

The Blue Room Theatre and Red Ryder Productions

Presents



By arrangement with Music Theatre International Australasia Pty Ltd, on behalf of Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

**NORA
ANNE MARIE
TORVALD
EMMY**

**Alison van Reeken
Julia Moody
Maitland Schnaars
'Ana Ika**

**Director
Producer
Stage Manager**

**Emily McLean
Benj D'Addario
Catherine O'Donoghue**

**Lighting Design
Sound Design
Costume Design
Set Design**

**Karen Cook
Jess Nyanda Moyle
Fiona Bruce
Red Ryder Productions**

Before.... *A Doll's House*, play in three acts by Henrick Ibsen published in 1879 and performed the same year. The play centres on an ordinary family—Torvald Helmer, a bank lawyer, and his wife, Nora, and their three little children. Torvald supposes himself the ethical member of the family, while his wife assumes the role of the pretty and irresponsible little woman in order to flatter him. Into this arrangement intrude several hard-minded outsiders, one of whom threatens to expose a fraud that Nora had once committed without her husband's knowledge to obtain a loan needed to save his life. When Nora's act is revealed, Torvald reacts with outrage and repudiates her out of concern for his own social reputation. Utterly disillusioned about her husband, whom she now sees as a hollow fraud, Nora declares her independence of him and their children and leaves them, slamming the door of the house behind her.

15 Years Later.... *A Doll's House, Part 2...*

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

This show is dedicated to all the women who didn't get to walk out the door.

(34 women this year killed by their partners in Australia alone - Australian Financial Review, article published 4 May 2024)

A massive and warm thank you to the Cast and Creatives who have worked on this show around other paid work and family. We have all done it as a labour of love for a great script, for the craft of acting, respect for each other's talent and the love of a great theatre audience. Thank you all. It has been a privilege.

- Emily McLean

RED RYDER PRODUCTIONS

Alison van Reeken and Benj D'Addario (WAAPA graduates 1996– Acting) joined Emily McLean (WAAPA graduate 1997 – Directing) to form Red Ryder Productions in 2004.

Past productions include *Dealer's Choice* by Patrick Marber (2005 & 2006), *A Moment on the Lips* by Jonathon Gavin (2006), *The Mozart Faction* by Kate Rice (2007), *Loveplay* by Moira Buffini (2007), *Dying City* by Christopher Shinn (2008), *Fat Pig* by Neil LaBute (2013), *Grounded* by George Brandt (2016 & 2017) and *The Wolves* by Sarah DeLappe (2019).

Red Ryder are committed to collaborating with local artists, sourcing great scripts, and producing quality, professional theatre that is exciting and entertaining.

About the Playwright – LUCAS HNATH

Lucas Hnath's plays include *A Doll's House, Part 2* (8 Tony Award nominations, including Best Play); *Hillary and Clinton*; *Red Speedo*; *The Christians*; *A Public Reading of an Unproduced Screenplay About the Death of Walt Disney*; *Isaac's Eye* and *Death Tax*. He has been produced on Broadway at the John Golden Theatre and Off-Broadway at New York Theatre Workshop, Playwrights Horizons, Soho Rep, and Ensemble Studio Theatre. His plays have been produced nationally and internationally, with premieres at the Humana Festival of New American Plays, Victory Gardens Theater and South Coast Repertory. He has been a resident playwright at New Dramatists since 2011. Awards: Steinberg Playwright Award, Guggenheim Fellowship, Whiting Award, two Steinberg/ATCA New Play Award Citations, Outer Critics Circle Award for Best New Play, an Obie Award and the Windham-Campbell Prize.

Cast:

‘Ana Ika – EMMY

‘Ana Ika (she/her) is a Tongan Australian actor from Boorloo. She graduated WAAPA in 2021 with a Bachelor of Arts (Acting), where she performed on stage in a number of lead roles, including Marc Antony in Julius Caesar. ‘Ana most recently performed in *Amadeus* at the Opera House alongside Michael Sheen for Redline Productions. Other theatre credits include *Grace*, *Let Me Finish* and *French Over* staged at The Blue Room Theatre, and Fruitbox Theatre’s staged reading of *Act Natural* at KXT. ‘Ana made her feature film debut in the Australian comedy *It Only Takes a Night* alongside Eliza Taylor. For television, last year ‘Ana featured in the third season of *Bump* and *Black Snow*, both for STAN. Most recently ‘Ana can be seen in *The Castaways* for Paramount+ UK

Julia Moody - ANNE MARIE

Black Swan State Theatre Company: *The Pool*, *When The Rain Stops Falling*, *The Memory of Water*. Onward Productions: *The Deep Blue Sea*. Melbourne Theatre Company: *Educating Rita*. Company B: *Pallas*, *Walking Long Country*. Deckchair Theatre: *The Removalists*. Theatre South: *Europe*, *Daylight Savings*. Perth Theatre Company: *The Mule’s Foe*, *Soul Mates*. Extensive Film, TV and Voice-over work over many years. POSITIONS: Associate teacher of Fitzmaurice Voicework, Lecturer then Head of Voice in the Acting Department at WAAPA (1995-2017), Voice Lecturer RADA (UK) (2017-19). Board of Australian Voice Association (2010-12), Board then Chair Blue Room Theatre (2005-09). OTHER: Voice Consultant for SBS, ABC and many other corporations, organisations, theatre companies and individuals. TRAINING: Bristol Old Vic Theatre School, and NIDA (Grad Dip in Voice Studies).

Maitland Schnaars – TORVALD

Maitland is one of Western Australia's premier Indigenous contemporary theatre artists. He completed the Certificate IV in Aboriginal Theatre and Acting for Camera at WAAPA and went on to study a BA in Contemporary Performance at Edith Cowan University.

Maitland co-founded the international theatre company Corazon de Vaca and has performed in and co-created a number of their productions, both in Spain and Australia. He has worked with many independent theatre companies in Perth. He has performed in productions for Yirra Yaakin Theatre Company (*Panawathi Girl*, *Dating Black*, *Hecate*, *Conversations with the Dead*, *King Hit*), Black Swan State Theatre Company of WA, Queensland Theatre Company and Griffin Theatre. In 2022 he performed in Bell Shakespeare’s production of *Comedy Of Errors* which toured Nationally.

Maitland continues to work with artists from various backgrounds such as dance, multimedia and music. He was a member of Wadumban Noongar Dance Group for a number of years. In 2016 he won the Performing Arts WA Best Actor award.

He is currently Artistic Director of Yirra Yaakin Theatre Company in Perth, Western Australia.

Alison van Reeken – NORA

Alison is a WAAPA graduate with 30 years of experience performing, producing and theatre making, and a founding member of Red Ryder Productions. BLACK SWAN STATE THEATRE COMPANY: *Toast*, *Animal Farm*, *York*, *Unsung Heroes*, *In the Next Room; or The Vibrator Play*, *Summer of the Seventeenth Doll*, *Let the Right One In*, *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, *Blithe Spirit*, *Dinner*, *Dust*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *The Motherf**ker with the Hat*, *Boy Gets Girl*, *When The Rain Stops Falling*, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, *The Female of the Species*, *Life x 3*, *The Crucible*, *Woyzeck*, *The Carnivores*, *A Man with Five Children*. BLACK SWAN/QTC: *Tartuffe*. OTHER THEATRE: Theatre 180 *21 Hearts: Vivian Bullwinkel and the Nurses of the Vyner Brooke*, *The Kabuki Drop: Nocturna* by Ian Sinclair. CDP: *The 91 Storey Treehouse*. Maiden Voyage Theatre Company: *Toast*. Onward Production: *The Deep Blue Sea*, *7 Deadly*

Sins, 4 Deadly Sinners. Kay & McLean Productions: *The Graduate*. Perth Theatre Company: *White Rabbit, Red Rabbit, An Oak Tree, The Turning, Charitable Intent*. Red Ryder Productions: *The Wolves, Grounded, Dying City, A Moment on the Lips*. TV: *The Heights (S1&S2), The War that Changed Us, Three Acts of Murder, The Sleepover Club, Murder Call, All Saints, Water Rats*. FILM: *H is for Happiness, Hounds of Love, A Few Less Men, Other Life, These Final Hours, George Jones and the Giant Squid, Middle Children, All the Way*. PRODUCER: *Dealer's Choice, The Mozart Faction, Loveplay, Looming the Memory, Dying City, Fat Pig*. OTHER: Proud member of Equity since 1996 AWARDS: Outstanding Performer in a Lead Role 2022 PAWA, Best Supporting Actor 2018 PAWA Award, Best Actor 2017 PAWA Award, Best Supporting Actor 2016 PAWA Award, Best Actor 2011 Equity Guild Award, Best Supporting Actor 2006 Equity Guild Award)

Creatives:

Emily McLean – DIRECTOR

Emily McLean is a WAAPA Directing graduate, and a founding member of Red Ryder Productions. For Black Swan State Theatre Company she has directed *Toast, Animal Farm, Unsung Heroes, Dust and Water*. For Red Ryder she directed *The Wolves, Grounded, Dying City, Fat Pig, The Mozart Faction, Loveplay, A Moment on the Lips, Dealer's Choice* and *The Duck Variations*. For Deckchair Theatre Company, *Not Like Beckett*. For WAAPA, *Summer Rain, The Caucasian Chalk Circle, The Three Sisters, Summer of the Aliens, Grimm Tales* and *Cosi*. For Curtin University, *The Messenger, Broken Valley* and *Takeaway*. For Maiden Voyage Theatre Company, *Belated* and *Toast*. For Independents, *Salted Pretzels, The King and Me, Slut and Three On, One Off*. For Australian Theatre for Young People, the Fresh Ink programme in 2020 and 2023. She was the touring director for *Shrine* and *Other Desert Cities* for BSSTC. She directed The Performing Arts Perspectives between 2019 – 2023. And lectured in Directing at Curtin University for 3 years. Her recent dramaturgical work has been on *Democracy Repair Services, Toast* and *Belated*. She was on the Blue Room Theatre Board 2020-2024. Emily has won awards from Equity, PAWA and The Blue Room Theatre for her work.

Benj D'Addario - PRODUCER

Benj trained at Curtin University (Bachelor of Arts –Theatre) and WAAPA (Acting) graduating in 1996. He is a founding member of Red Ryder Productions. Theatre includes *Henry V* (Household Words), *Hamlet* (Parramatta Theatre), *An Idiot Amongst Us* (Belvoir St Downstairs), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Short Shakes), *The Treatment, Portia Coughlin* (Darlinghurst Theatre), *Actors at Work, Much Ado About Nothing* (Bell Shakespeare Company), *Hotel Sorrento* (Class Act), *The York Crucifixion*, (Happy Dagger Theatre Company), *Medea 05* (Steamworks), *Welcome to Dullsville, Glorious!, Taking Liberty, The Ugly One* (Perth Theatre Company), *Dealer's Choice, Loveplay, Dying City* (Red Ryder Productions), *Fragmented* (Fragmented Artists), *The Greatest Woman in the World* (Agelink Theatre) *The Crucible, God of Carnage, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Arcadia, A Streetcar Named Desire, Dust, The Lighthouse Girl* (Black Swan State Theatre Company), *Fatty Wombat* (Barking Gecko Theatre Company), *Ruby Moon, Taking Liberty, The Fremantle Candidate* (Deckchair Theatre), *King Hit* (Yirra Yaakin), *Belated* (Maiden Voyage Theatre Company), *Threshold* (The Boston Curse), *A Fortunate Life* (Theatre 180) TV includes *The Twelve S2, Serangoon Road, Home and Away, Big Sky, Comedy Inc. Henry & Aaron's 7 Steps to Superstardom, Air Australia, The Sleepover Club*. Film includes *These Final Hours, Mr Perfect, The 100th Monkey, Peking Duck, Fly on the Wall. Made Flesh, Wolf*.

Karen Cook - LIGHTING DESIGNER

Karen has previously collaborated with Red Ryder on the award-winning productions *Grounded* (Blue Room Theatre Awards, Best Production and Members' Choice 2017) and *The Wolves* (Best Production at The Blue Room Awards 2019, Best Director of an Independent Production at the 2020 Performing Arts of Western Australia Awards). She has designed lighting for companies such as The Last Great Hunt (*The Talk, The Advisors*), Spare Parts Puppet Theatre (*The Little Prince, Hachiko, Tales from Outer Suburbia, Miss Lily's Fabulous Feather Boa*), Yirra Yaakin (*Mother's Tongue, Windmill Baby*), Barking Gecko (*Aesop and His Fables*), and a host of independent companies including Lost & Found Opera and The Duck House. For her lighting of The Nest Ensemble's *Joey: The Mechanical Boy*, Karen received a 2015 Performing Arts WA award nomination for Best Design. Several of her lighting designs have been part of Blue Room Theatre Award winning productions, including *Motortown* (winner, Best Production 2008), *Quest: A Tell-Tale of the Heart* (winner, Best Production Team 2008), and *The Myth of Julian Rose* (nominated for seven Blue Room Awards 2010). *Fabulous Feather Boa* (Spare Parts), *Perpetual Wake, The Talk, The Advisors* (The Last Great Hunt), *Actéon* (Lost & Found). Karen teaches in Production & Design at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts.

Jess Nyanda Moyle – SOUND DESIGNER

Jess is a musician, theatre-maker and an emerging writer based in Boorloo.

They are the lead creative of eclectic rock act Jocelyn's Baby, who just released their debut album *Are you listening?* Jess is also a Theatre Arts graduate from Curtin University, occasionally working as an associate artist for local theatre fish punks, Squid Vicious. Sound design credits: *Salted Pretzels* (APK Productions) *small & cute oh no!* (Squid Vicious). Performance credits: *Little Women* (Mel & Sal Productions) *Cephalopod* (Squid Vicious), *Two Canaries* (Alexa Taylor Productions), *Medusa* (Bow & Dagger/Renegade Production Company), *Let Me Finish* (Charlotte Otton) and *Tissue* (Static Drive Co.)

Fiona Bruce – COSTUME DESIGNER

Fiona is a set and costume designer from Perth/Boorloo, working across professional and independent theatre. Previous collaborations with director Emily McLean for Red Ryder Productions at The Blue Room include *The Wolves* (2019), *Fat Pig* (2013) and for Black Swan State Theatre Company *Animal Farm* (2021), *Water* (2019) and *Dust* (2014). In addition to her theatre work, Fiona has been engaged by Perth Festival as a Brand Activator and Scenic Designer (2020-2023) and tutored technical drawing and model making at WAAPA (2010-2020). Fiona has a M. Communication Design (RMIT), B.Performing Arts (WAAPA) and B. Arts (Curtin University).

Catherine O'Donoghue – Stage Manager

Catherine is a Stage Manager based in Perth. After completing studies at WAAPA (Stage Management, 2019), she has worked in stage management roles for a wide variety of organisations including Spare Parts Puppet Theatre, Performing Lines, Sensorium Theatre, WA Youth Theatre Company, Static Drive Co, Renegade Productions, Barking Gecko and Elbow Room Theatre. Recent credits include as Stage Manager include the national & London tours of WA Youth Theatre Company's *ARCO*, Spare Parts Puppet Theatre's *Pillow Fight*, and Sensorium Theatre's *Wonderbox*, as well as their 2023 regional tour of *Whoosh*.

A DOLL'S HOUSE, PART 2

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The amazing The Blue Room Theatre staff who, as always, provide support and guidance, and are truly committed to championing independent theatre.

We sincerely thank you for what you do.

**The
Blue Room
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