SECRET HOUSE, NEW GHOSTS THEATRE COMPANY & SEYMOUR CENTRE PRESENT



# **BY MIKE BARTLETT**

 $\star \star \star \star \star$  "Bartlett shows us as a deeply divided people torn between the urge to preserve the past and to radically reform it." *The Guardian* 

## **DIRECTOR'S NOTE**

Mike Bartlett's *King Charles III* was one of the first productions I saw when I moved to Sydney in 2016, and it remains one of my most memorable theatre experiences. I was blown away by his creation of a "modern-classic" – inspired by plays penned by great classical writers but brought into a refreshed context. Six years on, I am overjoyed to now bring *Albion* to the Australian stage and sink teeth into a Bartlett "modern-classic" myself.

Albion's characters are a gift – each representing their own set of politics and values yet created without judgement and embedded with "good intentions" that drive them throughout the play. Despite Albion being so specific to its English setting, these politics and values have rung true for us here too. Above all, the play's debate regarding romanticising the past feels even more loaded and relevant when staged in Australia.

Bringing a play of this size to the independent theatre sector is no mean feat, and it has taken the collaboration of over 30 artists to make it a reality. I am hugely grateful to everyone on this team for their generosity of time, energy, and talent, which has made this possible.

From our entire team – thank you for coming and being a part of the Australian debut of *Albion*, and we hope you enjoy the show.

- Lucy Clements





## MIKE BARTLETT

He/Him Mike Bartlett is an awardwinning playwright whose plays include: Scandaltown (Lyric Hammersmith, 2022);

The 47th (Old Vic, London, 2022); Mrs Delgado (Old Fire Station, Oxford, 2021); Vassa, adapted from Maxim Gorky's play Zheleznova (Almeida Vassa Theatre, London, 2019); Snowflake (Old Fire Station, Oxford, 2018; revived at Kiln Theatre, London, 2019); Albion (Almeida Theatre, 2017); Wild (Hampstead Theatre, 2016); Game (Almeida Theatre, 2015): King Charles III (Almeida, West End, Broadway, 2014-15); An Intervention (Paines Plough, Watford Palace Theatre); Bull (Sheffield Theatres, Off-Broadway); Medea (Glasgow Citizens, Headlong); Chariots of Fire (based on the film; Hampstead, West End); 13 (National Theatre); Love, Love, Love (Paines Plough, Plymouth Drum, Royal Court); Earthquakes in London (Headlong, National Theatre); Cock (Royal Court, Off-Broadway); Artefacts (Nabokov, Bush); and Contractions and My Child (Royal Court).

He was Writer-in-Residence at the National Theatre in 2011, and the Pearson Playwright-in-Residence at the Royal Court Theatre in 2007. Cock won an Olivier Award for Outstanding Achievement in an Affiliate Theatre in 2010. Love, Love, Love won the TMA Best New Play Award in 2011. Bull won the same award in 2013. King Charles III won the Critics' Circle Award for Best New Play in 2015.

He has written several plays for BBC Radio, winning the Writers' Guild Tinniswood and Imison prizes for Not Talking.

His work for television includes Press (BBC One, 2018); *Trauma* (ITV, 2018); two series of Doctor Foster (BBC One, 2015 and 2017, Best New Drama at the National Television Awards); and The Town (ITV1, 2012).

LUCY CLEMENTS

DIRECTOR She/Her Lucy is the founder and Artistic Director of New Ghosts Theatre Company.

She specialises in the development and presentation of new plays and has worked across Sydney, Perth, Darwin and New York. Most recent directing credits include world premieres Hush (Flight Path Theatre and Brown's Mart). Blue Christmas (KXT), Paper Doll (Old Fitz Theatre and The Blue Room), Dancing with Drip Poles (The House that Dan Built), The Wind in the Underground (Old Fitz and The Blue Room), Fracture (Old Fitz), and the Australian premieres of YEN (KXT) and Iphigenia in Splott (Flight Path). Lucy is a graduate of WAAPA.



### **MONIQUE LANGFORD PRODUCTION DESIGNER** She/Her

Monique is a costume and set designer for stage and screen working on Bidjigal and Gadigal land. In 2021

Monique received a nomination from the Australian Production Designer's Guild for Best Design in a Live Performance for her costumes in Orlando (NIDA 2020). She was an Associate Artist for Theatre Works in 2018. In 2019 Monigue was awarded Best Costume Design in a Drama for The Wisdom of Eve (Lilydale Athenaeum Theatre Co.) and nominated for Best Costume Design in a Comedy for Sideways (1812 Theatre Co.) at the Lyrebird Awards. Monique completed her Master of Fine Arts in Design for Performance at NIDA in 2021, and has since worked consistently in screen and television art departments including Thor (Marvel) and The Woman Who Ate Photographs (Apple TV). Albion marks her much awaited return to theatre. To see more of Monique's work, see her website: www.moniguelangford.com



KATE BALDWIN

LIGHTING DESIGNER She/Her

Kate Baldwin is an emerging Asian-Australian lighting designer, who lives and works on Gadigal and

Wangal land. She is a Design Associate at Sydney Theatre Company.

Since graduating from NIDA in 2019, her credits as lighting designer include; Top Coat (Sydney Theatre Company), The Box Show (Critical Stages Touring and Junkyard Beats), Guards at the Taj (National Theatre of Parramatta), Chewing Gum Dreams (Green Door Theatre Company and Red Line Productions), Seven Methods of Killing Kylie Jenner (Darlinghurst Theatre Company and Green Door Theatre Company), Chop Chef (Bush Opera), Ching Chong Chinaman (Slanted Theatre), Blue Christmas (New Ghosts Theatre Company), and House at Boundary Road. Liverpool (Bontom). She was also the Design Associate (Lighting) for Death of a Salesman (Sydney Theatre Company).



## SAM CHENG

COMPOSER & SOUND DESIGNER She/Her

A graduate from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, Sam Cheng is an emerging Asian-Australian composer,

sound designer, and instrumentalist. She is a flautist and saxophonist, and has written for theatre, film, podcasts, animation, concert, and more, working with both acoustic instruments and electronic sound design in all genres. She has been involved in sound/music for theatre productions for the Sydney University Dramatic Society (Orlando, Constellations, Rice, Kill Climate Deniers), Slanted Theatre (Ching Chong Chinaman), New Theatre (The Park), Eye Contact Theatre KXT (Breathing at Corpses), and Panimo Creatives at KXT (Dumb Kids, Misc, Tough Titties).



## MILLY GRINDROD

STAGE MANAGER She/Her

A graduate of AFTT, Milly has previously worked on Belvoir's Rep Season: Light Shining in Buckinghamshire

and Wayside Bride, Secret House's The Seagull, Troilus and Cressida, Crime and Punishment and Joseph K, Red Line Production's King Of Pigs, Dead Fly Production's The Scarecrow, Bard on the Beach's 2019 season, New Ghosts' Iphigenia in Splott and Hush, Force Majeure's The Last Season and Magic Mike Live Australia. Her music theatre credits include Muriel's Wedding (Global Creatures), Come From Away (New Theatrical), Billy Elliot (LWAA) and School of Rock (GWB Entertainment).



## **FARLIE GOODWIN**

PRODUCTION MANAGER She/Her

Farlie trained as a stage manager at The London Academy of Music and Dramatics Arts (LAMDA).

Forging her career as an associate producer, Farlie is the co-founder of SPea Productions, and Theatre Production Course Supervisor at AFTT.

Theatre credits include: Afternoon Tea at Six (Sydney), The Iliad Out Loud (Sydney, Adelaide, Bermagui), The Visitors (Sydney), RENT (Sydney), Heathers: The Musical (Sydney), Eugene Onegin (Norway), This Fella, My Memory (Sydney), Moving Parts (Sydney), Billy Elliot (Sydney), Snugglepot and Cuddlepie (Sydney), Blackbird (London), Far Pavilions (London), The Full Monty (UK), and The Boyfriend (UK).

Event credits include: MCI Conferences, WulguOra Ceremony, Sydney Film Festival, Invictus Games, Sydney Writers' Festival, Youth Winter Olympics, Vanfest, Parramasala Festival, Yellamundie Festival, and Sydney Royal Easter Show.

## **ALOMA BARNES**



ASSISTANT COSTUME DESIGNER She/Her Aloma is a costume designer specialising in film and theatre. Aloma began

her career in the field of fashion design after obtaining a Bachelor of Arts degree in Mumbai, India. She then took the opportunity to study at London College of Fashion where she completed a Master's Costume degree in Design for Performance. She went on to work as a costume designer for a number of theatre shows in London as well as taking on a role as a costume design intern for an Amazon Prime web series in Mumbai. Her latest work involves costume designing for a documentary for NITV and a short film in Sydney.



## KATE INGRAM

ASSISTANT SET DESIGNER She/Her

Kate is a passionate creative with a love of fulfilling a director's vision. She was the production designer on

two short films in 2018. She won Best Production Design at the Changing Face International Film Festival for her work on *Wheels of Fortune*. Heading into 2022, she's excited for opportunities designing within the theatre space.



## ALICE STAFFORD

ASSISTANT LIGHTING DESIGNER She/Her Alice is an emerging lighting designer and theatre maker

working on unceded Gadigal land. Alice is the former President of the Sydney University Dramatic Society (SUDS) and has been a lighting designer with SUDS since 2019. Some of her recent credits include: *The Year My Voice Broke* by John Duigan, *Rice* by Michele Lee, *Project XXX* by Kim Wiltshire and Paul Hine and *Rhinoceros in Love* by Liao Yimei. In 2019, Alice also directed a sold-out season of *The Bleeding Tree* by Angus Cerini which is in line with her passion for meaningful and political storytelling.



### UMA VOLKMER

ASSISTANT SOUND DESIGNER She/Her

Uma is an emerging composer and sound artist based in Sydney. She is currently undertaking her

second year at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music studying a Bachelor of Music Composition. Uma's musical interests developed through her early instrumental studies in classical and jazz trumpet. Over musical exploration time this has progressed into a broader interest in electroacoustic music and the potential for artistic communication within the medium. You can find more of her work @umav.wav on Instagram and SoundCloud. Albion will be Uma's professional debut.





## JANE ANGHARAD

ANNA She/Her

Jane graduated from Royal Holloway University of London with a BA (Hons) in Drama and Theatre Studies

and from East 15 with a Masters in Acting. She has a Post Graduate Certificate in Education from University College London. Jane is co-founder and Artistic Director of Secret House. Acting and producing credits Pomona (KXT), Crime include and Punishment (Limelight), The Seagull, Troilus and Cressida, The Winter's Tale and Cymbeline (Depot), Henna Night (Old Fitz) and Blink (107 Projects). Directing credits include Bird (Old Fitz) and Charles and Larry (Flight Path Theatre). Producing credits include Iphigenia in Splott and Hush (Flight Path Theatre) for New Ghosts.



## **JOANNA BRIANT** AUDREY She/Her

Jo has worked extensively in theatre, film and television in New Zealand and Australia since graduating from Toi

Whakaari in Wellington in 1984, starring in shows such as Steaming, Betraval, Top Girls, Black Halo, Trafford Tanzi, Torch Song Trilogy, Footrot Flats, The Changeling, Picasso at the Lapin Agile, Greek, Cracks, and most recently *True West* at the Flight Path Theatre and MotherLode at the ACA. Her onscreen credits include The Twelve, Total Control, Kairos, Reckoning, The Fighting Season, Psychoanalysis, Home and Away, The Moodys, All Saints, Water Rats, Murder Call, White Collar Blue, Big Sky, Shortland Street, Bread and Roses, The Rainbow Warrior, City Life, Shark in the Park and numerous commercials and voiceovers. She is also an experienced acting coach, life coach and casting director and is a master teacher at AMAW and The Hub.



## **CLAUDETTE CLARKE**

CHFRYI

She/Her Claudette is a Sydney-based actor of African-Caribbean heritage. Her theatre experience includes classic

adaptations such as The Crucible (Zenith Theatre), To Kill a Mockingbird (New Theatre and Zenith Theatre), Doubt (Zenith Theatre), The History Boys (NIDA Parade Theatre). More recent theatre classics include *Metamorphosis* (Old Fitz Theatre) and a nine month national tour of Monkey Baa's Possum Magic. Claudette's stage also extends to multi-ethnic work development pieces such as My Name is Sud (Blacktown Arts Centre and The Dreaming Festival); and new works including Jatinga (Kings Cross Theatre) and The Lady in the Barracks (Sydney Fringe). Claudette originally trained at Royal Central School of Speech & Drama in London.



## MARK LANGHAM

MATTHEW He/Him

Mark has been based in Sydney since 2008. His most recent theatre credits include *Breathing Corpses* 

(Eye Contact Theatre Co/KXT), *Glengarry Glen Ross* (New Theatre), *Water* (Where's Harold?), which he also wrote, and *We are the Himalayas* (Brave New Word Theatre Co.), which he wrote but did not appear in. He has been working as a professional actor for forty years now, despite public opinion. Fun fact: every educational institution he attended from baby school to drama school has either been demolished, relocated or renamed and he is starting to take this personally.



## ALEC EBERT

EDWARD He/Him Alec Ebert is an actor from Sydney, Australia. Some of his credits include Alan Raleigh in *God of Carnage* 

(Stella Adler, LA); Arthur Miller in Arthur and Marilyn (Dinosaurus Productions, Syd); Cassio in Othello (Long Beach Shakespeare, LA); and Hector in Troilus and Cressida (Secret House, Syd). He is a proud graduate as a scholarship recipient of Stella Adler (USA).



## **DEBORAH JONES**

KATHERINE She/Her Deborah gained a Diploma of Performance in 1995 from the Actors College of Theatre & Television.

Her TV acting credits include: *The Twelve*, *Last King of the Cross, Doctor Doctor, Top of the Lake, China Girl, Redfern Now, A Place to Call Home, Love Child, Rake,* and *Murder Call.* For theatre: *Macbeth – the installation* (Barestage Theatre), *Affliction* (Legs on the Wall), *Stalking the Bogeyman* (Old Fitz), *The Killing of Sister George* (King St Theatre), *Mother Clap's Molly House* (New Theatre), *Apples & Pears* (Old 505 Theatre), and *Baby With the Bathwater* (Bondi Pavillion), which she also produced, and the critically acclaimed *Hungry* (Stables Theatre), which she commissioned and produced.

Another producing highlight was gaining sponsorship from the Breast Cancer Association for *Tissue* (Tap Gallery) which she also directed.

Other directing credits include *Little Miss Sunshine* (New Theatre), *Scarecrow* (Sydney Fringe 2018), *Nell Gwynn* (New Theatre), *Cosi* and *Wind in the Willows* (Haven Theatre), and *The Women* (New Theatre), and short film *Hitched*. Her feature film *Kairos* is currently playing on SBS On Demand.



## RHIAAN MARQUEZ

She/Her Rhiaan began her work in theatre during her teenage years, first in *Steel Magnolias*, and then in other

classics such as The Wizard Of Oz and South Pacific. Having decided to continue down the rabbit hole that is the performing arts, Rhiaan was accepted to study acting at AFTT. During her time there, Rhiaan continued to hone her skills and appeared in two Downstairs Belvoir shows. Since finishing her studies in 2017, Rhiaan has worked tirelessly to better her craft by exposing herself to as much industry work as possible, having worked as an extra on feature films and TV shows, and performing on stage. In 2020, Rhiaan was nominated for Best Actress at the prestigious Made in the West Film Festival for her role as Sasha in the award-winning short film Hollow Hands. 2020 also saw Rhiaan making her feature film debut in SweetHurt as the promiscuous but lovable Carly. Rhiaan's most recent role was as the lovable Monty in the debut stage play Too Human directed by Sammy Jing and written by Michael McStay.



## **ASH MATTHEW**

WEATHERBURY/JAMES/ STANLEY He/Him Ash Matthew is

Australian actor who has participated predominantly

an

in short films, TV and web series, and commercials. Having spent much of his earlier life pursuing an academic and corporate path, he then branched out into working as an exercise physiologist. Now, having experienced the fulfilment, joy and excitement of taking part in acting projects of all kinds, he has zeroed in on this as his most desired path in life. *Albion* will be his first foray into stage performing.



## **CHARLES MAYER**

PAUI

He/Him Charles Mayer is a 52 year old English actor living and working in Australia since 2012. After 11 years as a

British Army officer, Charles got a degree in acting from Guildhall School of Music & Drama in London and has since worked on stage in the West End, for four years in Shanghai, for six years in Adelaide working in three shows with State Theatre Company of South Australia (one of which had a season at STC), on two shows with Pop-Up Globe in Auckland, and one at the Old Fitz. recent work is feature Most film FiveKRadius with Marcus Graham in Sydney, The Wind in The Willows with The Australian Shakespeare Company in Melbourne, and forthcoming production of Anatomy of a Suicide directed by Shane Anthony at Seymour Centre after Albion.



## JAMES SMITHERS GABRIEL

He/Him

James is an actor, producer and designer. As an actor his credits include: *Pomona* at KXT, *Joseph K* and *Crime* 

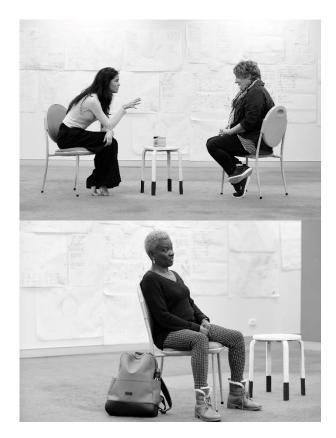
and Punishment at Limelight on Oxford, Troilus and Cressida, The Seagull, The Winter's Tale and Cymbeline at The Depot Theatre and The Ritz at The New Theatre. He recently appeared as Jesus De Sade in the fourth series of the hit US show Preacher. James is co-producer for Secret House Theatre Company. Designing and building credits include: Pomona (KXT) and Bird (Old Fitz Theatre). James is currently the resident set designer and builder for AFTT's grad show productions at Downstairs Belvoir.

## EMMA WRIGHT

KRYSTYNA She/Her

Emma Wright is a Bond University graduate with a Bachelor of Film and Television (2015), a Diploma

from the Actors Studio London (2018), and is co-founder of Eye Contact Theatre Company. Theatre highlights include Amy in Breathing Corpses (Eye Contact, KXT), Rosalind in As You Like It (Sport for Jove), Helena in A Midsummer Night's Dream (Brisbane Shakespeare Festival), Blue Christmas (New Ghosts, KXT), Hitler's Daughter (Monkey Baa), Eliza Doolittle in Pygmalion (New Theatre), Intersection: Arrival (ATYP, Griffin), and Beatrice in Much Ado About Nothing (Genesian Theatre). Screen credits include Lena Penn in Harrow and the award-winning Audio Guide. Emma is a proud member of New Ghosts' IGNITE Collective. Her play Hairworm premiered in 2019, produced by Eye Contact.





## **KEVIN BATLIWALA**

UNDERSTUDY He/Him Kevin graduated with a Bachelor of Creative Arts (Acting) from the Academy of Film. Theatre and

Television (AFTT). Notable credits include: Antipholus of Ephesus in *The Comedy of Errors*, directed by Bella Ridgway and Gemma Burwell (Strongbox Productions); multiple roles in *Animal Farm*, directed by Saro Lusty-Cavallari (Montague Basement); Ross in *Macbeth*, directed by Sean O'Riordan (Barestage Theatre); Charlie in *Pomona*, directed by Anthony Skuse (Secret House); and multiple roles in *Jekyll and Hyde*, directed by Kim Hardwick (Belvoir 25A). Kevin also takes pride in writing and directing and teaching himself piano and guitar.



### LAURA DJANEGARA UNDERSTUDY

She/Her

Laura was raised in Perth and is of Indonesian and Australian descent. Laura completed a BMus majoring

in Classical Voice in 2012 at WAAPA, where performed in the operas Die she Fledermaus and The Rake's Progress, and was nominated for the Julie Michael Award for Musical Cabaret. In 2016 Laura completed a BFA in Acting from NIDA, where she performed in The Roaring Girl, Stranger I am, The Olympians and The Space Between the Fire and the Fuel. Recent credits include Macbeth (Sport for Jove), Videotape (Montague Basement), and The Linden Solution (Ratcatch Theatre), for which she received the Broadway World Award for Best Performer in a Play. Laura is a member of the Ignite Collective and is excited to join the team at Secret House and New Ghosts on their Albion adventure!



### JOHN GRINSTON UNDERSTUDY

He/Him John made his professional debut with The New England Theatre Company. Later he appeared with Kinetic

Energy Co, with Olivia Brown's T.I.E company, at Theatre Royal (*Chess*), in Darlinghurst in the open air (*Amadeus*), at The Stables (Alex Buzo's Stingray), at New Theatre (*Privates on Parade, Diary of Anne Frank, Assassins, After the Fall, The American Clock, Little Miss Sunshine, Breaking the Code* and more), at Seymour Centre (*Three Sisters, directed by Kevin* Jackson), at Genesian Theatre (*St Joan*), and at the Old Fitz (*Measure for Measure, King Lear*).

TV work has included A Place Called Home and Henry Lawson in Australians. In 2012 he was named Best Actor at the Sydney Film School Acting Awards for his performance in the short film Magnum Opus.

For Genesian Theatre John has directed A Murder Is Announced and Summer of the Seventeenth Doll.



## LYNDA LEAVERS

UNDERSTUDY She/Her

Lynda's acting credits include *The Imaginary Invalid* and *Barefoot in the Park* directed by Judith Berdard,

Shoehorn Sonata directed by Maryellen George, Moon Over Buffalo directed by Tom Richards, Female of The Species directed by Sue Turner, Mr Bailey's Minder and Life Without Me directed by Natalie Banach. Lynda has also done numerous short films and was awarded a Best Actor award at Short & Sweet in 2014 and again in 2022. Some of her studies include Kim Farrant's Raw Truth & Sexuality on Screen, Lyn Pierse's impro teaching course, Chubbuck with Anthony Brandon Wong, and Meisner with Mark Piper. SECRET HOUSE, NEW GHOSTS THEATRE COMPANY AND SEYMOUR CENTRE PRESENT



SEYMOUR CENTRE | 27 JULY - 13 AUGUST

Playwright Mike Bartlett **Director Lucy Clements** Producers Jane Angharad & James Smithers Production Designer Monique Langford Lighting Designer Kate Baldwin Composer & Sound Designer Sam Cheng Intimacy Coordinator Shondelle Pratt Stage Manager Milly Grindrod Production Manager Farlie Goodwin Photographer Clare Hawley Set Construction Rodney Smithers & James Smithers Assistant Stage Manager Clare Sheridan Assistant Set Designer Kate Ingram Assistant Costume Designer Aloma Barnes Assistant Lighting Designer Alice Stafford Assistant Sound Designer Uma Volkmer Production Assistants James Burchett, Rachel Hui & Johnny Yang Cast Jane Angharad, Joanna Briant, Claudette Clarke, Alec Ebert, Deborah Jones, Mark Langham, Rhiaan Marguez, Ash Matthew, Charles Mayer, James Smithers & Emma Wright Understudies Kevin Batliwala, Laura Djanegara, John Grinston & Lynda Leavers

**With thanks to** Tim Jones and all the staff at Seymour Centre, Create NSW, NIDA, Graham Henstock and Chris Dickey, Academy of Film, Theatre and Television, The House That Dan Built, Glen Hamilton and Romney Hamilton at Darlo Drama, Brandon McClelland, Eezu Tan, Clare Hawley, The New Ghosts Theatre Company Board: Tamasin Young, Rosie Marks-Smith, Pierce Hartigan & Sid De.

## Seymour Centre

Seymour Centre's work champions new voices, questions the status quo and inspires wideranging audiences through the creative expression of big ideas. The Seymour Season program presents major works from Australian and international artists, and proudly supports emerging and established independent arts companies.



This event is supported by the Australian Government through the Office for the Arts.

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