

THE BLUE ROOM THEATRE AND  
FINE COMB THEATRE COMPANY  
PRESENT



# shadow of doubt

What lies beneath the surface?



/// FINE COMB THEATRE ///

15 APRIL - 3 MAY  
THE BLUE ROOM THEATRE

**The  
Blue Room  
Theatre**



Department of  
Local Government, Sport  
and Cultural Industries





FINE COMB THEATRE COMPANY AND THE BLUE ROOM THEATRE  
PRESENT

# shadow of doubt

What lies beneath the surface?



David and Heather Andrews seem like the perfect couple. Nestled in the Kalamunda hills, their newlywed life appears flawless – cooking dinner together, hiking scenic trails, and even building Ikea furniture with ease. It is the picture of suburban bliss, a white picket dream.

But appearances can be deceiving.

Now, as they sit in the witness box, recounting their story, it becomes clear there are three sides to every story: his, hers, and the one that can't stay hidden. And as their tale unravels, the question lingers: which version casts the true Shadow of Doubt?

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY RACHEL MCMURRAY

## WRITER & DIRECTOR'S NOTE

I have always been passionate about theatre which doesn't provide us all the answers, or tell us what to think, rather, theatre that hopes to be the start of an important conversation.

And for me, this play is all about a conversation. At its core, the topics it explores are difficult, confronting and deeply important. It is a story about love, relationships and that line between care and control. I wanted to create something that speaks honestly to the complexity that can exist in relationships, while also making space for resilience and humanity.

This play is not just about one couple. It is about all of us and how we, as a society, navigate the balance between love and power.

Staging my first play in Australia has been daunting. However I've been incredibly lucky to work with a remarkable team on this production. Their generosity, insight and sensitivity have helped shape this work into something I hope we are all proud of. I couldn't be more thankful to them. I am also genuinely humbled, and overwhelmed by the support this production has received from the Boorloo community; from mentors and supporters, to our incredible Community Partner Starick, to The Blue Room Theatre and its staff, and to you being here as an audience today.

*Shadow of Doubt* is for anyone who has experienced control or fear where there should have been safety. It's for those navigating that space, and it's for those who are trying to understand.

Thank you for taking the time to be here.

*Rachel*

# WRITER / DIRECTOR

Rachel McMurray is a theatre director and writer based in Boorloo/Perth. She is also founding Artistic Director of Fine Comb Theatre from 2013 – 2022.

Theatre Directing credits include: *Courier* (The Blue Room Theatre), *Three Sisters* (WAAPA), *The Project* (WAYTCo at The Blue Room Theatre); *Antigone* (Performance Centre, Staffordshire); *Perspective* (Hope Studios); *Aleiah's Adventures* (Z-Arts Manchester and Tour); *No Such Thing As Ordinary* (Royal Exchange Theatre); *Ink* (ALRA North); *Sexpectations and The Good Hope* (53Two Manchester); *Woyzeck* (Performance Centre, Staffordshire); *Not Yours, Mine* (Hope Studios, Oldham Coliseum Theatre); *There's a Fly in My Room* (Halifax Square Chapel); *Lost & Found* (The Lowry Theatre Studio); *Matchsticks* (53Two, Theatre Arrlechino, The Kings Arms); *Discernment* (The Lowry Theatre);

Assistant Directing credits include: *The Pool* (Black Swan Theatre in association with Perth Festival); *Beryl* (Oldham Coliseum Theatre); *Aladdin* (Oldham Coliseum Theatre)

Writing Credits: *Small Talk* (3MT), *Matchsticks* (53Two & Oldham Coliseum), *Fat Penguins or Chubby Polar Bear* (Theatre Arrelechino, Salford University), *Untrained Heroes* (Theatre Arrelechino), *Sexpectations*, *There's a Fly in My Room*, *Measuring Up*, *Grasshopper* (Oldham Coliseum)



**RACHEL  
MCMURRAY**

[www.rachelmcmurray.com](http://www.rachelmcmurray.com)

## CAST



### DAVID: Nathaniel Langworthy

Nathan is a versatile actor from Perth, Western Australia, known for his performances across film, television, and theatre. A graduate of the prestigious National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA) in Sydney, Nathan has honed a diverse skill set, tackling roles in a wide array of genres. With a strong foundation in both classical and contemporary acting, Nathan continues to seek out roles that challenge his craft. His acting credits include *Horses* (Belvoir St Theatre), *The Fall Guy*, and *When the Rain Stops Falling*. Outside of theatre, Nathan enjoys writing and is passionate about storytelling in all its forms.



### HEATHER: Lainey O'Sullivan

Lainey is a Boorloo-based performer and writer from Dublin, Ireland. She holds a first-class honours degree in Drama and Theatre Studies from Trinity College Dublin with a major in Acting and Playwriting. In addition to working freelance as a performer and theatre maker, she works with The Humour Foundation as a Clown Doctor in Perth Children's Hospital. She is a member of both BSSTC Forge Writers Programme and Bright Side Productions' *Coded Comedy* ensemble. Recent highlights: *She Loves Me* (Western Sky Projects), The Last Great Hunt Theatre Gatherers' Collective '22/23, Undercurrent Theatre's touring production of *My Shout* (Red Earth Arts Festival 2023), *Sweet Rhythm* (Outatime Pictures) and her play *Conception* (The Blue Room Theatre, 2023) - PAWA nominations for Outstanding Independent Production, Outstanding Performer, Outstanding New Work and Outstanding Newcomer.



# CREATIVE TEAM

Rachel McMurray  
Amy Fortnum  
Rebecca Riggs-Bennett  
Mick Rippon  
Jake Pitcher  
Shannen Moulton  
Joel Jackson  
Molly Tipping  
Chantelle Iemma  
Chris Isaacs  
Ruben Dwyer  
Starick

Writer/Director/Lead Producer  
Associate Producer  
Music Producer/Sound Designer  
Lighting Designer  
Set & Costume Designer  
Stage Manager  
Directors Attachment  
Intimacy Mentor  
Casting Associate  
Dramaturg  
Set Construction  
Community Partner Organisation

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## An additional thank you to...

Tallulah Chong, Stephen Millstead, Oscar Valdes, Alexander Franklin, Jordan Gallagher, Samantha Dewar, RTRFM, 96FM, Kate Champion, Stephanie McKenna, Li-Yen Poon, Toni Parkinson, Steve Rodgers, Amanda Leigh, Tim Sitwell-Mogridge, Lauren Major, Black Swan Theatre Company, West Australian Ballet Company, The Department of Government Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, and all the volunteers and staff at The Blue Room Theatre.



/// FINE COMB THEATRE ///

## FINE COMB THEATRE

Fine Comb Theatre, originally founded in the North West UK in 2013, now proudly calls Boorloo/Perth in Western Australia home. As a dynamic new writing theatre company, we are dedicated to creating bold, issue-based theatre that amplifies the voices to those often unheard, aiming to provoke thought and stimulate conversation.

As a company, we have established a reputation for producing stylised, innovative, and captivating theatre that tackles sensitive and complex subjects with integrity and insight. We are committed to pushing boundaries, challenging preconceived notions, and offering fresh perspectives on pressing issues.

[www.finecombtheatre.com.au](http://www.finecombtheatre.com.au)



# STARICK

## Community Partner Organisation



Starick is an independent, not for profit organisation with charitable status based in Perth's south-eastern metropolitan region and working to end family and domestic violence. They assist women, young people and children experiencing abuse, whether by a partner or by another family member. Starick employs a team of dedicated staff who support, advocate and provide resources to women and children escaping domestic violence. The dedicated Starick team comprises their managers and staff, board and volunteers.

Starick's vision is to build futures free from violence, for the women and children who use our service and the community as a whole.

[www.starick.org.au](http://www.starick.org.au)

*A Starick representative will be present at the post-show Q&A session on Wednesday, April 23rd*

## SUPPORT RESOURCES

**We recognise that the themes explored in this play may evoke strong emotional reactions, particularly for those with lived experience of domestic violence or coercive control.**

Patrons are encouraged to engage with the materials at their own comfort level. Additionally, a **quiet space** will be available in the **theatre foyer** for those who need a moment to step away. Support materials from our partner organisation, Starick, are accessible before and after the performance, providing guidance on available resources and assistance.



**CRISIS**

If you need urgent help, call **CRISIS CARE\* (08) 9223 1111**  
or **Country Freecall 1800 199 008\***

If you are in immediate physical danger, call POLICE 000

\*Crisis Care is the Department for Communities, Child Protection and Family Support's telephone information service for anyone who needs urgent help, including crisis accommodation.