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PROUDLY PRESENTED BY INVERMAY NEWSAGENCY AND THE CITY OF LAUNCESTON

THIS PROJECT WAS ASSISTED THROUGH ARTS TASMANIA AND RESTART INVESTMENT TO SUSTAIN AND EXPAND (RISE) FUND - AN AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE

MANMA MAS

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY

BENNY ANDERSSON BJÖRN ULVAEUS

AND SOME SONGS WITH STIG ANDERSON

BOOK BY CATHERINE JOHNSON ORIGINALLY CONCEIVED BY JUDY CRAMER

STARRING

DENISE SAM • LISA THOMAS • BROOKE TARGETT • SINEAD TRACEY
DEAN COCKER • MATT GOWER • ROSS MARSDEN • MASON WALLER

NIKIA BREEN • SOPHIE CLARK • LAUCHY HANSEN • JAMES PARKER • DANIEL PRIEST

CALVIN ACKERLY, MASON BENNETT, RHIANNON BONE, IZZY BROWN, LUKA CAMERON, ISOBEL COOPER, CHELSEA DEAN, HEATH DE HAAN, CHELSEA FENSOM, MEGAN FETTKE, MATT HOWARD, OLIVER JOHNS, JOEL KING, BRONTE KENDELL, MARINA LEE, BRONTE LISTER, BRODI LUCAS, TOBY MCKNIGHT, GABRIEL MURPHY, SAM MILLWOOD, CHERIE PARTRIDGE, WILL ROBERTSON, ELIE ROE DANIEL, KALEB WATTS, MICHELLE WITHINGTON, TAMIEKA WITHINGTON

DIRECTOR & STAGE MANAGER DANNY GIBSON
MUSICAL DIRECTORS DENISE SAM & MICHAEL STOCKS
CHOREOGRAPHER MICHELLE WITHINGTON

LIGHTING DESIGN JASON BOVAIRD
ORIGINAL COSTUME DESIGN BRIAN MISSON
ORIGINAL SET DESIGN SALLY MARTIN
WIG & HAIR DESIGN SHARON PARKER
MAKEUP DESIGN PAIGE ALICE
EXECUTIVE SET MANAGER WENDY FLAHERTY

SOUND DESIGN MARCELLO LO RICCO
SUPER TROUPER COSTUME DESIGN ANTHONY PHILLIPS
COSTUME MANAGER SONIA JAGER
PROPERTIES MANAGER TERESSA CARR
IT MANAGER DWAYNE PARISH
FRONT OF HOUSE MANAGER SUSAN TOLPUTT

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS JAMIE HILLARD & BELINDA J KING

MAMMA MIA! WAS ORIGINALLY PRODUCED IN LONDON BY JUDY CRAYMER, RICHARD EAST AND BJÖRN ULVAEUS FOR LITTLESTAR IN ASSOCIATION WITH UNIVERSAL.

Additional Material and Arrangements MARTIN KOCH

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PRINCESS THEATRE, LAUNCESTON | 22 OCT - 6 NOV 2021







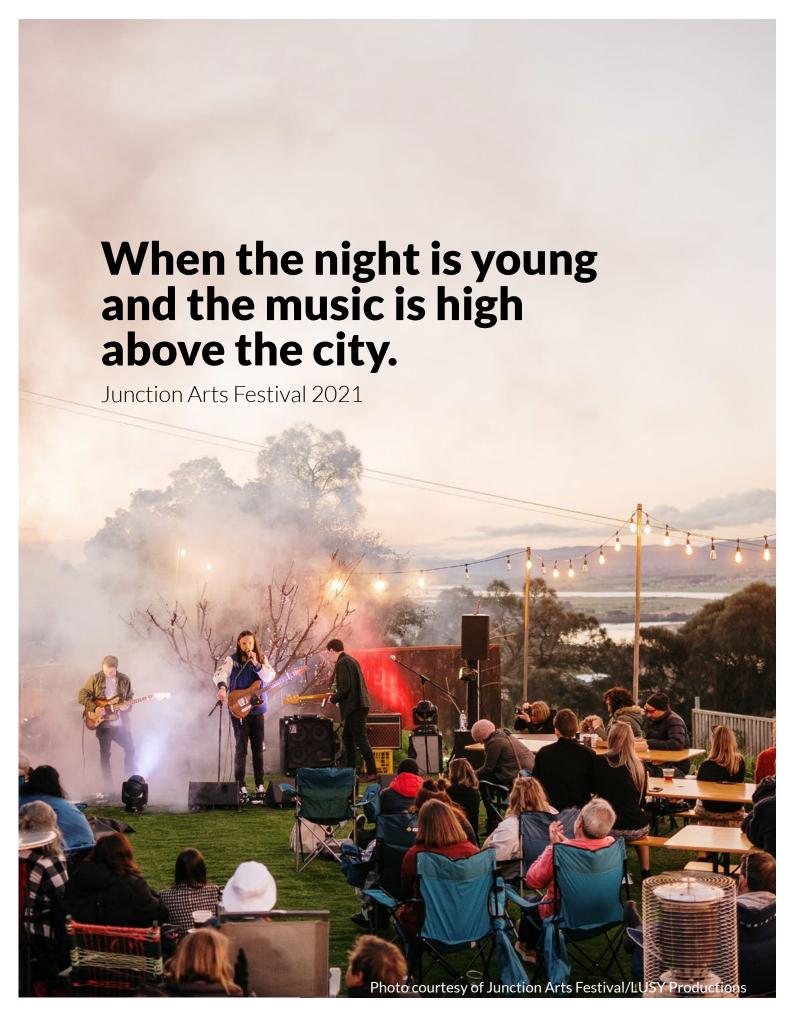
















It survives because people need to gather and hear and tell stories. To be seen and to belong.

March 2020 had a dramatic lesson for us, and it was that there are a lot of things that are unknown about our future.

But here is what we do know... we're back!!

And Encore's partner organisations have been there for us throughout the hiatus brought on by the pandemic.

Our heartfelt thanks go to Jenni and Graeme LeFevre at Invermay Newsagency, Dr Brendan Vote and the Launceston Eye Institute, Phillip, Mark and Eric and the team at Bushby Property Group, Jos and Glenn at Hotel Grand Chancellor, FitMind FitBody, Tasfast Airfreight, our media partners 7 Tasmania, 89.3 LAFM and The Examiner and our community partners in Launceston College and Launceston Legacy.

We also receive magnificent support through the City of Launceston's Event Sponsorship Program and are deeply grateful for their support and encouragement of our contribution to the Launceston community.

The past 18 months has presented us with the enormous challenge of trying to survive the March 2020 shutdown and remain viable to successfully restart the company.

The Australian Government through the RISE Fund and the Tasmanian State Government's Live Performance Reactivation Program have given us the confidence and financial support to weather the COVID storm and return to the Princess stage with a show that we think the community really needs right now.

Of course, there are many organisations around the country that aren't as fortunate as we are, and our hearts go out to them. Whenever the opportunity presents itself, we urge you to get along and see live performances and support our artists and colleague companies.

MAMMA MIA! has been an enormous undertaking and Encore have placed it in the talented hands of Director Danny Gibson, Musical Directors Denise Sam and Michael Stocks and Choreographer Michelle Withington.

Teamed with our brilliant cast and musicians, they, along with our design and production teams, have (twice) poured countless hours of experience and expertise into this project as we finally bring this incredibly popular show overflowing with the beloved music of ABBA to The Princess for the very first time.

AND OUR SPECIAL THANKS

For the invaluable assistance generously offered by Grant Alley, Gemma & Bernard Hedger and CLOC Musical Theatre, and the remarkable talents of our Graphic Designer, Nathan Toovey.

We acknowledge the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the first inhabitants of the nation and the traditional custodians of lutruwita's land on which we live and learn.





FROM THE DIRECTOR

'A sense of expectation hanging in the air!'

For 21 sensational years, the all-singing, all-dancing worldwide phenomenon *MAMMA MIA!* has been bringing joy to the world. Now it is Launceston's turn, and don't we need a bit of joy in these times.

It is hard to believe that a show as popular as this one is being staged here, and indeed, that I am working on it. But for over two years, it has been a delight and a real privilege to lead our phenomenal team in creating an exhilarating combination of unforgettable music, dancing, characters and costumes – twice over.

This feel-good musical is as iconic as they come, but our offering is presented with a degree of rigour. The universal themes, the family dynamics, the fact that we all have flaws and are sometimes given second chances, are all drawn out in our production. We have worked meticulously, seeking the simple human core, yet simultaneously finding ways to celebrate the iconic and irresistible music of ABBA while acknowledging that nothing is promised.

It has been hard work. All consuming. Yet it has been upliffing, inspiring and, for some, perhaps life changing. Like the story itself, this project has managed to touch, unite and challenge our team. The Cast have worked relentlessly and given fully of themselves in working towards our common goal. Their dedication and perseverance has been exceptional – an example of what can be achieved when you commit, when you believe and when you trust.

It is finally time to raise the curtain and I extend my appreciation to everyone associated with our production – 2020 and 2021. I am very proud of what we have crafted. Thanks to Encore for entrusting me with this production. With the friendship and talents of Denise, Michelle and Michael, leading it has been a darn good time.

'Who can live without it, I ask in all honesty? What would life be? Without a song or a dance what are we?' Our *MAMMA MIA!* provides a thrilling example and lifelong memory of how enhanced life can be with it.

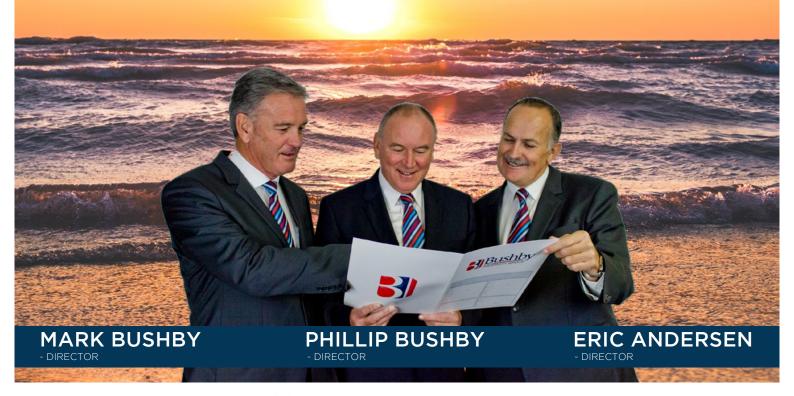
Enjoy your time with us.

Danny Gibson DIRECTOR

MAMMA MIA, HERE WE GO AGAIN!

My my, how could we resist...

sponsoring yet another fantastic Encore production!





Bushby Property Group would like to congratulate everyone involved with **Mamma Mia** and thank them for all their hard work. With so many talented individuals in this community, we will continue our support so that theatre in Launceston can keep flourishing!



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THE STORY

On a small Greek island, Sophie dreams of a perfect wedding - one which includes her father giving her away. The problem? Sophie doesn't know who he is! Her mother, Donna, the former lead singer of the 1970s pop group Donna and the Dynamos, refuses to talk about the past, so Sophie decides to take matters into her own hands. Sneaking a peek in her mother's old diaries, she discovers three possible fathers: Sam, Bill, and Harry. She secretly invites all three to the wedding, convinced that she'll know her father when she sees him. But when all three turn up, it may not be as clear as she thought!

Told through the legendary music of ABBA, MAMMA MIA! has become a worldwide sensation that has audiences everywhere dancing.









Lisa Thomas
SOPHIE SHERIDAN

Originally from Hobart, Lisa trained with Jenina's Dance Workshop, ExitLeft Productions, Musical Theatre Crew (MTC) and performed in many local musicals for Old Nick Summer School, Hobart Repertory Theatre Society, MTC and ExitLeft.

Lisa moved to Melbourne to commence her formal training at the Victorian College of the Arts (VCA), completing a Bachelor of Fine Arts (Music Theatre). Whilst at the VCA, Lisa performed at Hamer Hall in Art Centre Melbourne's Morning Melodies in 2017 and 2018 (dir. Margot Fenley).

She was the ensemble swing and dance captain for Melbourne Theatre Company's *Vivid White* (dir. Dean Bryant), Val in *A Chorus Line* (dir. Tyran Parke) and played Granny, Cinderella's Mother and covered the Witch in *Into the Woods* (dir. Gary Young).

Since graduating, Lisa has toured Victorian schools with Perform Education's book week show, *Big Dreams!*.

She is thrilled to return to her home state for this heartening show.



Denise Sam DONNA SHERIDAN/ MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Denise's *Mamma Mia* journey began in 2003 when she saw it at the Lyric Theatre in Sydney on the 13th of September and the following day had all the songs in her head as she ran the Sydney Marathon.

A decade later she saw it again in NYC on Broadway. In 2017 she continued the *Mamma Mia* journey to Greece where she holidayed on the two islands where the movie was filmed. She climbed the stairs to the church and sang on the beach where the jetty was built for that famous scene.

So, having the opportunity to play the role of Donna is indeed a dream come true. She does not attempt to fill the shoes of the Donnas who have trod the boards before her; rather, to simply follow in their footsteps and tell the story of one daughter, two friends and three lovers at a wedding on an island in Greece.

Ya Sou!



Brooke Targett

Brooke is thrilled to be performing in her second Encore production and excited to "finally" tread the boards as Tanya, after what has been a challenging year for The Arts.

In December 2000, Brooke completed a Bachelor of Music majoring in violin performance at the Tasmanian Conservatorium of Music. Returning to Launceston, Brooke commenced violin tuition. At this time, she also began her banking career, where she is currently a Business Excellence Manager.

Brooke's theatre credits include *Anything Goes, Godspell, Nunsense, Nuncrackers* and *Fiddler on the Roof* with both the Launceston Musical Society (LMS) and the Launceston Players. Her most recent performance, however, was playing the role of Baroness Elsa Schraeder in Encore's November 2018 production of *The Sound of Music.* She has also performed with the St. Cecilia Orchestra and the Launceston Philharmonic Orchestra.

In her "spare" time you will most likely find Brooke and husband Troy on the side of a basketball court or football field watching their sons, Fletcher and Campbell!



Sinead Tracey

Mamma Mia! Here we go again! It has been three years since Sinead was last on the stage in Encore's Les Misérables. A very special show for her, getting to perform in her absolute favourite musical of all-time.

Being a mum has kept her away from the stage and now she is back for this outstanding, fun, energetic and iconic musical, *Mamma Mia*. A fan of ABBA since she bought ABBA Gold when she was 13, she still loves rocking out to the songs today. Honoured to be playing Rosie, Sinead hopes to bring smiles and laughter to the audience and most importantly that you, our theatre goers, enjoy singing the songs.

Sinead has also appeared in Encore's Annie, Grease, The Phantom of the Opera and Mary Poppins. Her most bizarre experience was when she ran away and joined the Guatemalan Circus when back-packing through Central America.

Sinead hopes you keep supporting The Arts and the amazing local talent we have in this wonderful city.















Dean Cocker SAM CARMICHAEL

Dean's roles at the Theatre Royal in Hobart include Enjolras in *Les Misérables*, Pirate King in *The Pirates* of *Penzance*, Gerald in *Me & My Girl*, Freddy in *My Fair Lady*, Dr Craven in *The Secret Garden* and Pilate in *Jesus Christ Superstar*.

Leading roles at the Princess Theatre in Launceston include Inspector Javert in *Les Misérables* twice, The Beast in Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*, Juan Perón in *Evita* and The Phantom in *The Phantom of the Opera*. Dean has also played various roles at the Earl Arts Centre in *I Love You*, *You're Perfect*, *Now Change*, the Narrator in *Assassins*, and Sweeney Todd in *Sweeney Todd*.

Concert performances in Launceston and Hobart include *Messiah*, *The Creation*, *Dido & Aeneas*, *Carmina Burana* and Carols by Candlelight. He has also performed the operatic role Morales in *Carmen* with the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra and soloists from Opera Australia.



Matt Gower
HARRY BRIGHT

Matt moved to Tasmania from the UK in 2005, and brought with him, his dynamic personality to both the local community, and the stage. In 2013, Matt worked with the Encore on their production of *Grease* in the role of Teen Angel - and finally, we've got him back!

With a lifelong background in music, Matt has lived and breathed entertainment on many levels; as a performer, composer, festival event promoter and most recently; artist and repertoire director for Australian Record Label Jam Mountain Music.

Matt is based in Launceston with his wife Julie and three children, Maggie, Freddie and Huey (his #1 fans).

Here's a fun fact: Matt is the son of '70s Popstar, Richard Gower of Racey, who held the mantle of Australian #1 on two occasions in 1979. In that same year, ABBA released 'Chiquitita' and 'Does Your Mother Know?', reaching #4 and #7 respectively!



Ross Marsden
BILL AUSTIN

Ross, a Brisbane boy, has been involved onstage and in film for 40 years. Major roles with Encore include Thénardier Les Misérables 2010 and 2018, for which he received a 2019 Tasmanian Theatre Award (Errols) as Best Supporting Actor, The Wizard (Wicked), Judge Turpin (Sweeney Todd), King Herod (Jesus Christ Superstar), Monsieur Fermin (The Phantom of the Opera), George Banks (Mary Poppins), Basil Fawlty (Fawlty Towers) and most recently Barry Fife in the hit musical, Strictly Ballroom.

He reprised the role of Fagin in *Oliver!*, with ExitLeft at the Derwent Entertainment Centre and was nominated for Best Actor (Errols) for his portrayal of Juror #10 in Three River Theatre's *12 Angry Men*.

He thanks Jacquelyne for her continued support and love for the arts and dedicates his performances in *Mamma Mia!* to his mother, Dell, who gave him the confidence to step out onstage and a lifetime of encouragement to tackle the challenges along the way.



Mason Waller

Mason is extremely excited to be doing his first show with Encore.

He has been involved in various musicals along the North-West coast of Tasmania and seeks to pursue a career in the musical industry. He has performed in musicals such as *Footloose, Wicked, Camp Rock, Hairspray, Jesus Christ Superstar* and *The Boy from Oz* where he was nominated for a Tasmanian Theatre award as Best Supporting Lead Male.

Outside of theatre he is a full-time apprentice carpenter which has led him to coordinating sets for Burnie Musical Society's *Annie*.

Mason also performs at private gigs and functions as a solo singer/songwriter. He is now looking to further improve his performing capabilities and for this show to demonstrate his love and passion for musical theatre to you all!

THE CAST

Sophie Sheridan Donna Sheridan

Tanya Rosie

Sam Carmichael Harry Bright

Bill Austin

Sky Ali Lisa Pepper

Eddie Father Alexandrios Lisa Thomas Denise Sam

Brooke Targett Sinead Tracey

Dean Cocker

Matt Gower

Ross Marsden Mason Waller

Nikia Breen

Sophie Clark

Lauchy Hansen James Parker

Daniel Priest

THE COMPANY

Calvin Ackerly, Mason Bennett, Rhiannon Bone, Izzy Brown, Luka Cameron, Isobel Cooper, Chelsea Dean, Heath De Haan, Chelsea Fensom, Megan Fettke, Matt Howard, Oliver Johns, Joel King, Bronte Kendell, Marina Lee, Bronte Lister, Brodi Lucas, Toby McKnight, Sam Millwood, Gabriel Murphy, Cherie Partridge, Will Robertson, Elie Roe Daniel, Kaleb Watts, Michelle Withington, Tamieka Withington





COMPANY



CALVIN ACKERLY

Calvin has been dancing since he was seven at Dance Fit, practising styles including jazz, contemporary, lyrical, hip-hop, and has recently started competitive dancing

with Dance Academy 34.

He has been involved in productions with Stage Right Youth Theatre, St. Patrick's College and Launceston College's *Dance Fever*.

Calvin has attended multiple dance workshops and intensives with choreographers such as Marko Panzic, Lockhart Brownlie, Brian Friedman and many more. He has also been involved in supporting Give Me 5 For Kids by dancing and attending workshops for *A Night of Dance*.

Calvin is thrilled to be continuing *Mamma Mia* and can't wait to perform alongside such a talented cast and crew.



MASON BENNETT

Mason's first theatre experience was in 2017, with his debut performance in Scotch Oakburn College's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, playing

the memorable role of a donkey's behind. His love for acting continued in numerous other school performances including *Avenue Q* in 2018, directed by Denise Sam.

In 2020, he was cast as the loveable character Miles in Three River Theatre Company's production of *Gloria* which was then performed in May 2021. Directed by the inspiring Georgie Todman, he considers this show to be a highlight of his performing career.

Mamma Mia is Mason's first show with Encore and he is thankful for the opportunity to expand his musical theatre skills.



RHIANNON BONE

Alongside Rhiannon's university studies, she revels in the excitement and vibrancy of musical theatre.

She began performing in musicals through

Launceston Grammar School and quickly fell in love with the stage. Rhiannon joined Encore in 2013, performing in their musical of *Annie* where she played the title role. She followed this with Encore's *Evita* and in *Mary Poppins* she played one of the youth lead roles, Jane Banks. She also thoroughly enjoyed the years she spent with Stage Right Youth Theatre, performing in *Cats, Freckleface Strawberry* and *Peter Pan*.

Rhiannon is thrilled to be performing in *Mamma Mia* after an unforgettable journey of bringing it to the stage.



NIKIA BREEN **ALI**

Nikia's love of everything musical theatre began over 10 years ago as Marta in Encore's very first production, *The* Sound of

Music (2008). She has appeared as Young Cosette in *Les Misérables* (2010),

Joseph (2011), the Mistress understudy in Evita (2015), Buddy (2016), Nessarose in Wicked (2017), Les Misérables (2018) and Oz in We Will Rock You (2019).

Nikia's love for the theatre flourished at Launceston College, where she played the Young Kangaroo in *Seussical* (2014) and her favourite role to date, Danielle in *Bring It On!* (2015).

Other roles include The Show Club, Kristine in G-String's A Chorus Line, Mary O'Brien in LMS' Dusty and Lindsay in Godspell along with Bree in Launceston Players' The Bridesmaid Must Die and Marybeth in Mudlark's Jingled.

Away from theatre you will see her in multiple cover bands at pubs, private functions and weddings around the state.



IZZY BROWN

Izzy is absolutely thrilled to be performing in her first production with Encore. She is currently in Year 11 at Launceston Grammar School where she regularly participates in

vocal ensembles and performing arts programs.

Izzy first discovered her passion for performing at age three, dancing with Natasha Millwood-Green at Dance Academy 34 and training in jazz, classical and lyrical styles. At age 10, Izzy began training with Circ 'S' Cool Launceston and since performed in aerial circus arts both locally and nationally.

In 2017 Izzy joined Stage Right Youth Theatre and has since been involved in three musical productions under the direction of Danny Gibson.



LUKA CAMERON

From the age of nine, Luka has known that dancing and performing was what he wanted to do forever. In 2019, his first Encore production, *Strictly Ballroom*, confirmed

this for him.

For Luka, being on stage is an amazing experience and one he wants to continue while he studies at Scotch Oakburn College, where he is currently in Year 10.

Away from school and work, Luka spends his time doing regular 16-year old things such as mountain biking, playing soccer and dancing.



SOPHIE CLARK LISA

Sophie began dancing at age four at Dance Academy 34. Throughout her years at the school, she studied jazz, lyrical, Highland and classical styles, with

one of her many highlights being as an Australian representative for Highland dancing, travelling to Switzerland with the Ozscot Australia team in 2017.

She has also loved being involved in numerous local performances, including Launceston College's productions of *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Matilda*.

Her first Encore show, *Strictly Ballroom*, counts as a standout in her performing experiences, and she feels humbled to once again share the stage with such a talented cast for *Mamma Mia*.



ISOBEL COOPER

Issy has danced since she was seven years old with the Kim Roe School of Dance (KRSD) and is currently training there weekly, preparing for her fulltime course at

Ettingshausens in Sydney in 2022.

Her love for dancing has brought her many great opportunities such as multiple KRSD dance shows, two LC productions as featured cast members/dancers, participating in three years of Hobart's Platform event performing to artistic judges, performances with the Victorian Ballet in *Don Quixote* and *Beauty and the Beast*, the most recent Edinburgh Military Tattoo in Sydney, and a highlight performing a local show and filming a movie with The Wiggles.

Isobel also teaches ballet, jazz and Highland to young dancers.



CHELSEA DEAN

Chelsea is a Year
11 student at
Launceston College.
She has always had
a burning passion for
performing, having
had artists such as
Abba and Whitney
Houston spark her
love of music.

Chelsea has been in ETC productions such as *The Sound of Music* (2018) and *We Will Rock You* (2019) and has also participated in the Tasmanian Rock Challenge 2019, receiving Best Female Performer.

She played Sandy in 2019 at the Grease Clifford Craig Ball for ETC and last August was honoured to play the role again for LC's modern take on the well-known classic.

Chelsea is grateful to perform in *Mamma Mia* again and can't wait to see those smiling faces at the Princess. Welcome home Launceston; we're back!



HEATH DE HAAN

Heath is 19 and has only recently joined the lovely cast of Encore's 2021 musical and is honoured to be working alongside such talented, driven, and kind-hearted

people.

His previous experience in the performing arts include being a featured dancer and singer in LC's 2019 musical, *Matilda*. Since then, Heath's love for the performing arts has grown as he contributes to the arts in any way possible. This includes *Dance Fever* in 2020, Vocal Ensemble in 2021 and playing a lead role as Nick in LC's 2020 production of *Flashdance*.

And now he is excited to give it all onstage for the exciting musical that is *Mamma Mia!*



CHELSEA FENSOM

Chelsea has a deep love for musical theatre. In her gap year, Chelsea continues to grow in her theatrical ability in planning to pursue it as a career.

Chelsea undertakes

dance training at Launceston Dance Centre with Maryann Peacock and vocal training with Travis Hennessy. She is truly grateful to have such inspiring and supportive mentors.

Launceston College Alumni (2019 and 2020), Chelsea's most recent casting roles were in *Matilda* as a featured child and Gloria in *Flashdance*.

This will be Chelsea's Encore debut and she cannot wait to share the highly anticipated *Mamma Mia* with you, alongside the cast mates she adores dearly.



MEGAN FETTKE

Megan is thrilled to be making her Encore onstage debut, after spending the past eight years specialising behind the scenes.

From a young age, Megan performed

in local theatre and National dance competitions but found a true passion for creating the visual aspect of performance. She has received many awards for her fashion and costume design work and has also been recognised for her on stage achievements, including the Stage Presence award in the 2013 Festival of Dance.

Megan contributed to the costuming team for *Mamma Mia* in 2020 and has thoroughly enjoyed dancing her way back onto the stage in 2021.



LAUCHY HANSEN
PEPPER

Lauchy is 23 and after having the privilege of performing at Warner Bros Movie World up until 2019, he is excited to be back on stage again!

Previous experience includes the Australian Institute of Performing Arts Talent Development Program, which saw him journey to America in 2012 and really spark his passion for The Arts.

He has also appeared with Encore's *Evita* and as Joe B Mauldin in *Buddy*. With LC, his shows include *Bring It On!* as Randall, *The Lion King Jr.* as Scar and *Rock of Ages* as Lonny Barnett, and G-String Production's *A Chorus Line* as Mike.

His most recent role was Galileo in the Gold Coast Spotlight Theatre's *We Will Rock You*.



MATT HOWARD

During his time at Launceston Grammar School Matt found a passion for both singing and dancing.

With a strong interest in musical theatre, in Years 11 and 12

he appeared in two musicals, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat and All Shook Up, where he played supporting roles of The Baker and Dean Hyde, respectively.

During his time at high school, Matt was part of the male choral group, The Fellas, where he further developed his passion for singing. This will be his third Encore show, previously appearing in the ensemble for *Strictly Ballroom* and *We Will Rock You*.



OLIVER JOHNS

Oliver is 19, and incredibly passionate about theatre, acting, singing and everything in between!

Since the age of nine, he has been involved in shows

such as LMS' Oliver!, as well as various SRYT productions like *The Addams* Family, Peter Pan, and Seven Little Australians. Recently, Oliver played the role of Jimmy, in LC's 2020 production of Flashdance.

Oliver is unbelievably excited to get back into the theatre, and once again sing and dance to the wonderful music of ABBA!

He hopes that you enjoy the show!



BRONTE KENDELL

Bronte began dancing at the ripe age of three. From there, singing was added to the mix and with that, she was hastily introduced into the Musical Theatre scene...

Since then, Bronte has been a part of several local shows, including *Godspell, The ... Spelling Bee* and *The Sound of Music,* as well as competing in many eisteddfods across the state.

Bronte would like to thank Denise Sam for all her support and mentoring over the years, and Kim Roe who has helped her experience some amazing things throughout her dancing career.



JOEL KING

Now, where was I? Now that two years have passed, Joel is thrilled to finally reach *Mamma Mia* 2020... Hang on

Since the world collapsed, Joel has performed as Hi-

Pockets Duncan in Devonport Choral's *Buddy*, graduated his Bachelor's and started his Master of Teaching with Deakin University.

Joel has won a Tasmanian Theatre Award for an 'exceptional performance' as Scarecrow in DCS' 2015 production of *The Wizard of Oz* and was nominated for Best Supporting Male in 2018 for Encore Performing Arts Studio's *Footloose*.

Until next time... Kingy out.



MARINA LEE

Marina is currently in Year 12 at Newstead College.

She has recently moved here from the United States. In January 2020, Marina moved from Arizona and is now

permanently living in Tasmania.

Back in the US she was a classically trained ballet dancer for 13 years, performing in over 15 full-length ballets and receiving scholarships from English National Ballet, New York City Ballet, Joffrey and American Ballet Theatre.

Moving here, she has re-discovered her passion for musical theatre and has recently performed as Wednesday in *The Addams Family* and as Elle Woods in *Legally Blonde* with Newstead College.

She is extremely excited to make her debut with Encore.



BRONTE LISTER

Bronte is a Year 12 student at St. Patrick's College and was introduced to performing arts at age four by Teena O'Keefe. At seven, she began training in all genres of dance with Linda

Peters at Classique Dancentre, where she competes locally and nationally each year.

Productions she's been in include Footloose, Seussical and as Sharpay Evans in Disney's High School Musical for St. Patrick's College.

Bronte recognises Linda Peters, Sharyn Martin and Mallory Schipper for inspiring her passion of performing arts. With a deep love for the music of ABBA, she has cherished every second of *Mamma Mia* and is excited to finally hit the stage in this absolute dream of a show!



BRODI LUCAS

Brodi is a registered nurse working at a local hospital, who also enjoys performing stand-up comedy in his spare time.

Mamma Mia is Brodi's return to

musical theatre after a ten-year hiatus. He performed as Ren in his college production of *Footloose*, as well as multiple local Burnie productions.

After being wowed by *Mamma Mia* on the West End in London in 2019, Brodi made it his mission to be involved in a show. Luckily for him, Encore gave him that opportunity!



TOBY MCKNIGHT

Toby (he/him) is an 18-year-old performer currently based in Launceston. From age eight, he has loved contemporary dance and while this remains his primary performance

discipline, he has expanded his breadth of talent to include acting and musical theatre.

Toby studied at Launceston College where he was a proud cast member of both *Matilda* and *Flashdance* musicals.

Stompin' Youth Dance Company has been a home for the past six years where he has performed in many projects across several leading arts festivals.

Thrilled to be asked to be a part of *Mamma Mia*, Toby is excited to step back into the musical world to bring this show alive in Launceston!



SAMUEL MILLWOOD

Sam began performing on stage from a young age, following his sisters into Highland dancing after he grew tired of waiting in the car for them at

practice.

The first musical he ever saw was *Mamma Mia* and this is his first time performing with Encore. He last performed over 10 years ago in his college production of *We Will Rock You*.

When Sam is not teaching his Grade 6 students, he presents weekend weather for 7 News Tasmania.



GABRIEL MURPHY

Raised on '70s and '80s music, Gabriel was already no stranger to the music of ABBA when the opportunity arose to make his musical theatre debut in Encore's *Mamma*

Mia!

A Grade 6 student at Launceston Grammar, Gabriel is a member of the Broadland Boys Choir. His love of music is nurtured by his teachers, Amelia Reynolds (singing) and Natalie Hillier (piano).

In this year's Launceston Grammar Junior School end of year production of *Matilda*, Gabriel will be performing the role of Bruce Bogtrotter.

Gabriel also studies Classical Ballet at Dance Pointe, and for sports, he plays club tennis and basketball.



JAMES PARKER **EDDIE**

James first got involved with theatre in 2014 when he made his first stage appearance as the comically useless Wishee-Washee in the GRADS pantomime

production of *Aladdin and his Wonderful Lamp*, for which he attained the Yvonne Lynch Breakthrough Award. This sparked a desire to continue with performance theatre, which led him into the role of Pippin in the Newstead College's production of *Pippin* and as Dwayne in LMS' production of *9 to 5* directed by Denise Sam.

James is very excited to be working with Denise again; despite her stealing his dream role of Donna in this production of *Mamma Mia*.



CHERIE PARTRIDGE

As a child of the '70s and '80s, Cherie loved to listen to and sing along to her ABBA records and cassettes.
Their music is still a favourite today and

she is excited to have been given the opportunity to perform in *Mamma Mia*.

Cherie is a mum to two beautiful teenagers, a music teacher at Hagley Farm School and a member of Vox Harmony Choir.

Her past involvement in musical theatre has been with the Launceston Musical Society in a variety of roles ranging from ensemble and band member to vocal director.



DANIEL PRIEST FATHER ALEXANDRIOS

You may have seen Daniel as the Pharaoh in Encore's *Joseph* or Gaston in Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*, or perhaps

you've seen him as Captain von Trapp in *The Sound of Music* – just a few of the roles he has performed with this company. He has also appeared on the small screen in the acclaimed mini-series, *The Gloaming*, and made his return to the live stage this September in Mudlark's *Jingled* for Junction Arts Festival 2021.

Daniel's first love is music. Having studied classical piano, he enjoys recording, and producing original music. Here's a fun fact - he has even written with Olivia Newton-John. Inspired by ABBA when growing up, he is delighted to be bringing their music to life, and can't wait to share the joy that is *Mamma Mia*.



WILL ROBERTSON

Will has been around the performing arts his whole life.

Growing up a piano player, he found his passion for singing in high school at LCGS, joining male vocal groups The Lads and

The Fellas. During his time at LCGS he participated in multiple theatre shows, playing various supporting roles such as Chip in *Beauty and The Beast* and Sheriff Earl in *All Shook Up*.

Post-schooling, he returned to LCGS and is now director of the male singing program. Will is currently studying an education degree at UTAS, looking to specialise in The Arts. This is Will's first show with Encore and is super excited to be involved.



ELIE ROE DANIEL

Elie commenced dancing at age four with the Kim Roe School of Dance and has studied ballet, jazz, hip-hop, lyrical, folkloric and contemporary, plus two years of study in

Melbourne specialising in dance, drama, singing and musical theatre.

With a great love for Highland dance, Elie has won 40+ state, national and international titles and has been a world finalist six times and Lead Dancer at the Melbourne, Virginia USA and Edinburgh and South African Tattoos. Other performances include Crown Casino, AFL Footy Show, *Strictly Ballroom* (Encore), 9 to 5 (LMS) and appearances in 18 Kim Roe pantomimes.

Elie is focussing on a career in performing arts, modeling and looking forward to exploring future opportunities.



KALEB WATTS

Kaleb is 16 and attends St. Patrick's College. Discovering his passion for performing at age 10, Kaleb undertook singing lessons with Stephanie Chitty and later joined Stage

Right Youth Theatre in 2019.

His previous productions have included SPC's *Seussical* and Disney's *High School Musical* along with Stage Right's productions of *Tarzan* and most recently *The SpongeBob Musical* in which he portrayed the titular sponge.

He would especially like to thank the late Barry Nas, Leigh Hart, Danny Gibson, Mallory Schipper, and Caitlin Siejka for mentoring him through his performing arts journey.

Kaleb is so excited for his first Encore performance and to bring *Mamma Mia* to life.



TAMIEKA WITHINGTON

TimTam is thrilled to share the stage once again with her sister, performing the songs they grew up with.

Tamieka has been dancing all her

life and has performed in 42^{nd} Street, Little Shop of Horrors and The Sound of Music. After taking a break from the stage to work behind the scenes, she knew she had to come out of retirement when Mamma Mia was announced.

Please feel free to bop along; ABBA wasn't meant to be enjoyed while sitting still.





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Danny Gibson DIRECTOR/STAGE MANAGER

Danny loves the role that arts and culture play in our Launceston community and their inspirational power to change lives.

He has performed in, produced, marketed, assisted with and directed countless local productions, events and festivals, and he continues to do so at many levels. Danny is often the Stage Manager for local productions and sometimes even treads the boards as a performer. He runs Stage Right Youth Theatre, is the Deputy Mayor of Launceston and is currently the Secretary of the Australian Musical Theatre Festival.

Danny started directing Princess
Theatre musicals at the age of 17
and has amassed an impressive list
of credits and awards. For Encore,
his directing credits include *Annie*, *Mary Poppins*, *Blood Brothers*, *The Sound of Music* and *Strictly Ballroom*.



Michael Stocks
MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Michael studied violin under the tutelage of Matthews Tyson. He toured on three occasions as a member of the Australian Youth Orchestra and performed in the world premiere concert version of *Les Misérables*. Michael has released two CDs. A solo electric violin album in 1996, and *A Touch of Tasmania* with singers John de Jong and Di Briffa in 2003. He also publishes books for strings, piano and music theory under his publishing company, Dynamic Publishing.

Michael is a full-time violin teacher, conducts the St. Cecilia Chamber Orchestra and is Concert Master of the City of Launceston Philharmonic Orchestra.

Mamma Mia is Michael's fifth Encore production, having played in The Phantom of the Opera (2014) and conducted Les Misérables (2018), The Sound of Music (2018) and Strictly Ballroom (2019).

He is thrilled to be back at The Princess with Encore, and is looking forward to having one of the best vantage points in the house to enjoy all the energy that the music of ABBA brings!



Michelle Withington CHOREOGRAPHER/ENSEMBLE

Mamma Mia is the dream show for Michelle. Growing up, ABBA was life and the records were on constant rotation. So having been given the honour of choreographing and performing in this show was a must-do.

Michelle has recently choreographed and performed in Encore's *The Sound of Music* and *Strictly Ballroom*. Past shows include 42nd Street, Crazy for You, Little Shop of Horrors and Rent (with LMS).

She grew up dancing in numerous eisteddfods and has been instructing at Launceston's Dance Fit for the past 11 years, teaching jazz, tap and Zumba/Zumba toning.

Between dance teaching, theatre and her day job as a nurse, life is busy. But every moment is made worthwhile with the love and support of her beautiful family.

Michelle is beyond proud to have her sister up on stage, too, reliving the ABBA memories!



Jason Bovaird

Jason graduated from
Melbourne University in 1995
and in 2012 graduated from
New York University's Broadway
Masterclass in Lighting Design
and Projection with an internship
with legendary Broadway lighting
designer, Ken Billington.

Since then, he has been in constant demand for plays, musicals, dance and corporate events. He lit the Australian premieres of *In the Heights, Dreamgirls, The Colour Purple* and *Memphis, The Beautiful Game* and *Barassi – The Stage Show.* National touring productions of *The 39 Steps, They're Playing Our Song, Motherhood - The Musical, Australia Day, The One Day of the Year, The Club* (starring John Wood) and *Waist Watchers - The Musical* for HIT Productions and *The Play That Goes Wrong* (Australia/London).

Jason was the Associate
Lighting Designer for *Peter*Pan Goes Wrong for Lunchbox
Theatricals (London/Australia) and
International Lighting Designer
on Busting Out (Los Angeles Theatre
Company, Kings Court Theatre,
London and Dallas Theatre Actors).
He has worked with many state
theatre companies, including MTC,
STC, SATC, Tasmanian
Theatre Company, Playbox and
Malthouse Theatre.



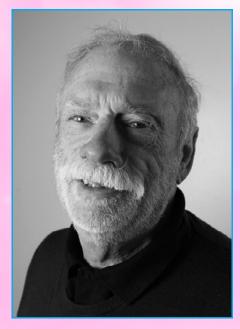
Marcello Lo Ricco

Marcello studied Performing Arts at Monash University and Audio Engineering at SAE Institute and has worked extensively in sound for musicals, concerts, events and tours and is the founding director of sound production company LSS Productions.

Marcello's most recent theatre sound designs include *Mamma Mia* (CLOC, PLOS, Footlight), *Legally Blonde* (James Terry), *The Beautiful Game* (Manilla St) (Green Room Award Nomination-Sound), *Sunday in the Park With George* (Watch This), *A Chorus Line* (WMTC), *The Sound of Music* (Babirra, ETC), *Strictly Ballroom* (CLOC, ETC) and new Australian musical, *My Brilliant Career* (MAPA).

Marcello has received Tasmanian Theatre Awards for best sound design for We Will Rock You, The Sound of Music, The Phantom of the Opera and Mary Poppins, all produced by Encore. Other awards for sound include Cats, Miss Saigon, Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, Into the Woods, Sweeney Todd, Legally Blonde, Chicago, The Wedding Singer, Jesus Christ Superstar and Hairspray.

This is Marcello's 15th production with Encore.



Anthony Phillips COSTUME DESIGN

Sydney-born Anthony Phillips worked in professional theatre for over 40 years, holding positions of wardrobe supervisor with The Old Tote, Sydney Theatre Company, Australian Opera and freelancing before setting up Anthony Phillips Costumes to work on the original build of *The Phantom of the Opera*, encompassing some 25 years of South African and Asian Tour cast changes on that lifechanging production.

Anthony was head cutter on two *Star Wars* films (Episode 2 and 3), and his company provided costumes for many memorable productions including *42nd Street, Anything Goes, Les Misérables, Miss Saigon, Chicago, Mary Poppins, King Kong, Priscilla* and many productions for Bell Shakespeare. Well-known for his detailed work with period costumes, he has tutored at NIDA and TAFE and was acknowledged by winning the lifetime achievers award by the APDG.

Closing his company after the build of *Matilda* and seeking retirement and a quieter life in Launceston, Encore invited him to design and make a range of principal costumes for their production of *Les Misérables*, *The Sound of Music*, *Strictly Ballroom* and *We Will Rock You*, for which he won Outstanding Costume Design (Musical Theatre) in the 2020 Tasmanian Theatre Awards.



Sonia Jager COSTUME MANAGER

Sonia has enjoyed a long association with community theatre, from behind the scenes roles involving costumes, set building and painting, to front of house manager and booking office. Many of these years were with Lilydale Athenaeum, The Basin Theatre Group, Sherbrooke Theatre Co. and Ellis Prater Productions. She was also an executive member of the Lyrebird Awards until her move to Launceston in 2013 to be with her daughter, Marita Meadows.

Having joined the Encore family in 2013 as a seamstress, Sonia assisted with costumes for many productions until she became Costume Manager for Buddy, then subsequently Wicked, Blood Brothers, Les Misérables, The Sound of Music, Strictly Ballroom and We Will Rock You.

Also, Sonia enjoys assisting Stage Right Youth Theatre with costumes, helping with this year's Australian Premiere of *The SpongeBob Musical*.

Sonia is honoured to again head up the costume team for Encore's iconic production of *Mamma Mia*.



Jamie Hillard EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Jamie has been privileged to provide support to all of Encore's productions in a creative or production capacity and sits on their Executive Committee and is Encore's Financial/Administration Officer.

As you enjoy the unfolding plottwists, marvel at the wonderful set, costumes, dazzling lighting and crystal-clear sound whilst singing along to all those wonderfully familiar songs, spare a thought for the professionalism and hard work teams behind the scenes, led by Danny Gibson, Denise Sam, Michael Stocks, Natalie Hillier and Michelle Withington.

In particular, he acknowledges the dedication and resilience of the cast who despite the heartbreak of having their season postponed just days prior to Opening Night back in March 2020, have waited patiently and have worked relentlessly to present their undeniable talents.

Jamie is so pleased that Launceston audiences will finally enjoy this show after a long COVID-19 induced hiatus.

With a line-up of blockbuster shows scheduled for next year and beyond, Encore is back!



Belinda J King EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Belinda hails from Adelaide and her career in music and the arts has ranged from professional singer/actor to theatre publicist, music publishing to show marketing and management, embracing all aspects of the industry.

With a lifelong love of musical theatre, she co-founded Encore in 2008 and is Company President. As well as taking the reins as Executive Producer for many of their shows, she has directed We Will Rock You, Les Misérables (receiving a Tasmanian Theatre Award for Best Direction), Buddy, The Phantom of the Opera, Joseph, The Boy from Oz, and co-directed Boy's Own McBeth and Sweeney Todd with Liz Bennett.

Belinda still treads the boards on occasion, with favourite past stage turns including Madame Thénardier in *Les Misérables* and Mrs Lovett in *Sweeney Todd*.

Away from the bright lights and greasepaint of theatre she enjoys a career in radio broadcasting, currently presenting Breakfast from 5.30am weekdays on ABC Local Radio 91.7FM.

PRODUCTION CREDITS

DIRECTOR Danny Gibson MUSICAL DIRECTOR (VOCAL) **Denise Sam** MUSICAL DIRECTOR (CONDUCTOR) Michael Stocks Michelle Withington **CHOREOGRAPHER EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS** Jamie Hillard, Belinda J King STAGE MANAGER Danny Gibson **REPETITEUR** Natalie Hillier

ORIGINAL SET DESIGN Sally Martin, **CLOC Musical Theatre EXECUTIVE SET MANAGER** Wendy Flaherty SET TECHNICAL MANAGERS Bernard & Gemma Hedger, CLOC

Musical Theatre SET REMOVALS MANAGER **Leroy Enniss** SET BUMP IN TEAM Corey Ackerley, Leroy Enniss,

> Wendy & Mick Flaherty, Rob Henderson, Dane Hayes, Steve Kolka, Kirsty Mangelsdorf, Ryan Parkinson, Kieran Santoso, Annie & Peter Scott, Mason Waller

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGERS Ryan Parkinson, Ruby Stevenson FLOOR & FLY PLANS CONSULTANT Alan Gray STAGE CREW/MECHS Piper Bunton, Jocoda Calvert, Caitlyn Cutler, Kirsty Mangelsdorf, Alex Quilliam, Molly Stevenson, Jamie Warburton **FLY OPERATORS** Alistair Bugg, Alyd Taylor LIGHTING DESIGNER Jason Bovaird,

Moving Light Productions **HEAD OF LIGHTING** Chris Payne LIGHTING SUPPLY Moving Light Productions LIGHTING BUMP-IN CREW Jason Bovaird, Matt Hobson, Chris Payne, Kieran Santoso

LIGHTING BOARD OPERATOR Malcolm Butters/Mal Watson. Theatre North **FOLLOW SPOT OPERATORS** Nick Brown, Kym Thomas,

Georgia Murphy (Theatre North)

SOUND DESIGNER & OPERATOR Marcello Lo Ricco. LSS Productions

HEAD RADIO MIC TECHNICIAN **Dwayne Parish** RADIO MIC TECHNICIAN Marita Meadows SOUND BUMP-IN CREW Nick Bexley, Kieran Santoso SOUND EQUIPMENT LSS Productions Pty Ltd, Melbourne MUSIC KEYBOARD PROGRAMMING Nathan Firmin,

Patched Keyboards **ENCORE COSTUME DESIGN** Anthony Phillips (including Super Troupers, Principals, Bridal party, Greek chorus)

ORIGINAL COSTUME DESIGN Brian Misson. **CLOC Musical Theatre**

COSTUME MANAGER Sonia Jager QUICK CHANGE MANAGER Margaret Quilliam Sonia Jager, Margaret Quilliam COSTUME COORDINATORS COSTUME CONSTRUCTION Anthony Phillips, Sonia Jager, Megan Fettke, Jo Quigley **DRESSERS** Sarah Chong, Beth Cudmore, Alex Dubell, Leanne Dunn, Maureen Fontyn, Stacie French, Sarah Gibson, Amanda Papworth, Margaret Quilliam, Janelle Scott, Di Summers, Maree Tomlin, Sonja Wilson, Jenny Wood

PROPERTIES MANAGER Teressa Car PROPERTIES ASSISTANT Mel Grossman

HAIR AND WIG DESIGN Sharon Parker, At Wig's End

HAIR ASSISTANTS Anita Andersen, Erin Bean, Chloe Davis, Mandy Dick, Nicole Flood, Diella Josephson, Leah Page, Jo Palmer, Imogen Wall, Annie Scott

MAKEUP MANAGER Paige Alice Tahnii Marquis, Lauren Stagg, MAKEUP ASSISTANTS Georgie Schmidt

MARKETING MANAGER Belinda J King **GRAPHIC ART/DESIGN Nathan Toovey PHOTOGRAPHY** Ross Marsden, Thomas Wadley VIDEO MARKETING Dwayne Parish **MARKETING TEAM** Michelle Campbell, Dwayne Parish Belinda J King PROGRAM MANAGER **PRINTING** Foot & Playsted

IT SUPPORT AND VIDEOGRAPHER Dwayne Parish Dwayne Parish, Angela Cash **VIDEO CAMERAS**

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Elise Archer, Minister for the Arts

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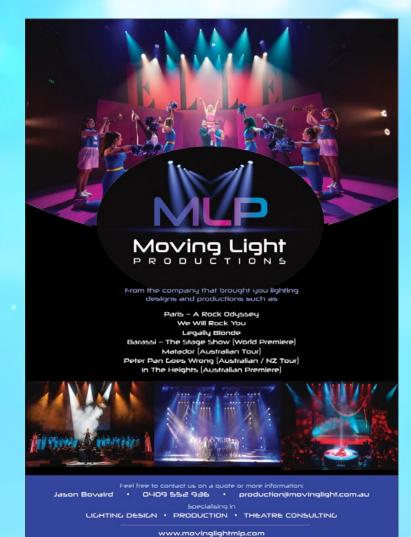
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Tasmanian Eye Institute is a registered charity established by Professor Brendan Vote in 2008 for Research, Education and Service in Ophthalmology

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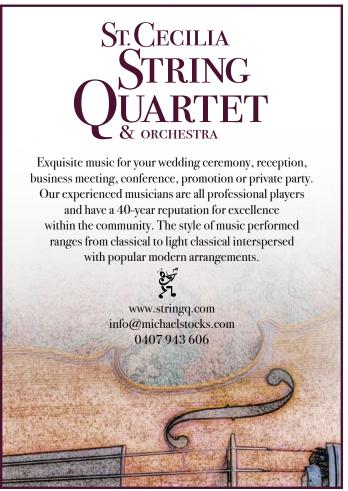
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