WITH THEATRE WORKS

TIMON OF ATHENS



THEATRE WORKS AND TH'UNGUARDED DUNCAN PRESENT

TIMON OF ATHENS

BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE AND THOMAS MIDDLETON

28 OCTOBER - 7 NOVEMBER | THEATRE WORKS

THEATRE WORKS RESPECTFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES FIRST PEOPLE'S SOVEREIGNTY AND RECOGNISE THE CONTINUING CONNECTION TO LANDS, WATERS AND STORYTELLING BY TRADITIONAL

CUSTODIANS OF COUNTRY THROUGHOUT AUSTRALIA.

WE PAY OUR RESPECTS TO THE MANY CLANS AND LANGUAGE GROUPS IN VICTORIA, TO THEIR ELDERS PAST AND PRESENT, AND ACKNOWLEDGE THE STRENGTH AND RESILIENCE OF ALL

ABORIGINAL PEOPLES.

ALWAYS WAS, ALWAYS WILL BE ABORIGINAL LAND.

ABOUT THEATRE WORKS



Theatre Works is Australia's home of independent theatre: a creative precinct where artists take risks, new stories are born, and audiences discover the bold voices shaping contemporary culture. For more than 45 years, Theatre Works has supported artists to develop, make, and share ambitious new Australian work. Today, our precinct is stronger and more interconnected than ever.

Located in the heart of St Kilda, the Theatre Works Precinct brings together four purpose-built venues: the Main Theatre, the Explosives Factory, the TWiSK Rehearsal Space, and the Black Box Café & Outdoor Stage. Each space plays a distinct role in the creative lifecycle, providing artists with everything they need to move from idea, to development, to premiere, to tour; all within a single, supportive ecosystem.













DIRECTOR'S NOTE

We developed this production in 2025 and earlier this year (2026) as part of Prague Shakespeare Company's Shakespeare Summer Intensive. We've created productions of King Lear and Titus Andronicus as part of this same program since 2019. It provides a great opportunity for us to delve into lesser-known works of Shakespeare and Timon of Athens definitely ticked that box. It's a deliciously challenging play that defies genre with a messiness and impurity that gives it an exciting and unique flavour. The work also holds the mirror up to some very grotesque, uncomfortable and violent truths about humanity. It's gritty, sardonic and darkly funny. These were all contributing factors that lead to our decision to further develop this piece here in Australia with a local and international cast.

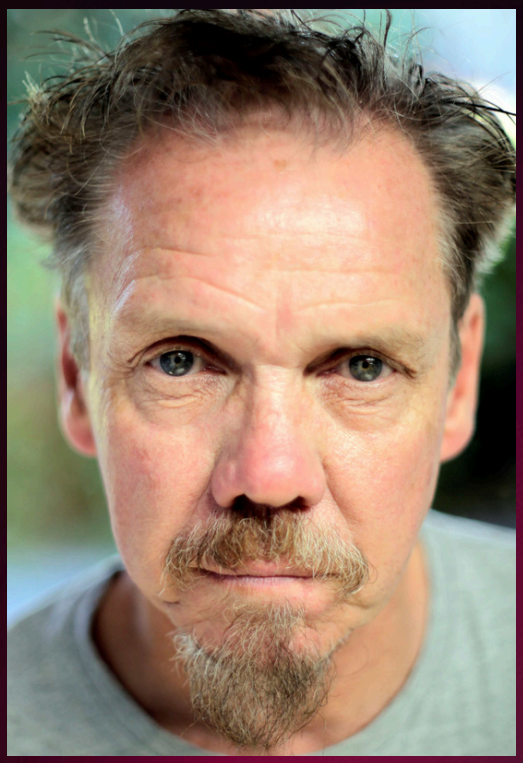
We chose to set our production in a high-class restaurant as this tumultuous environment can reflect the world of Timon: it is highly charged, its future precarious, and one of the hardest hit industries when a society is in economic crisis. We think audiences will be surprised by how relatable the subject matter is in light of the current cost of living crisis and general global malaise. It's prescient: a cautionary tale about the evils of capitalism written when capitalism was just getting started.

Kevin and Claire

ABOUT THE TEAM

KEVIN HOPKINS

Director



Kevin Hopkins (Director) has worked in the Australian entertainment industry for over 30 years mainly as an actor and director, and also more recently, as a teacher. He has performed in all states of Australia and internationally, and has been an ensemble member of the Australian Shakespeare company for almost 30 years. He has appeared in over 65 productions, predominantly in Shakespeare. As an acting teacher Kevin has previously focused on traditional Western acting methodologies, including Stanislavski, Method, Meisner, Laban, Michael Chekhov and others, but more recently has been interested in alternative forms. The relationship between the body and space, and the organics of form through training and preparation, pursuing an opportunity to actualize a non-psychologically based acting paradigm through the body. Kevin recently co directed several plays for the Prague Shakespeare Compnay, and this year performed as an actor in Hamlet Redux in Prague, Venice and Edinburgh Fringe.



CLAIRE NICHOLLS

Director



Claire Nicholls (Director) is a Melbourne actor/director who has worked in the theatre
industry locally and internationally for almost 2 decades. She has performed with Liminal Theatre,
most notably in their Green Room Award winning work Oedipus- A Poetic Requiem, Hong Kong
based company, Theater Du Pif on their touring verbatim piece The Will to Build and appeared in
numerous productions at La Mama, Melbourne. For the Australian Shakespeare Company, Claire has performed in Lady Chatterley's Lover, Henry IV Part 1, Romeo and Juliet, As You Like It, Twelfth Night, Alice in Wonderland and Much Ado About Nothing. Most recently, Claire has Co-Directed productions of King Lear, Titus Andronicus and Timon of Athens for Prague Shakespeare Company, played Goneril in Melbourne Shakespeare Company's King Lear, appeared in Uninvited Theatre's productions of Leske's Method and The Gist and played Gertrude in Hamlet Redux for Prague Shakespeare Company in Prague, Venice and at Edinburgh Fringe.

ABOUT THE TEAM

JOVANNA HEPBURN

Timon of Athens



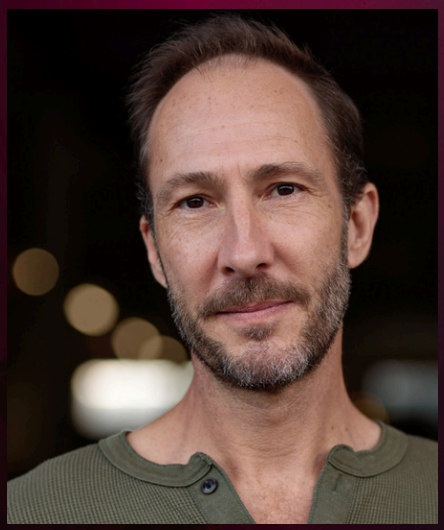
Jovanna Hepburn is an actor, playwright, author and artist who has studied in The United States and Europe. Jovanna is a former Drama Adjudicator for The E. Clement Bethel National Arts Festival (The Bahamas). Hepburn has been seen internationally in several roles including, Mrs. Ford in The Merry Wives of Windsor, Timon in Timon of Athens, and The Widow in All's Well That Ends Well, all during Prague Shakespeare Company's Summer Season productions. In The Bahamas, where she calls home, her most recent roles include Horatio, in the 50/50 version of Hamlet, Juror #4 in a run of the popular play, 12 Angry Men (Jurors), and Sister Moore in James Baldwin's The Amen Corner. She has been pursuing an adventure in acting for over twenty years. Some of her most memorable Shakespearean roles include Beatrice, Cassius, Titania, Gloucester, Mark Antony, Nurse and Horatio.

Among her diverse non-classical roles are General Cartwright in Guys and Dolls, Berenice in The Member of The Wedding, Sister Aloysius in Doubt and Florence in the The Odd Couple (female version).

Her second full – length play (a collaboration with Patrice A. Francis) First Comes Mourning (FCM), premiered in 2022 during the Shakespeare in Paradise (SiP) festival as a part of 'The Year of Bahamian Theatre', a celebration of The Bahamas' Fiftieth Anniversary of Independence.

TONY RIVE

Painter / Lucullus



Tony's credits include *The Crucible* (Heretic/ASC), *Wait Until Dark* (MTC), Barry Dickens' *Squizzy Taylor* and Ben Ellis' *Outpatients* (La Mama), *Not About Heroes* and *The Tyrone Gallery* (WAX), *The Crucible* and *Forced Legacy* (Brown's Mart). Shakespearean roles include Agrippa (*Cleopatra & Antony*, Melbourne Shakespeare Co), Petrucchio (*Taming of the Shrew*, taiNTed), Titania (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Sevenfold), Iago (*Othello*, Aardvark), and 26 years with the Australian Shakespeare Co playing the likes of Andrew Aguecheek (*Twelfth Night*), Touchstone (*As You Like It*), Don John (*Much Ado*), Flute (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*), and Banquo (*Macbeth*). His directing credits include Dario Fo's *Accidental Death of an Anarchist* and *Twelfth Night* (Darwin Theatre Co), *The Pen & the Sword* (theatre ad absurdum), *Love's Labour's Lost* (Corrugated Iron), the award winning *Vaudeville Knockout* (DFF), *Wind in the Willows* (ASC), and *The Taming of the Shrew* (taiNTed).

ABOUT THE TEAM

SEON WILLIAMS

Senator 2 / Sempronius



Seon Williams (she/her) is a Naarm based actor with over 20 years of experience in the industry. She has appeared in over 40 stage shows including "Control" with Flatpack, Artefact Theatre's "The Real Inspector Hound", sell-out Midsumma Festival show "A Year of Dating", and the Ghostlight League's production of "Shakespeare Aliens" as part of the Melbourne and Adelaide Fringe Festivals. Recently, Seon appeared in Monstrous Theatre's production of "Rootless Cosmopolitans", as Alistair in ABC's "White Fever" and as Demetrius in "Titus Andronicus". She spent time touring in Asia and Europe, performing "The Deep Freeze Option" with BYTE, including a performance at the Zuoz Globe in Switzerland. Seon has also worked as a writer and director with Baggage Productions and Boutique Theatre and appeared in the award-winning web series "The Happiness Curve" and award-winning short film "Autocarrot".



HENRY VO

Lucillius



Henry Quoc Vo (he/him) is a Vietnamese-Australian actor and writer based in Naarm. Born and raised in Western Sydney, Henry is keen on telling authentic stories, particularly those that examine the tensions of class and culture. He recently wrote and performed in The Death of Ly Van Chi, as part of a sold-out run at La Mama HQ (Explorations). Henry is a graduate of the Australian Shakespeare Company's 2026 Graduate Players program, playing Capulet in Romeo & Juliet. Other recent acting credits include Metro (Melbourne Fringe 2025) and short film Marigold (dir. Lachlyn Ball). He is due to appear in Michele Lee's upcoming play Fall at the end of the year.

ABOUT THE TEAM

JAMES CERCHE

Apemantus



James is an actor, musician and producer from Naarm/Melbourne. He is graduate of the Howard Fine Acting Studio Full Time program and previously attended Monash University, where he achieved his Bachelor of Arts, majoring in English, Theatre and Film Studies.
He is the co-AD of Spinning Plates Co., a theatre group formed with Jessica Stanley. Their critically acclaimed 2023 production of THE CROCODILE by Tom Basden sold out and was remounted due to popular demand. Their version of RHINOCEROS at fortyfivedownstairs in 2024 meet with similar accolade.
James has also appeared on stage in A Midsummer Night's Dream and Comedy of Errors with The Australian Shakespeare Company (ASC, 2022, 2024), Psychopomp at LaMama (Barking Spider, 2015), Rainbow Man (Goodnight Darlings, 2017) and Philtrum (North of Eight, 2018). State touring works include educational productions of Oedipus the King, Medea, The Crucible and The Dressmaker with Complete Works Theatre Company.
Screen credits include Netflix's Son of a Donkey, Stan Original series Bloom, independent feature Angel Of Light, and shorts Famished, When You Hear Hoofbeats, Punchline and Pitch Black.

SCOTT JACKSON

Poet/Lucius



Scott Jackson has a bachelor's degree in Acting and has continued his further training in Stage Combat mainly in Australia with SAFDi and Captivate Action Ltd, and is a Fight Choreographer for theatre. Scott Is also General Manager for Melbourne Playback Theatre Company.
He has worked for the Australian Shakespeare Company for over 12 years, working on various productions as an Actor, Romeo & Juliet, A midsummer Night's Dream, Hamlet, As You Like It, Macbeth, and Shakespeare's Best Bits twice (nominated for a Green Room award), and the wonderful Mr Toad in Wind in the Willows. Scott was the Fight Choreographer for the ASC's production of Romeo & Juliet in 2023 and Macbeth in 2025 in both Melbourne and London whilst playing Lennox. In 2026 He performed in ASC's Best Bits and Twelfth Night.
Scott's other credits include: A dogs Tale TV Series WIN TV (Chris), Two Gents (Proteus) Hamlet (Laertes & Proteus) for Sheoak Productions, Romeo and Juliet (Romeo) and King Lear (Oswald) for Ozact Theatre Company, Titus Andronicus (Th' Unguarded Duncan) Macbeth (Ross) for Melbourne Company of Players, The Dress (Essence Theatre Productions and numerous others Scott is a proud member of the MEAA since 2008.

ABOUT THE TEAM

HELEN HOPKINS

Flavius



Helen Hopkins is a co-artistic director of The Shift Theatre and a script writer, theatre producer and actor with a lengthy career in both film and theatre. For Th'Unguarded Duncan she appeared as Marcus in Titus Andronicus at TheatreWorks.
Together with Carolyn Bock she has written, produced and performed in The Girls in Grey (published by Currency Press) and Hallowed Ground-Women Doctors in War. Her theatre appearances include Melbourne, Adelaide, Dublin and Edinburgh Fringe Festivals. Recent performances include Eat Your Heart Out and #NoExemptions for The Shift Theatre and the co-production with Three Birds Theatre of the acclaimed Garage Girls about Alice Anderson's all girl garage in Melbourne in the 1920s, which continues to tour regional Australia in 2026. Helen also appeared as a guest artist in Prague Shakespeare Company's King Lear in 2025 and returns to perform there again this year.

ANTHEA DAVIES

Senator 1/ Ventidius



Diploma of Dramatic Art and Masters Of writing for Performance VCA With a passion to tell great stories, Anthea is feeling very blessed to be back performing with The Unguarded Duncan in Timon of Athens Anthea, can be seen regularly performing at The Old Melbourne Goal and at the Werribee Mansion as "Maggie" the head maid in a production called "What Was That". Having toured all over Australia and abroad with independent and main stage theatre companies, so far her highlights have been playing in "Marathon Hamlet" as Polonius "Once Were Pirates", "St Kilda Tales", "Shawry" "Mud and Blood" "King Lear" "as Gloucester , Virginia Woolf in "A Room of Ones Own", and The Mole in the "Wind in the Willows" Anthea has toured extensively with Arena Theatre Company and with Mick Thomas's Australian musical about a water tank called "The Tank".

ABOUT THE TEAM

ASHLYNN PARIGI

Flaminius



Ashlynn Parigi is a multi-award-winning performing artist based in Naarm (Melbourne). Timon of Athens is her second show at Theatre Works, the first being Soldier Boy in 2025. Last year she attended Laura Iris Hill's Unlocking Shakespeare's Text for Performance course (which was brilliant!). In 2024 Ashlynn was awarded the audience vote at Melbourne Shakespeare Company's Shakey Slam event and trained with Australian Shakespeare Company during the Howard Fine Acting Studio Australia Full Time course. Ashlynn trained in Shakespeare Text and Performance at the University of Southern Queensland with Marcus Oborn (Patsy Rodenburg Associate).
In 2019, Ashlynn co-founded You Me Three Clown Co; she toured throughout Queensland and to the Adelaide Fringe Festival where they were awarded the Best Kids and Family Show Weekly Award. Ashlynn has been reviewed as one of "the most charming clowns in the biz" (Ads J, Nothing Ever Happens in Brisbane). Ashlynn's Shakespeare credits include playing Juliet in 'The Suicide Trap' and half of the characters in 'Once in Verona' by OzPLays. The former written in prose and the latter in verse. Ashlynn played Lady Macbeth in a production of Macbeth directed by Scott Alderdice.



NICK CRAWFORD SMITH

Alcibiades



Nicholas Crawford Smith is a Melbourne actor of 30 years, working across all mediums. Theatrically he has appeared in over 30 productions appearing as Orsino in Twelfth Night for the Australian Shakespeare company, Banquo in the MTCs touring MacBeth and Mercutio touring the UK for the GC Players.Nick appeared in the Melbourne and Sydney seasons of Rob Chuter's Miracle of the Rose. He played the title role in Daniel Schussler's The Death Of Ivan Ilych and toured Japan with the production. He worked with Black Inc In Tom Stoppard's Travesties and the touring production of the Ship That Never Was. Nicholas appeared in the Wind In Willows for consecutive years in the Botanical Gardens. At La Mama Nick's plays include The Truth Game, Dark heart, Banshee, Homage and Jack Hibberds Slam Dunk. On Television he has had multiple guest roles in Blue Heelers, Stingers, Good Guys Bad Guys, Janus, Mercury,The Damnation Of harvey Mchugh and The Man From Snowy River. He has appeared in award winning short films BackSeat Drivers, the Suburban Luchador and Westgarth. His Voice Over work includes working with Radio National, audio books and voicing Macca Strewth a children's animation.

ABOUT THE TEAM

TEGAN HARROD

Servilius



Tegan Harrod is a Melbourne/ Naarm based actor and has a Bachelor of Performing Arts from Monash University. Recently she performed in the Sydney Fringe as Gillie in This was All a Fruitless Endeavour really by Ally Burnham. At the start of 2026 she performed with PerthED ShakespearED in their quick raise performance of Twelfth Night, playing Viola and Sebastian in Newfoundland, Canada, at the Shakespeare Theatre Association conference. In 2024 she trained in the Australian Shakespeare Company Graduate players program, performing as Malvolia in Twelfth Night, in Melbourne, Swan Hill and Prague. She lived in Japan for over 6 years and was part of the opening cast of Harry Potter World at Universal Studios, working 3 consecutive contracts. Some of her Japanese film and television appearances include: the Australian episode of the Japanese drama Solo Katsu Joshi (Japanese speaking role), Prisoners of the Ghostland, Nagi , Tsuki Tsuki Terebi and as the model for Qais Sunstar online commercial campaign.

ABOUT THE TEAM

NATASHA MARICH
Stage Manager

NIK BROWNBILL
Assistant Stage Manager

Nik Brownbill (They/ Them) is an actor and creative artist hailing from the Western Suburbs of Melbourne. After graduating from the Arts Academy in Ballarat in 2025 with a Bachelor of Performing Arts, they went on to tour with the Australian Shakespeare Company Graduate Players to Melbourne, Gippsland and Prague as Romeo in Romeo and Juliet. They continued their Shakespearean training with the Prague Shakespeare Company; performing as Banquo in an all-female production of Macbeth. Some other notable credits include Nell/ Virginia in Orlando (2025), Bubnov in The Lower Depths (2024) and Betty in The Beau Defeated (2024).

While being relatively new to the behind-the-scenes world of theatre-making, in 2022 they wrote, directed and filmed their own short film, Shades of Her, and was the writer and cinematographer of a psychological thriller version of Romeo and Juliet; Love's A Killer.



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THANK YOUS

Guy Roberts
Prague Shakespeare Company
Greg Caroll
Kaspa Elston
Glenn Elston
Greg Hocking
Alex Sangster and Zak Hanyn (Southport Uniting Church)
Josh Morrison
Max and Leo Hopkins
Skye Lu
Victoria Haslam