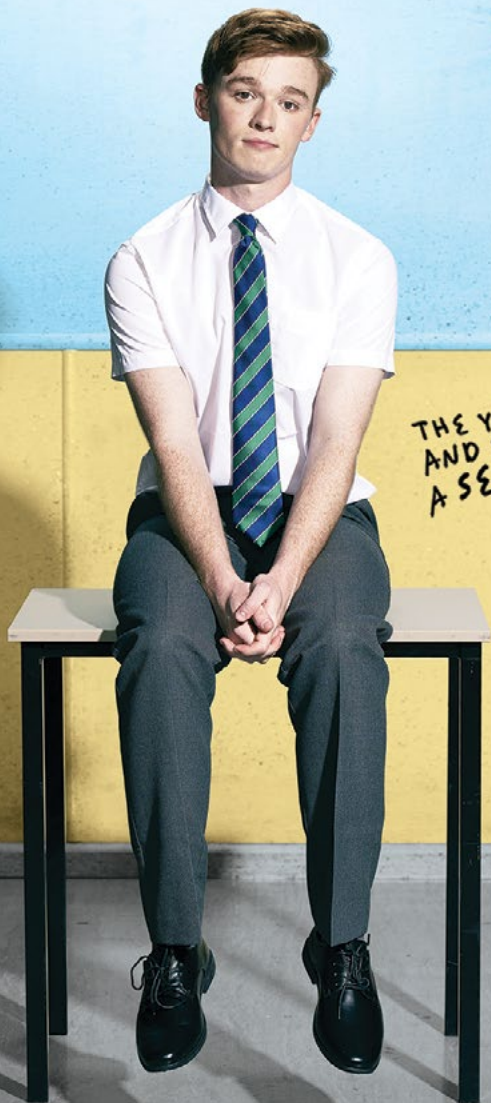


SHAKE & STIR THEATRE CO PRESENTS

FOURTEEN

BY SHANNON MOLLOY

ADAPTED BY SHAKE & STIR WITH SHANNON MOLLOY



THE YEAR IS 1999
AND SHANNON HAS
A SECRET

PROGRAM

CREATIVES

Nelle Lee, Nick Skubij with Shannon Molloy • **Adaptors**

Nick Skubij • **Director**

Ross Balbuziente • **Creative Producer**

Josh McIntosh • **Set Designer**

Fabian Holford • **Costume Designer**

Trent Suidgeest • **Lighting Designer**

Guy Webster • **Sound Designer & Composer**

Dan Venz • **Choreographer**

Michelle Miall • **Intimacy Director**

Tim Dashwood • **Fight Director**

Johnny Balbuziente • **Fight Assistant**

CAST

Will Carseldine • **Tom & others**

Helen Cassidy • **Rhonda, Morgan & others**

Karen Crone • **Donna, Mrs Stewart & others**

Judy Hainsworth • **Trinity, Nicole, Ms Kostopolous, Meredith & others**

Conor Leach • **Shannon Molloy**

Tom Oliver • **Mr Nelson, Jonathon, & others**

Steven Rooke • **Brett, Andy, Dad & others**

CREW

Jonathan Harrison • **Production & Technical Manager**

Tanya Malouf • **Company Manager**

Mitch Cooley • **Stage Manager**

Shania Manning • **Assistant Stage Manager / Props Supervisor**

Nicholas James • **Wardrobe Supervisor & Dresser**

Andrew Whittaker • **Head of Staging**

Morgan Cole-Jones • **Head of Lighting**

PHOTOGRAPHY

Hero: **Dylan Evans**, Promo: **Morgan Roberts**, Rehearsal: **Lara Rix**, Production: **David Fell, Jade Ellis & Joel Devereux**

WARNING

This play contains strong coarse language, mature themes, simulated violence, depictions of self-harm, suicide ideation and sexual abuse. It also contains strobe lighting, theatrical smoke effects, and the use of stage cigarettes.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Shake & Stir Theatre Co acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which this work was created; Yagarabul and Turrbul country and pay respects to the Elders that are with us today and those past. First Nations people have been creating stories to educate, record history and entertain for over 2000 generations and we are honoured to be able to continue in this.

Premiered in 2022 with co-producers QPAC and Brisbane Festival.

FROM SHAKE & STIR THEATRE CO

The year is 1999.

A time where being *different* was brutal.

This is a story that needs to be heard. Shannon's words are unflinching and savage and sometimes uncomfortable. They are also abundantly hopeful, often hilarious, and ultimately uplifting.

When assembling our team, we were adamant to bring together an ensemble of Queensland greats – on and off the stage. We are so proud of the artists that have collaborated to bring this story to the stage.

To our creatives – Josh, Fabian, Trent, Guy, Dan, Michelle and Tim – the world you have created is beautiful.

To our actors – Helen, Steve, Tom, Judy, Karen, Will and Conor thank you for your passion, tears, jokes and unwavering commitment to Shannon's story.

To our crew – Jono, Jeremy, Andrew, Shania, Simon and Nicholas thank you for your constant dedication to the art of live storytelling.

To our original co-production partners – QPAC, Brisbane Festival and Arts Queensland – thank you for supporting us to create this important new work.

To anyone that finds themselves in a position where being *different* feels like the end of the world right now – we wholeheartedly hope Shannon's story shows you there is light at the end of the tunnel.

You are seen. You are celebrated. You are loved. And we are your allies.

Finally, to Shannon Molloy – thank you for trusting your story with us. We are honoured to now call you a dear friend.

So, whip out the Lynx Africa, smack on some Lip Smacker, pump your Reebok and get set to enjoy a nostalgic trip back to the 90s – whilst reflecting on how far we have come and how far we must continue to go.

Hold your head high and reach the top.

Ross Balbuziente, Nelle Lee & Nick Skubij

Shake & Stir Artistic Directors





FROM THE DIRECTOR

When *Fourteen* first premiered as part of 2022's Brisbane Festival, expectations were high. The best-selling memoir by the remarkable Shannon Molloy had been tweaked, trimmed and massaged into a live play and put in front of an audience – an audience as diverse as it was supportive. It is with great pride that a best-selling, critically-acclaimed book has now become a best-selling, critically-acclaimed play! Testament to the quality of the material and the tireless, passionate work of an incredible team of creatives, cast and crew. It is now an even greater joy to have the opportunity to remount the production for a major national tour – taking this important work right into the heart of the communities where it could have the most impact. Of course, we also return this work to where it all began – QPAC's Cremorne Theatre so the fans, the friends and those new to the work, can experience it all over again.

While our story is set in a quiet beach community in Central Queensland, its soul is found in so many other regional towns. There is an assumption that growing up in these places is simple, wholesome and supportive. It's as if knowing everyone in town, means safely sleeping with your window open and your door unlocked. For many living in remote and regional areas, especially young people, this small-town life can feel incredibly isolating and



oppressive. Before the days when social media helped keep us connected, no matter our postcode, our networks were far smaller and our opportunities to find our tribe were limited to the school yard and ICQ – more on THAT, in the play ;). How does a young man (who has a big secret) navigate such a space? How can he survive? The answer is – barely.

We built the physical environment of this play to represent this postcard-perfect version of what we assume a small-town life to be. There are fragments of wonder and welcome – the lattice, the jasmine, perhaps the weathered timber slats of a jetty or the balcony of a weather board house – where the community gathers for many a messy backyard party. This setting supports happy memories of playing and growing up, uninhibited by the threat of big city living. But this is also an environment where that assumption of safety can lead to neglect. Where with nothing to do, good kids turn bad. Where those who are different are feared, resented, and targeted.

This play is also a memory play, told through the eyes of Shannon long after the fact and with the creative humour and flair that only an incredibly talented writer can offer. It has been great fun playing with that concept of fragmented and faded memories as postcard-esq images, suspended in time. Why and how the good and bad times sear into our memories in their own ways and are recalled with varying degrees of detail. And how, over time, our memories distort, and the significant moments become even more dramatic with the passing of time. Why we can remember the worst days as if they happened yesterday but find it hard to rediscover all the detail also contained in the good times?

For the 2024 season of *Fourteen*, we have assembled an incredible company; many from the original production and all who have played a part in the story of Shake & Stir. To my best friends – Nelle and Ross: You are the Nicole and Morgan to my Shannon. We too have grown up together and without you, I wouldn't be here today.

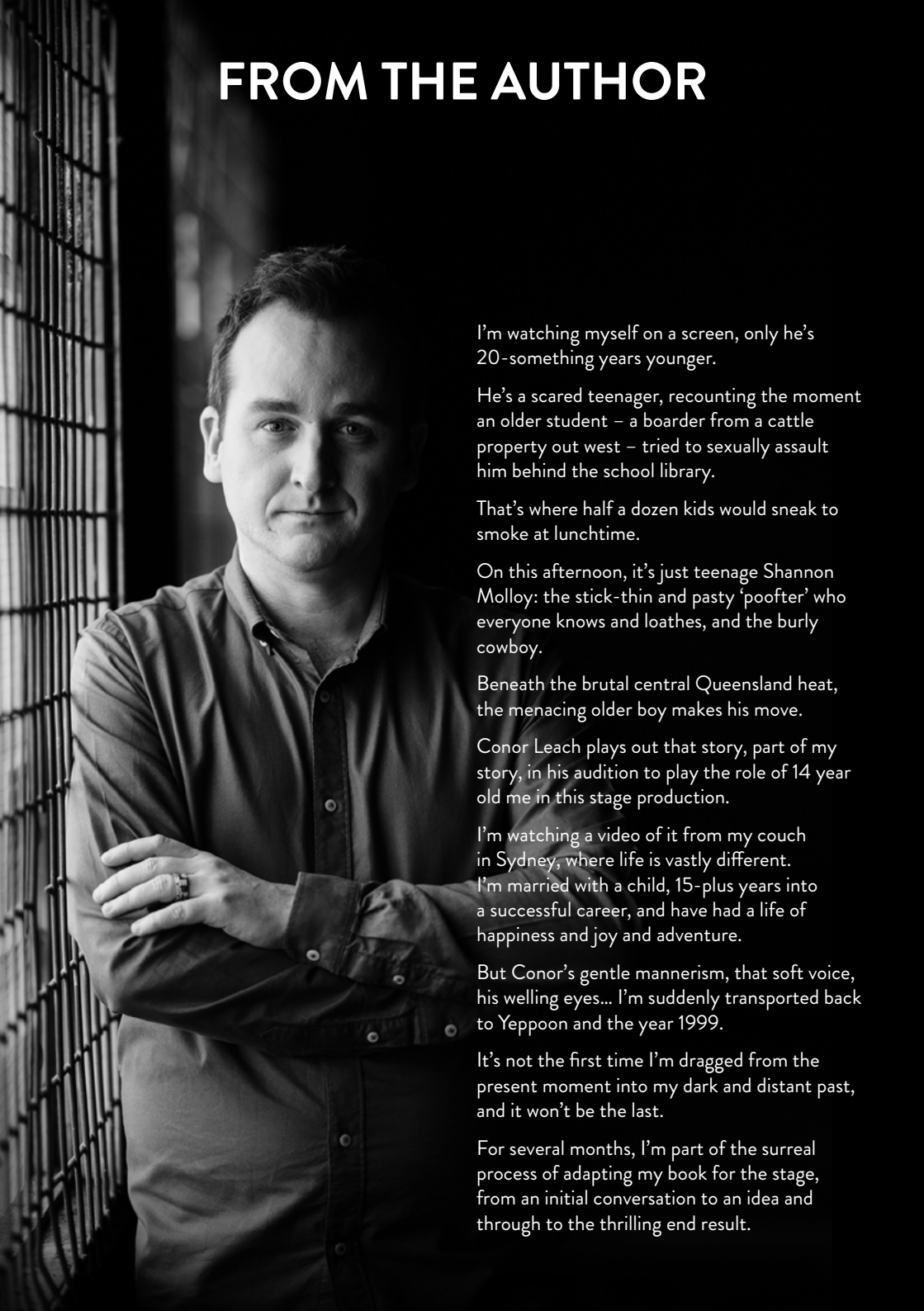
Now, all that's left to do is sit back, relax and in the immortal words of Shania – LET'S GO GIRLS!

This is *Fourteen*.

Nick Skubij

Shake & Stir Theatre Co

FROM THE AUTHOR



I'm watching myself on a screen, only he's 20-something years younger.

He's a scared teenager, recounting the moment an older student – a boarder from a cattle property out west – tried to sexually assault him behind the school library.

That's where half a dozen kids would sneak to smoke at lunchtime.

On this afternoon, it's just teenage Shannon Molloy: the stick-thin and pasty 'poofter' who everyone knows and loathes, and the burly cowboy.

Beneath the brutal central Queensland heat, the menacing older boy makes his move.

Conor Leach plays out that story, part of my story, in his audition to play the role of 14 year old me in this stage production.

I'm watching a video of it from my couch in Sydney, where life is vastly different.

I'm married with a child, 15-plus years into a successful career, and have had a life of happiness and joy and adventure.

But Conor's gentle mannerism, that soft voice, his willing eyes... I'm suddenly transported back to Yeppoon and the year 1999.

It's not the first time I'm dragged from the present moment into my dark and distant past, and it won't be the last.

For several months, I'm part of the surreal process of adapting my book for the stage, from an initial conversation to an idea and through to the thrilling end result.

It's 18 months or so since Ross Balbuziente, Nick Skubij and Nelle Lee reached out and kicked off this once-in-a-lifetime journey.

They've treated my story with such care and consideration, involving me in every step of the fascinating process, genuinely eager for my input and ideas.

I don't really know what I'm doing. I'm just thrilled to have a seat at the table as we turn a 320-page paperback into a 90-minute stage show.

There are many conversations – those had over wine as we paint broad brushstrokes of a story, and those held huddled over a laptop as we pull apart and put back together draft script after draft script.

We discuss staging, costumes, lighting, the marrying of multiple cheesy late 90s pop songs, character development, story arcs, marketing, choreography and more.

I meet the cast. I meet more of the creative team. I feel a joyous professional connectedness that I haven't felt in a long time.

It feels like this is exactly where I'm meant to be.

Each beautiful and incredible milestone feels unreal to me. On sale date, extending the season, the media interest, the excitement of Brisbane Festival organisers, the energy of the cast, the emotional first table read, rehearsals... it's a whirlwind that I hope never ends.

Watching my story come to life on stage in a theatre surrounded by 300-odd people is an incredibly moving and utterly unbelievable experience. I laugh. I dance in my seat. I cry. I mourn the adolescence robbed from me and so many other queer kids, but my heart swells with hope because my story is a reminder that it does get better and despite appearances at times, there is kindness in the world.

The almost four-week run in 2022 is one of my life's greatest honours. And it's a sell-out smash hit. More than six thousand people come to see this thing of beauty, so full of heart, that a brilliant and talented team has so carefully put together.

I mourn the experience when it's over. It's like breaking up with your true love, when neither of you especially wants to. So, imagine my joy when news arrives less than 18 months later that the band is getting back together. We're hitting the road!

Now, as I write this, we're preparing to embark on a several month, 20-stop national tour to take Fourteen to Australia. We're hitting some of the grandest stages in the biggest cities, but we're also taking it to the regions. That means so much to me. My story was born in a small town, after all.

How many marvellous moments of luck can one person experience in a lifetime? My book was a beautiful accident, the combination of good fortune and impeccable timing. It being adapted for the stage was another momentous thing that probably wasn't meant to happen. And now, my third miracle, is that thousands more people will see Fourteen on stage.

Someone pinch me. I must be dreaming.

Shannon Molloy
Author







WILL CARSELDINE // CAST

For Shake & Stir: *James and the Giant Peach, The Twits* (2023 national tour), *A Christmas Carol*. **Other Theatre:** *Caesar* (La Boite 2021), *Away* (La Boite 2021), *An Ideal Husband* (La Boite 2022), *Queen's City* (Blak Social 2022). **Training:** Will graduated from QUT with a BFA (Acting) in 2019. **Other:** Will is a proud member of MEAA.



HELEN CASSIDY // CAST

For Shake & Stir: *Tae Tae in the Land of YAAAS!, Fourteen, Fantastic Mr Fox*. **Other Theatre:** *Medea* (Queensland Theatre), *As You Like It, Family Values, The Glass Menagerie, Boston Marriage, The Seagull, Orphans, Man Equals Man, Long Days Journey into Night, Scapin, Backseat Drivers, Mrs Warren's Profession, A Christmas Carol, Absurd Person Singular* (Queensland Theatre), *As You Like it, The Wishing Well, Rio Saki and Other Falling Debris, The Drowning Bride, Post Office Rose* (La Boite), *Dirty Fame Flash Candles Club* (Western Standard Productions). Helen played London and the UK with Unlimited Theatre in *The Moon The Moon*. She spent 2018 in Las Vegas appearing in Spiegelworld's *Opium* at the *Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas*. Her solo show *Erotic Intelligence for Dummies* played sold out crowds in Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne and Brisbane. *The Furze Family Variety Hour* and *Death in a Statesman* for deBase Productions. Shock Therapy Productions: *Medea, Midsummer Night's Dream* for 4MBS Shakespeare Festival and *Alice in Wonderland*. **Film and Television:** *Thirteen Lives, Sisters of War, Wanted, Australia Day and Through My Eyes*. **Awards:** Helen has received four Matilda Awards and is a proud Equity member.



KAREN CRONE // CAST

For Shake & Stir: *Fourteen* (2022) **Other Theatre:** *The Prisoner of Second Avenue, Julius Caesar, Injected Brecht, Animal Farm, Camille, Dinkum Assorted, Cloudland, The Sentimental Bloke, Applause, Travelling North, Slaughter of Saint Teresa's Day, The Front Page, Long Day's Journey into Night, Little Foxes, A Pack of Lies, The Trial of Brer Rabbit, The Little Aussie Battler, Hello Dolly, They're Playing Our Song, Amadeus, Signal Driver, Annie, No Names No Pack Drill, The Skin of our Teeth, Saturday Sunday Monday, Bag O' Marbles* (Queensland Theatre), *Away* (QLD Tour), *Fortune, No Strings Attached, Cosi x 2, Creche and Burn* (National Tour), *Raindancers* (La Boite), *Way Out West* (La Boite, QPAC), *Bobcat Magic* (La Boite / QMF), *Allo Allo, Dad's Army* (NZ tour), *Run For Your Wife, Carousel* (Twelfth Night Theatre), *Excess Baggage* (La Boite and Belvoir Street), *Alice in Wonderland National Tour* (Rapidfire Productions), *The Mavis Bramston Show Reloaded* (Seymour Productions), *Richard III* (4 MBS), *Cosi* (That Production Company), *It all begins with Love* (Regional Tour) (Creative Regions), *Twelfth Night* (Grin & Tonic), *1959 Pink Thunderbird* (Seymour Prod. IZIT?). **As Director:** *3 Little Endangered Species* (Qld Arts Council), *The Way We Were* (QPAC), *Prospect Terrace* (Verandah Theatre), *Bouncers, Return to the Forbidden Planet* (Basement Theatre), *Opening Ceremony* (WFF), *Women in Voice 09-15* (QFF), *The Boy from OZ* (Mt Isa Regional Council), *Cabaret, Miss Saigon, The Boy from OZ, Dusty,*



Chicago, *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Rockhampton Regional Council), *The Mikado* (Gladstone Regional Council), *Dimboola, Cosi, Naughty Cinderella* (Charleville Council), *Safety Circus, Twelfth Night, Cabaret #9 & #13, Three Sisters, Voice of the River, Creche and Burn, Matilda Women, Under Milkwood, CV (CoronaVirus) and His Two Mates (CQU), The Blues Brothers, Grease, Rocky Horror Picture Show, Tommy, (QUT) AD Stage and Screen (QUT), Alan Edward's Gala Tribute (QTC).*
Film: *The Starter Wife, Blackman Down, Crocodile Dundee in LA, Mental, Dead Luggage, Ascension, Reef and Beef, The Lost World.* **Other:** *The A-Z of Cabaret, Jaque Brel is Alive and Well (Brisbane Cabaret Festival), River Jazz (Brisfest), Artistic Director IZIT?, Entertainment 92 – 12. Melbourne Comedy Festival, Sydney International Festival, Perth Festival, Beef Week Rocky.* **Awards:** Matilda Win and Nominations.

JUDY HAINSWORTH // CAST

For Shake & Stir: *The Twits, A Christmas Carol* (2022), *Revolting Rhymes & Dirty Beasts* (2015, 2019 national tour), *Statespeare* (2011 national tour, 2013). **Other Theatre:** *Wilbur the Optical Whale* (indelability arts), *Margaret Fulton the Musical* (Jally Entertainment), *Babushka Book Club, Babushka's Right to Party, Happily Ever After, DOLL, Dead!, I Can Keep a Secret* (Little Match Productions), *#FirstWorldWhiteGirls: Spirit Animal, #FirstWorldWhiteGirls: Botox Party* (Brisbane Comedy Festival, Melbourne Comedy Festival, Adelaide Fringe), *The Narcissist (STC / La Boite), Holy Guacamole (The Good Room), The Reunion* (Metro Arts Independents), *Assassins, Parade* (Warehaus), *Small Mercies* (La Boite); *He Died with a Felafel in his Hand* (Someone Productions), *Shakespeare's Women* (Toowoomba Shakespeare Festival), *Hansel and Gretel* and *Turandot* (Opera Queensland). **Awards:** Matilda Award nominee for Best Actress (*Margaret Fulton the Musical*), Matilda Award for Best Sound Design (*Happily Ever After*), Matilda Award nominee for Best Supporting Actress (*The Narcissist*). **Training:** Bachelor of Theatre Arts (Acting) with Distinction from the University of Southern Queensland.

CONOR LEACH // CAST

For Shake & Stir: *Fourteen* **Other Theatre:** *SLAP. BANG. KISS.* (Melbourne Theatre Company), *Hell's Canyon* (La Mama / Old 505), *Disparate Scenes for Millennial Dreams* (Periscope Productions / Meat Market), *AntigoneX* (Theatre Works / Zeb Fontaine) and *The Coal Story* (The Butterfly Club). **Film:** *Sequin in a Blue Room* (AACTA Award nomination for Best Indie Film), *The Interlude* and short films *Intimate Partner* (Melbourne Queer Film Festival) and *Outsider*. **Television:** *New Gold Mountain* (SBS) and *Preacher* (AMC). **Dance and Physical Theatre:** *Dancing with Death* (Pichet Klunchun Dance Company / Asia TOPA), *CONTROL* (Alchemistudio) and *Everything is Everything* (MPavilion). **Training:** Conor is a VCA graduate. **Other:** Proud MEAA member.





TOM OLIVER // CAST

For Shake & Stir: Debut. **Other Theatre:** Tom is most renowned for his leading performances in the hit international theatre show *Velvet* opposite Marcia Hines AM which has played in every Australian state, New Zealand, the USA, Germany, Mexico, Asia, and on international waters through the Bahamas. *Rolling Thunder Vietnam, Rent, Christmas Actually, A Midnight Visit.*

As Singer: he has toured Australia stages and appeared on television with Marcia Hines' band alongside legends like KC & The Sunshine Band, Sister Sledge, The Village People, John Paul Young and many more. His career boasts awards and business success as an actor, singer, presenter, producer, founder, and creative director. Tom's broad portfolio includes music, theatre, film, television, and cabaret. **As Producer:** Tom creates and promotes festivals, concerts, content creation and theatre productions for his own company with industry legends and local artists, and is currently an Associate Producer for John Frost AM and Crossroads Live Australia. **Awards:** Finalist for the 7 News Young Achiever Awards, Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary Australia, Gold Matilda winner for outstanding service to the Arts & Entertainment industry in Queensland, Ally of the Year & Event of the Year [Bay Pride] at the 63rd Annual Queens Ball Awards. Tom is the Founder, CEO, and Artistic Director of the Wynnum Fringe Festival.



STEVEN ROOKE // CAST

For Shake & Stir: *Animal Farm.* **Other Theatre:** Queensland Theatre: *First Casualty, The Odd Couple, Kelly* (including national tour), *Gasp, Gloria, Macbeth, No Man's Land* (with Sydney Theatre Company), *1001 Nights* (with QMF), *The Removalist, An Oak Tree, Fat Pig, Exception and the Rule, Anatomy Titus Fall of Rome: A Shakespeare Commentary* (with Bell Shakespeare). **Other theatre:** That Production Company: *Sea Wall.* La Boite: *Julius Caesar, 48 Shades of Brown.* QPAC *Out of the Box: Boat.* 23rd Productions: *The Pillowman.* Baran Theatre: *Tower of Babel.* **Film:** *Last Ark, Forever First Love, The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader, Blurred, Footy Legends, Australia Day.* **Television:** *Harrow, Hoges, Schapelle, Always Greener, Comedy Inc, Home and Away, Open For Inspection* (pilot), *All Saints, Beastmaster.* **Short Film:** *Fall From a Height, Transmission, Quiet; You'll Wake Up the War.* **Training:** Bachelor of Fine Arts: Queensland University of Technology. **Awards:** 2011 Gold Matilda for Outstanding Body of Performance Work, 2011 Matilda Award for Best Supporting Actor, 2009 Matilda Award for Best Actor, 2010 QNFA Award for Best Actor in a Main Role. 2014 Brian Boak Bursary Recipient.

CREATIVES

ROSS BALBUZIENTE // CREATIVE PRODUCER

For Shake & Stir as Director: *James and the Giant Peach*, *Tae Tae in the Land of Yaaas!*, *The Twits*, *Fantastic Mr Fox*, *George's Marvellous Medicine*, *Roald Dahl's Revolting Rhymes & Dirty Beasts*, *Out Damn Snot*, *Statespeare*. *The Frog Prince*, *Hansel & Gretel*, *FIZZ!* (Opera Queensland / Shake & Stir). *Hamlet*, *The Tempest*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Qld Youth Shakespeare Festival). Shake & Stir's in-school productions including: *Romeo & Juliet*, *Macbeth*, *Hamlet*, *Shake Up!*, *Smile & Be a Villain*, *Tragic Magic*, *Chop Logic*, *Bard to the Bone*, *I Crave My Space*, *Say it to My Face Book*, *Try Hard*, *Oversharer*, *Vacant* and *Popular*. **For Shake & Stir as Actor:** *A Christmas Carol*, *Dracula*, *Wuthering Heights*, *1984*, *Tequila Mockingbird*, *Animal Farm*, *Statespeare*. **Other Theatre:** *Romeo & Juliet* (Queensland Theatre), *Julius Caesar* (La Boite), *Citizen Jane* (JUTE), *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Two Weeks with the Queen*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Assassins* (Warehouse Theatre / QPAC), *As You Like It*, *The Comedy of Errors*, *Titus Andronicus* and *Monkey and His Magic Journey to the West* (Grin & Tonic), *Shakespeare's Strangers* (Globe Stage London). **Positions:** Ross is a founding member and Co-Artistic Director of Shake & Stir and has created and produced over 100 productions (2006 - present). **Awards:** Numerous Matilda Awards including: Gold Matilda Award in recognition of Shake & Stir's national touring work (2020), Best Musical or Cabaret for *Green Day's American Idiot* (2017), Best Mainstage Production and Gold Matilda Award for creating *Tequila Mockingbird* (2014), Best Independent Production for *Animal Farm* (2012). Helpmann Award nominations include: Best Presentation for Children (2012, 2016), Best Regional Touring Production (2016). Matilda Award nominations include: Best Director, Best Male Actor in a Supporting Role, Best Emerging Artist.

FABIAN HOLFORD // COSTUME DESIGNER

For Shake & Stir: *Fourteen* (2022), Australian tour of *Green Day's American Idiot* (Head of Wardrobe). **Other Theatre:** Head of Wardrobe: *The Rocky Horror Show* (GFO), *Wogboys* (In Good Nick), and as Associate Costume Designer on *Madiba the Musical* (The Prestige Presents). **Other:** Fabian is a costume designer, stylist and costume maker, working across theatre, film and music video and print. Fabian created the costume looks for Phil Jamieson's last two music videos *Trouble* and *Somebody Else*. She has also created custom stage looks for Emma Donovan and CC Martini. As a costume maker she has worked with The Australian Ballet, GFO, Jason Coleman's Ministry of Dance and The Entertainment Store. She was also Costume Coordinator for the Japanese production of *Love Never Dies*. She has been Costume Supervisor and Wardrobe Standby on Australian feature films including *Strange Fits of Passion*, *Beware of Greeks Bearing Guns*, and *The Missing*. Fabian was also Production Designer on short film *Billy* (runner up in the Australia Post short film awards), and Costume Designer on short film *The Bank*. Fabian also spent 5 years at the helm of her own independent women's underwear label.

NELLE LEE // CO-ADAPTOR

For Shake & Stir as Adaptor / Writer: *James and the Giant Peach*, *Frankenstein*, *Tae Tae in the Land of Yaaas!*, *The Twits*, *Fourthcoming*, *Jane Eyre*, *A Christmas Carol*, *George's Marvellous Medicine*, *Dracula*, *Tequila Mockingbird*, *1984*, *Out Damn Snot*, *Statespeare*. **For Shake & Stir as Actor:** *The Twits*, *Jane Eyre*, *Fantastic Mr Fox*, *A Christmas Carol*, *George's Marvellous Medicine*, *Roald Dahl's Revolting Rhymes & Dirty Beasts*, *Wuthering Heights*, *Animal Farm*, *Dracula*, *1984*, *Tequila Mockingbird*, *Statespeare*, *Out Damn Snot* (Shake & Stir / La Boite). **Other Theatre:** *The Crucible*, *Maxine Mellor's Mystery Project*, *Property of the Clan* (Queensland Theatre), and *Complete Works of William Shakespeare by Chicks* (Brisbane Festival). **Film and TV:** *The Inbetweeners 2*, *Sea Patrol* seasons 2 & 3, *Mortified* and the feature film *JUCY*. **Positions:** Nelle is a Co-Artistic Director of Shake & Stir and has written and performed in productions that have toured across the country (2006 - present). **Training:** Bachelor Theatre Arts

(Acting) from the University of Southern Queensland. **Awards:** 2011 USQ Alumnus Award, 2011 USQ Arts Faculty Award. Numerous Matilda Awards including: Gold Matilda Award in recognition of Shake & Stir's national touring work (2020), Best Musical or Cabaret for *Green Day's American Idiot* (2017), Best Mainstage Production and Gold Matilda Award for creating *Tequila Mockingbird* (2014), Best Independent Production for *Animal Farm* (2012). Helpmann Award nominations include: Best Presentation for Children (2012, 2016), Best Regional Touring Production (2016).

JOSH MCINTOSH // SET DESIGNER

For Shake & Stir: *James and the Giant Peach*, *Frankenstein*, *Tae Tae in the Land of Yaas!*, *The Twits*, *Fourthcoming*, *Jane Eyre*, *Fantastic Mr Fox*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Green Day's American Idiot*, *Endgame*, *George's Marvellous Medicine*, *Dracula*, *Revolting Rhymes & Dirty Beasts*, *Wuthering Heights*, *Tequila Mockingbird*, *Out Damn Snot*, *1984*, *Animal Farm* (2011, 2013 national tour), *Statespeare*. **Other Theatre:** Josh has designed *Country Song*, *Rabbit Hole* and was Design Consultant for *Thom Pain* (Queensland Theatre), *Treasure Island* (Matrix & Queensland Theatre). For La Boite he has designed *Pale Blue Dot*, *The Kursk* (with Critical Stages & Matrix), *The Wishing Well* (with Matrix), *The Danger Age*, *The Year Nick McGowan Came to Stay*, and *Red Cap* (with QMF). For Queensland Ballet, *The Little Green Road to Fairyland* (with QMF). He has designed Queensland Music Festival's signature epic outdoor events for every festival since 2009 in Mount Isa, Moranbah, Logan, Gladstone, Bowen and Charleville. Josh regularly designs for Strut'n'Fret, debase productions, Flipside Circus, Company 2 and many other theatre companies, arts festivals and events including QPAC's Out of the Box children's festival (2016, 2018). **Awards:** Matilda Gold Award: *Body of Work* (2011). Matilda Silver Award: Best Set Design for *Revolting Rhymes & Dirty Beasts* (2019); Best Design for *A Christmas Carol* (2018); Best Set Design for *Green Day's American Idiot* (2017), Best Set Design for *Dracula* (2016).

MICHELLE MIALL // INTIMACY DIRECTOR

For Shake & Stir: *Fourteen* (2022), *Fourthcoming*. **Other Theatre:** *La Traviata* (Opera Queensland), *Grease* (QCGU /QPAC), *Horizon* (Playlab Theatre), *Zigzag Street*, *Spike Heels* (AdAstra Theatre Co), *Against the Wall* (Passion Productions), *Genesis* (A Very Theatre Company). **Film:** *Great White*, *The Possessed*. **Television:** *Deadloch* (Amazon), *All My Friends Are Racist* (ABC), *Tropo* (ABC), *Darby & Joan* (Acorn TV). **As Theatre Director:** *Wisdom*, *The Removalists* (Queensland Theatre), *Colder* (La Boite Indie), *The Pillowman* (23rd productions), *The Winter's Tale* (QSE), *Miss Saigon*, *Oklahoma!*, *Allsorts* (QCGU), *Real Women* (QPAC Cabaret Festival), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (APAC), *Everyman* (ACPA), *Going for Gold*, *Where the Breath is Kept* (Apocalypse Theatre), *Shrinks* (Purple Pear Productions), *Skeeter's School for Successful Superheroes* (USQ / Toowoomba Children's Festival), *The Laramie Project* (QUT), *Lifetime* (Short + Sweet Festival), *Holy Guacamole* (Backbone Youth Arts), *Valerie & Munro* (debase productions), *The Flu Season*, *No Exit* (Vena Cava Productions). **Awards:** Matilda Awards – Best Director, Best Emerging Artist; Gold Matilda Award – Outstanding Contribution to Directing & Producing Independent Theatre. **Other:** Michelle is an Intimacy Director & Coordinator under the mentorship of Michala Banas and Ita O'Brien (Intimacy on Set).

NICK SKUBIJ // DIRECTOR / CO-ADAPTOR

For Shake & Stir as Director: *Frankenstein*, *Fourteen* (2022), *Fourthcoming*, *Wuthering Heights*, *Statespeare*, *La bohème* (Opera Qld and Shake & Stir). **For Shake & Stir as Adaptor / Writer:** *Jane Eyre*, *Fantastic Mr Fox*, *George's Marvellous Medicine*, *Dracula*, *Wuthering Heights*, *1984*, *Animal Farm*, *Out Damn Snot*. **For Shake & Stir as Actor:** *The Twits*, *Fantastic Mr Fox*, *A Christmas Carol*, *George's Marvellous Medicine*, *Dracula*, *Revolting Rhymes & Dirty Beasts*, *Tequila Mockingbird*, *1984*, *Animal Farm*, *Statespeare*, *Out Damn Snot* (Shake & Stir/La Boite). **Other Theatre:** *Romeo & Juliet* (Queensland Theatre), *Eurobeat* (QPAC), *Flutter*, *Citizen Jane* (JUTE), *Crackle*, *Snap*, *Pop* (JUTE / Queensland Theatre), *Surviving Jonah*

Salt (KEDT / JUTE), *The Fiveways* (Brisbane Festival), *Macbeth*, *Franz Kafka's The Trial*, *As You Like it*, *Titus Andronicus* (Grin & Tonic). **Film and TV:** *Toybox* season 2 (Channel 7). **Positions:** Nick is a founding member and Co-Artistic Director of Shake & Stir theatre co (2006 - present). **Awards:** Numerous Matilda Awards including: Gold Matilda Award in recognition of Shake & Stir's national touring work (2020), Best Musical or Cabaret for *Green Day's American Idiot* (2017), Best Mainstage Production and Gold Matilda Award *Tequila Mockingbird* (2014), Best Production for *Animal Farm* (2012). Matilda Award nominations for Best Director (2021), Best Lead Actor (2015). Helpmann Award nominations include: Best Presentation for Children (2012, 2016), Best Regional Touring Production (2016).

TRENT SUIDGEEST // LIGHTING DESIGNER

For Shake & Stir: *Frankenstein*, *Tae Tae in the Land of Yaas!*, *Fourteen* (2022) **Other Theatre:** *Muriel's Wedding The Musical* (Global Creatures / STC), *The Eighth Wonder*, *Carmen*, *The Rabbits* (Opera Australia), *The Dictionary Of Lost Words* (STC / STCSA), *The Tenant Of Wildfell Hall*, *Appropriate*, *Hay Fever*, *Accidental Death Of An Anarchist*, *Talk* (STC), *Prima Facie*, *Kill Climate Deniers* (Griffin), *Dubbo Championship Wrestling*, *Young Frankenstein*, *Calamity Jane*, *Gypsy*, *The View UpStairs* (Hayes Theatre Co), *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Dusty*, *The Boy From Oz* (The Production Co), *GASP!*, *Other Desert Cities*, *Managing Carmen* (QT / BSSTC), *RENT* (Sugary Rum / LPD / Sydney Opera House), At Sydney Festival: *Betty Blokk-Buster Reimagined* (Red Line Productions), *I Am Eora* (Performing Lines), *44 Sex Acts In One Week* (Club House Productions), *Black Cockatoo* (Ensemble Theatre). **Training:** Bachelor of Performing Arts (Production & Design) from the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts. **Website:** trentsuidgeest.com

DAN VENZ // CHOREOGRAPHER

For Shake & Stir: *James and the Giant Peach*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Tae Tae in the Land of Yaas!*, *Frankenstein*, *Fourteen* (2022) **Other Theatre:** *Jersey Boys* (Prospero Arts / QPAC), *Drizzle Boy*, *As You Like It*, *First Casualty* (Queensland Theatre) *I Love You You're Perfect Now Change!*, *Cry Baby*, *Heathers The Musical*, *42nd Street* (QAEMT), *Grease* (QPAC / QCGU), *A Very Naughty Christmas Cabaret Series*, *The Mystery Of The Valkyrie*, *Sweet Charity*, *Yank! A WWII Love Story* (Woodward Productions), *Boy&Girl Cabaret Series*, *Six Inches* (Oscar Production Company), *Razzle Dazzle Riot* (Brisbane Festival / Oscar ProCo.), *Carrie: The Musical* (Wax Lyrical Productions), *Footloose*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Legally Blonde*, *Xanadu* (Hayward Street Theatre), *Margaret Fulton The Musical* (Jally Entertainment), *Alice in Wonderland*, *The Jungle Book*, *The Little Mermaid* (Pen2Stage), *Dora The Explorer*, *Shimmer & Shine*, *Paw Patrol Live Shows* (Nickelodeon and Nick Jr.), *Bluey's Big Play - Development* (Andrew Kay and Windmill Theatre Co.), *Creative Generation Dance Director* (QLD Department of Education).

GUY WEBSTER // SOUND DESIGNER & COMPOSER

For Shake & Stir: *James and the Giant Peach*, *Frankenstein*, *Tae Tae in the Land of Yaas!*, *Fourteen* (2022), *The Twits*, *Fourthcoming*, *Jane Eyre*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Fantastic Mr Fox*, *Endgame*, *George's Marvellous Medicine*, *Dracula*, *Revoluting Rhymes & Dirty Beasts*, *Wuthering Heights*, *Tequila Mockingbird*, *Out Damn Snot*, *1984*, *Animal Farm*, *Statespeare*. Guy is a performer, composer, musician, sound designer and teacher. While his live performances have earned him a reputation as a prolific and inspiring songwriter, his work in interactive composition and sound design has featured in festivals, galleries, conferences and theatres in Australia, Japan, UK, Europe, USA and China. **Other Theatre:** *L'Appartement*, *Constellations*, *The Seagull*, *Brisbane*, *The Button Event*, *The Effect*, *Kelly*, *Venus in Fur*, *Orphans* (Queensland Theatre), *An Ideal Husband*, *Naked & Screaming*, *From Darkness*, *Lysa and the Freeborn Dames*, *The Tragedy of King Richard III*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *As You Like It*, *Ruben Guthrie*, *I Love You, Bro*, *The Pineapple Queen*, *The White Earth*, *Kitchen Diva*, *Summer Wonderland*, *The Narcissist*, *Last Drinks*, *Urban Dingoes and Crèche & Burn* (La Boite), *You Don't Know Jack & Kitty* (GOGI Dance), *The Rising* (Circus Corridor), *Welcome*

To Sameville, Locked In, Viral (Shock Therapy Productions), Torrent (Lisa Wilson / DanceNorth), Bunker (Lisa Wilson / Nathan Sibthorpe), La Bella Figura, To Kill A Cassowary, Here We Are All Assembled, The Salt Remains (JUTE), Horizon, Magpie, Blue Bones (Playlab), Riverfire 2021, Brisbane Art Boat (Brisbane Festival), Quiet By Nature, Hotelling (Bleach Festival). **Other Music:** Guy has released several CDs and performed on many stages supporting the likes of Beth Orton, Ed Harcourt, Powderfinger, The Cruel Sea, Mad Professor, Eskimo Joe, Ben Lee and Sarah Blasko.

CREW

JONATHAN HARRISON // PRODUCTION & TECHNICAL MANAGER

For Shake & Stir: *James and the Giant Peach, Tae Tae in the Land of Yaas!* **For La Boite:** *Poison of Polygamy, AWAY, 7 Methods for Killing Kylie Jenner, The Last 5 Years, An Ideal Husband, TIDDAS* (Production Manager), *CAESAR, Bigger & Blacker, Naked & Screaming, Christmas Actually* (Technical Coordinator). For Disney Cruise Line: *Frozen A Musical Spectacular, Aladdin, Disney's Believe, Disney Wishes, WAVs, The Golden Mickey's, Beauty and the Beast, Disney Dreams: An Enchanted Classic, Tangled the Musical, Twice Charmed* (Senior Technician), *Stage Track, Frozen A Musical Spectacular, Aladdin, Disney's Believe, Disney Wishes, WAVs, The Golden Mickey's, Beauty and the Beast, Disney Dreams: An Enchanted Classic, Tangled the Musical, Twice Charmed, Villains Tonight, Toy Story the Musical* (Show Control Technician).

MITCH COOLEY // STAGE MANAGER

For Shake & Stir: *The Twits* **Other Credits:** As Stage Manager: *Metaverse of Magic, The Gruffalo's Child, Are We There Yet?, The Very Hungry Caterpillar Show, Cirque Bon Bon, Magic Mike LIVE, Cirque Stratosphere, The Illusionists Directo Desde Broadway, Velvet* **Other Roles:** Senior Stage Manager (QPAC), Associate Technical Producer (QPAC), Production Coordinator (Out of the Box Festival).

SHANIA MANNING // ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER / PROPS SUPERVISOR

For Shake & Stir: As assistant stage manager: *James and the Giant Peach, A Christmas Carol, Frankenstein, The Twits, Fantastic Mr Fox, Fourteen, Fourthcoming* (Stage management intern) **Other Theatre:** *The Mystery of the Valkyrie* (ASM, Woodward Productions), *Aftermath* (ADC, Assistant Stage Manager), *Three 2.0* (ADC, Assistant Stage Manager), *Harry Potter And The Cursed Child* (Stage Management Intern), *Algorithm* (QUT, Assistant Stage Manager), *2021 Showcase* (QUT, Production Manager), *Gala Kabarett* (Opera Queensland, AV Operator), *Victor Victoria* (BTG, Stage Manager), *Billy Buckett* (Footlight Theatricals, Stage Crew) **Training:** QUT Bachelor of Fine Art (Technical Production).

NICHOLAS JAMES // WARDROBE SUPERVISOR & DRESSER

For Shake & Stir: *Frankenstein, Fourteen, Romeo & Juliet* (in-school) **Theatre:** *Closer* (La Boite), *Kill Climate Deniers, Yielding, My Dead Bunny, When The Rain Stops Falling* (THAT Production Company) **Musical Theatre:** *Hamilton Australia/International* (MCG), *Moulin Rouge* (Global Creatures), *Mary Poppins* (MCG), *Dolly Parton's 9 to 5* (Crossroads Live), *Disney's Frozen* (Disney) **Opera:** *The Ring Cycle* (Opera Australia), *AIDA, La Traviata* (Opera QLD) **Film:** *Unbroken* (Universal Pictures) **Other:** Artistic Director of *The Haus of James*. Proud Queer Non-Binary Artist.

ANDREW WHITAKER // HEAD OF STAGING

For Shake & Stir: As Head Mechanist: *Frankenstein, The Twits* (2023 National Tour). **Other Credits:** As Head Mechanist: *Riddigore or The Witches Curse!* (Regional Tour, Opera Queensland). As Technical Site Manager: *Fringe World 2023*. As Technical Manager: *King Arthur* (2017 Tour, Story Pocket Theatre),

Horse: *Careful* (2017 Tour). As Operations Coordinator: *Brisbane Festival 2015*. As Venue Technician: *Fringe World 2022/2020*, *Edinburgh Fringe Festival (Gilded Balloon) 2019/2017/2016*, *Adelaide Fringe Festival 2018/2016*. **Training:** QUT Bachelor of Fine Art (Technical Production).

MORGAN COLE-JONES // HEAD OF LIGHTING

For Shake & Stir: *Debut*. **Other Credits:** As Lighting Programmer & Head LX: *Black Box* (Tinderbox Productions), *Is that You Ruthie?* (Oombarra Productions & QPAC), *Maksim Mrvica: The Collection Brisbane*, *Spirit of Christmas 2023* (QPAC), *I love you, you'r perfect, now change* (Queensland Conservatorium), *Face to Face* (Playlab Theatre), *The Poison of Polygamy* (La Boite). As floor electrician: *The Wharf Revue: Pride in Prejudice* (Soft Tread), *Tick, Tick...BOOM!* (Storyboard Entertainment). As Followspot Operator: *The Nutcracker 2023* (Queensland Ballet), *Singing in the Rain* (Prospero Arts), *Manon* (Queensland Ballet), *Li's Choice* (Queensland Ballet). Other: *Ishmael* (Set Electrics fabrication, Dead Puppet Society), *The 39 Steps* (Lighting Designer, Vena Cava). Positions: Senior Lighting Technician QPAC (ongoing)





PROLOGUE BY SHANNON MOLLOY

What came next after 14? It's a question I'm asked often but struggle to summarise.

But, here goes.

I went to America at 15 and had the best time. It was truly life changing. I lived with a woman named Barbara and her son Frank in Simsbury, Connecticut.

I came back to Australia, finished high school, and moved to Brisbane at 18 to study journalism at The University of Queensland.

I fulfilled my dream of working in the media, landing my first job at 20. I've been published in just about every major newspaper in Australia since, and several magazines too.

My work has appeared internationally in The New York Post, The Wall Street Journal, The Sun, and The Advocate. I've made a fair few TV and radio appearances as a commentator.

I took a brief detour from journalism at 26 and worked in politics for the great Anna Bligh, Premier of Queensland.

I moved to Sydney when I was 28 and met the love of my life, Robert. We moved in together a year later. We married when I was 32.

At 34, I wrote a book called *Fourteen* that became a best-seller and won a few accolades. Two years after it was released, the stage adaptation by Shake & Stir premiered as part of Brisbane Festival at the Queensland Performing Arts Centre. And now, two years on, it's touring the country nationally!

I wrote another book called *You Made Me This Way* – a powerful and confronting non-fiction work looking at the lifelong impacts of child sexual abuse on male adult survivors. It was called a “genre-defying feat of storytelling”, which is pretty surreal to read about yourself.

These days, I'm a senior reporter at the country's number one news website, news.com.au, and on the side I ghostwrite books for prominent and intriguing Australians.

I've seen a lot of the world – with more to come, hopefully. I've hiked through the hills of northern Thailand, rode a bike across Cambodia, had a crack at Everest Base Camp, and journeyed through Chilean Patagonia. I've also done some plush travel too – London, New York, Buenos Aires, Bangkok, Singapore, Hong Kong, Paris and more.

At 35, my daughter Ava was born – by far the greatest, most joyous accomplishment of my life. She is smart, funny, and most importantly of all, kind.

We Care

We love that art has the capacity to amplify important questions, stories and messages. Art can help us explore what it is to be human and plays a vital role in truth-telling and healing, promoting understanding and empathy.

We're also aware that engaging with art that gives voice to truth-telling can sometimes raise concerns or issues for our audiences.

Please take care as you immerse yourself in the experience of this production. We encourage you to reach out for help from family, friends or professionals if the stories or issues you interact with raise any concerns for you.

If you or someone you know needs information or support, these organisations are there to help:

Beyond Blue.....1300 22 4636

Q Life1800 184 527

Lifeline.....13 11 14

Headspace.....1800 650 890

Kids Helpline1800 551 800

MIND Australia1300 286 463

QLife (LGBTQIA+)..1800 184 527

SHAKE & STIR THEATRE CO

12 Merivale St, South Brisbane Qld 4010 W: shakeandstir.com.au @shakeandstir

Artistic Director **Ross Balbuziente**

Artistic Director **Nelle Lee**

Artistic Director **Nick Skubij**

Production & Technical Manager **Jonathan Harrison**

Touring & Company Manager **Tanya Malouf**

Marketing Coordinator **Joel Devereux**

Artistic Elder **Lafe Charlton**

Director In-Schools **Johnny Balbuziente**

Manager In-Schools **Nick James**

Education Manager **Katie Gentle**

Youth Engagement Coordinator **Lara Rix**

Assistant Producer Regional & Remote **Charlie Mitchell**

Company Administrator **Lydia Humphries**

Accountant **Raman Sidhu CA**

Finance **Shirley Christie**

Company Touring Actors

Isabella Berlese, Brendan Kater, Zoë Schramm, Peter Hatton, Alex Swanston, Stella Peterson

Primary Instructors

Adelaide Lukin, Alissa Kater, Ally Hickey, Aoife Kissane, Carmelo Bucolo, Clark Kent Byron-Moss, Dominic Graves, Ethan Waters, Holly Lightbody, Jiordie Lobwein, Lucy Bancroft, Matthew Ranger, Matty Butler, Molly Walker, Nicholas Hargreaves, Piper Rosenblatt

Shake & Stir Theatre Co is supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland.

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FOURTEEN

BY SHANNON MOLLOY

ADAPTED BY SHAKE & STIR WITH SHANNON MOLLOY

2024 NATIONAL TOUR

3 - 4 MAY PARRAMATTA
9 - 11 MAY CANBERRA
15 - 16 MAY WYONG
21 - 22 MAY BATHURST
25 MAY DUBBO
31 MAY PORT MACQUARIE
6 JUN ORANGE
12 JUN - 6 JUL BRISBANE
11 JUL TOWNSVILLE
17 JUL MARYBOROUGH
19 JUL TOOWOOMBA
24 JUL ROCKHAMPTON
26 JUL GLADSTONE
2 AUG GOLD COAST
7 - 10 AUG ADELAIDE
15 - 16 AUG DARWIN
23 AUG CAIRNS
27 AUG LAUNCESTON
30 - 31 AUG GEELONG



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