

INTO the WOODS



THE UNIVERSITY
of ADELAIDE

ELDER CONSERVATORIUM MUSIC THEATRE PRESENTS



JUNE 12 & 13 6:30PM

NEXUS ARTS

Lion Arts Centre, 68 North Terrace, Adelaide



Tickets: ua.edu.au/ecmt



THE UNIVERSITY
of ADELAIDE

Elder Conservatorium Music Theatre presents

INTO the WOODS

Music and Lyrics by
STEPHEN SONDHEIM

Book by
JAMES LAPINE

Originally Directed on Broadway by **James Lapine**

Orchestrations by **Jonathan Tunick**

Original Broadway production by

Heidi Landesman

M. Anthony Fisher

Rocco Landesman

Frederic H. Mayerson

Rick Steiner

Jujamcyn Theaters

Originally produced by the Old Globe Theater, San Diego, CA
Licensed exclusively by Music Theatre International (Australasia)

Direction by **Miranda Middleton**

Music Direction by **Peter Johns**

Choreography by **Amy Zhang**

Set Design by **Simon Greer**

Lighting Design by **Christopher Snape**

Audio Design by **Jamie Mensforth**

The University of Adelaide is proud to be an Education Partner of
State Theatre Company South Australia (STCSA)



VIDEO OR AUDIO RECORDING OF THIS
PRODUCTION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED

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A NOTE FROM THE HEAD OF MUSIC THEATRE

Fairytales.

They're read to us in soft voices, long before we learn to ask who wrote them — or why. As children, they help shape our understanding of good and evil; beauty and power; love and loss. Yet, when we return to fairy tales as adults, their shimmer and gleam can begin to fade. We begin to see through the stories and discover what we missed - what we were *meant* to miss – in our youth. We see that even the most enchanting events can carry shadows within them.

Stephen Sondheim's *Into the Woods* takes the stories we thought we knew and lets them live beyond "happily ever after." In this reimagining — with an unmistakable Australian sensibility — the graduating cohort of Elder Conservatorium Music Theatre are not just telling the tales again: they are interrogating them, questioning their lessons, reframing their legacy.

Sondheim and his collaborator, James Lapine, created this piece in the mid 1980s, exploring moral responsibility through a recognisable structure – the fairy tale – and then subverting it, revealing deeper truths hiding inside. I've long loved the musical for its complexity, its humour and its big, bold questions about how we live, love, and lose. As much

as I adore the show – and Sondheim's extraordinary music – it's not the fairytales that have left the deepest impression. It's the students bringing them to the stage.

This third year Music Theatre cohort has inspired late-night exclamatory texts from our creative team, full of praise and delight at what's unfolding in the rehearsal room. That doesn't surprise me. I've worked with them all before and know them to be imaginative, disciplined, curious, and courageous young artists who are learning what it means to tell a story truthfully - and how much trust, risk, and joy that takes.

It's been a gift to have an exceptional female director - the formidable Miranda Middleton - leading this project. Our students are learning not just from *what* she brings to the work, but *how* she brings it: with rigour, vision, and a great sense of care. That matters deeply to me.

I love music theatre. I love education. And I feel incredibly lucky to witness the space where those two passions meet: in the growth, artistry, and generosity of the emerging performers you'll see tonight.

Enjoy the show!

Erin James





FROM THE DIRECTOR

It seems apt to be drafting this director's note on the final night of the Adelaide Fringe, having just squeezed my way into a Spiegeltent one final time for 2025.

For several years now, I have dreamed of setting a production of *Into the Woods* within the larger theatrical setting of a festival. After all, Cinderella sings about her "wish to go to the festival" in the opening number! So when Erin James invited me to direct this show at the Elder Conservatorium of Music, I thought: "Adelaide... the city of festivals... this is the time!"

Our unique spin on the show starts out in a nostalgic Australian suburbia, where hills hoists and double denim are in, and smartphones don't yet exist. When we first meet them, our fairytale characters are dreaming of... more. But their endless wishing and wanting only results in chaos, death and destruction - a feeling all too familiar in our own time of late-stage capitalism.

It has been really special to explore this story, and its big existential themes of grief, love, and parenthood, with a group of hopeful

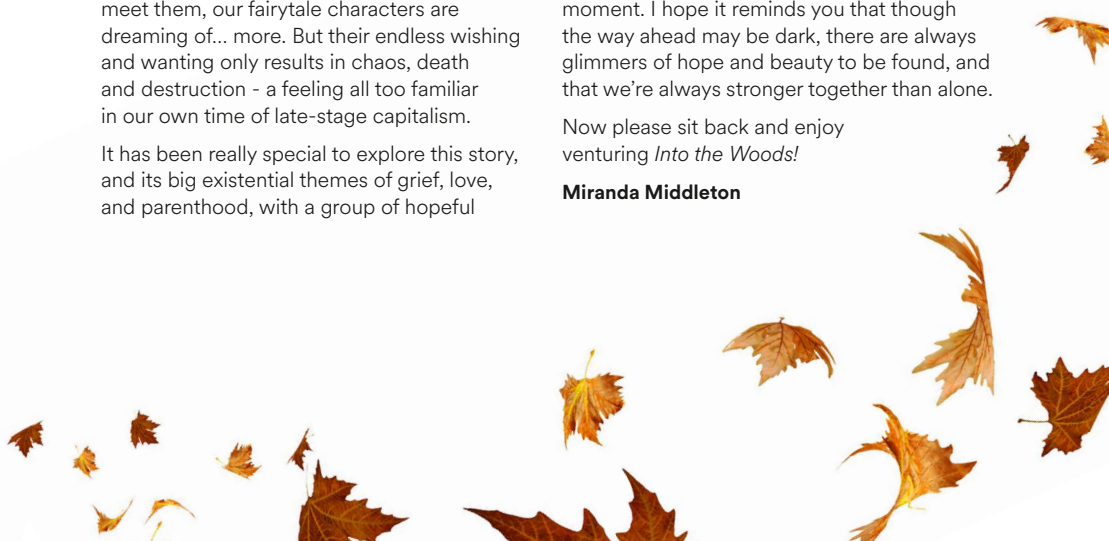
and imaginative young people. As the Witch sings, "wishes are children", and indeed this next generation of thinkers and dreamers are the ones who might be able to lead us back 'out of the woods' so to speak!

Thank you, ECMT third years, for coming on this wild journey with me with such spirit, creativity, and courage. I mean this wholeheartedly: you are a very special cohort. Thank you Erin, for gifting me this opportunity, which I have so greatly relished. Thank you Peter for being such an amazing right-hand man, Amy for your moments of brilliant movement, and Simon, Chris and Jamie for your magical designs!

And finally, to the audience... I hope that this show makes you feel ALIVE to the present moment. I hope it reminds you that though the way ahead may be dark, there are always glimmers of hope and beauty to be found, and that we're always stronger together than alone.

Now please sit back and enjoy venturing *Into the Woods*!

Miranda Middleton



SYNOPSIS

ACT ONE

Our story begins in a retro Australian suburbia of sorts, where Cinderella is dreaming of a life more than laundry and dirty dishes, Jack is trying to get his sickly cow to milk, and the Baker and Baker's Wife are wishing for a child.

The Narrator, a cheeky next-door neighbour, guides us through the Prologue, setting the stage for the interconnected tales to unfold. We meet Cinderella's Stepmother and stepsisters, who laugh at the idea of a dirty kitchenmaid going to a ball; Jack's mother, who wishes for more money and a less foolish son; and Little Red Ridinghood, who visits the Baker to buy treats for her poorly Grandmother.

The Baker and his Wife receive an unexpected visit from the Witch from next door, who reveals that the reason they have been unable to conceive a child is due to a curse she placed upon the Baker's family. Many years ago, the Baker's father stole from the Witch's garden, so as punishment, she cursed his bloodline to remain barren. However, the Witch promises that if they can retrieve four special items—a cow as white as milk, a cape as red as blood, hair as yellow as corn, and a slipper as pure as gold—before three midnights have passed, she will break the spell and grant them a child.

The Baker forbids his wife from joining him in the woods, but finds in his father's old hunting jacket six beans. Are they magic? The Baker's Wife sets out on her own...

Meanwhile, Cinderella is determined to find a way to attend the King's festival, and with the help of her mother's spirit, finds herself dressed in a beautiful gown and golden slippers. Jack's Mother insists that Jack sell Milky-White at the market. Jack reluctantly agrees, encountering a Mysterious Man on his way. Little Red meets a suspicious Wolf, who targets her and her Grandmother as his next meal.

Little Red gives the Baker her beloved red cape for saving her life, and the Baker's Wife appears with another offer to help her husband. They're arguing when Jack appears, and the Baker's Wife persuades Jack to sell his cow for five of their beans. The Baker sends his wife home with the cow and continues on his way.

The Witch visits Rapunzel at the tower where she is kept prisoner. A handsome prince sees the Witch climb Rapunzel's hair and decides to try it himself the following day.

Cinderella, having attended the festival, also finds herself pursued by a handsome Prince, though is unsure if this kind of love is what she wants. She shares these feelings with the Baker's Wife, but runs off without handing over her golden slipper. One midnight gone.

Jack's Mother is furious with Jack for selling their cow for five beans and throws them away. Jack awakens the next morning to find a massive beanstalk has grown. He climbs it, discovering a land above the clouds inhabited by a fearsome Giant. Jack steals a bag of gold before returning home to buy back his cow from the Baker. The Baker refuses and Jack goes off in search of additional funds, when the Baker's Wife appears, confessing that she has lost the cow.

Things begin to look hopeful when the Mysterious Man returns the cow to the Baker, and the Baker's Wife manages to acquire a strand of Rapunzel's golden hair, but then Milky-White drops dead. Two midnights gone.

The Baker goes in search of another cow, and the Baker's Wife gives Cinderella her own shoes in exchange for the remaining gold slipper.

Jack climbs the beanstalk once more, this time stealing the Giant's golden harp. Enraged, the Giant follows Jack down the beanstalk, falling to his death when Jack chops it down.

Jack's Mother screams that a dead giant has fallen from the sky, but no one seems to care. The third midnight is near.

The Baker and his Wife deliver their four items to the Witch, who reveals that the Mysterious Man is the Baker's father. She finally lifts the curse, allowing the Baker and his Wife to conceive a child, and herself being restored to a state of youthful beauty. By the end of the act, it seems that everyone has achieved their happily-ever-afters, yet while they're rejoicing, a giant beanstalk emerges from the ground...

ACT TWO

Cinderella now lives in a grand castle with her Prince, Jack and his mother are rich, and the Baker and his Wife are discovering parenthood for the first time. The Baker's Wife longs for a bigger home, sparking tension between her and the Baker, but their quarrels are soon overshadowed by a thunderous crash that destroys their home.

The Baker goes to the Royal Family for help, but as the Witch warns, they're of no use. Meanwhile, Jack defies his mother's warnings and ventures into the woods to investigate the cause of the destruction.

Little Red Ridinghood arrives at the Baker's home, now without her mother or a home. She plans to move in with her Grandmother, and the Baker's Wife promises they'll assist her through the woods. Cinderella, guided by birds, also enters the woods to visit her mother's grave.

Meanwhile, Cinderella's Prince and Rapunzel's Prince meet to discuss their romantic dissatisfaction. Rapunzel's Prince laments that his wife cannot find happiness, and confesses his infatuation with Snow White. Similarly, Cinderella's Prince admits he now lusts after Sleeping Beauty.

In the woods, the Baker, his Wife, and Little Red Ridinghood encounter the Royal Family, revealing that their castle was attacked by giants.

The source of the destruction soon becomes clear—the Giant's vengeful wife has come seeking retribution for her husband's death at Jack's hands. She demands Jack be turned over, prompting the group to debate how to appease her. They first sacrifice the Narrator, hoping to deceive her, but she realises the trick and kills her. Jack's Mother defends her son, leading the Steward to strike her fatally. In the chaos, Rapunzel runs hysterically toward the Giant and is crushed. The Witch, devastated, laments that she failed to protect Rapunzel from such a cruel fate.

Divided over whether to surrender Jack, the Royal Family selfishly flees. The Baker and his Wife set out to find Jack before the Witch does. Along the way, the Baker's Wife has a brief romantic encounter with Cinderella's Prince, but decides to return to her family and loses her way. The Giant reappears, and the Baker's Wife is tragically crushed.

Jack is then found, sharing news of the Baker's Wife's death. As the survivors argue over who is to blame, the Witch admonishes them for seeking ways to blame others instead of taking responsibility. She vanishes, leaving them to face their guilt.

The Baker, overcome with grief, considers abandoning his child but is confronted by the Mysterious Man, his father, who urges him not to run away. The Baker returns to help defeat the Giant. With the help of the birds, Cinderella leads the group in defeating the Giant.

As peace is restored, the spirits of the dead offer guidance. The Baker, Cinderella, Jack, and Little Red Ridinghood, now orphans, form a new family. The Witch reappears to warn the Baker to be careful of the tales that he tells his child, as wishes are children, and children will listen...



MUSICAL NUMBERS

Time: Once Upon a Time

Place: A Far-Off Kingdom

Act 1

Prologue: Into the WoodsCompany
Cinderella at the Grave.....Cinderella, Cinderella's Mother
Hello, Little Girl Wolf, Little Red Ridinghood
I Guess This is Goodbye..... Jack
Maybe They're MagicBaker's Wife
Our Little World..... Rapunzel, Witch
Baker's Reprise.....Baker
I Know Things Now..... Little Red Ridinghood
A Very Nice Prince..... Cinderella, Baker's Wife
First Midnight.....Company
Giants in the Sky..... Jack
AgonyCinderella's Prince, Rapunzel's Prince
A Very Nice Prince (Reprise)..... Cinderella, Baker's Wife
It Takes Two Baker, Baker's Wife
Second Midnight.....Company
Stay With Me..... Witch
On the Steps of the Palace..... Cinderella
Ever After.....Narrator, Company

Act 2

Prologue: So Happy.....Company
Agony (Reprise).....Cinderella's Prince, Rapunzel's Prince
Lament.....Witch
Any Moment..... Cinderella's Prince, Baker's Wife
Moments in the Woods.....Baker's Wife
Your Fault Baker, Cinderella, Jack, Little Red Ridinghood, Witch
Last MidnightWitch
No More.....Baker, Mysterious Man
No One is Alone Cinderella, Little Red Ridinghood, Baker, Jack
Finale: Children Will Listen..... Witch, Company

CAST

	<i>Thursday / Saturday</i>	<i>Friday / Sunday</i>
Narrator.....	Billie-Rose Russell	Jacinda Tsakalos
Witch	Melanie Cowmeadow	Lara Wilson
Baker	Ryan Murphy	Ryan Murphy
Baker's Wife.....	Sally Harrop	Ellie Esdene McMahon
Cinderella	Bella Thomas	Bree Hall
Jack.....	Joey Haenen	Joey Haenen
Little Red Riding Hood.....	Sophie Carmody	Ella Simpson
Cinderella's Prince.....	Kaemon Wilcox	Ranz Custodio
Rapunzel's Prince	Josh Rocca	Jaxon Joy
Rapunzel	Amelia Chapman	Amelia Chapman
Jack's Mother.....	Erica Jones	Phoebe Rodger
Cinderella's Stepmother	Ali Clark	Ali Clark
Florinda	Mia Lupton	Mia Lupton
Lucinda.....	Madison Schubert	Madison Schubert
Wolf / Cinderella's Father	Matt Hawke	Matt Hawke
Cinderella's Mother	Jacinda Tsakalos	Billie-Rose Russell
Mysterious Man.....	Nam Hoang	Damian Lee
Steward	Damian Lee	Nam Hoang
Granny / Giant	Phoebe Rodger	Erica Jones
Snow White	Ella Simpson	Sophie Carmody
Sleeping Beauty.....	Jazz Garcia	Jazz Garcia

Covers

Covers never substitute for listed players unless a specific announcement for the appearance is made at the time of the performance.

Baker	Ranz Custodio
Jack	Nam Hoang
Rapunzel.....	Bree Hall, Bella Thomas
Wolf/Cinderella's Father.....	Damian Lee
Cinderella's Stepmother.....	Amelia Chapman
Lucinda	Erica Jones
Florinda.....	Phoebe Rodger



ORCHESTRA

Conductor/Keyboard 2	Peter Johns
Keyboard 1.....	Heather Elliott
Flute/Piccolo	Daniel Burgess
Clarinet.....	Jaclyn Hale
Bassoon.....	Timothy Rosen
Trumpet.....	Geoff Bradley
French Horn.....	Nicole Durdin, Will Hobbs
Violin	Elinor Warwick
Viola	Bridget McCullough
Cello.....	Hilary Kleinig
Double Bass	Louis Cann
Percussion	Noah Miller
Keyboard Programming.....	KeyboardTEK and Peter Johns
Ableton Programming.....	Peter Johns

PRODUCTION

Executive Producer.....	Erin James
Production Manager.....	Peter Johns
Director.....	Miranda Middleton
Music Director	Peter Johns
Choreographer.....	Amy Zhang
Intimacy Coordinator	Erin James
Set Designer	Simon Greer
Lighting Designer	Christopher Snape
Audio Designer	Jamie Mensforth
Stage Manager.....	Jess Wolfendale
Front of House Manager.....	Cathy Clark
Program Design.....	Lisa-May Pellaschiar, Richards Rose
Poster and Program Cover Design.....	Matt Edwards at Emptyhead Digital
Photography.....	Gregory Balcombe
Mosaic Audio Visual Pty Ltd	Craig Williams (Director)
Sound Mixer.....	Cambell Lawrence
Radio Mic Technician	Jess Delbridge
Fly Mech.....	Taylor Dawson
Follow Spots	Charlie Ryan-Kane, Harrison Wren



STUDENT PRODUCTION ROLES

Dance Captain	Madison Schubert
Assistant to the Director	Phoebe Rodger
Assistant to the Music Director	Ryan Murphy
Assistant to the Production Manager	Josh Rocca
Costumes	Damian Lee (leader) Ellie Esdene McMahon (assistant) Joey Haenen, Matt Hawke, Bella Thomas, Lara Wilson
Wigs, Hair and Make Up.....	Jazz Garcia (leader) Bree Hall (assistant) Sophie Carmody, Melanie Cowmeadow
Properties	Erica Jones (leader) Mia Lupton (assistant) Sally Harrop, Nam Hoang, Kaemon Wilcox
Stage Management	Josh Rocca (leader) Ranz Custodio (deputy) Jaxon Joy, Ryan Murphy, Billie-Rose Russell
Marketing	Ali Clark (leader) Amelia Chapman (assistant) Phoebe Rodger, Ella Simpson, Jacinda Tsakalos
Assistant Stage Managers	Gemma Hanh, Lorenzo Ravidia
Lighting Operator	Tennessee Baz-Jeffrey

WITH THANKS TO

Mosaic AV, State Theatre Company of South Australia, Martine Micklem, Robin Balogh, Martin Cheney, Mark Pickford, Abigail Jaudian, Toni Pihodnya, Bethany Ottaway, Eleanor Danenberg, Lara Pacillo, Amanda Griggs, Emma Gregan, Jenny Hu, Georgia Gamble, Angus McBride, Jacki Hatcher, Herry Bradley, Belinda Porter, Joseph Simons



CREATIVES



MIRANDA MIDDLETON (she/her) Director

Miranda Middleton is an award-winning director, writer, and choreographer with a Master of Fine Arts (Directing) from the National Institute of Dramatic Arts (NIDA). She is particularly interested in the intersection of text, music, and movement on stage, and aims to create theatrical events which spark joy and connection in the audience.

Miranda was nominated for a Green Room Award for Outstanding Direction of an Independent Musical for the Australian premiere production of *The Grinning Man*. She was a recipient of the Sandra Bates Director's Award at the Ensemble Theatre in 2024.

Miranda's most recent directing credits include: *In Her Own Words* (Sydney Festival), *Paper Stars* (Sydney Conservatorium of Music), *The Grinning Man* (VASS Productions/Salty Theatre), *The Eisteddfod* (Old Fitz Theatre), *Pear-Shaped* (Rogue Projects), *Lemon Tree on Dreg Street* (Dirty Pennies Theatre Project), *SENSER* (Theatre Works), *Not Today* (Rogue Projects), *Sowing Seeds* (Gasworks Arts Park), *Voldemort and the Teenage Hogwarts Musical Parody* (Salty Theatre).

As Assistant Director: *Candide* (Opera Australia, dir. Dean Bryant), *My Brilliant Career* (Melbourne Theatre Company, dir. Anne-Louise Sarks), *Come Rain or Come Shine* (Melbourne Theatre Company, dir. Simon Phillips), *The Lovers* (Bell Shakespeare, dir. Shaun Rennie), *Master Class* (Ensemble Theatre, dir. Liesel Badorrek), *The Queen's Nanny* (Ensemble Theatre, dir. Priscilla Jackman), *Little Women* (Hayes Theatre Company, dir. Amy Campbell).

In 2025, Miranda is the recipient of the Glorias Fellowship and Freddie J Gibson Fellowship from NIDA, which will allow her to travel to the UK to associate direct on the new musical *King of Pangea* and continue the development of her own musical, *Paper Stars*.

Miranda is very honoured and excited to be directing her first Sondheim musical, *Into the Woods* at the Elder Conservatorium of Music.



PETER JOHNS (he/him)

Music Director

Peter is an accomplished music theatre repertoire coach, music director, pit orchestra musician, production manager and stage manager with over 25 years of experience across more than 80 productions. He is the is the Founder and Executive Producer of Irregular Productions and joined the teaching staff at Elder Conservatorium of Music in 2020.

Into the Woods is Peter's eighth project as one of Elder Conservatorium Music Theatre's (ECMT) resident Music Directors. Credits with ECMT include *Alice by Heart*, *Cabaret*, *Urinetown*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, and first year Songs and Scenes projects.

Other music theatre credits include Music Director for *Next to Normal*, *Mamma Mia*, *Beautiful*, *Violet*, *The Story Of My Life*, *The Light In The Piazza*, *A New Brain*, *Les Misérables*, *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown*, *Into the Woods*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Avenue Q*, *Bring It On*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Oliver!*, *Monty Python's Spamalot*, *Chicago*, *Sweeney Todd*, *The Sound of Music*, *The Witches of Eastwick*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Seussical the Musical*, *Grease*, *Once Upon a Mattress*; Associate Music Director for *Kinky Boots*; and Associate Conductor for *City of Angels* and *RENT*.

Peter is passionate about creating opportunities for performers of all levels of experience within the Adelaide community. He is the conductor for the Adelaide chapter of the Australian Music Theatre Choir - a dynamic ensemble providing opportunities for singers of all experience levels to sharpen their ensemble singing skills and perform with other passionate Music Theatre fans. Peter's company Irregular Productions is the co-creator of Broadway Sessions, a monthly curated music theatre performance night (www.broadwaysessions.com.au).

His company has also staged the South Australian premieres of *Songs for a New World*, *[title of show]*, and *Edges*, as well as co-producing a new production of *Godspell* in partnership with Martin Cheney's Lydian Productions.

Beyond music theatre, Peter is the music director of one of Australia's largest candlelight Christmas events, Civic Park Carols, broadcast locally on Channel 9, where he has worked with high-profile artists including Rachel Beck, Justine Clarke, Guy Sebastian, and Paulini.



AMY ZHANG (she/her)

Choreographer

Amy Zhang is an in-demand movement director, choreographer and casting director based on Gadigal Land (Sydney). Her work spans across film, TV, theatre and live performance.

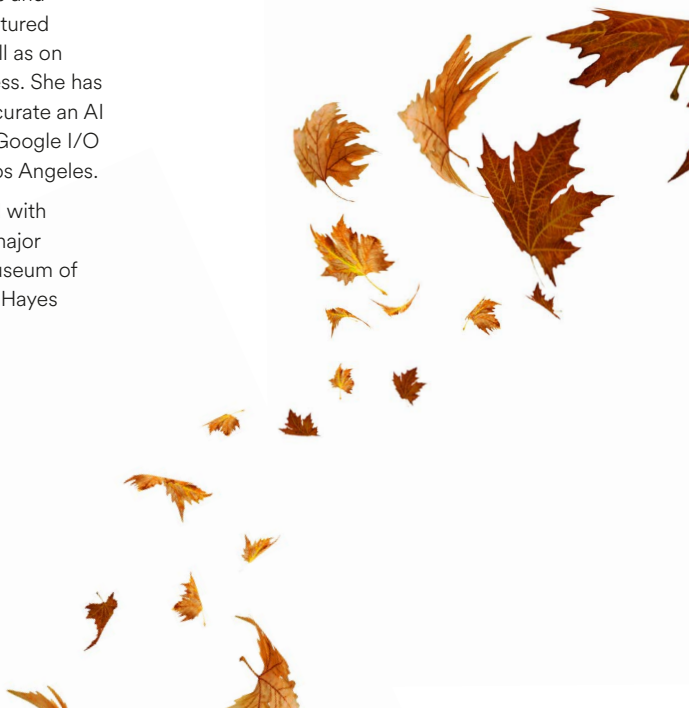
Her work is grounded in Chinese ways of knowing and storytelling through experimenting with the intersections of street style foundations and contemporary frameworks.

Amy's work has caught the eye of many, choreographing for global brands such as Hermes, Cartier, Nike, Calvin Klein as well the likes of Rita Ora, The Veronicas and Pnau Pnau. Her work has been featured at Australian Fashion Week, as well as on Channel 10, ABC, SBS and Nowness. She has also collaborated with Google to curate an AI dance app that was presented at Google I/O annual developer conference in Los Angeles.

In the arts space, Amy has worked with organisations across theatre and major galleries including, Hong Kong Museum of Art (M+), Art Gallery of NSW, The Hayes

Theatre, Arts House, QPAC, The Gallery of Modern Art (GoMA), Adelaide Fringe Festival and Belvoir St Theatre. Amy was also an artist in residence at the City of Sydney Live/Work residency in 2019-2020.

Credits aside, Amy is convinced that everyone should be privy to the holistic benefits of dance and is most happy when she's able to convince people who think they can't dance that they can.





CAST



SOPHIE CARMODY (she/her)

Little Red Riding Hood / Snow White

Sophie grew up in Newcastle, New South Wales, and relocated to Adelaide to pursue a Bachelor of Music Theatre at the Elder Conservatorium of Music. In 2022, she completed a Diploma of Music Theatre at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts, where she performed as Gangster 1 in *The Drowsy Chaperone* (dir. Tyler Jacob Jones). Whilst at ECMT, Sophie has played Vicki/Val cover in *A Chorus Line* (dir. Matthew Hyde) and the Queen of Diamonds/Alice Spencer cover in *Alice by Heart* (dir. Erin James).



AMELIA CHAPMAN (she/her)

Rapunzel / Cinderella's Stepmother (cover)

Amelia was appointed Dance Captain and played Young Alice in the 2024 production of *Alice by Heart* (ECMT, dir. Erin James). Previously, she joined the ensemble of *A Chorus Line* (ECMT, dir. Matthew Hyde), and understudied the characters of Kristine Urich and Judy Turner. Before selection to the ECMT Bachelor program, Amelia achieved a Diploma of Musical Theatre from Brent Street. Beyond studies, Amelia supports performing arts students as the Creative Arts Tutor at Lincoln College, Vice President for ECMTA, and a dedicated ballet, jazz, and tap dance teacher.



ALI CLARK (she/her)

Cinderella's Stepmother

Ali is a professional performer who has performed in the live music industry for numerous years in Australia and internationally. Her love for acting, dance and theatre performance has grown through her studies in Sydney and now at the Elder Conservatorium of Music. Ali is currently studying for her 8th Grade piano exam and has previously worked with prominent Australian music producers creating her own music.



MELANIE COWMEADOW (she/her)

Witch

Melanie recently performed in ECMT's production of *Alice by Heart*, where she appeared as Red Cross Nurse/Queen of Hearts (dir. Erin James). She is a singer/songwriter from Adelaide who most notably featured on Channel 7's *The Voice Australia* Season 11, where she made it to the top 24. As a pop-rock artist, Melanie has released original music and has her debut EP, *Snakes and Ladders*, coming out soon.



RANZ CUSTODIO (he/him)

Cinderella's Prince / Baker (cover)

Ranz is a Filipino-born television actor, hip-hop dancer, and commercial model. Before relocating to Adelaide, his credits included Miggy in the daytime kids show, *Jollitown* (JFC), Wacks in the late-night paranormal series, *Midnight DJ* (TV5) and Lester in the hit family sitcom, *Pepito Manaloto* (GMA7). Recently, he appeared in *Por Por's Big Fat Surprise Wedding* (OzAsia, dir. Chong Tze Chien), *Swan Lake* (The Australian Ballet, dir. David Hallberg) and *Candide* (State Opera South Australia, dir. Mitchell Butel). This is Ranz's third ECMT show, following *Alice by Heart* (dir. Erin James) as Angus/Caterpillar.



JAZZ GARCIA (she/her)

Sleeping Beauty

Jazz is an Adelaide-based performer and paediatric Speech Pathologist. Jazz has an extensive background in theatre with professional credits such as *Candide* (State Opera South Australia, dir. Mitchell Butel), *Granpa* (Windmill Productions, dir. Andy Packer), *Snugglespot & Cuddlepie* (Windmill Productions, dir. Neil Armfield), *Candyman* (Kermond Creative, dir. Wayne Scott Kermond), *Kia Ora Khalid* (Capital E, dir. Sara Brodie), *Turandot* (State Opera South Australia, dir. Kim Walker), and *Ode to Nonsense* (Slingsby Theatre Company, dir. Andy Packer). Additionally, Jazz holds a certificate II and III in Auslan (Australian Sign Language).



JOEY HAENEN (he/him)

Jack

This is Joey's third production with ECMT. Most recently he played Nigel/Dormouse in *Alice by Heart* (dir. Erin James). Coming from the regional town of Loxton, he was fortunate to be a scholarship recipient and part of the Class of Cabaret at the Adelaide Cabaret Festival 2022 (dir. Tim Overton). He was also the keynote speaker for the Dream BIG Festival 2023 opening ceremony. In his spare time Joey is a recording artist who has music released on streaming platforms and performs at weddings and events around the Riverland and Adelaide regions.



BREE HALL (she/her)

Cinderella / Rapunzel (cover)

Bree is currently in her third year of training at the Elder Conservatorium of Music. Previous ECMT credits include *Alice by Heart* (dir. Erin James) where she played the role of Queen of Diamonds as well as completing a music internship working as the Assistant to the Director, and *Shrek the Musical* (dir. Erin James) where she appeared as Queen Lillian. In 2022, she completed a Diploma of Musical Theatre at WAAPA where she appeared as Madame Feldzig in *The Drowsy Chaperone* (dir. Tyler Jacob Jones).



SALLY HARROP (she/her)

Baker's Wife

Sally is delighted to be performing in her third ECMT production, having previously appeared as the Nurse/Queen of Hearts in *Alice by Heart* and the Tooth Fairy in *Shrek the Musical* (dir. Erin James). In 2024, she joined the Chorus of *Candide* (dir. Mitchell Butel) with State Opera South Australia. Before relocating to Adelaide, Sally completed her Diploma in Musical Theatre at WAAPA, where she portrayed Janet Van De Graaff in *The Drowsy Chaperone* (dir. Tyler Jacob Jones). Other credits include *Seussical TYA* (Malthouse Theatre, Adelaide Fringe) and *Guys and Dolls* (National Theatre).



MATT HAWKE (he/him)

Wolf / Cinderella's Father

Matt has appeared as Alfred/White Rabbit in *Alice by Heart*, 2024 (dir. Erin James) and ensemble in *A Chorus Line*, 2023 (dir. Matt Hyde) for ECMT. Professional credits include his work with The Australian Ballet, State Opera South Australia and GWB Studios. Most recently he made his Adelaide Fringe Festival debut in *Love is a Game: An Adele Song Cycle* (Oliver John & Sienna Bertram) both as a member of the band and ensemble. Matt is a member of Adelaide band *Sally Navara* and an avid songwriter.



NAM HOANG (he/him)

Steward / Mysterious Man / Jack (cover)

Into The Woods will be Nam's third show with ECMT, having previously appeared in *A Chorus Line* (dir. Matthew Hyde) and *Alice by Heart* (dir. Erin James). Originally from Melbourne, Nam completed a Musical Theatre Foundational Course at Associated Studios in 2022. In 2023 Nam also performed as a Supernumerary for *Swan Lake* (Australian Ballet, dir. David Halberg) and *A Christmas Carol* (dir. David Spencer). Before studying music theatre, Nam studied at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, specialising in the saxophone. He has been playing the saxophone since he was 8 years old.



ERICA JONES (she/her)

Jack's Mother / Granny / Giant / Lucinda (cover)

This will be Erica's third production with ECMT. Her most notable past roles have been Alice in the 2024 production of *Alice By Heart* (dir. Erin James), Sophia in the Australian premiere of *Vocal Strain* (dir. Joshua Holdyk) at Perth Fringe Festival, her involvement in the music video for Jawbreakers' single *Cheats and Liars* (dir. Ryan Whitworth-Jones), and Mama Bear in ECMT's 2023 production of *Shrek the Musical* (dir. Erin James). Outside of Music Theatre, Erica is a keen contemporary and pop vocalist.



JAXON JOY (he/him)

Rapunzel's Prince

Jaxon Joy is a proud Adelaidean, being present within various outlets of theatre throughout the city over the last few years. Jaxon's recent credits include Dr. Buttridge in *Alice by Heart* (ECMT, dir. Erin James), Chorus in *Candide* (State Opera South Australia, dir. Mitchell Butel), and Lleuwllyn in *The Boy with the Golden Fox* (Flying Elephant, dir. Benji Riggs). Jaxon has also worked with Cabaret Festival as a Cabaret Concierge and has been a Fringe Festival Artist for many years.



DAMIAN LEE (he/him)

Steward / Mysterious Man / Wolf (cover) / Cinderella's Father (cover)

Damian is in his third year studying a Bachelor of Music Theatre. In 2022, he played the role of Davey in the South Australian Premiere of *Newsies Jr.* (Adelaide Youth Theatre, dir. Michelle Davy), which won the TASA Award for Best Youth Production. During 2023, Damian was part of the ensemble in *Shrek the Musical* (ECMT, dir. Erin James). Last year, he featured in the role of Dodgy/Duchess in *Alice by Heart* (ECMT, dir. Erin James). Damian is looking forward to his final year studying with ECMT.



MIA LUPTON (she/her)

Florinda

Mia grew up in Perth and studied a Diploma of Music Theatre at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts in 2022. While at WAAPA she featured in *The Drowsy Chaperone* (dir. Tyler Jacob Jones) where she was Dance Captain and played the role of Gangster 2. With ECMT, Mia performed in the 2023 production of *A Chorus Line* (dir. Matthew Hyde) and the 2024 production of *Alice by Heart* as Caterpillar 2/Ensemble (dir. Erin James).



ELLIE ESDENE McMAHON (she/her)

Baker's Wife

Into the Woods will be Ellie's 3rd production with ECMT, having played Alice Spencer in *Alice by Heart* and Teen Fiona in *Shrek the Musical* (dir. Erin James). She completed her Diploma of Musical Theatre at WAAPA where she played The Chaperone in *The Drowsy Chaperone* (dir. Tyler Jacob Jones). Her professional credits include the voice of Patches in *Project Haven* (Code351 Games), Chorus in *Candide* (State Opera South Australia), Half-time Dancer (AFL, dir. Nathan Mark Wright), Ensemble in *Fame* (dir. Tim Hill), and an extra in *The Inbetweeners 2* and *Ticket to Paradise*.



RYAN MURPHY (he/him)

Baker

Into the Woods will be Ryan's third production at ECMT. He is a Brisbane/ Gold Coast based performer, recently performing the roles of Harold Pudding/Mad Hatter in ECMT's 2024 production of *Alice by Heart*, and Bobby Mills in ECMT's production of *A Chorus Line*. Ryan also played the Spanish Equerry in the Australian Ballet's production of *Swan Lake*, sang in the Chorus of *Candide* (State Opera South Australia), and was a supernumerary in GWB's *A Christmas Carol*. He is an avid Shakespearean actor having received a scholarship to Bell Shakespeare in 2023. Ryan also enjoys stage combat, accent work, and languages.



JOSH ROCCA (he/him)

Rapunzel's Prince

Josh is an Adelaide based performer with an extensive, professional background in Trampoline Gymnastics. He is an International levelled gymnast and an accredited advanced Trampoline Coach. In 2021, Josh was awarded Trampoline Gymnastics Junior International Male Athlete of The Year. His professional credits include *Swan Lake* (Australian Ballet Company, dir. David Halberg) and *Candide* (State Opera South Australia, dir. Mitchell Butel). He appeared as Peter Pan/Ensemble in *Shrek the Musical* (dir. Erin James) and Mock Turtle/Young Alfred/ Ensemble in *Alice by Heart* (dir. Erin James). *Into the Woods* will be Josh's third production with the Elder Conservatorium of Music.



PHOEBE RODGER (she/her)

Jack's Mother / Granny / Giant / Florinda (cover)

Phoebe's recent credits include Understudy and Featured Soloist in *Broadway Off Broadway* (Adelaide Fringe, dir. Emma Kavanagh), Caterpillar in *Alice by Heart* (ECMT, dir. Erin James), Chorus in *Candide* (State Opera South Australia, dir. Mitchell Butel), and Gingy cover/ensemble in *Shrek the Musical* (ECMT, dir. Erin James). Phoebe has travelled with Pelican Productions around the USA, performing in New York, DisneyWorld, and on a Carnival Magic cruise ship. In 2024, alongside peers within the ECMT Student Association (ECMTA), Phoebe wrote, directed, and produced an original cabaret show titled *Behind the Curtain*.



BILLIE-ROSE RUSSELL (she/her)

Narrator / Cinderella's Mother

Billie-Rose is an Adelaide based performer and creative. Previous performance credits include Clarissa/Mock Mock Mock Turtle in *Alice By Heart* (ECMT, dir. Erin James), Humpty Dumpty in *Shrek the Musical* (ECMT, dir. Erin James) and Kerrie in *Puberty Blues* (Deadset Theatre Company, dir. Zoe Muller and Tilly Butler). Billie-Rose is the founder of Cool Beans Theatre, an emerging kids' drama school. She enjoys directing and is currently writing a new children's theatre play.



MADISON SCHUBERT (she/her)

Lucinda / Dance Captain

Madison has been singing and dancing all her life. Throughout the course she appeared as Ensemble/Swing in *Alice by Heart* (dir. Erin James) and Ensemble/Lori second cover in *A Chorus Line* (dir. Matt Hyde). Madison has also performed in State Opera South Australia's *Candide* (dir. Mitchel Butell) and at the Adelaide Cabaret Festival in Michael Griffiths' *Big Gay Sing* and Trevor Jones's *Piano Bar*. A jazz vocalist and bassist, she has sung alongside Salt and Pepper Big Band and danced for the Adelaide Strikers, AFL, and Ding Productions.



ELLA SIMPSON (she/her)

Little Red Riding Hood / Snow White

This will be Ella's third production as a part of ECMT, having previously played Clarissa/Mock Mock Mock Turtle in *Alice by Heart* (dir. Erin James), and Ensemble/Connie cover in *A Chorus Line* (dir. Matt Hyde). Ella appeared in the Western Australian premiere of *A Little Princess* (Playlovers, dir. Lisa Johnson) in 2016. In 2018 Ella performed in the Ga Ga chorus of *We Will Rock You* at His Majesty's Theatre in Perth (Platinum Entertainment). Other notable roles include Pugsley in *The Addams Family*, and Annie in *Annie*, at the Regal Theatre (dir. Kathleen Cocks).



BELLA THOMAS (she/her)

Cinderella / Rapunzel (cover)

Bella is a third-year Bachelor of Music Theatre student at the Elder Conservatorium of Music. She professionally debuted as Matilda in *Matilda the Musical* (Lyric Theatre, RSC, dir. Nik Ashton/Matthew Warchus), earning a Helpmann Award and a Sydney Theatre Award. Her other credits include Cheshire Cat in *Alice by Heart* (dir. Erin James), Pepper in *Good Omens* (Squabbalagic, dir. Jay James-Moody), Jojo in *Seussical* (Birdie Productions, dir. Meg Day), and Annabelle in the short film *Devoted* with Philip Quast (Nick & Lincoln). She is thrilled to have been given the opportunity to bring Cinderella's story to life in ECMT's *Into the Woods*.



JACINDA TSAKALOS (she/her)

Narrator / Cinderella's Mother

Jacinda started dancing at the age of four, training in all disciplines at Barbara Jayne Dance Centre where she now teaches. At 12 years old, Jacinda made her professional debut as Louisa Von Trapp in *The Sound of Music* (Gordon Frost Organisation, dir. Jeremy Sams). She has worked professionally with Ding Productions providing entertainment for corporate clients and sporting events. During university, she has appeared in *A Chorus Line* (dir. Matthew Hyde) and *Alice by Heart* (dir. Erin James). Recently, Jacinda was an actor in *Innocence* (Adelaide Festival, dir. Simon Stone).



KAEMON WILCOX (he/him)

Cinderella's Prince

Originally from Melbourne, Kaemon is now in his final year of Music Theatre at Elder Conservatorium of Music. Kaemon most recently performed as Caiaphas in *Jesus Christ Superstar* (dir. George Torbay). His other stage credits include Chorus in *Candide* (State Opera South Australia, dir. Mitchel Butel), the Neapolitan Equerry in The Australian Ballet's, *Swan Lake* (dir. David Hallberg) and Hansel in *Shrek the Musical* (dir. Erin James). Kaemon also played Aldolpho in *The Drowsy Chaperone* (WAAPA, dir. Tyler Jacob Jones) during his Diploma of Musical Theatre in 2022.

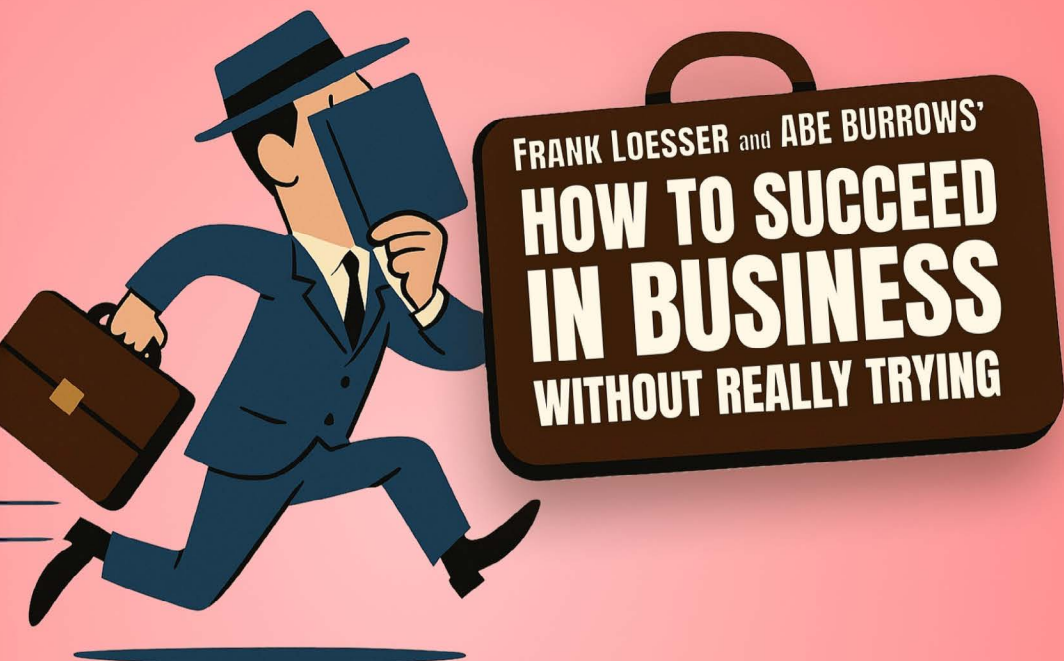


LARA WILSON (she/her)

Witch

Into The Woods will be Lara's third production with ECMT. She completed her Diploma of Musical Theatre in 2022 at the Queensland College of Dance. Lara is also a trained puppeteer, having performed as Bingo in the Australian and United States national tours of *Bluey's Big Play: The Stage Show* (HVK Productions, dir. Rose Myers). Lara is a passionate children's entertainer who often hosts and does suit work for *Bluey Live!*, recently seen at the Royal Adelaide Show in 2023 and 2024.

ELDER CONSERVATORIUM MUSIC THEATRE PRESENTS



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ABE BURROWS, JACK
WEINSTOCK AND WILLIE
GILBERT

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FRANK LOESSER

BASED UPON THE BOOK BY
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ORIGINALLY PRESENTED BY
CY FEUER AND ERNEST H. MARTIN IN
ASSOCIATION WITH FRANK PRODUCTIONS

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