rex*.
- Pamela Rabe's entrance in THAT DRESS in The Glass Menagerie.
- Susan Prior turning on the audience and giving it to them (and then vomiting) in Is This Thing On?
- And Stevie Rodgers, dressed as a Christmas tree, singing his little heart out in A Christmas Carol.

Ah, the memories!

I'm going to miss this place.

Ralph





## **Executive Director's Report**

Brenna Hobson



2014 was Ralph Myers' fourth year as Artistic Director and his fourth record for the company in number of subscribers. To have record numbers of subscribers place faith in a season that is challenging, varied and heavily dominated

by new Australian work is both enormously exciting and a great privilege. Subscribers are our greatest supporters and our most important critics, and I thank them for their energy and ongoing engagement.

In 2014 two staff members left the company to become general managers of small-tomedium arts organisations (Tahni Froudist now heads HotHouse in Albury and Daniel Potter is the CEO of Shopfront Theatre). While I miss them both terribly I am enormously proud of the role that Belvoir takes in the broader artistic community. We believe in taking risks on promising young professionals, theatre workers as well as artists, and then backing their efforts. The departure of these staff members to the small-to-medium sector made me think about how interconnected this endeavour of performing arts is: all parts of the industry, big and small, need each other and any blow to one sector affects us all, just as any triumph benefits us all.

Anyone who knows Belvoir well has probably been increasingly excited for some time now about the talent that is Eamon Flack. Whether it be the exuberance of *As You Like It* in 2011 or the extraordinary humanity of *Angels in America*, it is increasingly clear that he has an extraordinary talent. *Angels* won the Helpmann Award for Best Play of 2013 just before we announced our search for a new Artistic Director, and Eamon's production of *The Glass Menagerie* opened part-way through the process. Eamon articulated a

compelling vision in his interviews but even without that his work demands that he be respected as an artist and an artistic leader. I couldn't be happier with the choice of him as our Artistic Director from 2016 onwards.

When The Wild Duck's season at the Barbican in London was ranked fourth in the London Evening Standard's 10 best theatre shows of 2014 and eighth in The Guardian's list, it felt like a wonderful vindication - not only of Belvoir's international touring efforts but also of the quality of theatre coming out of this country. We couldn't do that work without the strong support of some key philanthropists: Andrew Cameron AM. Mark Carnegie, Jessica Block and, for the Thyestes tour. Phillip Keir. They are generous and visionary and I hope that the accolades prove what we all know: that their support is well founded. Our thanks also go to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade who supported The Wild Duck tour, and the Australia Council for the Arts who supported Thyestes. 2014 also saw tours of Stories I Want to Tell You in Person to Mexico. Conversation Piece to Glasgow. Prague and Pilsen and Thyestes to Theater der Welt in Mannheim and the Holland Festival. Each of those productions was lauded for its ingenuity and theatrical excellence.

Closer to home it was pleasing to be able to post a break-even result in 2014 after a financially difficult 2013. This is in part due to our philanthropic supporters led by Andrew Cameron AM and The Balnaves Foundation who support Indigenous programming at Belvoir. The fact that our combined philanthropic and sponsorship income matched our government support for the first time in the company's history last year is both great testament to the dedication of our supporters and the hard work of our Development staff. The government support that we receive from the Australia Council for the Arts and Arts NSW is a vital bedrock for our company and we acknowledge their support.

The activity I referred to all happened against a backdrop of creating eight new Australian works in our Upstairs and Downstairs Theatres, and the continued promotion of female directors and writers that has been a hallmark of Ralph's tenure at the company. 2014 also saw Belvoir tour our production of *Food* (co-produced with Force Majeure) to 19 regional centres across Australia. Touring a work in regional Australia is a complex business due to the government support required to make the work affordable to presenters. It is however enormously rewarding and remains an ongoing ambition for the company.

We move forward into 2015 excited about what's to come and ready for the challenges. With two equally talented and visionary Artistic Directors at the helm of the company – one playing out his last season and the other planning his first – we're embracing the transition and looking to the future.

As ever my thanks go to the extraordinary community of Board members, artists and arts workers who come together to make Belvoir what it is. They are a constant inspiration to work with.

**Brenna** 



## 2014 Season and Tours



## **Oedipus Schmoedipus**

9 January – 2 February Upstairs Theatre

### **Statistics**

Performances	28
Total Available Tickets	9,436
Total Audience	6,391
Box Office Income	\$234.254

Written by
post (Zoë Coombs Marr,
Mish Grigor & Natalie Rose)
after Aeschylus, Anon, Barrie,
Behn, Boucicault, Büchner,
Chekhov, Euripides, Gogol,
Goldsmith, Gorky, Hugo,
Ibsen, Jonson, Marlowe,
Mayakovsky, Molière,
Pirandello, Plautus, Racine,
Seneca, Shakespeare,
Sophocles, Strindberg,
Voltaire, Wedekind, Wilde et al

Directed by
Zoë Coombs Marr &
Mish Grigor
Set & Costume Designer
Robert Cousins
Lighting Designer
Matthew Marshall
Composer & Sound Designer
James Brown
Dramaturg
Anne-Louise Sarks
Fight Director

Stage Manager
Roxzan Bowes
Assistant Stage Manager
Megan Fitzgerald
Production Manager
Leonard Samperi
Stage Management
Secondment
Brittany Jones
With
Zoë Coombs Marr
Mish Grigor
& a cast of volunteers

A co-production with post in association with Sydney Festival

**Scott Witt** 

There's a glorious playfulness to the whole production not much seen on Australian stages.

The Guardian

Coombs Marr and Grigor have a pleasing and informal chemistry that makes their riffing watchable and likable.

Aussie Theatre



## **Once in Royal David's City**

8 February - 23 March **Upstairs Theatre** 

## **Statistics**

Performances	49
Total Available Tickets	17,003
Total Audience	13,793
Box Office Income	\$556,932

Written by Michael Gow Directed by **Eamon Flack** 

Set & Lighting Designer **Nick Schlieper** 

Costume Designer Mel Page

Composer Alan John

Sound Supervisor **Michael Toisuta** 

Stage Manager Luke McGettigan Assistant Stage Manager **Keiren Smith** Assistant to the Set Designer **Georgia Hopkins** Stage Management Secondment Michelle Sverdloff-Bruer

Costume Secondment

**Hannah Koch** 

With **Helen Buday Brendan Cowell Maggie Dence** Harry Greenwood Lech Mackiewicz **Tara Morice Helen Morse Anthony Phelan James Wright** 

The intersection of the intellect and the emotions... is what makes Michael Gow's play so interesting, so affecting and so immensely enjoyable.

Australian Stage

... all of the actors are flawless, while Cowell is just breathtaking.

Arts Hub

## The Government Inspector

27 March - 18 May **Upstairs Theatre** 

### **Statistics**

Performances	57
Total Available Tickets	18,696
Total Audience	13,343
Box Office Income	\$519.189

Written by Simon Stone with **Emily Barclay:** devised with the cast Featuring a short musical by Stefan Gregory Inspired by

Nikolai Gogol Directed by Simon Stone

Set Designer Ralph Myers Costume Designer Mel Page

Lighting Designer **Paul Jackson** 

Composer & Sound Designer **Stefan Gregory** 

Choreographer **Lucy Guerin** Stage Managers

Tia Clark **Chantelle Foster**  Assistant Stage Managers Caitlin Byrne

Vanessa Martin Costume Secondment

Hannah Koch

With

Favssal Bazzi Mitchell Butel **Gareth Davies Robert Menzies** Zahra Newman

13

**Eryn Jean Norvill** 

Greg Stone

### A co-production with Malthouse Theatre

This is a wickedly funny spoof of contemporary theatre... and the cast send themselves up something rotten.

The Sun Herald



Features a top-flight ensemble cast working at the height of their comic powers... they're a delight to watch.

The Guardian



## 20 Questions

7 April – 11 August Upstairs Theatre

### **Statistics**

Performances	15
Total Available Tickets	5,070
Total Audience	2,816
Box Office Income	\$101.584

Devised by Wesley Enoch & Eamon Flack

Hosted by Wesley Enoch

Design Associate Katren Wood

Composer & Sound Designer / Operator

Steve Toulmin
Production Manager

Daniel Potter

The Sydney Morning Herald

Technical Manager Warren Sutton

Stage Manager Isabella Kerdijk

Collaborators

Jada Alberts, Angela Betzien, Zoë Coombs Marr, Nick Coyle, Tahni Froudist, Brenna Hobson, Adena Jacobs, Colin Kinchela, Anne-Louise Sarks. Tim

Spencer, Anthea Williams

With
Jada Alberts
Christine Anu
Luke Carroll

**Jack Charles** 

Ernie Dingo
Casey Donovan
Wesley Enoch
Trevor Jamieson
Rachael Maza
David Page
Hunter Page-Lochard
Leah Purcell
Wilma Reading
Miranda Tapsell
Ursula Yovich

... an enjoyable hour spent watching talented people reveal something of themselves and what it is to be an Indigenous person in this country. It manages to sweep all present up in an exercise that perhaps, above all, celebrates what it means to play a part in the human performance.

The Daily Review

### **Cain and Abel**

15 May – 8 June Downstairs Theatre

### **Statistics**

Performances	27
Total Available Tickets	2,241
Total Audience	1,635
Box Office Income	\$49.035

Created by Kate Davis & Emma Valente

Directed by Emma Valente

Set & Costume Designer **Kate Davis** 

Lighting & Sound Designer **Emma Valente** 

Stage Manager **Mel Dyer** 

Directing Secondment / Scribe

Rachel Roberts

Design Secondments

Nick Fry Tyler Hawkins

Observer

James Jackson

With

Dana Miltins Mary Helen Sassman

### A co-production with THE RABBLE

Davis and Valente's work is brave, iconoclastic and important.

Suzy Goes See

Having THE RABBLE visit Sydney is a rare pleasure we could get definitely get used to.

Concrete Playground



## **Brothers Wreck**

24 May – 22 June Upstairs Theatre

### **Statistics**

Performances	33
Total Available Tickets	11,154
Total Audience	8,542
Box Office Income	\$309.638

Written by
Jada Alberts
Directed by
Leah Purcell

Set & Costume Designer

Dale Ferguson
Lighting Designer
Luiz Pampolha

Composer & Sound Designer Brendan O'Brien Stage Manager Luke McGettigan

Assistant Stage Manager

Keiren Smith

With Cramer Cain Lisa Flanagan

Rarriwuy Hick Hunter Page-Lochard

**Bjorn Stewart** 

Alberts' script grabs you by the heartstrings in the first few desperate minutes, and doesn't let go.

... a superb piece of theatre... Go and see this play.

Concrete Playground

## **Hedda Gabler**

28 June – 3 August Upstairs Theatre

### **Statistics**

Performances	41
Total Available Tickets	13,899
Total Audience	9,773
Box Office Income	\$374,738

Adapted by

Adena Jacobs from the play by Henrik Ibsen

Directed by **Adena Jacobs** 

Set Designer

Dayna Morrissey

Costume Designer

David Fleischer

Lighting Designer

Danny Pettingill

Composer
Kelly Ryall
Dramaturg
Luisa Hastings Edge

Fight Director
Scott Witt
Stage Manager

Edwina Guinness
Assistant Stage Manager
Angharad Lindley

With

Branden Christine Lynette Curran Ash Flanders Marcus Graham Anna Houston Oscar Redding Tim Walter

At the heart of it, Flanders is a very good Hedda. His characterisation is lean, mean and languorous, and his interactions a spectrum of disconnection.

It's great to see *Hedda Gabler* reworked so ferociously, because it needs to be.

Arts Hub

Concrete Playground

Stage Noise



### Nora

9 August – 14 September Upstairs Theatre

### **Statistics**

Performances	41
Total Available Tickets	13,899
Total Audience	9,893
Box Office Income	\$389.481

Written by **Kit Brookman** & **Anne-Louise Sarks** after *A Doll's House* by **Henrik Ibsen**Directed by

Anne-Louise Sarks

Set Designer
Marg Howell

The Guardian

Costume Designer

Mel Page

Lighting Designer
Paul Jackson
Composer
Kelly Ryall
Stage Manager
Karen Faure

Assistant Stage Manager **Keiren Smith** 

With

Toby Challenor
Linda Cropper
Finn Dauphinee
Indianna Gregg
Damien Ryan
Ava Strybosch

## **Oedipus Rex**

21 August – 21 September

**Downstairs Theatre** 

### **Statistics**

Directed by

Performances	35
Total Available Tickets	2,905
Total Audience	2,446
Box Office Income	\$67.466

Adena Jacobs
Designer & Dramaturg
Paul Jackson
Composer &
Sound Designer
Max Lyandvert

Design Associate Emma Kingsbury Director's Attachment Robert Johnson Stage Manager Elizabeth Rogers With

Peter Carroll
Andrea Demetriades

Sarks has produced a piece of muscular and exciting theatre: funny, moving, and of our time.

Blazey Best holds the piece together with a powerful performance in the title role.

Daily Review

This is what theatre should be – powerful, dangerous, beautiful.

The Sun Herald

Carroll offers a gripping and bravely vulnerable performance that makes extant Oedipus' searing pain.

The Sydney Morning Herald



## **The Glass Menagerie**

20 September – 2 November

**Upstairs Theatre** 

### **Statistics**

Performances	49
Total Available Tickets	17,248
Total Audience	15,278
Box Office Income	\$622,294

Written by **Tennessee Williams** 

Directed by **Eamon Flack** 

Set Designer

Michael Hankin Costume Designer

Mel Page

Lighting Designer **Damien Cooper** 

Aussie Theatre

Composer & Sound Designer

Stefan Gregory

Video Design Consultant

Sean Bacon Dialect Coach

Paige Walker-Carlton

Assistant Director Jada Alberts

Assistant Set Designer

Georgia Hopkins Stage Managers

Isabella Kerdijk Luke McGettigan Is This Thing On?

2 October - 2 November

**Downstairs Theatre** 

### **Statistics**

Performances	35
Total Available Tickets	2,905
Total Audience	2,552
Box Office Income	\$80.932

Written by

Zoë Coombs Marr

Directed by Kit Brookman & Zoë Coombs Marr

Set & Costume Designer

Ralph Myers

Lighting Designer **Verity Hampson** 

Composer & Sound Designer Steve Toulmin

Stage Manager Mel Dyer

With

Madeleine Benson Genevieve Giuffre **Fiona Press Susan Prior Nat Randall** 

... achingly beautiful. It is the visible alleys and laneways of love and regret. It is faultless. The finest production of the year. A compassionate and illuminating production... You shouldn't miss it.

Assistant Stage Manager

**Production Secondment** 

Katie Hankin

Fraser Orford

**Luke Mullins** 

Pamela Rabe

**Rose Riley** 

Harry Greenwood

With

The Sydney Morning Herald

Like all great comedy it is all instantly recognisable but also splendidly new.

The Australian

Exuberant, celebratory theatre.

Time Out



## **A Christmas Carol**

8 November – 24 December Upstairs Theatre

### **Statistics**

Performances	51
Total Available Tickets	17,289
Total Audience	13,455
Box Office Income	\$475,698

Adapted by Benedict Hardie & Anne-Louise Sarks from the novel by Charles Dickens

Directed by

Anne-Louise Sarks

Set Designer

**Michael Hankin**Costume Designer

Mel Page

Lighting Designer **Benjamin Cisterne** 

Composer & Sound Designer Stefan Gregory

Dramaturg
Marg Howell

Movement Director
Scott Witt

Stage Managers

Mel Dyer

Mel Dyer Edwina Guinness Assistant Stage Managers

Gina Bianco Sarah Stait

With
Kate Box
Peter Carroll
Ivan Donato
Eden Falk

Eden Falk Robert Menzies Steve Rodgers Miranda Tapsell Ursula Yovich

This delightful production is everything you could possibly want in a Christmas show.

The Australian

Robert Menzies makes Scrooge's enlightenment an infectious pleasure to observe.

The Sydney Morning Herald

## **Cinderella**

13 November – 14 December

**Downstairs Theatre** 

### **Statistics**

Performances	34
Total Available Tickets	2,822
Total Audience	2,693
Box Office Income	\$78.783

Written by
Matthew Whittet
Original Concept by
Anthea Williams
Directed by
Anthea Williams

Set & Costume Designer

Elizabeth Gadsby

Lighting Designer

Matthew Marshall

Composer & Sound Designer

Kelly Ryall
Stage Manager
Elizabeth Rogers

With

Mandy McElhinney Matthew Whittet



Time Out

Mandy McElhinney and Matthew Whittet both give mesmerising performances.

Concrete Playground



## Co-producer Season

In 2014 one of Belvoir's co-producers hosted their season of our co-production.

## **The Government Inspector**

A co-production with Malthouse Theatre

28 February – 23 March Malthouse, Melbourne

### **Statistics**

Performances	22
Total Audience	5 535
iotal Addience	3,333

### \*\*\*\*

A thoroughly entertaining comedy with broad appeal, it's a marvellous start to the year at the Malthouse.

The Age

Gogol should be delighted with this tribute to his story of a crooked town being duped by a cunning incomer.

Herald Sun

# National & International Touring Stories I Want to Tell You in Person

### **Statistics**

Performances	21
Total Audience	1,657

Written by Lally Katz

Directed by Anne-Louise Sarks

Set & Costume Designer Ralph Myers

Lighting Designer **Damien Cooper** 

Composer & Sound Designer Max Lyandvert Stage Managers Isabella Kerdijk (Albury) Daniel Potter (Mexico City) Amy Harris (Adelaide)

Production Manager **Daniel Potter** 

With Lally Katz

### **Touring venues**

**HotHouse Theatre, Albury** 6–15 March

**Dramafest, Mexico City** 26 August

Brink Productions, Adelaide 29 October – 8 November

### A co-production with Malthouse Theatre

This charming production is a standout among a recent plethora of one-woman comedy shows.

GLAMAdelaide

Katz is a capable writer and an entertaining performer, and the stories she tells us in person are worth seeing.

InDaily, Adelaide



## **National Touring Neighbourhood Watch**

### **Statistics**

43 Performances **Total Audience** 22,282

Written by Lally Katz

Directed by Simon Stone

Set & Costume Designer **Dale Ferguson** 

Lighting Designer

**Damien Cooper** 

Composer & Sound Designer Stefan Gregory

Dramaturg **Eamon Flack**  Associate Sound Designer Terry McKibben

Stage Manager **Eva Tandy** 

Assistant Stage Manager

Jess Keepence

**Production Manager Todd Wilson** 

Technical Manager / Head Electrician Tom Warneke

With

Akos Armont **Charlie Garber Anthony Harkin** Natasha Herbert Megan Holloway Kris McQuade **Robyn Nevin** 

**Touring venue** 

**Melbourne Theatre Company** 17 March - 26 April

### This is, in many ways, the Robyn Nevin Show, and she doesn't disappoint.

Daily Review

26

It's a big hearted production that sidesteps overt sentimentality and challenges the audience to first look to home to find stories of compassion and human connection.

Limelight Magazine

## **National Touring** The Government Inspector

### **Statistics**

Performances 14 **Total Audience** 4.748

Written by

Simon Stone with Emily Barclay;

devised with the cast

Featuring a short musical by Stefan Gregory

Inspired by Nikolai Gogol

Directed by Simon Stone

Set Designer Ralph Myers

Costume Designer Mel Page

Lighting Designer **Paul Jackson** 

Composer & Sound Designer Stefan Gregory

Choreographer **Lucy Guerin** 

> Stage Manager **Chantelle Foster**

Assistant Stage Manager Vanessa Martin

Production Manager **Daniel Potter** 

Sound Operator **Caitlin Porter** 

With

Favssal Bazzi Mitchell Butel **Gareth Davies Robert Menzies** Zahra Newman **Eryn Jean Norvill Greg Stone** 

### **Touring venues**

**Geelong Performing Arts Centre** 22-24 May

**Canberra Theatre Centre** 28-31 May

**Merrigong Theatre** Company, Wollongong 4-7 June

A co-production with Malthouse Theatre



A scrupulously polished backstage farce.

The Guardian

A tour de force of theatrical frivolity and fun.

SMH. Canberra





# International Touring Thyestes

### **Statistics**

Performances 6
Total Audience 2,050

Co-written by Thomas Henning, Chris Ryan, Simon Stone & Mark Winter after Seneca

Directed by

Simon Stone

Set & Costume Designer Claude Marcos

Lighting Designer

Govin Ruben

Composer & Sound Designer **Stefan Gregory** 

Dramaturg

Anne-Louise Sarks

Stage Manager Karen Faure

Assistant Stage Manager

**Isabella Kerdijk**Production Manager

Todd Wilson

Head Electrician
Chris Mercer

With

Thomas Henning Chris Ryan Toby Schmitz

**Touring venues** 

Theater der Welt, Nationaltheater, Mannheim, Germany

31 May - 1 June

Holland Festival, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

23-27 June

Originally created by THE HAYLOFT PROJECT. A Malthouse Theatre commission.



I have witnessed at the Holland Festival the work of Australia's Belvoir – and genuinely sat unsettlingly in my seat from beginning to end.

Auditorium Magazine

# International Touring Conversation Piece

### **Statistics**

Performances 6
Total Audience 598

Choreography & Direction by **Lucy Guerin** 

Set & Costume Designer

Robert Cousins

Lighting Designer **Damien Cooper** 

Composer & Sound Designer

Robin Fox

Production Manager **Gene Hedley** 

Stage Manager

Melanie Stanton

Sound Engineer
Nick Roux

Producer

Annette Vieusseux

With

Megan Holloway Stephanie Lake Alisdair Macindoe Rennie McDougall Katherine Tonkin Matthew Whittet

### **Touring venues**

Tanec Praha, Prague, Czech Republic 2–4 June

Pap-rna, Pilsen, Czech Republic

8 June

Tramway, Glasgow, Scotland 12–13 June

A co-production with Lucy Guerin Inc



... copious praise must be heaped on the six performers, who, miraculously, create a brand new show for every performance.

The Scotsman

... brilliantly performed by a quick-witted, nimble sextet. A wickedly clever start to Tramway's HOT season.

29

Herald Scotland

28 THE SOUSHIAM



## **National & Regional Touring Food**

A co-production with Force Majeure

# StatisticsPerformances52Total Audience8,269

Written by Steve Rodgers

Directed by Kate Champion & Steve Rodgers

Set & Costume Designer Anna Tregloan

Lighting & Audio Visual Designer

Martin Langthorne
Composer &

Sound Designer **Ekrem Mülayim** 

Assistant Director

Danielle Micich

Stage Manager
Chantelle Foster

Production Manager

Jack Horton

Mechanist

Damien King

With
Fayssal Bazzi
Emma Jackson
Mel King

Mel King
Touring venues

**Riverside Theatres, Parramatta** 1–5 July

NORPA, Lismore 11–12 July

Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre, Penrith 17–19 July

Orange Civic Theatre

Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre 25–26 July

Glen Street Theatre, Sydney 31 July – 6 August Wagga Wagga Civic Centre 9 August

HotHouse Theatre, Albury

12-16 August

Merrigong
Theatre Company,
Wollongong

Wollongong 20–23 August

Queanbeyan Performing Arts Centre 27–30 August

Westside Performing Arts Centre, Mooroopna 3 September

Mildura Arts Centre 6 September

Clocktower Centre, Moonee Ponds 10 September The Capital, Bendigo

13 September

Wellington Entertainment Centre

17 September

Gasworks Art Park, Albert Park

19–20 September

Theatre Royal, Hobart

25–26 September

Mandurah
Performing Arts
Centre
8 October

Albany Entertainment Centre

11 October

# International Touring The Wild Duck

### **Statistics**

Performances 9
Total Audience 5,432

Written by Simon Stone with Chris Ryan after Henrik Ibsen

Directed by Simon Stone

Set Designer Ralph Myers

Costume Designer
Tess Schofield

Lighting Designer **Niklas Pajanti** 

Composer &
Sound Designer
Stefan Gregory

Assistant Director **Anne-Louise Sarks** 

Dramaturg
Eamon Flack

Stage Manager Luke McGettigan

Assistant Stage Manager

**Amy Morcom**Production Manager

Chris Mercer
Head Mechanist

Todd Wilson

Sound Operator

Caitlin Porter

With

Brendan Cowell
John Gaden
Anita Hegh
Richard Piper
Sara West
Dan Wyllie

**Touring venue** 

Barbican Centre, London, UK

23 October – 1 November



... taught, electrifying and pulsing with a feverish passion.

Plays to See, UK

... this is heartbreaking drama, so truthfully acted it would make a stone weep. Don't miss it.

The Arts Desk, UK



# National Touring Page 8

### **Statistics**

Performances 8
Total Audience 2,037

Co-written by

Louis Nowra & David Page from an original concept by

**David Page** 

Directed by Stephen Page

Set Designer

Robert Cousins

Costume Designer

Jodie Fried

Lighting Designer Mark Howett

Sound Designer Steve Francis

Stage Manager

Peter Sutherland

Assistant Stage Manager Emjay Matthews

With

David Page

### Touring venue

Corroboree Sydney Festival, Bangarra Dance Theatre

21 November – 14 December

Humour, nostalgia and poignancy are perfectly balanced in David Page's well-travelled autobiographical show. It is a classic of the genre.

The Sydney Morning Herald

## **Education**

## Not only was it great acting, but it was real. You could feel the emotion and experience it.

Student, Shoalhaven High School, on seeing *Brothers Wreck* 

In 2014, Belvoir offered 25 schools matinees of Upstairs and Downstairs Theatre productions.

Students attending our schools performances came from the full range of high schools - government and nongovernment, local schools and schools in regional NSW and the ACT. Our most heavily booked performances were The Glass Menagerie, Brothers Wreck, A Christmas Carol and Once in Royal David's City. Brothers Wreck in particular had a strong emotional impact on students. One wrote: 'The moment in the play that had the most impact on me was when they were at the old house and where Ruben decided to change and gather round as a family. Because it was touching and I felt really emotional on that day and I actually learned something that I will apply to my life.'

Students also loved *A Christmas Carol*. A teacher from Chifley College Senior Campus wrote to us on the train back to Mount Druitt after attending the play: 'Thank you so much for today. We brought our Studies cohort with us today and they laughed (and cried). I am sitting in a train listening to them discuss all the positives that theatre brings. It was an awesome performance (and magical) and a genuine pleasure to see the joy on the faces of our students and those younger students from the other schools.'

In our schools audiences we also see a mix of theatre-going experience – from those who have been attending our productions for a number of years, to others coming for the first time. Each schools matinee is followed by a Question & Answer session with the cast.

In 2014, 5,569 students and their teachers attended a schools matinee at Belvoir. Of these, 1,206 attended through ticket and travel subsidy programs offered to schools identified by the NSW Department of Education & Communities as disadvantaged or geographically remote. Participating schools came from Coffs Harbour, Cooma, Nyngan, Newcastle, The Entrance, Erina, Terrigal, Aberdeen, Oak Flats and Lithgow, and from Sydney's western and southwestern suburbs including Bankstown, Blacktown, Cabramatta, Condell Park, Eagle Vale, Liverpool, Miller, Mount Druitt, Rosemeadow and Wiley Park.

Schools also brought their students to Belvoir evening performances, either by purchasing subscription packages or by booking specific productions. This year, 1,821 students and their teachers attended an evening performance at Belvoir.

## I've never seen a play with so much focus and a beautiful story. It was probably the best play I've ever seen.

Student, Wiley Park Girls High School, on *The Glass Menagerie* 

### Theatre workshop program

Belvoir's workshop program brings students, teachers and industry professionals together. In 2014 we again delivered a huge program of practical workshops in performance, production and design at Belvoir, at schools through regional NSW, including a digital workshop in Set Design broadcast to students studying through the Dubbo School of Distance Education.

We ran 84 workshops for 1,632 students in metropolitan and regional schools, at Belvoir St Theatre and in our rehearsal rooms. Half of these students experienced the workshops at their own regional schools. The quality, reach and impact of our Regional Workshop program goes part way to closing the cultural gap between students at regional high schools and their metropolitan peers.

We would love to have the opportunity to travel to the city but it's too expensive. This opportunity allows ALL students to be able to afford it and gain valuable skills.

Teacher, Nyngan High School

This was an invaluable experience for both the students and the staff present. Teacher, Warren Central School

It's easier to understand drama when it comes from the professionals.

Student, Tuggerah Lakes Secondary College

Most workshops are the same but this one was fun and had a bit of flair too, it was that great!

Student, Murray High School

## Professional development workshops for teachers

Three professional development workshops in teaching Group Devising, Costume and Set Design were held at Belvoir with 30 teachers participating. These full-day workshops, held on a Saturday, are a great way for Belvoir to meet teachers face-to-face and to learn how we can better support their teaching. Our tutors share their professional experience and processes with teachers, and explore approaches to working with students through practical activities.

It was so helpful in explaining the practical elements of Set Design for HSC students. Thanks Belvoir – another excellent workshop!

Teacher, Lucas Heights Community School

### **Theatre Enrichment**

The experience of attending a performance at Belvoir is extended for some students through our unique Theatre Enrichment Program – a fully subsidised program offered to students at government high schools in western and south-western Sydney and regional NSW. In 2014, 361 students and their teachers participated in this program. Students attended a school matinee performance of *Once in* 

Royal David's City or Nora. Beforehand, they participated in a 90-minute session at their school, designed to introduce them, through practical activities, to the elements of theatre used by a director to bring a text to life on the stage. After seeing the show, students met a member of the cast or creative team who visited their school for a Question & Answer session.

Playwright Kit Brookman and actor Blazey Best (both of our production *Nora*) visited schools as part of our Theatre Enrichment program. One teacher wrote to us that her students '... have definitely been positively influenced by the experience. They were so enthusiastic during rehearsals on Friday, and were happy to experiment with ways of making their own performances as succinct as *Nora* was to the viewing audience.'

Due to our school's isolation, we only have limited access to professional live theatre sets in proper playhouses. This means that this experience was not only an incredible learning experience for our students, but also an incredible LIFE experience.

Teacher, Coomealla High School

I think that what the director wanted us to understand was that we have a choice about what we believe, that we don't have to follow the crowd.

Student, Coomealla High School

[This program] provides opportunities for students to see live professional theatre. For us, distance and money is always an issue.

Teacher, Narooma High School

### **Youth Express**

Belvoir's outreach program, Youth Express, ran for the tenth year in 2014. Thirty-two young people participated. We worked with four youth-support organisations – Youth Off the Streets' Key College, Regenesis Youth, The John Berne School and Twenty10 – to deliver a 16-week program of drama workshops to young people at risk. With directors James Winter, Gavin Vance and Margie Breen, the young people devised



their own short performances, based on their experiences and views of the world. Performed in the Downstairs Theatre, the pieces were strong and honest, tackling issues such as teenage pregnancy, street violence, gender and identity and the prejudice marginalised young people often experience. The program challenges the young people to step outside their comfort zone by committing to the process and having the courage to stand up in the public forum and tell their story.

As the crowd of people came into the [theatre] the nerves were shooting to the roof and it was unbelievably scary. But my school and I had pulled through all the nerves and done the play. It was an exciting and nerve wracking experience and if I got the chance to do it again I would definitely take the opportunity!

My experience at Belvoir was amazing. I met so many people and being able to act was a big deal for me... here I was able to be strong and work with people and do what I want for once.

Participants, Youth Express

### Work experience

Secondary school students have the opportunity to learn more about Belvoir and our productions first hand through our work experience program. In 2014, 16 students

completed one week of work experience at Belvoir; as well as Sydney students, we hosted students from Orange, the Illawarra and the Blue Mountains. Seventeen students took part in work placement as part of their Vocational Education and Training Entertainment Certificate. These Year 11 and 12 students spent one week with Belvoir's Production department, participating in the bump-in of a Belvoir production.

### More resources we provide

Students continue to access Belvoir's history and past productions. In 2014, 121 students went on a backstage tour and 565 students watched an archival recording of one of Belvoir's productions.

In 2014, 1,075 teachers received our Education e-bulletins, and our annual school book was posted to 1,892 teachers in NSW as well as 131 teachers interstate.

Belvoir's Education webpages received 13,445 page views in 2014, proving that our online resources are attractive, user-friendly and are being utilised by both teachers and students alike.

### **Jane May**

**Education Manager** 

Margie Breen, the young people devised 35

## **Artistic and Programming**

2014 was a fantastic year for artistic development and programming at Belvoir, with more artists in ongoing employment in the company than ever before. The Artistic and Programming team for the year comprised Jada Alberts, Eamon Flack, Brenna Hobson, Adena Jacobs, Ralph Myers, Anne-Louise Sarks and Anthea Williams. Tahni Froudist was our Associate Producer until April when she left to take up the role of General Manager at HotHouse Theatre in Albury. That same month, Luke Cowling joined the department as Associate Producer.

### **New works**

This year Belvoir produced a number of new works, showing our commitment to both known and new playwrights; they included Once in Royal David's City by Michael Gow, Brothers Wreck by Jada Alberts and Is This Thing On? by Zoë Coombs Marr. Three radical re-workings of known stories included Nora by Kit Brookman and Anne-Louise Sarks, The Government Inspector by Simon Stone, Emily Barclay and the cast, and Cinderella by Matt Whittet. Nora (inspired by Ibsen's A Doll's House) and Cinderella completely re-framed their stories for a contemporary audience to explore the lives of women in Australia today, while The Government Inspector was a comic examination of how theatre can be made. Our live theatrical 'chat show' hosted by Wesley Enoch, 20 Questions, saw an unprecedented number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists welcomed onto the Belvoir stage to discuss their lives, what made them artists, and living in Australia, among many other topics.

### Classics

Eamon Flack created a beautiful production of *The Glass Menagerie* with live video on stage, highlighting Tom's agency as the writer in this memory play. The work received outstanding reviews and feedback. For her first work as our Resident Director, Adena Jacobs produced a radical reimagining of *Hedda Gabler* with male

actor Ash Flanders in the title role. Her second work, *Oedipus Rex*, was staged in our Downstairs Theatre, with Peter Carroll and Andrea Demetriades; a stark and compelling production. And to herald in the festive season, Benedict Hardie and Anne-Louise Sarks adapted Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* into a joyous and darkly compelling, highly theatrical version for the stage.

### **Co-productions**

In 2014 post and THE RABBLE were invited into the company. In association with the Sydney Festival, post created a democratic extravaganza, *Oedipus Schmoedipus*, which extrapolated and mashed up death scenes from multiple classic texts and saw over 300 volunteers perform on the Belvoir stage. THE RABBLE created *Cain and Abel*, a work reframing the first act of violence as a story about sisters. In addition, *The Government Inspector* was a co-production with Melbourne's Malthouse Theatre.

### **Development**

Over the past three years the Artistic and Programming department has been focusing on developing new Australian voices through commissions, residencies and Downstairs Theatre productions. 2014 was a fantastic year for the development of new works, with Angela Betzien, Nakkiah Lui and Matt Whittet all having plays programmed for the first time in the Upstairs Theatre as part of our 2015 Season (Mortido, Kill the Messenger and Seventeen respectively). Each of these writers was developed by the company and received Downstairs productions as part of this development: The Dark Room in 2011 (Angela Betzien): This Heaven in 2013 (Nakkiah Lui); and Old Man in 2012 and Cinderella in 2014 (Matt Whittet).

Timothy Spencer was brought into the company as a writer-in-residence with a commission supported by Playwriting Australia. Beatrix Christian's play *The Coleridge Papers* was supported with a two-day workshop at the University of Wollongong. Angela Betzien's *Mortido* was given two public readings as part of

the National Writers' Festival, with Leticia Cáceres as director and Anthea Williams as dramaturg. Nakkiah Lui received a number of workshops for *Kill the Messenger* through the Dreaming Award. And a number of writers were invited into the building for more informal notes sessions, development and writing workshop days.

### **Awards**

The NSW Philip Parsons Fellowship for Emerging Playwrights has continued to be an unusually successful generator of new plays. Zoë Coombs Marr's work *Is This Thing On?* was commissioned as part of the Fellowship; following its season in our Downstairs Theatre it won the Sydney Theatre Award for Best Ensemble Cast. The Parsons Fellow for 2014 is Julia-Rose Lewis. Julia-Rose's submission for the award was *Samson*, which will be staged in our Downstairs Theatre in 2015.

The Balnaves Foundation Indigenous Playwright's Award was run for the third time in 2014, with a strong field of applicants. Judges Wesley Enoch, Rachael Maza, Eamon Flack and Anthea Williams were joined by 2013's winner Jada Alberts. It was fantastic to have Wesley and Rachael, both Artistic Directors of other companies, supporting the award and the playwrights who applied. Leah Purcell won the award this year for a work that takes Henry Lawson's The Drover's Wife as its inspiration. Leah is writing this new work with the intention that she will play the lead in a radical Indigenous and feminist retelling of the story. This award has been such a success that The Balnaves Foundation and Belvoir have decided to run it for a further three years.

### Jada Alberts

One of the great highlights of 2014 was Jada Alberts' debut play *Brothers Wreck*. The work was a beautiful piece of contemporary Indigenous naturalism that told the story of a group of young people in

Darwin after the suicide of their cousin and friend. The work received fantastic reviews and will tour in 2015. In 2014 Jada joined Belvoir as an Associate Artist supported by our donor programs, The Hive and the Chair's Group, the Australia Council for the Arts and Playwriting Australia. Jada has been a fantastic asset to the company, working as a dramaturg on Nakkiah Lui's Kill the Messenger and as co-writer of Elektra / Orestes – both shows are part of our 2015 Season.

## Anthea Williams Associate Director – Literary



Susan Prior in Is This Thing On? Photo: Brett Boardman.

## **Marketing**

Marketing Belvoir's 2014 Season presented us with challenges and rewarded us with achievements across the year. We had well over 8,000 subscribers to our 2014 Season, and over 100,000 people attended performances at Belvoir St Theatre.

On the touring front, our increased national and international touring allowed us to reach more audiences than ever before. Across Australia and around the world we reached over 50,000 more people.

Combined global attendances, both home and abroad (sold and complimentary tickets), totalled over 155,000 for Belvoir productions in 2014.

### Philosophy and initiatives

At Belvoir we believe that our imagery should reflect who we are as a company and how we approach our work. For us that means clarity, playfulness, boldness and great storytelling. Portraits of our actors have become synonymous with Belvoir and instantly recognisable; in 2014 we extended the look and feel of our season campaigns from previous years.

The way that people consume media is constantly changing and Belvoir seeks to adapt to those changes. In 2014 we continued our successful employment of digital signage. Working with partner oOh! Media, we captured the attention of new audiences with multiple sites at Sydney Airport and at major shopping centres. We also continued to experiment with new marketing platforms, for example, we ventured onto Sydney trains for the first time – on lines most geographically aligned with our audience demographic.

We know that our audiences are interested in additional insights into our work and our artists. As one way of satisfying this desire, during *Once in Royal David's City*, we invited lead actor Brendan Cowell to write a feature introduction article for our monthly electronic news bulletin/letter. It became

our most successful communication of this type to date and audiences can expect more direct communication from our artists in the future.

September through October saw a highlight of our 2014 Season grace the boards Upstairs. Eamon Flack's luminous production of Tennessee Williams' classic, *The Glass Menagerie* was a huge hit with critics and audiences alike, garnering fivestar reviews and selling out.

A Christmas Carol gave us the opportunity to appeal to families at a very special time of year and we were pleased to be able to offer affordable packages to families. A Christmas Carol coincided with the installation of several new digital screens in our foyer; part of a broader foyer refurbishment that aims to improve our patrons' experience. These multi-purpose screens provide an alternative to fover signage and allow us to communicate a large amount of information to patrons in a seamless manner. They are able to be updated quickly and regularly and offer readily available information about running times, food and beverage offerings as well as the generosity of our supporters.

### Website and social media

Our website is the digital gateway into all Belvoir activities on stage and behind the scenes. Apart from what happens on the Belvoir stage, the website is our most powerful voice and as a result we are constantly looking at ways to improve the site and increase engagement. In 2014 our website received almost half a million visits from approximately 250,000 patrons with half of those visitors being new to us. While the majority of site visits are from Australia (specifically Sydney) we also experience healthy levels of visits from the US, the UK, New Zealand, Canada, India, Germany, France and The Netherlands due to our increased international touring.



Social media platforms are a powerful and integral part of Belvoir's communications, and we utilise our networks to share many aspects of the company with our loyal followers. Supporting Belvoir's core values and principles, our posts encourage a sense of community within the theatrical environment and a responsiveness to current social and political issues. As a result our Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts have shown a steady and consistent increase in followers for Belvoir over 2014, consistent with the growth of these platforms globally. We gained 5,000 more active Facebook followers in the year. taking us to 17,000. Over 3,000 more people followed us on Twitter, taking our number to 14,000. In line with global increases, we enjoyed a rise of 1,000 new followers on Instagram over the year; now over 2,500 fans engage with us on that platform.

We are constantly looking for ways to increase Belvoir's profile and following. We have enjoyed robust and satisfying engagement with our audiences via many and varied campaigns and platforms

throughout the year and across Ralph Myers' tenure as Artistic Director since 2011. We look forward to more challenges, highlights and successes in the coming years.

### **Gemma Frayne**

**Marketing Manager** 

## **Development**

Revenue from trusts and foundations, corporate sponsorship and philanthropy programs generated over \$2 million in 2014 compared to \$1.9 million in 2013. This is the most successful result in the company's history and represents cash and in-kind support that is equal to government funding for the first time.

Belvoir's private sector supporters provided critical financial stability within a difficult commercial operating environment.

Despite low consumer confidence, our development performance exceeded budgeted expectations for the year, which helped to reduce the impact of lower-than-forecast results in other areas.

Our increase in development income is especially impressive considering the ongoing challenges of corporate sponsorship we, and other arts companies, continue to face. Most significantly, our longstanding relationship with Optus came to an end in March. Fourteen years is a long time in sponsorship terms, and it is appropriate to single out the enormous contribution of Jann Kohlman, who passed away in July, for ensuring Belvoir sustained this important corporate support for so long. Jann worked at Optus for many years and was instrumental in securing and managing the Belvoir partnership, as well as partnerships with many other arts organisations. We are deeply grateful to Jann for the care and passion with which she managed this relationship on Optus' behalf, and to the very many great people at Optus we worked with over the course of our partnership.

We are yet to replace Optus as Corporate Partner, despite continued efforts by both Board members and staff throughout the year. A partnership of this kind provides a wonderful alignment for the right organisation and we will continue to seek out business leaders, like Jann Kohlman, who understand the value of arts partnerships. Securing a Corporate Partner remains a top priority given our increasing

reliance on private sector revenue, and we are determined to replace Optus with an equally engaged and supportive corporation as soon as possible.

2014 was also the last year of our partnerships with Goldman Sachs and Henry Davis York. We are grateful to both organisations for their support and look forward to reigniting these relationships in the future as their sponsorship strategies evolve.

While corporate support waned, private philanthropy thrived with a 30% increase in donations on our 2013 result. Our donors remain Belvoir's backbone. To thank them for their support and bring them closer to the company and our work, we held more behind-the-scenes events than ever in 2014. The more we get to know this enthusiastic group the more inspired we are by their deep commitment to Belvoir, as well as their understanding of the important role we play in enriching the lives of so many people at home and around the world.

We brought a small group of highly-engaged donors together in 2014 to augment our existing Board Development Committee. Affectionately called the Co-Conspirators, this generous group - including Anita Jacoby, Victoria Taylor, Mark Warburton, Peter Wilson and Cathy Yuncken - has been tasked with providing high-level feedback on our development program, helping us execute parts of our strategy and identifying people within their own networks who may benefit from becoming more engaged with Belvoir. We're very pleased with what the Co-Conspirators have achieved in the first vear of the initiative and grateful to them for the time, energy and insight they have already provided.

We are also very grateful to The Balnaves Foundation, whose commitment to Belvoir and our Indigenous program strengthens year-on-year. Our Chair's Report covers their support during 2014 in more detail; it represented our fourth year of working with The Balnaves Foundation.



With international touring remaining a key area of focus, our International Touring Fund received significant contributions from The Andrew Cameron Family Foundation, Mark Carnegie, Jessica Block and the Keir Foundation. This critical program supported tours to Amsterdam, Glasgow, London, Mannheim, Mexico City, Pilsen and Prague. Sharing our work with the world not only benefits Belvoir and our artists, it also helps to promote Australia as an adventurous producer of world-class theatre. Because international touring sits outside Belvoir's normal operating budget, we simply could not take Belvoir to the world without the International Touring Fund.

Closer to home, members of our supporter group The Hive joined the cast and creative team of *Cinderella* as they developed the show for our Downstairs Theatre. This vibrant group of young donors swelled in the second year of the program, with a 100% retention rate and a number of new donors signing up. The Hive is often cited as one of Australia's benchmark donor programs for 'new generation' philanthropy. We are incredibly pleased to have established such meaningful relationships with its members that we know will continue for many years to come.

Support specifically for Belvoir's education activities increased in 2014, allowing us to reinforce our commitment to young people across NSW. As well as growth in

individual donations, we received renewed support from The Teen Spirit Foundation, The Gandevia Foundation, the Greatorex Foundation and the Coca-Cola Australia Foundation. In 2014 we also welcomed new partners: MAN Investments Australia came on board to become a Youth and Education supporter, and we received a two-year grant from the Crown Resorts Foundation through their Western Sydney Arts Initiative.

Belvoir is lucky to have a strong team of Board members and staff to manage a diverse mix of donor, sponsor and other stakeholder relationships; it's thanks to them that we can depend on private sector support to underwrite our work more than ever before. Belvoir's success in this area is in large part possible thanks to the exemplary leadership shown by our Chair. Andrew Cameron AM. Andrew is a dedicated leader and philanthropist. His passion for the arts is contagious and we are grateful to him for the time, energy and commitment he provides at a Board level, and when working with our Development Committee, Co-Conspirators and staff, Our small and dedicated team achieves a great deal with limited resources, and we know our success in generating private sector support will continue in their safe hands.

### **Nathan Bennett**

Deputy Executive Director & Head of Development

## **Donors**

We give our heartfelt thanks to all our donors for their loyal and generous support.

### **Creative Development Fund**

Neil Armfield AO Jill & Richard Berry Anne Britton Justin Butterworth & Stephen Asher Andrew Cameron AM & Cathy Cameron Janet & Trefor Clayton Michael Coleman Hartley Cook Gail Hambly Louise Herron & Clark Butler Victoria Holthouse Peter & Rosemary Ingle Helen Lynch AM & Helen Bauer Frank Macindoe David Marr Sherry-Hogan Foundation Kim Williams AM & Catherine Dovey

### Supporters of Creative Development over \$250

Anthony Benscher Helen Bowden Richard Evans Chris Green & Rachel Simons Lisa Hamilton & Rob White Ian McDonald Emma McDonald Penelope Seidler Cathy Yuncken

### 2014 Co-Conspirators

Anita Jacoby Victoria Taylor Mark Warburton Peter Wilson Cathy Yuncken

### 2014 Chair's Group

Anonymous (1) Antoinette Albert Jill & Richard Berry Jillian Broadbent AO Chris Brown Jan Chapman & Stephen O'Rourke Louise Christie Wesley Enoch Kathleen & Danny Gilbert Sophie Guest Judge Joe Harman Michael Hobbs Marion Heathcote & Brian Burfitt Emma Hogan Ross McLean & Fiona Beith Cajetan Mula (Honorary Member) Steve & Belinda Rankine Alex Oonagh Redmond Michael Rose & Jo D'Antonio

Ann Sherry AO Penny Ward David & Jennifer Watson Kim Williams AM

### 2014 B Keepers

Anonymous (5) Robert & Libby Albert Claire Armstrong & John Sharpe Berg Family Foundation Bev & Phil Birnbaum Max Bonnell Ellen Borda Anne Britton Dr Catherine Brown-Watt Jan Burnswoods Mary Jo & Lloyd Capps Dr Brian T. Carey Jane Christensen Louise Christie Suzanne & Michael Daniel Tracey Driver & Simon Robinson Dr Linda English Chris & Bob Ernst Jeanne Eve Cary & Rob Gillespie Peter Graves David & Kathryn Groves David Haertsch Wendy & Andrew Hamlin John Head Marion Heathcote & Brian Burfitt Libby Higgin Michael Hobbs Anita Jacoby Shirley Jarzabek Avril Jeans

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Vivienne Sharpe

Peter & Jan Shuttleworth Merilyn Sleigh & Raoul de Ferranti Jennifer Smith Chris & Bea Sochan Jeremy Storer & Annabel Crabb Judy Thomson Sue Thomson Lynne Watkins & Nicholas Harding Paul & Jennifer Winch Ian & Judy Wyatt

### Corporate B Keepers

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#### 2014 The Hive

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Jane Wynter

Belvoir is very grateful to accept all donations. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible. If you would like to make a donation or would like further information about any of our donor programs please call our Development Team on 02 9698 3344 or email development@belvoir.com.au

List correct at 31 December 2014.

### Special Thanks

We would like to acknowledge Cajetan Mula, Len Armfield and Geoffrey Scharer. They will always be remembered for their generosity to Belyoir. The following people and foundations supported the redevelopment of Belvoir St Theatre and purchase of our warehouse:

Andrew Cameron AM & Cathy Cameron (refurbishment of theatre & warehouse) Russell Crowe (Downstairs Theatre & purchase of warehouse) The Gonski Foundation & The Nelson Meers Foundation (Gonski Meers Foyer) Andrew & Wendy Hamlin (Neil's, now Ralph's, office) Hal Herron (The Hal Bar) Geoffrey Rush (redevelopment of theatre)

Judge Joe Harman Fred Street AM (Upstairs Dressing Room) 43 42

### **Board and Staff**

### Belvoir Board of Directors

Anne Britton
Mitchell Butel
Andrew Cameron AM (Chair)
Tracey Driver
Richard Evans
Gail Hambly (Deputy Chair)
Brenna Hobson
Ian Learmonth
Ralph Myers
Olivia Passooe

## Artistic & Programming

Artistic Director
Ralph Myers
Executive Director
Brenna Hobson
Associate Director –
New Projects
Eamon Flack
Associate Producer

Tahni Froudist until 18.04.2014 Luke Cowling from 28.04.2014

Associate Director – Literary
Anthea Williams

Resident Directors

Adena Jacobs Anne-Louise Sarks

Associate Artist Jada Alberts from 14.07.2014

### **Education**

Education Manager Jane May Education Coordinator Cathy Hunt until 07.03.2014 Simone Evans from 09.04.2014

### Administration

Artistic Administrator John Woodland Administration Coordinator Maeve O'Donnell

### Finance & Operations

Head of Finance & Operations
Francisca Peña from 27.01.2014
Financial Administrator
Ann Brown until 28.02.2014
Company Accountant
Komal Rabidaya from 30.06.2014
Accounts Administrator
Susan Jack
IT & Operations

### Marketing

Jan S. Goldfeder

Marketing Manager
Gemma Frayne
Digital Content Producer
Marty Jamieson
Publications Manager
Gabrielle Bonney
Publicity & Public Affairs
Manager
Elly Michelle Clough

### **Development**

Head of Development
Nathan Bennett
Corporate &
Sponsorship Officer
Paul Hooper until 26.09.2014
Philanthropy Officer
Liz Tomkinson

## Production Head of Production

**Daniel Potter** 

Downstairs Theatre & Touring Production Manager Todd Wilson Staging & Construction Managers Joel Goodall from 20.01.2014 Penny Le Fort from 20.01.2014 Technical Manager Warren Sutton Resident Stage Manager Luke McGettigan Production Coordinator Eliza Maunsell Production Administrator (casual)

Jack H. Audas Preston Costume Coordinator Judy Tanner

## Front of House Manager

Ohmeed Ahi
Assistant Front of House
Manager
Scott Pirlo
Front of House Assistants
Olga Assagby, Shiloh Blondel,
Alex Bryant-Smith, Luke
Dambsy-Scott, Kate Dillon, Luke
Dipple, Dale March, Luke Martin,
Aime Neeme, Lara Pigott,
Whitney Richards, Matt Ringuet,
Ryder Stevens, Kieran Summers,
Venetia Taylor

### **Box Office**

Box Office Manager Erin Algeo until 21.02.2014 Tanya Ginori-Cairns from 24.02.2014

Assistant Box Office Managers
Jessica Cassar until 27.07.2014
Andrew Dillon from 21.07.2014
Tanya Ginori-Cairns until
21.02.2014
Laura Henderson from
28.07.2014

Alana Hicks Box Office Staff

Annabel Blake, Laura Frangelli, Emma Furno, Quinn Gibbes, Rebecca Hitch, Jason Lee, Patrick Magee, Dana Trijbetz, Aimee Timmins

Subscriptions Manager
Jason Lee from 23.06.2014
Subscriptions Staff

Matt Bartlett, Emily Burke, Tom Conroy, Fiona Dunne, Jennifer Gardner, Jorijia Gillis, Georgia Goode, Julia Gove, Laura Hanna, Brenda Hartley, Sian Luxford, Penelope Parsons–Lord











Actor Fiona Press – Is This Thing On? Photo: Brett Boardman.



Playwright Michael Gow & actor Brendan Cowell – *Once in Royal David's City.* Photo: Heidrun Löhr.



Creator & performer Zoë Coombs Marr – Oedipus Schmoedipus. Photo: Brett Boardman.



Actors Greg Stone & Mitchell Butel with writer/director Simon Stone – *The Government Inspector*. Photo: Brett Boardman.



Actor Linda Cropper, writer/director Anne-Louise Sarks & actor Blazey Best – *Nora*. Photo: Brett Boardman.

**Financial Statements** 

## **Key Performance Indicators**

ARTISTIC VIBRANCY Subscription Season				F	Readings	;			
	Upstai	Upstairs		Downstairs					
	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012
PROFILE OF WORKS									
New	6	3	6	4	4	5	11	8	4
Existing	3	6	3	0	1	0	0	0	2
ORIGIN OF WORK									
Australian - New	6	3	6	4	4	5	11	8	4
Australian – Existing	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Overseas – Existing	3	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	1
PROFILE OF PRODUCTI									
New	9	8	8	4	5	5	n/a	n/a	n/a
Existing	0	1	1	0	0	0	n/a	n/a	n/a

ACCESS	A	ttendances		Number (	of Performa	nces
	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012
SELF-PRESENTED						
Belvoir Upstairs	93,284	108,846	108,455	364	369	390
Belvoir Downstairs	9,326	14,235	14,346	131	208	181
Other Sydney Venues	0	7,800	11,005	0	12	13
SOLD TO EXTERNAL PRESENT	TERS					
Regional	10,006	2,657	7,116	58	17	18
Interstate	34,442	16,749	55,644	101	109	108
International	8,160	3,226	5,680	22	22	17
OTHER						
Free Concert Attendances	2,221	2,366	2,220	8	9	8
Educational Performances	5,569	5,340	4,814	25	25	24
Educational Workshops	2,550	3,343	5,423	176	132	172
Education - Other	1033	854	742	106	81	90

FINANCIAL VIABILITY	2014	2013	2012
STRENGTH OF RESERVES			
Net assets /	\$1,305,227 /	\$1,301,741 /	\$1,869,613 /
Annual Turnover	\$10,654,692 (12%)	\$11,132,558 (11.69%)	\$11,659,250 (16.04%)
Net assets /	\$1,305,227 /	\$1,301,741 /	\$1,869,916 /
Total Assets	\$4,652,663 (28%)	\$5,186,377 (25.10%)	\$6,118,575 (30.56%)
PROFITABILITY			
Total income minus expenditure	\$3,486	-\$567,872	\$81,977
EARNED INCOME GENERATING	G ABILITY		
TOTAL		-	
Total earned income /	\$8,577,104 /	\$9,027,503 /	\$9,753,901 /
Total income	\$10,654,692 (80.5%)	\$11,132,558 (81.09%)	\$11,659,250 (83.66%)
BOX OFFICE			
Total box office /	\$4,916,966 /	\$5,723,516 /	\$6,482,160 /
Total income:	\$10,654,692 (46.15%)	\$11,132,558 (51.41%)	\$11,659,250 (55.6%)
PRIVATE SECTOR			
Total private sector /	\$2,186,354 /	\$1,922,031 /	\$1,818,631 /
Total income:	\$10,654,692 (20.52%)	\$11,132,558 (17.26%)	\$11,659,250 (15.6%)
OTHER INCOME			
Total other income /	\$1,473,784 /	\$1,381,956 /	\$1,453,110 /
Total income:	\$10,654,692 (13.83%)	\$11,132,558 (12.41%)	\$11,659,250 (12.46%)
GOVERNMENT FUNDING CON	TRIBUTION		
Govt. funding /	\$2,077,588 /	\$2,105,055 /	\$1,905,349 /
Total income	\$10,654,692 (19.50%)	\$11,132,558 (18.91%)	\$11,659,250 (16.34%)

## **Directors' Report**

The directors of Company B Limited (trading as, and hereafter referred to as, "Belvoir" or "the Company") submit herewith the annual financial report for the financial year ended 31 December 2014

### **Directors**

The names and details of the Company's directors in office during the financial year and until the date of this report are as follows. Directors were in office for this entire period.

Anne Britton Mitchell Butel Andrew Cameron AM Tracev Driver Richard Evans Gail Hambly Brenna Hobson Ian I earmonth Ralph Myers

Olivia Pascoe Peter Wilson (Appointed: 10 February 2015)

### Information on Directors

### Anne Britton

Member: HR sub-committee

Anne re-ioined the Belvoir Board in 2010 after having serving on the Board for close to decade. Currently a Principal Member of the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal. Anne has held senior roles in commonwealth and state tribunals for the past 16 years. Previously Anne was the national secretary of Actors Equity of Australia and, on its merger with the Australian Journalist Association in the 1990s, the joint national secretary of the Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance.

### Mitchell Butel

Member: Artistic sub-committee

Mitchell joined the Belvoir Board in May 2013. As an actor, singer and writer, Mitchell has worked for most state theatre and commercial theatre companies and most Australian television networks for the last 20 years. He holds three Helpmann Awards for leading actor for The Venetian Twins, Avenue Q and The Mikado, Green Room Awards for Hair and Piaf and multiple other nominations for Helpmann, Green Room, AFI and Sydney Theatre awards. His work at Belvoir includes Dead Heart, A View from the Bridge, The Laramie Project, Snugglepot and Cuddlepie, Strange Interlude, Angels in America and The Government Inspector. Writing credits include And Now For the Weather, Killing Time and Meow Meow's Little Match Girl (co-writer).

Mitchell has also been a Special Projects Officer for the NSW Office of the Board of Studies and has taught at ATYP. NIDA and the Australian Institute of Music (AIM). He has been a proud member of Actors Equity since 1988, a member of the National Performers Committee since 2007 and was Federal Vice President of the Media. Entertainment and Arts Alliance from 2010-2013. He is also on the Advisory Panel for the Australia Council-funded New Musicals Australia.

### **Andrew Cameron AM**

Chair, Member: Finance, Development & Planning sub-committees

A director of Belvoir St Theatre Board since 9 August 2001, Andrew joined the Belvoir Board in October 2007. He was elected Chair of Belvoir in June 2011. Andrew is currently the Chair of the Board of Art Gallery of NSW Foundation, and a Board member of the Sherman Foundation and the Andrew Cameron Family Foundation. He is also the Chairman and Managing Director of a number of privately owned companies with interests in wholesaling, distribution and property development. He was made a member of the Order of Australia in the 2014 Honours List for significant services to the visual and performing arts.

### **Tracey Driver**

Member: Finance sub-committee

Tracev joined the Board at Belvoir in December 2011 and is a member of the Finance subcommittee. Tracev has 20 years' experience as a chartered accountant. She is an audit partner with KPMG. Tracev has spent time working in the UK and US and has experience dealing with a wide range of global businesses.

### **Richard Evans**

Member: Development sub-committee

Richard is an experienced practitioner in arts, culture, events and place making and is Principal of the firm REAConsulting. An experienced producer, chief executive, and public servant, Richard has previously held roles as Executive Director of the Bell Shakespeare Company, The Australian Ballet and CEO of Sydney Opera House. In his role at the Opera House Richard oversaw 2,500 events annually, established a number of new festivals and activations, significantly developing the public domain and overseeing a period of unprecedented economic and visitation growth. Richard is currently Chair of the Confederations of Australian International Arts Festivals and is working on cultural infrastructure planning and development projects around the region.

### **Gail Hambly**

Deputy Chair. Member: Finance sub-committee

Gail is Group General Counsel and Company Secretary of Fairfax Media and is responsible for the provision of legal, corporate governance communications and internal audit services to the Fairfax Group. Gail is Chairman of Copyco Pty Limited, a Director of Trade Me Group Limited, a member of the Advisory Board of the Centre of Media and Communications Law at Melbourne University, a member of the Media and Communications and Privacy Law Committees of the Law Council of Australia and a director of the Sydney Story Factory - a not-for-profit organisation which provides education services with a special focus on disadvantaged children in Sydney.

### Brenna Hobson - Executive Director

Executive Director & Company Secretary Member: Finance, HR, Development, Artistic & Planning sub-committees

Brenna joined Belvoir as General Manager in February 2008 and is now Executive Director. She has a Masters of Management (Arts) from University of Technology and sits on the Seymour Centre Artistic Advisory Committee. Previous to this she was the General Manager of Jigsaw Theatre Company in Canberra where she was also a Board Member of the ACT Council of Cultural and Community Organisations, part of the steering committee of Canberra Living Artists Week and the ACT representative of Critical Stages. Her credits as an independent producer include Now that Communism is Dead My Life Feels Empty (Melbourne International Arts Festival/B Sharp), The Suitors (Old Fitzroy Theatre) and Vital Organs (B Sharp). She has also been Production Manager of Bangarra Dance Theatre and spent 11 years in Belvoir's production department. Brenna was appointed Opera House Trustee in January 2014.

### Ian Learmonth

Member: Development sub-committee

Ian joined the Belvoir Board in late 2011 and is also member of the Development sub-committee. lan was formerly an Executive Director of Macquarie Bank for over 12 years and has worked in London. Sydney and Hong Kong in various fields of investment banking. After leaving Macquarie in 2011 Ian is now the Executive Director of Impact Investing at Social Ventures Australia, a not-for-profit organisation established in 2002 that addresses social disadvantage in Australia, lan is also chairman of South Australia wind company Waterloo Wind and e-waste recycler PGM Refiners.

### Ralph Myers - Artistic Director

Executive Director Member: Artistic sub-committee

Graduating from NIDA in 2000, Ralph is a set designer whose work has toured internationally and won many awards. For Belvoir he has directed Peter Pan, directed and designed Private Lives, and designed Elektra / Orestes, Kill the Messenger, Is This Thing On?, The Government Inspector, Coranderrk, Hamlet, Stories I Want to Tell You in Person, Death of a Salesman, Summer of the Seventeenth Doll, The Seagull. The Wild Duck. Measure for Measure. Toy Symphony, Parramatta Girls, Ray's Tempest, The Spook. The Fever. Conversations with the Dead and The Cosmonaut's Last Message to the Woman He Once Loved in the Former Soviet Union. Ralph's other credits include The City. A Streetcar Named Desire. Blackbird. A Midsummer Night's Dream, A Kind of Alaska/ Reunion, The Lost Echo, Mother Courage and Her Children. Boy Gets Girl. This Little Pigav. Far Away, Morph, Endgame, The 7 Stages of Grieving and Frankenstein, which he also directed (Sydney Theatre Company): Enlightenment. Cruel and Tender, Dinner, Frozen (Melbourne Theatre Company); Othello (Bell Shakespeare); Wonderlands (Griffin Theatre Company/HotHouse Theatre Company): Borderlines. Sweet Phoebe (Griffin Theatre Company): Frame of Mind (Sydney Dance Company); Eora Crossing (Legs on the Wall/Sydney Festival): Black Box (Ballet de l'Opera de Lyon); Caligula (English National Opera); The Marriage of Figaro, Peter Grimes, Così fan tutte (Opera Australia); La Bohème (New Zealand Opera); and Two Faced Bastard (Chunky Move). Ralph is on the Board of NIDA.

### Olivia Pascoe

Member: Development sub-committee

Olivia joined the Board in September 2012 and is also a member of the Development subcommittee. This has included the launch of Belvoir's next frontier of patronage, The Hive, targeted at 30-45 year old theatre lovers nurturing new Australian talent. Olivia is an independent Strategy Consultant & Executive Coach who works with Exec Teams and Boards on integrated strategy/change/leadership, across industries. For the 15 years prior to this, she worked for multinational corporates and consulting firms in Asia, Europe and the Americas. She was previously a Member of the Contempo Committee of the Art Gallery of New South Wales and also contributes to the health, education and international development not-for profit sectors. 53

### **Peter Wilson**

Member: Development sub-committee

Peter joined the Company B Board on 10 February 2015. He is a Managing Director of Greenhill & Co, Inc., an independent corporate advisory firm focused on mergers and acquisitions, and was previously a lawyer. He is Chair of Playwriting Australia. He has previously served as Chair of the Inner City Legal Centre, as a director of Belvoir Street Theatre Limited, as a member of the Finance Council of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan and as a Trustee of The English Association.

### **Mission Statement**

To produce theatrical works from a shared vision that question and affirm our culture, extend and develop our artists and provide audiences with experiences of imaginative daring and emotional depth.

Core values and principles:

- Belief in the primacy of the artistic process
- · Clarity and playfulness in storytelling
- A sense of community within the theatrical environment
- A responsiveness to current social and political issues
- Equality, ethical standards and shared ownership of artistic process and company achievements
- · Development of our performers, artists and staff

### **Short-term and Long-term Objectives**

Belvoir's overarching goal for the coming three year period is to build on the success achieved during tenure of Ralph Myers, the Company's second Artistic Director while establishing the new leadership of incoming Artistic Director Eamon Flack. The company will continue to pursue international opportunities and expand its audience base in its home city.

Specific goals for the Company to reach these objectives are:

Artistic work: To produce thought provoking, inspiring, outstanding theatrical works from a shared vision that question and affirm our culture, and provide audiences with experiences of imaginative daring and emotional depth

**Artists:** Support and extend our current and future artists and play a leading role in supporting the wider theatrical community

**Audience:** Consolidate and expand our audiences, target markets and brand

**Development:** Increase commercial and philanthropic income while retaining the character and values of Belvoir

Management: Consolidate Belvoir's position as a world renowned, financially stable arts organisation via the establishment of sound management and governance practices that maximise the return on available resources

### **Dividends**

The provisions of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company prohibit the payment of a dividend. Accordingly, no dividend has been paid or declared during or since the end of the financial year or since the Company's incorporation.

### **Members**

There were 43 members of the Company as at 31 December 2014 (2013: 43).

### **Principal Activities**

The principal activity of the Company during the financial year was the operation of a live theatre and the production of live theatrical performances within the home venue, Belvoir St Theatre, and on tour both nationally and internationally. These activities have assisted the Company to achieve its objectives which are measured against the specific key performance indicators as below:

### Artistic work

Produce and present six to eight critically acclaimed new productions per year in the Upstairs Theatre and a suite of work in the Downstairs Theatre based on four strands of work:

- a) New Australian work in a variety of forms (text based, musical and physical theatre)
- b) Indigenous work
- c) Innovative interpretations of the classics
- d) Support for new artists and an expansion of our notion of what constitutes theatrical form

### Artists

- Provide opportunities for artists to develop their skills, enjoy increased employment opportunities with Belvoir and enjoy improved career prospects
- Continue to seek new ways to increase creative development opportunities
- Fully produce work in the Downstairs Theatre
- Pay artists a fair and living wage

### Audience

- Retain Belvoir's annual season and single ticket audiences levels
- Maintain a high quality education program with a commitment to access
- · Maintain increased level of touring activity
- · Seek ways to engage with new audiences
- Emphasise quality and innovation in all areas of customer service and patron amenity

### Development

- Build a strong and diverse philanthropic base led by the Creative Development Fund donors and Chair Andrew Cameron AM
- Develop new revenue streams and take advantage of commercial opportunities
- Develop strong and mutually beneficial relationships between Belvoir with its corporate partners and individual supporters

### Management

- Build to and subsequently maintain reserves at 20% of annual turnover
- Maintain a professional management culture supported by efficient management procedures and infrastructure
- Maintain a strong board governance policy
- Work proactively to anticipate and respond to external change
- Establish Belvoir as a world renowned theatre company

There was no significant change in the nature of these activities during or since the end of the financial year.

### **Operating and Financial Review**

The operations of the Company during the financial year were the operations of a live theatre, production of live theatrical performances and hire of the theatre to external hirers.

The net operating profit before interest and depreciation of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2014 was \$15,673 (2013: net operating loss before interest and depreciation of \$650,901).

The Company has a target of achieving and maintaining reserves of 20% of annual turnover.

### **Significant Changes in the State of Affairs**

There have been no significant changes in the state of affairs of the Company during the year.

### Significant Events after Reporting Date

Peter Wilson was appointed as a member of the Company B Board with effect from 10 February 2015.

There has not been any other matter or circumstance, other than that referred to in the financial statements or notes thereto, that has arisen since the end of the financial year, that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect, the operations of the Company, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Company in future financial years.

### **Likely Developments and Expected Results**

In the opinion of the directors there were no significant changes in the state of affairs of the Company that occurred during the financial year under review not otherwise disclosed in this report or the financial statements.

## **Indemnification and Insurance of Directors and Officers**

During the financial year, the Company paid a premium in respect of a contract insuring the directors of the Company against a liability incurred as such a director, secretary or executive officer to the extent permitted by the *Corporations Act 2001*. The contract of insurance prohibits disclosure of the nature of the liability and the amount of the premium.

### **Indemnification of Auditors**

To the extent permitted by law, the Company has agreed to indemnify its auditors, Ernst & Young, as part of the terms of its audit engagement agreement against claims by third parties arising from the audit (for an unspecified amount). No payment has been made to indemnify Ernst & Young during or since the financial year.

## **Directors' Meetings**

### (1) Board of Directors Meetings

During 2014, six meetings of Directors were held. Attendance was as follows:

Directors	Number eligible to attend	Number attended
Anne Britton	6	6
Mitchell Butel	6	5
Andrew Cameron	AM 6	6
Tracey Driver	6	5
Richard Evans	6	6
Gail Hambly	6	6
Brenna Hobson	6	6
Ian Learmonth	6	6
Ralph Myers	6	6
Olivia Pascoe	6	6

### (2) Finance Committee Meetings

The Finance Committee is a sub-committee of the Board. During the financial year, six meetings of directors were held. Attendances were as follows:

Num Members	ber eligible to attend	Number attended
Andrew Cameron AM	6	6
Tracey Driver	6	5
Gail Hambly	6	6
Brenna Hobson	6	6

### Other Information

### Gemma Frayne

Employee-elected representative - ex officio

Gemma Frayne has been Marketing Manager at Belvoir for two years after relocating from the UK to Sydney in 2011. Prior to this appointment, she worked for the Sydney Fringe Festival. Gemma worked across Marketing, Audience Development and membership with over 10 years experience in Marketing and Communication roles including at London's acclaimed Royal Court Theatre and Royal Academy of Dance. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Community Arts and Dance from Liverpool John Moores University and a Master of Arts in Marketing Management from the University of Gloucestershire.

### Nathan Bennett

Deputy Executive Director

Nathan Bennett was appointed Deputy Executive Director in 2014. He has held the position of Head of Development at Belvoir with oversight of the company's marketing, audience management, corporate partnerships and private philanthropy strategies. Having worked for arts companies in Australia and overseas for over 15 years, Nathan recently returned from the US where he was Director of Development at Philadelphia's Pig Iron Theatre Company. Prior to moving to the US, Nathan held roles as General Manager at Griffin Theatre Company and Company Manager at Bell Shakespeare.

### **Auditor Independence**

The directors received an independence declaration from the auditor of Company B Limited. A copy has been included below.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the directors.

Banner

Andrew Cameron AM, Chair Sydney, 27 March 2015

## Auditor's Independence Declaration to the Directors of Company B Limited

In relation the audit of the financial statements of Company B Limited for the financial year ended 31 December 2014, and in accordance with the requirements of Subdivision 60-C of the *Australian Charities and Not-for profits Commission Act 2012*, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been no contraventions of:

i. the auditor independence requirement as set out in the *Australian Charities and Not-for profits Commission Act 2012* in relation to the audit; and

ii. any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

JEnst. Jung

Ernst & Young

David Simmonds

David Simmonds
Partner
27 March 2015

# **Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income**

For the year ended 31 December 2014	Notes	2014 (\$)	2013 (\$
REVENUE FROM OPERATIONS			
Production Income			
Home venue income		3,908,882	4,343,787
Commercial production income		_	670,987
Touring and sell off income		1,008,084	708,742
Total production income		4,916,966	5,723,510
Grants income	4(a)	2,077,588	2,105,05
Bar income	-	320,546	381,496
Box office income	•	428,396	548,90
		2,826,530	3,035,459
OTHER REVENUE			
Sponsorship income		964,112	926,78
Fundraising and donations		1,222,242	995,24
Other income	4(b)	579,497	276,68
Total other revenue		2,765,851	2,198,718
TOTAL REVENUE FROM OPERATIONS		10,509,347	10,957,69
EXPENSES			
Production		(5,725,669)	(7,348,744
Marketing and promotions		(898,160)	(892,717
Occupancy		(352,271)	(346,295
Fundraising		(325,386)	(262,917
Administration		(3,192,188)	(2,757,921
Operating (loss)/income for the year		15,673	(650,901
Interest income		145,345	174,86
Depreciation and amortisation expenses		(101,359)	(75,509
Finance costs		(56,173)	(16,327
Profit/(loss) before tax		3,486	(567,872
Income tax expense		-	
Profit/(loss) for the year		3,486	(567,872
Other comprehensive income		-	
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the ye		0.400	(503.655
LOTAL COMPROBONEIVO INCOMO//loce) for the V	aar	3.486	(567,872

The above statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

## **Statement of Financial Position**

As at 31 December 2014	Notes	2014 (\$)	2013 (\$)
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash	5	1,660,569	1,606,710
Trade and other receivables	6	283,114	1,037,178
Inventories		41,828	25,768
Prepayments		367,857	364,752
Security deposits		58,906	55,326
Total current assets		2,412,274	3,089,734
Non-current assets			
Held to maturity investments	7	1,909,895	1,965,882
Property, plant and equipment	8	318,463	95,571
Intangible assets	9	12,031	35,190
Total non-current assets		2,240,389	2,096,643
Total assets		4,652,663	5,186,377
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	10	773,164	845,183
Provision	11	14,578	7,154
Employee benefits liabilities	12	241,163	196,076
Deferred revenue	13	2,274,769	2,794,984
Total current liabilities		3,303,674	3,843,397
Non-current liabilities			
Employee benefits liabilities	12	43,762	41,239
Total non-current liabilities		43,762	41,239
TOTAL LIABILITIES		3,347,436	3,884,636
EQUITY			
Retained earnings		1,305,227	1,301,741
Total equity		1,305,227	1,301,741
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		4,652,663	5,186,377

The above statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

## **Statement of Changes in Equity**

For the year ended 31 December 2014	Retained earnings (\$)	Total equity (\$)
At 1 January 2014	1,301,741	1,301,741
Profit for the year	3,486	3,486
Other comprehensive income	-	-
Total comprehensive income	3,486	3,486
At 31 December 2014	1,305,227	1,305,227
At 1 January 2013	1,869,613	1,869,613
Loss for the year	(567,872)	(567,872)
Other comprehensive income	-	-
Total comprehensive loss	(567,872)	(567,872)
At 31 December 2013	1,301,741	1,301,741

The above statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

## **Statement of Cash Flows**

For the year ended 31 December 2014	Notes	2014 (\$)	2013 (\$)
OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts from patrons, customers and grant providers		11,787,963	10,612,590
Payments to suppliers and employees		(11,518,604)	(12,336,384)
Net cash from/(used in) operating activities		213,186	(1,723,794)
INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(301,092)	(50,498)
Interest received		145,345	174,865
Increase in security deposits		(3,580)	-
Net cash flows (used in)/from investing activities		(159,327)	124,367
FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Net cash flows from financing activities		-	-
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		53,859	(1,599,427)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		1,606,710	3,206,137
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	5	1,660,569	1,606,710

The above statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

For the year ended 31 December 2014

### 1. CORPORATE INFORMATION

The financial report of Belvoir for the year ended 31 December 2014 was authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the directors on 27 March 2015. Belvoir is a public not-for-profit Company limited by guarantee, incorporated and operating in Australia. The registered office and principal place of business of the Company is 18 Belvoir Street, Surry Hills, NSW 2010, Australia. The nature of the operations and principal activities of the Company are described in the directors' report.

## 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### (a) Basis of preparation

The financial report is a general purpose financial report, which has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*, Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board.

The financial report has been prepared on the basis of the historical cost convention. Cost is based on the fair value of the consideration given in exchange for assets.

The financial report is presented in Australian dollars unless otherwise stated.

### (b) Statement of compliance

The financial statements of the Company comply with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements as issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012.

## (c) Changes in accounting policy, disclosure, standards and interpretations

The accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous financial year.

### (d) Current versus non-current classification

The Company presents assets and liabilities in the statement of financial position based on current/ non-current classification. An asset is current when it is:

- Expected to be realised or intended to be sold or consumed in the Company's normal operating cycle
- Held primarily for the purpose of trading
- Expected to be realised within twelve months after the reporting period, or
- Cash or a cash equivalent unless restricted from being exchanged or used to settle a liability for at least twelve months after the reporting period

The Company classifies all other assets as non-current.

A liability is current when:

- It is expected to be settled in the Company's normal operating cycle
- It is held primarily for the purpose of trading
- It is due to be settled within twelve months after the reporting period, or
- There is no unconditional right to defer the settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting period

The Company classifies all other liabilities as non-current.

### (e) Cash

Cash in the statement of financial position comprise cash at bank and on hand.

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents consist of cash as defined above.

### (f) Trade and other receivables

Trade receivables, which generally have 30-90 day terms, are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at cost using the effective interest method, less an allowance for impairment.

Collectability of trade receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis. Individual debts that are known to be uncollectible are written off when identified. An impairment provision is recognised when there is objective evidence that the Company will not be able to collect the receivable.

### (g) Inventories

Inventories consist of finished goods and are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business, less estimated costs of completion and the estimated costs necessary to make the sale.

### (h) Impairment of non-financial assets

The Company assesses, at each reporting date, whether there is an indication that an asset may be impaired. If any indication exists, or when annual impairment testing for an asset is required, the Company estimates the asset's recoverable amount. An asset's recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's or cash-generating unit's (CGU) fair value less costs of disposal and its value in use. Recoverable amount is determined for an individual asset, unless the asset does not generate cash inflows that are largely independent of those from other assets or groups of assets. When the carrying amount of an asset or CGU exceeds its recoverable amount, the asset is considered impaired and is written down to its recoverable amount.

In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset. In determining fair value less costs of disposal, recent market transactions are taken into account. If no such transactions can be identified, an appropriate valuation model is used. These calculations are corroborated by valuation multiples, quoted share prices for publicly traded companies or other available fair value indicators.

The Company bases its impairment calculation on detailed budgets and forecast calculations, which are prepared separately for each of the Company's CGUs to which the individual assets are allocated. These budgets and forecast calculations generally cover a period of five years. For longer periods, a long-term growth rate is calculated and applied to project future cash flows after the fifth year.

Impairment losses, including impairment on inventories, are recognised in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income as an expense.

For assets, an assessment is made at each reporting date to determine whether there is an indication that previously recognised impairment losses no longer exist or have decreased. If such indication exists, the Company estimates the asset's or CGU's recoverable amount. A previously recognised impairment loss is reversed only if there has been a change in the assumptions used to determine the asset's recoverable amount since the last impairment loss was recognised. The reversal is limited so that the carrying amount of the asset does not exceed its recoverable amount, nor exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined, net of depreciation, had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in prior years. Such reversal is recognised in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case, the reversal is treated as a revaluation increase.

### (i) Held to maturity investments

Non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments and fixed maturities are classified as held-to-maturity when the Company has the positive intention and ability to hold them to maturity. After initial measurement, held-to-maturity investments are measured at amortised cost using effective interest rate (EIR), less impairment. Amortised cost is calculated by taking into account any discount or premium on

acquisition and fees or costs that are an integral part of the EIR. The EIR amortisation is included as interest income in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

### (j) Property, plant and equipment

Construction in progress, plant and equipment are stated at cost, net of accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses, if any. Such cost includes the cost of replacing part of the plant and equipment and borrowing costs for long-term construction projects if the recognition criteria are met. Such cost includes the cost of replacing part of the property, plant and equipment. When significant parts of property, plant and equipment are required to be replaced at intervals, the Company depreciates them separately based on their specific useful lives. Likewise, when a major inspection is performed, its cost is recognised in the carrying amount of the plant and equipment as a replacement if the recognition criteria are satisfied. All other repair and maintenance costs are recognised in profit or loss as incurred.

Depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets as follows: Plant and equipment – 3 to 7 years Motor vehicles – 5 to 7 years Furniture and fittings – 5 to 10 years

An item of property, plant and equipment and any significant part initially recognised is derecognised upon disposal or when no future economic benefits are expected from its use or disposal. Any gain or loss arising on derecognition of the asset (calculated as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset) is included in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income when the asset is derecognised.

The residual values, useful lives and methods of depreciation of property, plant and equipment are reviewed at each financial year end and adjusted prospectively, if appropriate.

Assets acquired are recorded at the cost of acquisition, being the purchase consideration determined as at the date of acquisition plus costs incidental to the acquisition.

In the event that settlement of all or part of the cash consideration given in the acquisition of an asset is deferred, the fair value of the purchase consideration is determined by discounting the amounts payable in the future to their present value as at the date of acquisition.

### (k) Leases

The determination of whether an arrangement is, or contains, a lease is based on the substance of the arrangement at the inception of the lease. The arrangement is, or contains, a lease if fulfilment of the arrangement is dependent on the use of a specific asset or assets or the arrangement conveys a right to use the asset or assets, even if that right is not explicitly specified in an arrangement.

A lease is classified at the inception date as a finance lease or an operating lease. A lease that transfers substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership to the Company is classified as a finance lease. An operating lease is a lease other than a finance lease.

Operating lease payments are recognised as an operating expense in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

### (I) Intangibles

Intangible assets acquired separately or in a business combination are initially measured at cost. The cost of an intangible asset acquired in a business combination is its fair value as at the date of acquisition. Following initial recognition, intangible assets are carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses. Internally generated intangible assets, excluding capitalised development costs, are not capitalised and expenditure is recognised in profit or loss in the year in which the expenditure is incurred.

The useful lives of intangible assets are assessed to be either finite or indefinite. Intangible assets with finite lives are amortised over the useful life and tested for impairment whenever there is an indication that the intangible asset may be impaired. The amortisation period and the amortisation method for an intangible asset with a finite useful life is reviewed at least at each financial year end. Changes in the expected useful life or the expected pattern of consumption of future economic benefits embodied in the asset are accounted for prospectively by changing the amortisation period or method, as appropriate, which is a change in accounting estimate. The amortisation expense on intangible assets with finite lives is recognised in profit or loss in the expense category consistent with the function of the intangible asset.

Intangible assets with indefinite useful lives are tested for impairment annually either individually or at the cash-generating unit level consistent

with the methodology outlined for goodwill above. Such intangibles are not amortised. The useful life of an intangible asset with an indefinite life is reviewed each reporting period to determine whether indefinite life assessment continues to be supportable. If not, the change in the useful life assessment from indefinite to finite is accounted for as a change in an accounting estimate and is thus accounted for on a prospective basis.

Gains or losses arising from derecognition of an intangible asset are measured as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset and are recognised in profit or loss when the asset is derecognised.

A summary of the policies applied to the Company's intangible asset is as follows:

<u>Ticketing system</u> *Useful lives* Finite (4 years)

Amortisation method used

Amortised on a straight-line basis over the period of the ticketing system

Internally generated or acquired Acquired

Impairment testing

Annually as at 31 December and more frequently when an indication of impairment exists

### (m) Trade and other payables

Trade and other payables are carried at amortised cost and due to their short term nature they are not discounted. They represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Company prior to the end of the financial year that are unpaid and arise when the Company becomes obliged to make future payments in respect to the purchase of these goods and services.

### (n) Provisions and employee benefit liabilities

Provisions are recognised when the Company has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event, it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. When the Company expects some or all of a provision to be reimbursed, for example, under an insurance contract, the reimbursement is recognised as a separate asset, but only when the reimbursement is virtually certain. The expense relating to a provision is presented in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income net of any reimbursement.

If the effect of the time value of money is material, provisions are discounted using a current pre-tax rate that reflects, when appropriate, the risks specific to the liability. When discounting is used, the increase in the provision due to the passage of time is recognised as a finance cost.

### Wages and salaries

Liabilities for wages and salaries, including non-monetary benefits which are expected to be settled within 12 months of the reporting date are recognised in respect of employees' services up to the reporting date. They are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled.

### Long service leave and annual leave

The Company does not expect its long service leave or annual leave benefits to be settled wholly within 12 months of each reporting date. The Company recognises a liability for long service leave and annual leave measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures, and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the reporting date on national government bonds with terms to maturity and currencies that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

Refer to Note 3 for the policy and assumptions relating to the provision for loss making productions.

### (o) Revenue recognition

Revenue is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the Company and the revenue can be reliably measured, regardless of when the payment is received. Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable, taking into account contractually defined terms of payment and excluding taxes or duty. The specific recognition criteria described below must also be met before revenue is recognised.

### Production income

Revenue is recognised upon the performance of productions to which the ticket revenue relates.

#### Interes

Interest income is recorded using the effective interest rate (EIR). The EIR is the rate that exactly discounts the estimated future cash payments or receipts over the expected life of the financial instrument or a shorter period, where appropriate,

to the net carrying amount of the financial asset. Interest income is included in other revenue in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

### Sponsorship and Donations revenue Sponsorship

sponsorship benefits are bestowed.

Sponsorship commitments are brought to account as revenue in the year in which

### **Donations**

Income arising from the donation of an asset to the Company is recognised when, and only when, all the following conditions have been satisfied:

a. the Company has obtained control of the donation or the right to receive the donation:

b. it is probable that economic benefits compromising the donation will flow to the Company; and

c. the amount of the donation can be measured reliably.

### (p) Taxes

The Company is exempt from income tax under Subdivision 50-B of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997, as granted by the Commissioner of Taxation on 8 June 2000. Consequently the Company has not provided for any liability for income tax in these financial statements.

### Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST except:

- When the GST incurred on a purchase of assets or services is not payable to or recoverable from the taxation authority, in which case the GST is recognised as part of the revenue or the expense item or as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset, as applicable
- When receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included as part of receivables or payables in the statement of financial position. Commitments and contingencies are disclosed net of the amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority.

Cash flows are included in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis and the GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities, which is recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is classified as part of operating cash flows.

### (q) Government grants

Government grants are recognised at their fair value where there is reasonable assurance that the grant will be received and all attaching conditions will be complied with. Funding revenue is received from the government for specific activities. The funding is received based on payment schedules contained in the funding agreement between the funding bodies and the Company. The funding is recognised in the calendar year for which it is intended under the terms of the agreement due to the conditional nature of the funding.

### (r) Productions

The total cost of staging productions, including the manufacturing cost of costumes, scenery sets and properties, is charged to income and expenditure in the period each production is performed. This procedure conforms to standard theatrical accounting practice as adopted in Australia and other parts of the world. Costs of production and other associated expenditure in respect of performances not yet performed but will be in the next 12 months are included in the statement of financial position as part of prepaid expenditure.

### (s) Advance box office

Monies received from both subscribers and nonsubscribers for advanced bookings are included in income progressively during each production to which they relate, and not before. All monies received in advance for 2015 box office income is recorded as deferred revenue and transferred to income when the respective show concludes.

### 3. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS. **ESTIMATES AND ASSUMPTIONS**

The preparation of the Company's financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities, and the accompanying disclosures, and the disclosure of contingent liabilities. Uncertainty about these assumptions and estimates could result in outcomes that require a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets or liabilities affected in future periods.

#### Estimates and assumptions

The key assumptions concerning the future and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date, that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year, are described below.

The Company based its assumptions and estimates on parameters available when the financial statements were prepared. Existing circumstances and assumptions about future developments, however, may change due to market changes or circumstances arising beyond the control of the Company, Such changes are reflected in the assumptions when they occur.

Impairment of non-financial assets Impairment exists when the carrying value of an asset or cash generating unit (CGU) exceeds its recoverable amount, which is the higher of its fair value less costs to sell and its value in use. The fair value less costs to sell calculation is based on available data from binding sales transactions, conducted at arm's length, for similar assets or observable market prices less incremental costs for disposing of the asset. The value in use calculation is based on a discounted cash flow (DCF) model. The cash flows are derived from the budget for the next five years and do not include restructuring activities that the Company is not yet committed to or significant future investments that will enhance the asset's performance of the CGU being tested. The recoverable amount is most sensitive to the discount rate used for the DCF model as well as the expected future cashinflows and the growth rate used for extrapolation purposes.

Provision for loss making productions The Company makes an annual assessment as to whether prepaid production costs have any future economic value, based on whether the relevant production is expected to generate sufficient proceeds to cover such costs.

The Company provides for its best estimate of any losses which will arise under contractual commitments at balance date which are unavoidable due to either legal or constructive obligations. In order to assess both the recoverability of prepaid production costs and any onerous contract obligations, the Company makes an assessment of all future planned productions and identifies those productions which are expected to generate losses. Such losses are first applied to any prepaid production costs prior to making a further provision for any additional estimated losses as an onerous contract provision.

Further details may be found in note 11.

4. REVENUE AND OTHER INCOME				
(a) Government grants received	Unexpended		Grant	Unexpended
	Grants	Grants	Expenditure	Grants
	brought forward from	Income	2014 (Net	carried forward to
	2013 (\$)	2014 (\$)	Grant Income) (\$)	2015 (\$)
Australia Council	2010 (4)	_σ(ψ)	(4)	2010 (0)
Base Grant Total	-	983,158	983,158	-
Other Grant Total	-	120,000	55,000	65,000
Communities NSW				
Base Grant Total	-	952,985	952,985	-
Other Grant Total	5,000	29,818	29,818	-
Commonwealth Government				
Other Grant Total	-	35,127	35,127	-
Local Government - City of Sydney				
Other Grant Total	-	20,000	17,500	2,500
Other				
Other Grant Total	-	4,000	4,000	-
TOTAL GRANTS	5,000	2,145,088	2,077,588	67,500
All Government funding has been spent in ac	cordance with funding ac	greements.		
(b) Other income			2014 (\$)	2013 (\$)
Rental revenue – theatre and venue			138,339	147,880
Rental revenue -set build & other			147,823	25,690
Revenue - Vehicle Use			77,131	-
Development Workshop Income			75,312	-

Government grants have been received for the investment of infrastructure for Company B. There are no unfulfilled conditions or contingencies attached to these grants.

140,892

579.497

103,117

276.687

64 65

Other

5. CASH	2014 (\$)	2013 (\$)
Cash at bank and on hand	1,660,569	1,606,710
	1,660,569	1,606,710

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents consists of cash on hand and cash in bank.

### Cash held in Escrow - Reserves Incentives Funding Scheme

The funds received under the Reserves Incentives Funding Scheme of the Australia Council and Arts NSW, together with any interest earned on those funds, are held in escrow and cannot be accessed without the express agreement of the Funding bodies under prescribed circumstances. These funds have not been used to secure any liabilities of the Company. As at 31 December 2014, the Company held \$172,946 (2013: \$172,931) under this scheme.

	283,114	1,037,178
Other receivables	8,784	26,337
Goods and services tax	37,029	-
Trade receivables	237,301	1,010,841
6. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES (CURRENT)	2014 (\$)	2013 (\$)

7. HELD TO MATURITY INVESTMENTS	2014 (\$)	2013 (\$)
At Amortised Cost		
Convertible preference shares	1,909,895	1,965,882
	1,909,895	1,965,882

8. PROPERTY, PLANT	Plant &			Assets under	
AND EQUIPMENT	equipment	Motor	Furniture &	construction	
	(\$)	vehicles (\$)	fittings (\$)	(\$)	Total (\$)
Cost					
At 1 January 2013	252,055	18,280	63,806	-	334,141
Additions	36,001	-	14,497	-	50,498
At 31 December 2013	288,056	18,280	78,303	-	384,639
Additions	90,850	95,082	10,664	104,496	301,092
At 31 December 2014	378,906	113,362	88,967	104,496	685,731
Depreciation					
At 1 January 2013	192,293	541	42,071	_	234,905
Depreciation charge for the year	43,374	3,656	7,133	-	54,163
At 31 December 2013	235,667	4,197	49,204	-	289,068
Depreciation charge for the year	56,240	11,953	10,007	-	78,200
At 31 December 2014	291,907	16,150	59,211	-	367,268
Net book value					
At 31 December 2014	86,999	97,212	29,756	104,496	318,463
At 31 December 2013	52,389	14,083	29,099	-	95,571

	Ticketing	
9. INTANGIBLE ASSETS	system (\$)	Total (\$)
Cost		
At 1 January 2013	77,684	77,684
At 31 December 2013	77,684	77,684
At 31 December 2014	77,684	77,684
Amortisation		
At 1 January 2013	21,148	21,148
Amortisation	21,346	21,346
At 31 December 2013	42,494	42,494
Amortisation	23,159	23,159
At 31 December 2014	65,653	65,653
Net book value		
At 31 December 2014	12,031	12,031
At 31 December 2013	35,190	35,190
10. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES (CURRENT)	2014 (\$)	2013 (\$)
Trade payables	114,768	408,105
Sundry payables	471,138	278,720
Accrued expenses	187,258	136,766
Goods and services tax	-	21,592
	773,164	845,183
11. PROVISIONS (CURRENT)	2014 (\$)	2012 (\$)
Provision for loss making productions		2013 (\$)
Total provisions	14,578 14,578	7,154 7,154
Total provisions	14,070	7,104
(a) Movements in provisions	Provisions (\$)	Total (\$)
At 1 January 2014	7,154	7,154
Arising during year	14,578	14,578
Utilised during year	(7,154)	(7,154)
At 31 December 2014	14,578	14,578
Current - 2014	14,578	14,578
Non-current - 2014	-	-
	14,578	14,578

### (b) Nature and timing of provisions

### (i) Provision for Loss Making Productions

Provisions for productions in subsequent calendar year(s) which management determine as deficit making, for which the Company has a firm commitment to produce. Refer to Note 2 for the relevant accounting policy in relation to recognition and measurement principles.

### 12. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT LIABILITIES

Long service leave	43,762	41,239
Non Current		
	241,163	196,076
Other employee benefits	43,917	26,917
Annual leave	5,000	41,151
Long service leave	2,729,270	2,454,712
Current		
(CURRENT AND NON-CURRENT)	2014 (\$)	2013 (\$)

### (i) Annual Leave and other short term employee benefits

Refer to Note 2 for the relevant accounting policy and a discussion of the significant estimations and assumptions applied in the measurement of this provision.

### (ii) Long service leave

Refer to Note 2 for the relevant accounting policy and a discussion of the significant estimations and assumptions applied in the measurement of this provision.

	2,274,769	2,794,984
Other deferred revenue	2,989	6,797
Fundraising and donations income in advance	100,000	10,000
Sponsorship income in advance	1,850	43,917
Government grants in advance	67,500	5,000
Advance ticket sales	2,102,430	2,729,270
13. DEFERRED REVENUE	2014 (\$)	2013 (\$)

### 14. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no transactions with related parties during the year other than those with Directors. Payments made to directors are not for their services as directors of the Company for which no fee is received. Payments were made by the Company to some directors for their contributions as employees of, or contractors to the Company. Total short-term employment benefits paid to directors amounted to \$204,342 (2013: \$195,913).

### 15. MEMBERS' GUARANTEE

Belvoir is incorporated in New South Wales as a company limited by guarantee. In the event of the Company being wound up, each member undertakes to contribute a maximum of \$20 respectively for payment of the Company's liabilities. As at 31 December 2014, there were 43 members of Belvoir and the amount of capital that could be called up in the event of Belvoir being wound up is \$860.

16. COMMITMENTS AND CONTIGENCIES	2014 (\$)	2013 (\$)
(a) Leasing commitments		
Non-cancellable operating leases	***************************************	
Within one year	64,827	62,939
After one year but not more than five years	204,528	269,355
	269,355	332,294

An operating lease for a workshop and storage space in Marrickville was renegotiated in October 2013. The lease term is for five years with a termination date of 25th of October 2017. There is an option to renew for a further five years.

An operating lease for rent of the warehouse and theatre is currently in place with Belvoir St Theatre Limited (BSTL). The rental amount is a varying figure, being the equivalent of the annual outgoings incurred by BSTL and therefore is not included in the table above.

### (b) Sinking fund commitments

In 2012, Company B became obliged to pay Belvoir Street Theatre Limited (BSTL) the first installment of a ten year commitment of the sinking fund as required under the lease rental agreement between BSTL and Company B for the Belvoir Street theatre and warehouse premises. The sinking fund is to enable Belvoir Street Theatre Limited to carry out works on the premises on a scheduled basis over 10 years in order to maintain and repair the building in which the theatre is housed in and the property plant and equipment used on the premises.

As at 31 December 2014 the value of the commitment payable to Belvoir Street Theatre Limited was as follows:

	2014 (\$)	2013 (\$)
(a) Leasing commitments		
Not longer than 1 year	62,954	60,581
Longer than 1 year and not longer than 5 years	251,816	256,986
Greater than 5 years	157,385	224,392
	472,155	541,959

### 17. EVENTS AFTER REPORTING DATE

Peter Wilson was appointed as a member of the Company B Board with effect from 10 February 2015.

There has not been any other matter or circumstance, other than that referred to in the financial statements or notes thereto, that has arisen since the end of the financial year, that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect, the operations of the Company, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Company in future financial years.

## **Directors' Declaration**

In accordance with a resolution of the directors of Belvoir, I state that: In the opinion of the directors:

(a) the financial statements and notes of the Company are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 and the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012 including:

(i) giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial positions as at 31 December 2014 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and

(ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the Corporations Regulations 2001 and the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Regulation 2013; and

(b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

On behalf of the Board

Andrew Cameron AM

Chair

Sydney, 27 March 2015



Ernst & Young 680 George Street Sydney NSW 2000 Australia GPO Box 2646 Sydney NSW 2001 Tel: +61 2 9248 5555 Fax: +61 2 9248 5959 ev.com

### Independent auditor's report to the members of Company B Limited

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Company B Limited, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2014, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the directors' declaration

### Directors' responsibility for the financial report

The directors of the company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements, the Corporations Act 2001 and the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012 and for such internal controls as the directors determine are necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement. Whether due to fraud or error.

### Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal controls relevant to the entity's preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal controls. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### Independence

In conducting our audit we have complied with the independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 and the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012. We have given to the directors of the company a written Auditor's Independence Declaration, a copy of which is included in the directors' report. We confirm that the Auditor's Independence Declaration would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor's report.

### Opinion

In our opinion the financial report of Company B Limited is in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 and the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012, including:

- giving a true and fair view of the financial position of Company B Limited at 31 December 2014 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards Reduced Disclosure Requirements, the Corporations Regulations 2001 and the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Regulation 2013.

Ernst & Young

David Simmonds Partner Sydney

27 March 2015

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For more information on partnership opportunities please contact our Development team on 02 9698 3344 or development@belvoir.com.au





18 & 25 Belvoir St, Surry Hills NSW 2010 admin +61 (0)2 9698 3344 fax +61 (0)2 9319 3165 box office +61 (0)2 9699 3444 mail@belvoir.com.au belvoir.com.au

Front cover: Rose Riley in *The Glass Menagerie*. Photo: Brett Boardman.