

A woman with short, wavy, light-colored hair and blue eyes is shown from the chest up. She is wearing a vibrant red, long-sleeved, puffed-sleeve dress and a pearl necklace. She is holding a white, stylized rabbit figurine with a large pink bow around its neck. The rabbit has its eyes closed. The background is a dark blue, vertically-pleated curtain. The overall mood is somber and dramatic.

**Stand up to your family and
you can stand up to anyone.**

Lab Kelpie & Theatre Works present

Every Lovely Terrible Thing

**A new play by Adam Fawcett
Directed by Justin Nott**

*This production of **EVERY LOVELY TERRIBLE THING** opened at Theatre Works, St Kilda on Thursday 29 February 2024.*

Playwright **ADAM FAWCETT**

Director **JUSTIN NOTT**

Set Design **HARRY GILL**

Lighting Design **SIDNEY YOUNGER**

Sound Design **TOM BACKHAUS**

Costume Design **MARTELLE HUNT**

Video Design **ARON MURRAY**

Stage Manager **ASHLEIGH WALWYN**

Producer **LAB KELPIE**

With

LYALL BROOKS

EMMA CHOY

SHARON DAVIS

JORDAN FRASER-TRUMBLE

MEGAN JONES

WIL KING



#EveryLovelyTerribleThing
labkelpie.com

Cover image: Megan Jones as Jerica Coleman. Image by Lab Kelpie.

This project has been supported by Theatre Works, City of Port Phillip Cultural Development Fund, Creative Victoria and Australian Plays Transform.



Supported by the City of Port Phillip Cultural Development Fund



From the playwright

Finishing this play was like running a four-year marathon. As survivors we often feel so small in the world, and it was confronting to go against type and write something that was 'big' and demanded attention.

I can honestly say that writing this play has been the most challenging, rewarding, soul destroying, life-affirming, boss-bitch thing I've ever done – and I've been through some shit. In the process of realising this work, I have been able to process much of my trauma and get my life into a healthier space.

I haven't been able to do this alone, and I have a few people to thank...

To my partner Lyall, for your unwavering support and belief in me, and the care and love you show me every day. I still pinch myself that I get to share my life with you. Thank you for letting me be messy.

To everyone at Theatre Works, and in particular Dianne Toulson, whose unwavering support kept this play alive more times than she realises. None of us deserve you Di, but I'm so glad you're in our corner.

To our incredible team led by Justin for realising this story and bringing all of your heart, skill and experience to the work.

To my good friends Sharon, Megan and Rosa for always encouraging me and giving me strength. You are three of the strongest women I know.

My psychologist Faith, who has been instrumental in helping me process my trauma, find my voice and begin to turn my life around.

To my melancholy queen Lana Del Rey, whose music kept me going through some very tough moments in only the way great artists can.

And lastly, to my father Neville. Dad, I know we haven't always had the best relationship, but I know that whatever we have to face, we will face it together. Thank you for never giving up on me.

Adam Fawcett Playwright

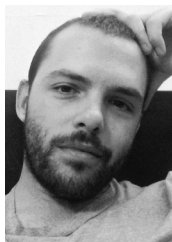
Biographies



Adam Fawcett Playwright

Adam Fawcett is a queer playwright and screenwriter who lives and works on Djaara country in regional Victoria. With a practice focused on exploring queerness and trauma through text, their debut play, *Become The One*, won the 2018 Midsumma Queer Playwriting Award before premiering at the 2019 Midsumma Festival and going on to nationally in 2022, visiting over 16 regional and metro venues. *Become The One* was recently filmed as a 21-episode TikTok series through Matthewswood Productions, with Adam attached as screenwriter. Their third play, *Men on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown*, is a 2024 Midsumma Queer Playwriting Award finalist, while their work of prose fiction, *Black Rainbow*, is a finalist in the 2024 Pearl Prize.

adamfawcett.com



Justin Nott Director

Justin (all pronouns) is an independent theatremaker, writer and arts programmer with a Master of Theatre (Directing) from the Victorian College of the Arts for which he received the Orloff Family Charitable Trust Scholarship for excellence. Justin's work focuses on new writing, queer dramaturgies and formal experimentation, crafting highly visual works of ambitious scope. Justin most recently directed Angus Cameron's *For Love Nor Money* named by TimeOut as one of the best shows to see at Melbourne Fringe Festival 2023. Justin's directing credits also include *Variations or Exit Music* (2022), *Can't Be Tamed* (2018) and *Human_Error* (2017). He is the Artistic Director of queer arts festival Get Bent Fest! and performs with *Dazza & Keif* as alter-ego Gay Jordan. In 2024, Justin was the associate director for the Australian premiere of *The Inheritance* at fortyfive downstairs and will commence development on his new project, *Gay Shame*, with Darebin Speakeasy.

justinnott.com



Tom Backhaus Sound Design

Tom is a Naarm-based composer, sound designer, producer and stage manager. As a sound designer he is best known for his densely layered and evocative scores for theatre. Recent credits include, *The Grief Trilogy* (VIMH), *End Of.* (Griffin Theatre), *The Temple* (Malthouse Theatre), *Feather in the Web* (Red Stitch) and *Become The One* (Lab Kelpie).

Tom is also the creative producer of the award-winning drag comedy duo *Dazza and Keif*. In 2024, Tom has produced Dazza and Keif's five theatrical works including *Dazza and Keif Go Viral*, *Dazza and Keif Go Viral in Space with Ya Mum* and *Dazza and Keif Reenact the Titanic Movie Playing All the Roles*. He is also the producer of Get Bent Fest a queer arts festival presented by Midsumma Festival. tombackhaus.com



Lyall Brooks Charles

Lyall's professional theatre credits include *Midnight: The Cinderella Musical* (Aspect Entertainment), *North by Northwest* (Arts Centre Melbourne), *Savages* (fortyfivedownstairs), *Penelope* and *The Pride* (Red Stitch), *The Heretic* (MTC), *Sunday in the Park with George* (Victorian Opera), and *Merrily We Roll Along* (Watch This). He has received four Green Room nominations across mainstage, independent and music theatre.

For Lab Kelpie he has appeared in *Broken*, *SuperGirly* and the national tours of *Spencer* and *A Prudent Man*, and directed *Reasons to be Invisible*, *Dog Park*, *Become The One*, *Refined* and *Alone Outside*.

He has also dramaturged at NIDA, assistant directed *The Heartbreak Choir* at MTC, was a 2017 Theatre Works Associate Artist, and is currently Education Coordinator at Malthouse Theatre and the founding Artistic Director of Lab Kelpie. lyallbrooks.com



Emma Choy Phoebe

Emma has worked extensively as an actor and singer around the world including England, Ireland, Jordan, China, the Netherlands and Australia. Her theatre highlights include Green Room Award Winning (six times nominated) sell-out production *Mr Burns - a post electric play*, cult West End hit *Saucy Jack & the Space Vixens* and Essential Theatre's production of *As You Like It*. Screen highlights include comedy series *'Til you make it*, *Speed Dating* (Buena Vista Films), *The Vanguard* (Lionsgate) and playing Erinsborough's Mayor in *Neighbours*. Her early training began after she won a scholarship to St Martin's Youth Theatre, she then studied Musical Theatre at WAAPA. Emma has co-founded two theatre companies and was one of Melbourne's Poppy Seed Theatre Festival Directors.

emmachoy.com



Sharon Davis Brit

Sharon is a graduate of The Victorian College of the Arts and works in both the commercial and independent theatre sector as an actor, voiceover artist, dramaturg, and director. She is a valued teaching artist for Bell Shakespeare Company, Associated Studios Australia, and APO Arts Academy.

Sharon is a fierce advocate for Australian artists having served the past 4 years as Victorian President of the MEAA's Equity section. While her advocacy is broad, her rural, working class background defines her perspective and is increasingly influencing her work as a dramaturg and activist.

Her critically acclaimed directorial debut of Katy Warner's *Spencer* for Lab Kelpie, garnered two Green Room Award nominations and went on to tour Australia in 2019. As Literary Manager for Lab Kelpie, Sharon helps to shape and support the work of our writers with joy, rigour, and curiosity.

Sharon has been a proud member of Equity (MEAA) since 2002 and encourages everyone to join their union now.



Image by Lab Kelpie for Theatre Works.



Jordan Fraser-Trumble Lachie

Jordan Fraser-Trumble is an award-winning actor with the privilege of working across film and the stage. His performance in the feature film *The Cost* earned him acclaim and three international Best Actor nominations, placing him in esteemed company alongside David Duchovny and Joel Edgerton. Jordan received the title of Best Oceanian Actor at the Septimius International Film Awards in Amsterdam for his work in the film. Jordan has also garnered significant praise for roles in other films, including *The Legend of Ben Hall*, *Boundless*, and *West of Sunshine*. In addition to his on-screen accomplishments, Jordan has collaborated with renowned theatre companies, including the Melbourne Theatre Company and Red Stitch Actors Studio. Noteworthy performances include leading the 'sell-out' production of MTC's *Gloria* alongside Australian great Lisa McCune, working opposite Cassandra Magrath in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, and starring alongside Belinda McClory in *Hir*. Alongside his on-screen and stage endeavours, Jordan has ventured into film producing, with the upcoming release of *Love, Tea & Epiphany*.

jordanfrasertrumble.com



Harry Gill Set Design

Harry is a recent graduate of the VCA an emerging Set and Costume Designer based in Naarm. Harry has a keen eye for design and aesthetics and through his designs seeks to make theatre relevant and meaningful to contemporary audiences. Harry's recent design credits include Set Design for *Duchess of Malfi* (2024), Set Design for *Fame* (2024), Set Design for *Songs for a New World* (2023), Set and Costume Design for *Parade* (2023), Set and Costume Design for *Uncle Vanya* (2023), Set and Costume Design for *Yiddish Divas* (2023), Set Design for *Camp Rock* (2023), Costume Design for *Urinetown* (2022), Set Design for *Still Buried* (2022), Costume Design for *The Spook* (2021), Set Design for *The Hello Girls* (2021).

harrygilldesigns.com



Martelle Hunt Costume Design

Martelle is a diversely skilled designer / maker for stage and screen. Her work as an artist has a focus on ideas that champion self exploration and transformation. "I specialise in doing things I have never done before and then rarely do again". In 2022 Martelle received the award for Best Costume design from WIFFEN (Women's International Film Festival Nigeria) for her work on the short film *Dolapo Is Fine*. In Australia her theatre work has been nominated for the Sydney Theatre Awards (Best Costume Design for Independent Theatre: *Inner Voices* 2016) and APDG Awards (Emerging Designer for Stage: *The Rivers of China*, 2015). Film and Television includes *The Last Lesson* (Continuance Pictures), *Dolapo Is Fine* (Apatan Productions, Netflix), *When the West is Done with You* (Open the Vault Productions), *Killing Eve Season 2* (Sid Gentle Films LTD, BBC), *The Interpreter* (Continuance Pictures) and *Miss Fishers Murder Mysteries* (Every Cloud Productions, ABC)

martellehunt.com



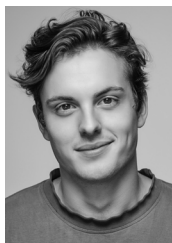
Megan Jones Jerica

Megan Jones is an actor and theatre and circus director whose work in theatre, film and television has been seen nationally and internationally. The founder and Artistic Director of Machination Theatre Ensemble from 2006 to 2012 and the Head of Performance at the National Institute of Circus Arts – NICA from 2009 to 2016, Megan has worked in Australia for over 40 years with independent artists, companies, and organisations including Malthouse Theatre, Chunky Move, Cirque du Soleil, National Theatre Drama School and St Martin's Youth Theatre. She has been a performance studies and acting lecturer for 40 years, creating more than 80 original theatre shows and 20 main stage circus shows, one of which was selected to represent Australia in France at the Auch Circus Festival and the Festival Mondial du Cirque de Demain. Megan has trained with many master teachers around the world including year-long intensive training with Phillip Gaulier in London and Albert Filozov in Russia.



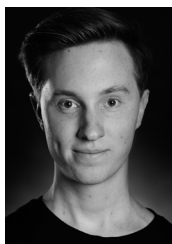
Promotional image by Morgan Roberts for Theatre Works.





Wil King Cooper

Wil King (they/them) is a Naarm/Melbourne based actor and graduate of 16th Street Actors Studio. Wil can currently be seen playing Liam in *In Our Blood* produced by Hoodlum for the ABC. Wil's other screen credits include the lead role of Austin in the ABC/Netflix series *Why Are You Like This* and the soon to be released feature film *Better Man*. Short films include *Traintracks* alongside Max McKenna and *Fragile*, which Wil also wrote and produced. On stage, Wil starred in *This Is Living* for Malthouse Theatre, and led Tommy Murphy's *Strangers in Between* at Forty-Five Downstairs and The Seymour Centre, gaining rave reviews for their performance as Shane, and played a young Charles Manson in *Sneakyville*, also at Forty-Five. Wil recently produced and starred in the multi-award winning *DIRT* at Chapel Off Chapel and *Venus in Fur* at Holden Street Theatre which garnered multiple five star reviews.



Aron Murray Video Design

Aron is an emerging designer with a passion for the visual and a drive to create immersive designs for live performance. Receiving his formal performing arts training from the National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA), Aron holds a Master of Fine Art in Design for Performance as well as a Bachelor of Fine Art in Technical Theatre and Stage Management. Aron enjoys the unique creative opportunities offered in independent theatre and has worked on productions including *Halftime the Musical* (The Hayes, 2021), *This Genuine Moment* (La Mama, 2021), *Bad Machine* (Casula Powerhouse 2022), *Pear Shaped* (Theatre Works 2023), and *In The Club* (Theatre Works 2023).

aronmurray.com



Ashleigh Walwyn Stage Manager

Ashleigh is a Stage/Production/Company Manager, originally from the UK. She grew up and found love for theatre in Malaysia before graduating from the Victorian College of the Arts with a BFA in Production – Stage Management (2018). Some of Ash’s credits include Special Events Stage Manager for The Melbourne International Comedy Festival, Senior Stage Manager/Back of House Caller for *The Victorian State Schools Spectacular* (Dir. Neill Gladwin), and Stage Manager for *Punk Rock* (Patalog Theatre), *Bright Star* (Pursued By Bear), *Ghost Quartet* and *Guys & Dolls* (Antipodes Theatre Company), *The View From Up Here* and *The Grief Trilogy* (VIMH), *Parade* (Soundworks) and *The Inheritance* (fortyfivedownstairs).



Sidney Younger Lighting Design

Sidney is an emerging Lighting Designer and a 2021 graduate from the VCA. His works have been seen by audiences across Australia, reviewed as “one of the best lighting designers Melbourne has to offer”. Design credits include *Parade* and *Songs for a New World* (Soundworks), *Insert Self* (Chunky Move), *Redhealer* (Back to Back), *Niusia* and *Still Buried* (Kathryn Yates), *Uncle Vanya* (Anthropocene Play Co), *Yiddish Divas: Red Tent* (Kadimah), *Songs of the Flesh* (Danger Ensemble), *Motherlod_ ^e* (Frenzy Theatre), *Bach’s Universe* (Brandenberg Orchestra), *Play* and *Monark* (Scimm Dance), *Macbeth* (Bruce Langdon), *The Spook* (Daniela Farinacci), *The Hello Girls* (Jason Langley), and *The Cripple of Inishmaan* (Georgina Naidu). Sidney also worked as the Assistant Lighting Designer on *Bananaland* (Simon Philips), and *Salamander* (Maxine Doyle & Es Devlin).

sidneyyounger.com

LAB KELPIE

An Australian New Writing Theatre Company.

Lab Kelpie is a theatre company dedicated to the production of new work by Australian playwrights.


A not-for-profit organisation with a board of experienced and passionate industry professionals, we are strong advocates of new writing and aim to support Australian playwrights by developing, presenting, touring and publishing their work, encouraging our writers to take risks and inspire audiences with the themes and messages they want to explore.


Since we began in 2012 we have presented over 270 performances to nearly 20,000 audiences in 106 venues across Australia and New Zealand.

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