

Be You Productions presents

the musical of musicals

the musical!

Music By
Eric Rockwell

Lyrics By
Joanne Bogart

Book by
Eric Rockwell & Joanne Bogart



DANIEL AGAR



ANTOINETTE DAVIS



KAITLIN JEMPSON



BELINDA JENKIN



TOM KANTOR



ISABEL KNIGHT

December 9 - 13

The MC Showroom

We would like to begin by acknowledging that we are meeting on the stolen lands of the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin Nation and paying our respects to the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we are gathered today. We would like to pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging, and acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture.

We want to acknowledge how lucky and honoured we are to be able to share this land and continue the tradition of storytelling.

Vision for the Musical of Musicals the Musical

Laura de longh

The Musical of Musicals the Musical celebrates every facet of Broadway theatre; for its beauty, its comedy, its glamour and its shortcomings. This show resonates with theatre aficionados and casual audiences in equal measure.

As performers, audiences, musicians, technicians and writers, 2020 has been an incredibly difficult year for theatre. While it has always been a fickle industry, this year has challenged us in ways we didn't know were possible. However, it has also demonstrated the incredible resolve of those who 'tread the boards'; we have innovated, we have adapted, and we have made it work. 2020 has also allowed us to reflect on the reason we walk this path, which we have coined 'the why'.

The Why

'The why' is the rhetoric we used to inform our creative decisions and is based on the fundamental principles of storytelling. Why would the character make this choice? What do they want and why do they want it? What do the audience need to know? How do we want the audience to feel? All of these questions speak to authenticity and honesty, which has been a focus for us since the beginning of this project. Ultimately, these shows-within-a-show acknowledge the immense contribution of five stage masters to musical theatre as a whole. Moreover, they acknowledge the role of performers in bringing their stories to life, and celebrate what it means to be an actor, dancer and singer.

To this end, we focussed on three fundamental pillars that underpin this show:

This is an intelligent show. We have been blessed with an incredibly clever, well-written score, and we need to acknowledge its many layers. This show travels decades in mere minutes, so we have to create the context of each body of work in a concise way.

This is a love letter to five composers and their shows. We want to honour their works, while providing a fun, loving space for an audience to explore these composers and their tropes. We pay homage to the way these shows have fostered our own love for performing, and acknowledge them for their faults as well as their merits.

These archetypes are everywhere. Character tropes exist within all stories, and certain archetypes come up over and over again in theatre. The Hero rescues the Ingenue from the clutches of the Villain after the timely intervention of the Matron. We know that variations of this story exist throughout musical theatre, and we want to explore these tropes with our audience.

At the end of the day, we are storytellers. We tell our own stories through the vehicle of musical theatre, and celebrate every day that we get to do the thing we love.

May we all be the heroes of our own stories.

THE TEAM

Bradley Dylan | **Director/Producer**

Laura de longh | **Director**

Brendan Jelley | **Director**

Daniele Buatti | **Director**

Chelsea Homan | **Stage Manager**

THE CAST

Daniel Agar

Antoinette Davis

Kaitlin Jempson

Belinda Jenkin

Tom Kantor

Isabel Knight

Graphic design by Daniele Buatti

Costumes by Laura de longh and Bradley Dylan

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND THANKS

The Be You Inc. Board

Miao at the The MC Showroom

The Space Dance & Arts Centre

Renee at Phoenix tc

SONG LIST

"Corn"

Oh, What Beautiful Corn
I Couldn't Keep Less About You
I Don't love You
Follow Your Dream
Dream Ballet
Sowillyquey
Delicious Clam Dip
I Don't Love You (Again)
Daylight Savings Time
Finale

"A Little Complex"

Welcome To The Woods
The Story Of Jitter
Jitter's Oath
I Have Little Birds
Chorus Interruptus
Getting Away With Murder
Billy Baby's Entrance
Stay With Me
Chorus Interruptus Again
Jeune's Patter
We're All Gonna Die
Finale

"Dear Abby"

The Life Of The Party
Take My Advice
Show Tune
Did I Put Out Enough?
Dear Abby

"Aspects of Junita"

Aspects of Junita
Opera Scena
Junita's Recitative
We Never Talk Anymore
Finale

"Speakeasy"

Hola! Aloha! Hello!
Juny With A "J"
Color Me Gay
Juny's Reprise
Just Don't Pay
Juny's Second Reprise
An Easy Mark
Round And Round



DANIEL AGAR

Daniel graduated with a Bachelor of Arts (Music Theatre) from Federation University in 2017. There, some of his credits include Conrad Birdie in *Bye Bye Birdie* and Mark Cohen in *Rent!*. Since graduating; Daniel has involved himself in many different productions, some of which include; Sven in *Waiting On You* (Majella Productions), The Australian Ballet Tours of *Spartacus* and *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, Thea/Guitarist in *Spring Awakening* (North by South), Gustav in *Still Buried* (VCA), Claudio in *Much Ado About Nothing* (GJ Productions), and David/Dads/Descendant in *Jack Frost: The Musical*. Daniel is more than thrilled to be back on stage with such a great group of people!

Antoinette graduated from Federation University with a Bachelor of Arts (Musical Theatre) in 2017. Her university credits include: new Australian work *Showtrain* (Bear), *Bye Bye Birdie* (Rosie Alvarez), *RENT* (Maureen Johnson) and *Sweeney Todd* (Ensemble/violinist). Antoinette also wrote her own solo cabaret *Ain't Nobody's Business; A Tribute to the Night*, to successful Ballarat and Melbourne seasons. Her most recent credits include *Veronica Sawyer* in *Heathers* (GJ Productions), *Marcy* in *Dogfight* (Lightbox Productions) and *Dancer/Blitzen* in *The Eight: Reindeer Monologues* (Bravo Arts). Most recently, Antoinette has been the musical director of contemporary dance piece 'Moments' for their run at the 2020 Adelaide Fringe Festival.



ANTOINETTE DAVIS

(She/her/hers)

At the age of 19, Kaitlin moved to the United States to study her BFA in Musical Theatre/ French and dance minor. She graduated in 2018 from Ohio Northern University, and began her first contract 2 weeks later. While in the States, Kaitlin performed as Cassie in *A Chorus Line* (Weathervane Playhouse), Gladys/ Dance Captain in *42nd Street* (Weathervane Playhouse), swing/ensemble in *The Producers* (Paramount Theatre), and worked as an actor for the *Murder Mystery Co/ American Immersion Theatre* in NYC.

Since returning home to Melbourne, Kaitlin has found home with *Be You Inc*, having performed as a soloist in *Broadway Unplugged* last year, and having grown tremendously throughout the process of *Maybe This Time* in lockdown this year.

Kaitlin is unashamed to be a walking musical theatre cliché; her favourite composer is Stephen Sondheim, and she passionately believes *Cats* is one of the greatest musicals of all time. Thank goodness both will be heavily featured here tonight. Enjoy!



KAITLIN JEMPSON



Belinda is an actor, singer and writer/composer.

She is a graduate of NIDA 2015 (DMT) and Musical Theatre CAP21, New York.

Belinda's screen credits include Jade in the television comedy Metro Sexual (Nine Network), Eleanor in Summer Heights High (ABC), feature films and multiple short films including Human Touch and Enid.

Belinda's stage credits include 50 Shades! The Musical Parody Australian Tour (DVE), Top Gun the Musical, People Suck, Prick the Musical, Gilligan's Island the Musical, Motor-Mouth Loves Suck Face, Anyone Can Whistle, Until Tomorrow, and Chronic (La Mama).

Her writing credits include several cabarets; Practically Perfect, and Kid as well as musical collaborations with William Hannagan such as the Apocalyptic Song Cycle Until Tomorrow and HouseWarming the Musical. In 2014 HouseWarming was presented at The New York Musical Theatre Festival, New York.

She is very excited to be returning to the stage in 2020 for The Musical of Musicals the Musical.

BELINDA JENKIN

Tomáš is a Melbourne based actor, singer and cabaret artist, and is represented by JM Agency. After completing an intensive course in acting at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (RADA), he made the move from a Bachelor of Arts, studying Philosophy and Literature at the University of Melbourne, to the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Music Theatre at the Victorian College of the Arts (VCA).

At the VCA, Tomáš performed as a soloist in Morning Melodies 2018 (dir. Margot Fenley) and 2019 (dir. Jayde Kirchert) presented by Arts Centre Melbourne, and in the 50th Anniversary Woodstock for the 2019 Melbourne Cabaret Festival (dir. Tyran Parke). Tomáš starred as Gabey in his graduating production of On The Town (dir. Adam Mitchell) and featured in the ensemble (u/s Mr. Stanley) of Flora, the Red Menace (dir. Jason Langley). He was delighted to receive 'The Ron and Margaret Dobell Foundation Music Theatre Award - Industry Award' for 2019.

Tomáš enjoyed taking stock in 2020, and is excited to round off the year performing as 'Hero/Villain' in The Musical of Musicals: The Musical presented by Be You Inc. He is ecstatic to be joining the touring cast of Fangirls (dir. Paige Rattray) as an Onstage Swing with Belvoir in 2021.



TOM KANTOR

Isabel's work within the theatre industry is varied and constantly evolving. In 2017 she graduated from Melbourne Polytechnic with a D

and since then has also completed various short courses including a summer school Diploma of Theatre Arts (2017) with The Royal Shakespeare Company (2018). Her work in the Cabaret genre has taken her to Tasmania where she performed as a part of Minx Cabaret Company's (2019) annual season. She wrote and performed an original cabaret short as a part of Be You Inc.'s Cabaret Entrée (2019). As well as performing Isabel is also co-

curator of La Mama Cabaretica, a quarterly cabaret night which is programmed at the iconic La Mama Theatre. She played Lady Macduff in Her Hour upon the Stage (2019) and has now completed a twelve month contract at Witches in Britches Theatre Restaurant (2019/2020). During lockdown Isabel was selected to be involved in the Australian Theatre for Young People (ATYP) 2020 National Studio. Isabel is excited by the possibilities for theatre in Melbourne as we emerge from this lockdown stronger and united in creativity.



ISABEL KNIGHT



LAURA DE IONGH

Laura is a classically trained dancer and performer, with gymnastics and cheerleading thrown in for good measure. She studied at Brent Street Studios (Sydney), Centrestage Performing Arts (Melbourne), and VCA/Melbourne University.

Her recent on-stage credits include Mama-Dogfight (Lightbox Productions), Hunyak-Chicago (Phoenix), Dance Ensemble-Singin' in the Rain (Babirra), Heather Duke-Heathers (Ummta) and Principal Dancer-9 to 5 (Centrestage London).

This is Laura's first foray into directing, as historically, her contribution to creative teams has been as a choreographer. Her recent choreography credits include: We Will Rock You (2020, SLAMS), Spring Awakening (2019, RMITCreative), The Witches of Eastwick (2018, UMMTA) and The Drowsy Chaperone (2017, SEDOS London).

Laura is also the Chairwoman of the Be You Inc Board and a founding member of the organisation.

Brendan returned to the Melbourne industry following contracts with Princess Cruise Line performing a repertoire of eight shows around the world. Prior to this, Brendan actively worked on productions in both Australia and New Zealand, with credits such as EVITA and CHICAGO (Amici Productions) and The PJ MASK LIVE SHOW (Life Like Touring).

A versatile performer, working across the different areas of the industry, his commercial and contemporary credits include the international premier of INTO THE BLUE (Chloe Loftus dance company) and a variety of high profile corporate gigs.

A proud member of the Be You Inc team he strives for an industry of empowered performers and creatives and aims to promote a more diverse inclusive industry in his role as Be You Inc's Casting Director.

Brendan is excited to be making his choreographic debut with Be You Productions.



BRENDAN JELLEY

Daniele is a Melbourne-based pianist, arranger and musical director. He's highly diverse and extensive skills find him preparing music for corporate events, musical theatre works and commercial productions.

Daniele has been the resident musical and creative director of Melbourne's Broadway Unplugged since it launched in 2013 which sees him leading a phenomenal band, whilst arranging and performing a vast array of repertoire for each of their monthly events. Once a year, Daniele presents Broadway Unplugged at the Royal Botanic Gardens, leading a phenomenal 15 piece band with entirely custom arrangements.

His music director credits include A Little Night Music (Watch This), Bring It On (Stage Masters) and The Beautiful Game (Manilla Street Productions). Daniele has also assisted as repetiteur on musicals at the VCA (Into The Woods) and the Production Company (A Gentlemen's Guide to Love and Murder).

Daniele can be seen behind the piano at several piano bars across Melbourne including Uptown Jazz Cafe and Jasper's Jazz Club. He also runs a musical theatre open mic night called Be You. With a love for teaching, Daniele can be seen at school's around Melbourne such as the Victorian College of the Arts (VCA), Federation University, Jason Coleman's Ministry of Dance and the Australian Institute of Music (AIM).

Daniele is the Vice President of the Be You Inc Board and a founding member of the organisation.



DANIELE BUATTI



BRADLEY DYLAN

As the founder and president of Be You Inc, Bradley is the artistic voice and vision behind all of its projects. His passion for leadership, holistic approach to sociology and social systems, and degrees in business, management, and applied psychology, coupled with extensive experience in running production companies and performing arts studios since 2004, gives him a unique perspective on the future of theatre, and how best to use applied psychological approaches for the betterment of everyone involved.

Bradley's most recent directorial credits include Urinetown and Heathers (UMMTA), having directed shows since his solo directorial debut in 2011 with The Wedding Singer. He has experience in costume design, vocal coaching, vocal direction, lighting design, as well as being an avid music theatre performer and performance coach/counsellor.

He has also been the producer and director of Broadway Unplugged since 2016 and absolutely loves using this platform to bring music theatre to the general public and helping to launch up-and-coming performers into the industry.

Chelsea has a Bachelor of Music (Music Theatre) from AIM and completed her Honours in Theatre and Performance at Monash University. She's been a backing vocalist for Broadway Unplugged, and after working with the Be You Inc team she wanted to get involved in the management team.

She's passionate about and believes in creating equal opportunities for all performers and wants to be part of the change to the music theatre industry to make these opportunities happen!

This is Chelsea's first time as Stage Manager and wishes the entire cast and crew a successful season!



CHELSEA HOMAN

A sustainable theatre project

This production is our first sustainable music theatre show, underpinned by the following principles:



We're operating on a profit share basis, with an equal share between all members of the cast and creative team, and 2 shares going to Be You Productions for future productions.

We aim keep expenses low so as to maximise on all profits received and therefore shared, to compensate for the work put in by the whole team.

Our ethos of being honest, open, and ethical in all we do will inform our approach to all things.