Trainspotting

FLW theatre  8th - 17th May 2014  Guild Theatre, Melbourne University
Jules O'Donnell - Mark

After making brief appearances on cancelled Australian cop-shows in the early 2000s, Jules has picked himself up from the same shores which have washed up stars such as Macaulay Culkin and Keanu Reeves. After rejecting Keanu’s offer to produce an all-white remake of The Colour Purple, and a claymation Matrix sequel, Jules as decided to rebuild from local theatre. He has performed in amateur musicals such as Spring Awakening and Kiss me Kate, and plays such as Cloud Street, Metamorphosis and When the Rain Stops Falling. He hopes to get some more structured acting training in the coming years and try to make things up to Keanu.

Ross Dwyer - Franco

Ross, originally from the UK, moved to Australia two and a half years ago. Back in England he had been heavily involved in amateur theatre, including the National Youth Theatre, Secret Cinema and other various productions. He also devoted plenty of time production work, particularly with Working Title Films, The Gate Theatre, The Old Vic and the Old Vic Tunnels. Most recently Ross appeared in FLW Theatre’s Blasted (2013) as Ian Jones. Currently he is the Manager of the Prince Alfred Hotel Richmond, but makes sure he finds the time to keep active in his acting whenever possible.

Kate Weston – Alison

Kate Weston is a small blonde human female with two-and-a-bit decades under her belt. She made her student theatre debut just a month ago in Until Monstrous’ production of Moby Dick: Show Thyself, but she has been trying to convince people that she is talented for far longer than that. Kate has relished the opportunity to learn a Scottish accent, because accents are fun and so is swearing. She hopes she has not bolloed it up too badly. Kate loves playing Alison, and wishes that life had treated her character more kindly, because Alison is so much better than all of the smelly, smelly boys. She would like to thank the cast and production team for being rad and hopes that you enjoy the show.

Alex Neal - Tommy

Alex is an emerging actor, and filmmaker. As an actor he has appeared in a range of student productions, most notable as John Proctor in The Crucible, and in numerous musicals, including Jesus Christ Superstar, Cabaret, Urinetown and Singing in the Rain. Alex has also directed and produced a number of short films. In one way or another, Alex intends to be involved in the theatre and film industry, his ultimate ambition being entry into a prestigious drama school. This is Alex’s first production with FLW theatre.
Ryan A. Murphy - Director

Ryan A. Murphy is an award winning character actor and emerging theatre director. Ryan holds a Diploma of Theatre Arts from Swinburne University and has undergone training at the National Theatre Drama School, Melbourne Playback Theatre and attended the Larry Moss Masterclass at 16th Street. In 2012 Ryan undertook a secondment at the Melbourne Theatre Company working on the play Helicopter. Ryan’s directing credits include a The Amulet, a devised educational play that toured Victoria for a month; a cabaret at Club Voltaire and numerous productions at Swinburne University. Ryan recently directed Out of Gas on Lovers Leap at Gasworks Theatre for the newly-formed Patch Adams Productions.

Leila Enright - Producer

Leila has been involved in theatre from a young age. She has trained at LAMDA and RADA, and has been under the tutelage of Adrian Barnes for five years. She has been involved in many productions while living in Melbourne, notably, Attic Erratic’s Choir Girl performed at Melbourne Town Hall. She had been in many student theatre shows, particularly Metamorphoses, When the Rain Stops Falling, and FLW’s In the Next Room or the Vibrator Play. She also won the UHT ‘Professional Development Award’ at the end of last year. She is very proud to be the Artistic Director of FLW and is thrilled about the quality of Trainspotting!

Bridget Sweeney – Stage Manager

After graduating from Kyabram P-12 College, Bridget began a Bachelor of Fine Arts (Production) at the Victorian College of the Arts. During her time at VCA she was Assistant Stage Manager for Dancescape, Metamorphoses and Five Kinds of Silence. Deciding that her love for Harry Potter and film was stronger than the backstage blacks, she made her way to the UK where she studied at the London Film Academy. She returned to Australia with a Filmmaking Certificate, but unfortunately not Daniel Radcliffe’s heart. To help express her undiscovered love, she is currently undertaking an Advanced Diploma of Acting at the National Theatre. Bridget is very excited to be working with FLW Theatre team again, after being a part of their production of In the Next Room/the Vibrator Play last year. Ken.

Jasmine Griffiths – Dramaturge

Jasmine Griffiths is a Melbourne-based writer, theatre-lover and she really digs drug-culture. She has worked as an Assistant Stage Manager on 13 and a Stage Manager for Servant of Two Masters and Parade at St Michael’s Grammar School. After completing high school she studied Stage Management at VCA and worked as a Stage Manager for Club Voltaire. She has worked as a Stage Manager on FLW Theatre’s In the Next Room (or the Vibrator Play) and Four Letter Word Theatre’s The Wild Party. She now writes reviews for theatre and is studying Writing and Publishing. This is her first show as a Dramaturge. She would like to become a super travel writer and comic artist when she is a big girl.

Kit Richards – Stage Manager

Kit Richards is currently attending the VCA where she studies Screenwriting. She has a keen interest in stage management, writing and performing live comedy. In the future, Kit would love to have her own sitcom or ABC3 teen drama.

Fiona Spitzkowsky – Production Manager

Fiona has worked in numerous roles across a range of theatre and festival events: as a set designer for the Bathurst Arts and Theatrical Society (Beyond Therapy 2011, Stockholm 2012); as Stage Manager for Caputapul Circus Festival (2012) and short film director for the Inland Sea of Sound Festival and ABC Open. As a writer, Fiona has interned at ScreenTime and Exit Films, and written two plays for Sprung Festival: Without Sex (2012) a comic cabaret which later toured to Sydney and Brisbane, and Traffic (2013) a political satire which she also produced. In 2013, Fiona directed Twelfth Night for Cycle Productions and travelled to Timor Leste as part of a project using theatre to promote agricultural sustainability in rural areas.
Vanessa Kam – Sound Designer
Vanessa completed an undergraduate degree in Arts/Music at Monash University in 2008 and went on to complete a Master of Media & Communications in 2010. She has a strong background in music, and she currently runs a piano studio from her home, teaching students of all ages on a regular basis. Vanessa’s love for music has given her the opportunity to compose and conduct on a number of occasions, including conducting the Queen’s College production for Sweeney Todd: the Demon Barber of Fleet Street. Vanessa has a deep passion for musical theatre, drama and opera and she spend her free time painting.

Jane Yook – Publicity Manager
Jane is currently in her first year of Arts at the University of Melbourne. She is thrilled to be part of this production of Trainspotting. It has been a rather new but incredibly rewarding experience, and she is grateful for the opportunity. This is Jane’s first production with FLW Theatre and at the University of Melbourne, but she has previously been involved with student productions at Dalat International School, including their original productions Spy Blue, Life with Stewart, and RLT Players for The Road Less Traveled. Jane hopes to continue working with different theatre companies to pursue her interest in drama. She would like to thank everyone who has worked incredibly hard on the production and friends for their ardent support!

Daniel Treloar – Lighting Designer
This is Daniel’s first show with FLW having worked as Lighting Designer on Williamstown Musical Theatre Company’s Sweet Charity, Annie, Beauty And the Beast and Urinetown. Daniel has also recently designed the lighting for Altona City Theatre’s shows The Boy from Oz, Little Shop of Horrors and Spring Awakening.

Georgia Vann – Hair and Makeup
Georgia has recently finished an Arts degree at the University of Melbourne majoring in Theatre Studies and History. While she was studying she took on a number of roles behind the scenes including Director of ICAC’s Anything Goes (2012), Producer/Production Manager for MUSC’s Macbeth (2012) and The Merchant of Venice (2013), Assistant Director for OCDC’s Spring Awakening (2012) and UMMA’s Lucky Stiff (2012), Directorial Assistant for UMMA’s How To Succeed (2013) and Hair and Make up Design for FLW’s In The Next Room (2013). Georgia is very happy to be working with FLW again on Trainspotting and is excited to see how well the cast look during the performances.

Bianca Went – Costume Designer
Bianca is in her fourth year of Arts at the University of Melbourne, finishing a degree drawn out due to laziness. She is majoring in Cinema Studies and minorin in Gender Studies. She has no hopes of getting a job using this degree. Bianca has done costume for Spring Awakening and Metamorphoses in the past, however this is her first dabble with a university theatre company. For this show, she spent a lot of time in second hand stores searching for things that looked like someone had come off heroin wearing them. She thinks she succeeded. She hopes to continue her interest in costume design in further study, and has thoroughly enjoyed her time spent working on Trainspotting.

Phoebe Gardner – Set Designer
Phoebe Gardner is proud to make her set design debut in FLW’s production, Trainspotting. She is an aspiring Melbourne based sculptor and installation artist best known for her exhibited works in the International Baccalaureate equivalent to Top Arts (2013), Ormond College Art Exhibition (2013) and in University of Melbourne’s Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning 2nd Skin Exhibition (2014). Her recent works manufacture dynamic systems to explore concepts of ephemerality. Phoebe is currently studying a Bachelor of Environments, majoring in Architecture with a Concurrent Diploma in Mathematics. She would like to particularly thank the Director and Production Manager, Ryan and Fiona, for their support, and is looking forward to taking on more opportunities in student theatre in the future.
Notes from the Director:

We all know Danny Boyles Academy Award Nominated 1996 film version of Trainspotting, a cult classic that sits in the hearts and minds of many film fanatics. One of the most strange and confronting films to have been brought to life. This film painted for the world an absurdist look into a reality that had begun to thrust its powerful hands around the throat of a generation. Sadly the hands continue to tighten to this day, with generations continuing to implode and surrender to their surroundings.

What many people don’t realise is that this film sprung from the genius of Irvine Welsh’s novel (of the same name). And what people realise even less, is that there is a play adapted from this novel. Even less people realise that the play is different from the novel, which is different from the film. Three different versions of the same story, but this is the play that we bring you tonight.

We bring you to a makeshift world that encircles itself into itself; people who have yielded to their environments and chosen to continue the vicious cycle in which their world continues to stagnate. This is a story of cyclical downfall, in a place with no escape with people who are too afraid to demand and dream of a different life. From the set that closes itself in, too the presence of the crates used for multiple purposes, this is a place where disease has taken away common privileges and left the remnants of a discarded people.

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