



MIDSUMMA FESTIVAL 2020

RUST

Presented by TBC Theatre



Cast

Liliana Dalton - Juliette Cote
Sarah Hartnell - Renee Monet
Jonty Reason - Emmett Cote
Helen Hopkins - Helene Cote
Shae Kelly - Martin Monet
Gabriel Partington - Theodore Richter
Candice D'Arcy - Nadia Monet
Stuart Jeanfield - Bernard Laurent

**PRESENTED AT THE
ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE
MELBOURNE**

Production Crew

Trudi Boatwright - Director
Renee Palmer - Director
Alice Darling - Director
Vaughn Rae - Creator & Writer
Sophie Joske - Writer
Joshua Waldhorn - Producer
Kathryn Tohill - Production Manager
Rain Shadrach Okpamen - Stage Manager
Daniel Moulds - Set Design
John Collopy - Lighting Design
Justin Gardam - Sound Design
Carletta The Great - Costume Design
Myles Tankle - Fight Choreography
Claire Ford - Photography
Joshua Waldhorn - Graphic Design
Jessica Jeanfield - Marketing
Alexandra Mottershead - Front of House Manager

Writer's Notes

The birth of RUST and its concept stemmed from the desire to see more epic love stories representing in the LGBTQIA+ community. There are some really beautiful stories being told at the moment in current entertainment however I still feel that we could go further in expanding these stories into other genres. Continuing to break down old stereotypes and beliefs of how the community is represented in current culture. Romeo and Juliet beginning such a well-known and iconic story, I thought it would be interesting to take these classic archetypes and explore a different narrative. Writing an immersive show allowed me to explore these multiple storylines and in turn encouraging an audience to experience another side of the story. RUST does have a strong queer element however my desire is that every person, no matter how they identify themselves, will take away that this is a story about the need to be loved and the desire to be seen, which I feel we have all struggled with at sometime in our lives.

- Vaughn Rae.

Director's Notes

RUST is loosely based on one of the most well-known love stories, Shakespeare's 'Romeo and Juliet'. Exploring familiar themes of love, loss and betrayal, we have relocated and reimagined this work for the 2020 Midsummer festival, for a community that celebrates and embraces diversity.

At the heart of RUST are two strong women forced to hide within the narrow definitions of femininity that existed in the 1940s, but who risk it all for a chance to live life on their own terms. Likewise, all the characters that inhabit the beautiful Eildon House this evening have hidden secrets and unexpressed desires that compel them to act in bizarre and unexpected ways.

We hope RUST is a theatrical experience like no other, that it encourages audiences to choose their own path, to see reflections of themselves in unusual places, to become fully absorbed in the lives of these characters, and be witness to the pain that comes from suppressing the truth of our hearts.

- Trudi, Alice & Renee.

(AKA THE RAT PACK)

**"I think I should be able to choose my own life"
- Juliet, from RUST.**

Sarah Hartnell

Sarah is an actress and theatre-maker with a background in ensemble-based and devised theatre. She completed her Bachelor of Creative Arts (Drama) at Deakin University in 2017 and has trained with PEM Studios, 16th Street Actors' Studio and Action Theater Australia. Sarah is a founder and lead creative of the physical theatre ensemble, Rough Conduct, who debuted their first work "Deadweight." at Theatre Works in 2018. She has a passion for new and collaborative work and, particularly as a queer performer, has adored developing Rust for Midsumma.



Shae Kelly

Shae Kelly has been acting for the better part of 12 years. Originally starting at a young age in community theatre and film, he has moved on from Joan origins in Perth to pursue acting in Melbourne. Since then he hasn't performed in multiple festival shows as well as the recent film - 'Meantime' and played Orlando in 'In the Park's production of As you Like it.



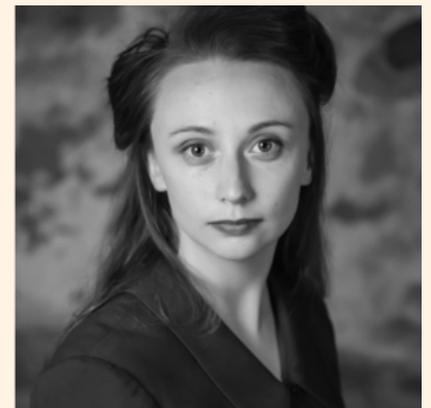
Gabriel Partington

Gabriel is a Melbourne based performer and graduate of the Victorian College of the Arts (2009). His love for storytelling has led to him work with many of Melbourne's best independent and professional theatre companies and artists including The Malthouse, Complete Works, Four Larks, OpticNerve, Attic Arctic, 15 Minutes from Anywhere, Heartstring Productions and an ongoing creative collaboration with Laurence Strangio. Gabriel was also a core member of the experimental arts company The Indirect Object, having created projects with them that toured Australia wide and internationally to Prague and Taiwan. Gabriel is delighted to be collaborating with TBC in the immersive mayhem that is RUST



Liliana Dalton

Liliana is a 2017 graduate of the Bachelor of Arts (Acting) at Federation University Ballarat (BAPA). Her recent credits include the Taming of the Shrew (Melbourne Shakespeare Company), Madwomen Monologues (Baggage Productions), Romeo and Juliet (Melbourne Shakespeare Company) and independent feature film Saltbush (Jack Baka). Liliana relishes all kinds of theatrical opportunities and has a keen interest in inclusive and applied theatre, especially in community and health contexts. This is Liliana's first immersive theatre production and she has really enjoyed working with and learning from this wonderful team to help bring the world of Rust to life.



Stuart Jeanfield

Stuart is an actor, father and theatre maker and feels incredibly honoured to be part of this year Midsumma Festival. He has been building characters and creating theatre for over a decade. Since sinking his teeth into immersive theatre he has found himself enlivened by the dynamic energy and unpredictability it brings to the performance world. Last seen as Naismith in TBC Theatre's Mr Naismith's Secret he has been keeping himself busy studying art therapy and doing corporate Roleplay. If you have kids you may even get the chance to catch him performing alongside his incredibly talented wife in the interactive craft adventure, The Robot. Which he plans to relaunch after enjoying a sell out season at this years Midsumma Festival's, Rainbow Families Hub.



Jonty Reason

Recently Jonty stopped and counted the years and suddenly realised he has been acting for more than half his life; having graduated from Arts Ed drama school in 1989; and then having decided to grow a moustache for the role of Emmett he was disheartened to see half of it now grows grey! So, he may never play Romeo but is delighted to play Juliet's father (again) and having played Hamlet some years ago perhaps Lear is next! Although RUST is his first foray into fully immersive theatre he spent six years playing cafe theatre to expats in Southern Spain - which was fun, just like tonight will be.



Candice D'Arcy

Hailing originally from Cape Town, Candice has been performing and improvising for over 17 years. While in South Africa she featured in various film and television projects such as The Girl with Sienna Miller and Homeland Season 4, while also starring in various local and international commercials. In 2015 she moved to Melbourne and has since written, produced and performed in a variety of shows for the Melbourne Fringe and International Comedy Festival, as well as writing and producing her first web series pilot. She is a senior member of improv comedy troupe The Big Hoo-Haa! and hopes that her involvement in Rust will see opportunities to do more traditional and immersive theatre in Melbourne.



Helen Hopkins

Co founder of The Shift Theatre with Carolyn Bock, Helen has appeared in all their productions. Together they wrote, produced and performed in The Girls in Grey, about Australian army nurses during World War 1, which toured Victoria, N.S.W. and W.A. It was on the VCE curriculum for Drama and is published by Currency Press. Their play Hallowed Ground - Women Doctors in War had a premiere season at La Mama and toured Victoria, Adelaide Fringe and Edinburgh Fringe where it received a Summerhall Lustrum Award. Other recent appearances include Mrs Higgins in Australian Shakespeare Company's Pygmalion and Feste in Twelfth Night for Essential Theatre.



Alice Darling

Alice is a Melbourne based Theatre Director. Alice holds a Bachelor of Creative Arts (hons) from Flinders University, a Post Graduate Diploma in Performance Creation – Directing from VCA, and was the inaugural graduate director at Red Stitch Actors Theatre. Alice's directing credits include: 'Thigh Gap' by Jamaica Zuanetti (La Mama 2019), 'FIERCE' by Jane e Thompson (Theatre Works 2018), 'The Chapel Perilous' by Dorothy Hewett (Federation University 2018), 'Catherine: the body politic' by Caroline Lee (La Mama 2016, 2017), 'Undercoat: a parafoxical tale' by Cynthia Troup (La Mama 2017), 'Love Child' by Joanna Murray-Smith (Raspberry Ripple 2017), 'True West' by Sam Shepard (Matchstick Theatre 2016), 'Middletown' by Will Eno (Red Stitch 2015), 'Kindness' by Bridget Mackey (Theatre Works 2015). Alice is passionate about new Australian work.

Renee Palmer

An independent theatre maker for fifteen years creating original ensemble performances, Renee's focus on developing new work, through collaborative workshops, centres on the actor's physical instinct and impulse to shape a scene, story, character and the connection to text and narrative. Trained both nationally and internationally, Renee is a graduate of Swinburne University, studying "Small companies and community arts theatre". Professional Communication (Radio) RMIT University, post grad from La Trobe University in drama and theatre. Overseas' training as an actor and director includes Royal Shakespeare Company (UK), BBC (UK), and Max Stafford Clark (Out joint theatre. UK), MAD Improv (Madrid). Renee has directed nationally and internationally for over twenty years, including many of Victoria's major venues such as Malthouse Theatre and Victorian Arts Centre in addition to many of Australia's major cultural festivals such as Melbourne Fringe Festival, Melbourne Comedy Festival, Next Wave Festival, Melbourne International Arts Festival, Adelaide Fringe Festival and the international National Student Drama Festival, Sheffield UK. Renee is currently studying a Masters of Arts examining the emergence of immersive theatre in Australia and the creative impact of the independent theatre makers.

Trudi Boatwright

Trudi is the Founder of TBC Theatre and has been acting and producing theatre for the past 10 years in Australia, Europe and London - where she did her training at The Academy. She is highly experienced in all facets of theatre production, particularly immersive work and both produced and acted in TBC's 'Mr Naismiths Secret'. A member of Underground Cinema for 5 years, she is now director of her own company 'Serious Woo' that specializes in improving creativity and communication in businesses through using immersive means. This is her first role as director in a full production – where she has relished the opportunity to work with two experienced directors to create an immersive world .

Vaughn Rae

This is Vaughn's first time writing a show from concept to production. Over the past ten years Vaughn has had the opportunity to create and perform with various companies through out Melbourne and Geelong. Vaughn has been blessed to have such a brilliant cast and crew of people who have helped to make RUST a possibility. Future Vaughn will be living out his life as a wizard in Japan. (For Real!)

Sophie Joske

When writer Vaughn and production manager Kathryn approached me and asked if I would like to work as a co-writer on RUST, it was a no-brainer. I'd never worked on an immersive piece before but I knew TBC Theatre had a strong reputation for creating this kind of work. I'd previously mostly worked on solo or double acts for myself, so writing for an ensemble of eight with multiple concurrent scenes was a wild departure! The writing process involved lots of flow charts, drafts and a filing matrix to keep everything in order. Getting to see it come to life in rehearsal was incredible, and I'm so grateful to have gotten to be part of this team!

Joshua Waldhorn

With a Masters degree in Graphic Design, Josh runs a branding and marketing communications company based in Melbourne and Sydney working with some of the best known multinational, national and local companies. He has led teams smoothly through the complex translation of their business strategies into strong branding and highly effective marketing programs across all forms of print, digital and video media. Mirroring his design career has been an ongoing passion for conceiving, producing, directing, acting, managing and marketing unique and immersive theatrical events and short films. These include shows from the Roundhouse (London), Edinburgh Festival, Madame Brussels, Mosman Gallery, Sydney Opera House, St. Paul's Cathedral (Melbourne) and various TVC appearances.

**A huge thank you to all of the family, friends and organisations that helped make
RUST possible.**

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