

2024 SEASON 2 - 12th October THE GREEK THEATRE, MARRICKVILLE JOININGTHEDOTSTHEATRE.COM.AU

Digital Programme

Written by: C.S. Lewis ~ Adapted by: Aurand Harris ~ Directed by: Amy Jamieson



### Director's notes

I wonder if Uncle Andrew reminds you of someone you know? Someone who thinks the rules don't apply to them-but because they're a grown up (and you're not) you can't do anything about it.

It's hard being a child sometimes. You can't make people well, no matter how much you love them. You might have to move houses when you don't want to go. You're told to be quiet by someone you think is mean. You might feel scared and you don't know how to fix it. I think there's something in Digory's life that we can all remember feeling. A child-like helplessness. But despite his difficulties, he still is adventurous. He doesn't stop trying new things. And he's a good friend. He goes after Polly and he doesn't leave her.

There's lots of 'hidden' people in this story from our lives. I know lots of Aunty Letty's who know just what to give you when you have a sore tummy. Who tuck the sheets in tight and brush your hair down flat. I haven't met a Queen Jadis yet- but I've seen bits of her around the place.

There's someone else you might recognise too. Someone who can laugh off spells, take away our fears and with his powerful voice makes the most beautiful creatures. I can't wait to hold his mane.

'The Magician's Nephew' has been a delight- a combination of all my loves and I hope your children (and their grown-ups) return home today with a new reason to pick up Lewis' books and read them again. Thank you for coming.

Amy Jamieson Director

C.S. Lewis

C.S. Lewis wrote 'The Magician's Nephew' when he was 64 years old. As a child he was surrounded by books- both his parents loved literature and passed this onto their boys. His favourites included Treasure Island, Gulliver's Travels and when he was a little older- the Sherlock Holmes mysteries. Lewis and his brother Warnie spent hours in their attic creating their own fantasy worlds, creating a complete history of an imaginary world named 'Boxen'. He wrote:

"Here (in the attic room) my first stories were written and illustrated, with enormous satisfaction. They were an attempt to combine my two chief literary pleasures- 'dressed animals' and 'knights in armour'. As a result, I wrote about chivalrous mice and rabbits who rode out in complete mail to kill not giants but cats."

When Lewis was nine, his mother became very ill and died of cancer after only a few months. Despite having a miserable time at boarding school, Lewis loved learning and at the age of fifteen was privately tutored and mentored by W. T. Kirkpatrick. Under Kirkpatrick, Lewis thrived and was able to study classical literature. Digory Kirke is named after his beloved tutor.

As an adult he was a famed university professor in Medieval and Renaissance Literature. He wrote many books, for young and old-most of them about Christianity.

# Cast



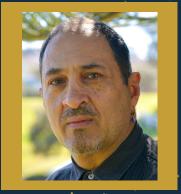
#### Harry Moorby DIGORY KIRKE

Harry graduated from Charles Sturt University in 2022 with a Bachelor of Creative Industries (Acting and Performance design). After graduating Harry completed NIDA's Open Studio: Screen Acting course in 2023 as he continued to develop his craft. Harry's previous theatre credits include roles such as Francis Flute in Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream, Skye in Bidgee Theatre Company's Mamma Mia! The Musical, Touchstone/Duke Frederick in Box'd Theatre Companies As You Like It and Ross in Box'd Theatre Company's The Removalist.



#### Isabella Heriot POLLY PLUMMER

Growing up in a creative household, Isabella enjoyed ballet and violin at a young age. This continued to play a major role in her life as she was part of both the Arts Unit State Dance Ensemble, and the State Symphony Orchestra throughout high school. However, it wasn't until year 8, when she was cast as part of the ensemble in Killara High School's Singing in the Rain that she experienced the wonder and excitement of acting. Since then, she has performed as Gabriella in Killara High School's production of High School Musical 2, Annie in St Andrew's Cathedral School's production of Annie: The Musical and Lady Gabrielle in The Madwoman of Chaillot. Isabella graduated from St Andrew's Cathedral School in 2023 and currently plays violin in the SYO Philharmonic Orchestra and studies Communications (Media Arts Production) and International Studies at UTS hoping to have a future either onstage or behind the scenes in the performing arts or film and television industry.



#### Nicholas Papademetriou UNCLE ANDREW

Since graduating from WAAPA, Nicholas has worked extensively in film, television and theatre. Screen work includes Death in Brunswick, Home and Away, GP, Grass Roots, Mission Impossible 2, Sparks, co-lead lead in the ABC series Stringer and the short film Dead, Not Dying (Best Supporting Actor Awards Depth of Field Festival L.A. & Melbourne City Film Festival). In theatre he has worked for all the major companies in Australia including STC, MTC, Black Swan, La Boite, Darlinghurst Theatre Company and Belvoir. Theatre highlights include working with Mike Leigh devising Greek Tragedy (Edinburgh, London); national tour of his one person show SNAG which also went to Athens, New York, London and Edinburgh; the national tour of 12 Angry Men, Vinnie in

The Odd Couple (Ensemble Theatre) and playing Freud in Freud's Last Session (Clock and Spiel). For Joining the Dots Theatre Company Nicholas has directed Speak...Easy, Hell Hole, Babette's Feast and It's a Wonderful Life. Nicholas also played Einstein in our production of Relativity at both The Greek Theatre and Riverside Theatres.











#### Yannick Lawry ASLAN

Yannick trained as an actor at ArtsEd, London and has been based in Sydney since 2008 working as an actor, voiceover artist and counsellor.

Yannick is the proud co-director of Sydney indie theatre company Clock and Spiel Productions where his stage credits include a national tour as Screwtape in The Screwtape Letters, Lewis in Freud's Last Session and Dr Rice in Molly Sweeney. Yannick's TV credits include Artful Dodger (Disney+, 2023), Limitless (Disney+, 2022) and Paper Dolls (Paramount/Channel 10, 2023). Film credits include 2022 feature, Get Free, 2018 feature Trust, and the award-winning short film, The Malicious. As a voiceover artist, Yannick runs his recording studio - Studio Under The Stairs - in Redfern where he loves to mentor emerging voice artists and at which he has voiced many commercials and documentaries as well as being a regular contributor to the Undeceptions podcast.

#### Tiffany Wong QUEEN JADIS

Tiffany Wong is an actor & director working across Gadigal and Wurundjeri lands. She is an Australian-born Chinese autistic artist with Singaporean & Malaysian heritage. She is the 2024 Cosgrave Associate Artist for Bell Shakespeare & the Artistic Director of Slanted Theatre. As an actor, Tiffany is in the feature film Five Blind Dates (Amazon MGM Studios & Goalpost Pictures) released exclusively on Prime Video. She performed in Romeo & Juliet (Australian Shakespeare Company), Two Worlds, One Heart (Your Side), Animal Farm (New Theatre), & Ching Chong Chinaman (Slanted Theatre). Tiffany is a director for stage. Her credits include Atlantis (New Theatre), Boom (Slanted Theatre & KXT bAKEHOUSE), Short Blanket (Slanted Theatre & Meraki Arts Bar), Lady Precious Stream (Slanted Theatre & The Flying Nun at Brand X), Three Fat Virgins Unassembled (Slanted Theatre & KXT bAKEHOUSE), & Ching Chong Chinaman (Slanted Theatre). Tiffany attended the Peking Opera Summer School at Shanghai Theatre Academy & holds a Bachelor of Arts (Performance Studies, Music, Chinese Studies) and Diploma of Languages (French Studies) from the University of Sydney, and an Associate Diploma (Piano) from the Australian Music Examinations Board. Tiffany is the Artistic Director of Slanted Theatre, a company that supports Asian-Australian theatre-makers & storytelling. In three years, Slanted worked with over 100 Asian-Australian artists. Tiffany was featured as an Honouree of the Asian Australian 2022 List. She proud is а member of Actors Equity. www.tiffanywongtw.com

### Alison Chambers AUNT LETTY & BIRD

Alison graduated from acting school well into last century. Most recent theatre credits include The Front Page (New Theatre) It's a Wonderful Life and Babette's Feast (both directed by Nicholas Papademetriou, Relativity (directed by Johann Walraven), Rabbit Hole (Exit Game Productions), W;t (Joining the Dots Theatre), The Telescope (New Fitz), The Chapel Perilous (New Theatre) and Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf (Chester St). Her TV credits include All Saints, Home and Away, The Surgeon, Water Rats and A Country Practice and many forgettable TV commercials and yes, a couple of not-so-forgettable ones. In 2018 she co-founded Joining the Dots Theatre Company and is looking forward to their two productions in 2024: The Children by Lucy Kirkwood and The Magician's Nephew (CS Lewis) adapted by Aurand Harris. Alison is a proud member of MEAA.



### Roslyn Hicks RABBIT

As a big fan of CS Lewis, Roslyn is excited to be involved with this production. Over roughly two decades, Roslyn has taken on a vast variety of roles from puppeteering in primary schools, to outdoor Shakespeare, to pantomimes, to improvisational murder mystery parties. Roslyn most recent stage experience includes Merry Wives of Windsor at New Theatre and Noel Coward's Hay Fever at Genesian Theatre. In TV, Roslyn has featured in several commercials, most recently for Uber Eats and a NSW health anti smoking campaign. One of her favourite theatre achievements was writing and performing in an adaptation of C.S. Lewis' 'The Great Divorce'.

#### Abrielle Hooker DOG Abrielle Hooker

Abrielle Hooker is a 21-year-old actor with over 10 years of stage experience. She has always had a passion for performing, beginning at a young age, and completed her training with Sydney Theatre School in 2022. Abrielle has been in various plays, her latest work as Ashley in Devon Williamson's The Old People Are Revolting, and she has a passion for Shakespeare, starring as Rosalind in Shakespeare's As You Like It and Olivia in Shakespeare's Twelfth Night. She has also had experience both in front of and behind a script, co-writing, co-producing, and co-starring in In Orbit as part of the Sydney Fringe Festival. Currently, Abrielle is thrilled to take on the playful role of Dog in the stage adaptation of The Magician's Nephew. She is excited to bring this character to life.



#### Clare Burgess LIZARD & DIGORY'S MOTHER

Better known for hiding behind a script, backstage, choreography or a camera, Clare is delighted to be on stage again, playing both a human and an animal (not simultaneously) in The Magician's Nephew. Her last principal performance was as Sarah, in the premiere of 2012 musical theatre production Nicodemus.

Most of her acting career has been in playing multiple minor roles in one production such as Cook/Maid/Aristocrat/Ancestor in EUCMS' Me and My Girl, or as a dance captain. She has also written, directed and acted in two short films Same But Different and Step Happy for Ignite Short Film Festival and jumps at any opportunity to be in sketches and puppet shows.

Creative



#### Amy Jamieson DIRECTOR

Having studied dramaturgy and theatre at UNSW, Amy went into high school teaching- hoping to share her love of theatre and plays with young people. After many years of raising her children, this experience with Joining the Dots Theatre has been a joyful reminder of all she loves about theatre

#### Clare Burgess ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Clare heralds from a long and proud community theatre background and steps into her first professional production role as Assistant Director. Most recently, she <sup>4</sup> directed a 10 minute play Judgment Day into the 2022 Short and Sweet Competition finals and co-wrote short theatre pieces for Annandale Creative Arts Community events. For 15 years she has directed and choreographed multiple musical theatre productions such as Fiddler on The Roof, Oklahoma, Godspell, Guys and Dolls, Me and My Girl and Seussical with Eastwood Uniting Church Musical Society. Clare greatly looks forward to witnessing how her favourite of the Narnian Chronicles will fuel the audience's imagination, following a successful 2013 musical theatre production of The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe tailored with life size puppets and a tour of Professor Ketterly's house. A budding playwright herself, she is currently working on her first production Fernel The Fixitest Elf for children audiences.



## Paris Burrows PRODUCTION DESIGNER

Paris Burrows is a multidisciplinary designer working across fashion, screen and live performance. Her fearless attitude and belief in making purposeful work drivesher to challenge the traditions of art making in time based mediums and the conventions of dress and tailoring in fashion. Paris's work stand out as experimental, futuristic and dramatic with avant-guard tastes and a refined gothic sensibility. During her time at Nida, she has credits as Costume Designer for Sandaime Richard directed by Ong Keng Sen, Production/Costume Designer for Music Video for Oshua's Veins, directed by Rebecca MacNamee and Set Designer for The Writer directed by Zoe Hollyoak. Paris also designed the Set and Costumes for Venus in Fur directed by Ryan Whitworth-Jones, nominated for "Best In Theatre" at Sydney Fringe 2023.



#### Noah Cohen-Stoddart STAGE MANAGER & OPERATOR

Noah is a Sydney based creative skilled in both on-stage and off-stage theatre environments. Noah studied Theatre and Business at UNSW and has honed his skills over the last 5 years. Working as a Theatre Technician, Lighting designer, Stage Manager, and Publicist. As well as an actor for both stage and screen. Using these many skills Noah seeks to help revitalise the Sydney theatre scene post covid and support the local Sydney arts scene. And to support local creatives in bringing their creative visions to the stage and screen.



#### Theo Carroll LIGHTING & VISION DESIGNER

Theodore Carroll is a Producer, Director and Lighting Designer. Recently, he was chosen to be a resident designer at PACT Centre for Emerging Artists, debuting his first resident design for Marcus Whale's 'Ecstasy' Album Launch. Theo has designed many productions over the past five years across different performance mediums including theatre, live music, performance art and his own work. His most recent design was for 'Bacchants', an avant garde performance piece he produced and directed.



#### Ebony Tait COMPOSER

Ebony Tait is a 24 year old musician and composer based in Sydney. Having spent the first 10 years of her life in Russia, she was first exposed to music through traditional folk music, which remains as the biggest influence on her compositional style. She has since studied Jazz Vocal Performance at Sydney Conservatorium and had the chance to be involved in lots of local projects. Performing with artists such as Milku, Hannah Brewer, Ruby Jackson, Ella Haber, and releasing/performing her own music as EBS and Heaps Grass. Over the last few years, she has also had the chance to perform at festivals such as Splendour on the Grass, Blues on Broadbeach, VIVID, SXSW Sydney, Bigsound and venues such as The Tivoli, Phoenix Central Park and The Metro Theatre. Ebony is so excited to be a part of making Narnia come to life in Joining the Dots Theatre's rendition of "The Magician's Nephew".



#### Mia MacCormick DESIGN ASSISTANT

Many thanks to Mia for her very talented and exceptional assistance to our Production Designer.

🔘 @ mia\_maccormick\_design

Thank you

Greg Webster: Christ Church Lavender Bay, Paul Dale: The Bridge Church, Kirribilli, Tim Jamieson, Iain Cox Photography, David Sheens, Marilyn Sheens, Sienna Theiring, Bec Kimpton, Rachel Heriot, Evelyn: The Greek Theatre