

**FRANK LOESSER and ABE BURROWS'**  
**HOW TO SUCCEED**  
**IN BUSINESS**  
**WITHOUT REALLY TRYING**



THE UNIVERSITY  
of ADELAIDE



## A NOTE FROM THE HEAD OF ELDER CONSERVATORIUM OF MUSIC

Welcome to our production of *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, presented by the fifth graduating cohort of the Elder Conservatorium's thriving Music Theatre program, under the direction of our indefatigable Head of Music Theatre, Erin James. Productions such as this not only showcase our graduates, but also extend the reach of our program, forging opportunities for students to engage directly with the sector they are shortly to step into.

First performed in 1961, *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* received the Pulitzer Prize for Drama – a rare honour for a musical. With an exuberant score by Frank Loesser, the show lampoons corporate culture. Although the world of typewriters and rolodexes may seem a distant memory, its themes — from the seductions of success to the absurdities of bureaucracy — are as familiar today as ever.

Thank you for joining us, and for supporting the young artists who bring this production to life. We couldn't be more proud of them.

**Anna Goldsworthy**

Elder Conservatorium Music Theatre presents

**FRANK LOESSER and ABE BURROWS'**  
**HOW TO SUCCEED**  
**IN BUSINESS**  
**WITHOUT REALLY TRYING**

Book by  
**ABE BURROWS, JACK WEINSTOCK**  
& **WILLIE GILBERT**

Music by  
**FRANK LOESSER**

Based upon the book by **Shepherd Mead**  
Originally presented by **Cy Feuer** and **Ernest H. Martin**  
in Association with **Frank Productions**

Licensed exclusively by Music Theatre International (Australasia)

Executive Producer and Direction by **ERIN JAMES**

Music Direction by **PAUL SINKINSON**

Choreography by **ALEXANDER KERMOND**

Set Design by **SIMON GREER**

Lighting Design by **CHRISTOPHER SNAPE**

Audio Design by **JAMIE MENSFORTH**



VIDEO OR AUDIO RECORDING OF THIS  
PRODUCTION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED

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## FROM THE DIRECTOR

Satire. It makes us laugh, but it also makes us look closer. Comedy has a way of slipping under our guard, exposing what might otherwise be too uncomfortable to name. In *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, Frank Loesser and his collaborators take aim at ambition, corporate culture, and the pursuit of success at all costs. More than sixty years later, it feels less like a time capsule and more like a mirror.

What gives the show its power is not simply its wit, but its humanity. Finch, our charmingly unscrupulous protagonist, ultimately realises that climbing ladders without compassion leaves us empty. In the end, it is humanity (not titles or corner offices) that matters most. That reminder feels particularly resonant in our current world.

For our third-year Music Theatre students, this production is both a final milestone and a launchpad. They have not only rehearsed, sung, and danced their way through these weeks, but also stepped into the shoes of producers, designers, choreographers, and stage managers. They have learned that theatre is never the work of one, but the work of many. In wearing these multiple hats, they have proven themselves not just as performers, but as adaptable, generous theatre-makers.

It has been a privilege to watch this cohort grow into artists who understand that comedy can be biting and tender at once, and that satire, at its core, always circles back to what connects us as humans. As they leave us and step into the professional world, I am proud to know they carry that lesson forward.

Enjoy the show!

**Erin James**

# SYNOPSIS

## ACT ONE

J. Pierrepont Finch, an ambitious New York window washer, discovers the book *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* and follows its advice as he enters the World Wide Wicket Company to apply for a job (*How to Succeed*).

He bumps into company president J.B. Biggley and personnel manager Mr. Bratt, eventually landing a mailroom job alongside Bud Frump, Biggley's lazy, yet conniving nephew. Lovestruck secretary Rosemary Pilkington quickly imagines a future with Finch (*Happy to Keep His Dinner Warm*).

One week later, panic spreads when the office coffee runs out, leaving employees without their daily caffeine fix (*Coffee Break*) and Finch charms J.B. Biggley's no-nonsense secretary, Miss Jones.

In the mailroom, longtime employee Mr. Twimble gives Finch his own personal advice on how to succeed in business (*The Company Way*). When he is offered a promotion within the mailroom, Finch, on the advice of his trusty guidebook to success, turns it down and magnanimously suggests the position be given to his arch enemy Bud Frump. Frump, not knowing any better, is thrilled and promises to toe the company line (*The Company Way - Reprise*) and Finch is rewarded with a promotion to Junior Executive.

Meanwhile, voluptuous Hedy La Rue is hired as a secretary. Unbeknownst to Bratt, she is Biggley's mistress, and her arrival prompts inappropriate office behaviour until Bratt reminds the men of the rules (*A Secretary is Not a Toy*).

Rosemary and Smitty unexpectedly meet Finch at the elevator after a long week at the office. Smitty observes their attraction and assists Rosemary in securing a Friday evening dinner date with Finch (*Been a Long Day*). Frump blackmails Biggley after discovering his affair with Hedy (*Been a Long Day - Reprise*).

The next day, Finch feigns Old Ivy school spirit to win Biggley's favour (*Grand Old Ivy*). Assigned Hedy as his secretary, Finch cleverly arranges her to distract Mr. Gatch, securing another promotion.

At an office party for new advertising head Benjamin Burton Daniel Ovington, Rosemary arrives in a new evening dress, (*Paris Original*). Later, Hedy drunkenly kisses Finch, but he declares his love for Rosemary (*Rosemary*). Ovington is forced to resign when Biggley learns he went to Old Ivy's rival school. Finch is promoted to Vice President of Advertising and tasked with presenting a bold new campaign. Rosemary agrees to become his secretary, while Frump vows revenge (*Act I Finale*).

# SYNOPSIS

## ACT TWO

Tension builds on the morning of Finch's big pitch. The executives await disaster while Rosemary, feeling neglected, resolves to quit. The secretaries convince her that she is living the dream and to give Finch another chance (Cinderella, Darling).

Finch learns from the book that stealing an idea can be useful. Conveniently, Frump proposes a televised treasure hunt—an idea Biggley had already rejected. Finch seizes on it, and though Rosemary is cross, his charm wins her over (Happy to Keep His Dinner Warm – Reprise).

Hedy grows restless with her role, and Biggley pleads with her to stay (Love from a Heart of Gold). Meanwhile, the executives gossip in the washroom, expecting Finch's downfall. Finch, however, boosts his own confidence in the mirror (I Believe in You).

Finch presents the treasure hunt: stock certificates hidden in World Wide Wicket Buildings, with Hedy delivering clues live on television. The stunt launches with a pirate-themed dance number (Pirate Dance). But when forced to swear on a Bible, Hedy accidentally reveals a secret on air, unleashing chaos nationwide.

Rosemary continues to trust Finch (I Believe in You – Reprise). Frump escorts him to the boardroom, where Biggley and chairman Wally Womper demand his resignation. At the last moment, Finch reveals he began as a window washer, cleverly shifts accountability to Frump, and when Womper threatens to fire everyone, Finch rallies the staff around cooperation and unity (Brotherhood of Man).

Bratt is promoted, Frump is dismissed, Biggley remains president, and Womper departs on honeymoon with his new wife - Hedy. Finch is named Chairman of the Board. As he dreams of the presidency, Rosemary reminds him of what matters most, while Frump is left washing windows (Finale).

# MUSICAL NUMBERS

**Time:** 1961

**Place:** The World Wide Wicket Company, Park Avenue, New York City

## Act 1

Overture.....	Orchestra
How to Succeed.....	Finch and Company
Happy to Keep His Dinner Warm.....	Rosemary
Coffee Break.....	Bud, Smitty and Company
Company Way.....	Finch and Twimble
Company Way (Reprise).....	Bud and Company
Rosemary's Philosophy .....	Rosemary
A Secretary Is Not a Toy .....	Bratt, Smitty, Miss Krumholtz, Bud and Company
Been a Long Day.....	Smitty, Finch, Rosemary and Company
Been a Long Day (Reprise).....	Biggley, Bud and Hedy
Grand Old Ivy .....	Finch and Biggley
Paris Original.....	Rosemary, Smitty, Miss Jones and the Secretaries
Rosemary.....	Finch and Rosemary
Act 1 Finale.....	Finch, Rosemary and Bud

## Act 2

Cinderella Darling.....	Smitty and the Secretaries
Happy to Keep His Dinner Warm (Reprise) .....	Rosemary
Love From a Heart of Gold .....	Biggley and Hedy
I Believe in You .....	Finch and the Executives
Pirate Dance .....	Company
I Believe in You (Reprise).....	Rosemary
Brotherhood of Man .....	Finch, Miss Jones, Wally Womper and Company
Finale .....	Company

# CAST

	Thursday / Saturday	Friday / Sunday
J. Pirrepoint Finch .....	<b>Matt Hawke</b> .....	<b>Matt Hawke</b>
Rosemary.....	<b>Ellie Esdene McMahon</b> .....	<b>Ella Simpson</b>
Smitty.....	<b>Billie-Rose Russell</b> .....	<b>Erica Jones</b>
Bud Frump .....	<b>Joey Haenen</b> .....	<b>Joey Haenen</b>
J.B. Biggley .....	<b>Ryan Murphy</b> .....	<b>Ryan Murphy</b>
Hedy La Rue .....	<b>Sophie Carmody</b> .....	<b>Sally Harrop</b>
Miss Jones .....	<b>Bree Hall</b> .....	<b>Phoebe Rodger</b>
Mr. Twimble/Toynbee .....	<b>Damian Lee</b> .....	<b>Damian Lee</b>
Bratt.....	<b>Jaxon Joy</b> .....	<b>Jaxon Joy</b>
Miss Krumholtz .....	<b>Mia Lupton</b> .....	<b>Mia Lupton</b>
Gatch/Tackaberry .....	<b>Kaemon Wilcox</b> .....	<b>Kaemon Wilcox</b>
Jenkins/Wally Womper.....	<b>Nam Hoang</b> .....	<b>Nam Hoang</b>
Ovington/Matthews .....	<b>Josh Rocca</b> .....	<b>Josh Rocca</b>
The Book .....	<b>Amelia Chapman</b> .....	<b>Amelia Chapman</b>

## Ensemble

Tayla Alexander, Sophie Carmody, Amelia Chapman, Ali Clark, Melanie Cowmeadow, Jazz Garcia, Bree Hall, Sally Harrop, Nam Hoang, Erica Jones, Damian Lee, Ellie Esdene McMahon, Josh Rocca, Phoebe Rodger, Billie-Rose Russell, Madison Schubert, Ella Simpson, Bella Thomas, Jacinda Tsakalos, Kaemon Wilcox, Lara Wilson, Josh Hartley, Corey Major, Flynn Spencer, Isaiah Wood

## Covers

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

J. Pierrepont Finch .....	<b>Joey Haenen, Josh Rocca</b>
Rosemary.....	<b>Jazz Garcia</b>
Smitty.....	<b>Mia Lupton</b>
Bud Frump .....	<b>Ryan Murphy</b>
J.B. Biggley .....	<b>Kaemon Wilcox</b>
Hedy La Rue .....	<b>Amelia Chapman</b>
Miss Jones .....	<b>Bella Thomas</b>
Mr. Twimble/Toynbee .....	<b>Jaxon Joy</b>
Bratt.....	<b>Kaemon Wilcox</b>
Miss Krumholtz .....	<b>Lara Wilson</b>
The Book .....	<b>Lara Wilson</b>





# PRODUCTION

Executive Producer.....	<b>Erin James</b>
Production Manager.....	<b>Peter Johns</b>
Director.....	<b>Erin James</b>
Music Director.....	<b>Paul Sinkinson</b>
Choreographer.....	<b>Alexander Kermond</b>
Set Designer.....	<b>Simon Greer</b>
Lighting Designer.....	<b>Christopher Snape</b>
Audio Designer.....	<b>Jamie Mensforth</b>
Stage Manager.....	<b>Peter Johns</b>
Staging Supervisor.....	<b>Zoë Komazec</b>
Front of House Manager.....	<b>Cathy Clark</b>
Program Design.....	<b>Lisa-May Pellaschiar, Richards Rose</b>
Poster and Program Cover Design.....	<b>Matt Edwards at Emptyhead Digital</b>
Photography.....	<b>Gregory Balcombe</b>
<b>Mosaic Audio Visual Pty Ltd .....</b>	<b>Craig Williams (Director)</b>
Sound Design .....	<b>Jamie Mensforth</b>
Sound Mixer.....	<b>Cambell Lawrence</b>
Radio Mic Technician .....	<b>Taia Doyle</b>
Follow Spots.....	<b>Charlie Ryan-Kane, Kit Adams</b>

# ORCHESTRA

Conductor.....	<b>Paul Sinkinson</b>
Keyboard.....	<b>Leanne Savill</b>
Woodwinds.....	<b>Daniel Burgess, Daniel Webber, James Deslandes, Tom Bastians</b>
Trumpets.....	<b>Geoff Bradley, Jason Geddie</b>
Trombone.....	<b>John Gluyas</b>
Violin.....	<b>Robert Wallace</b>
Cello.....	<b>Rachel Bruerville</b>
Bass.....	<b>Georgia Gamble</b>
Drums/Percussion.....	<b>Ryan Grunwald</b>

# STUDENT PRODUCTION ROLES

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

## WITH THANKS TO

Mosaic AV, State Theatre Company of South Australia, Martine Micklem, Robin Balogh, Ann Humphries, Northern Light Theatre Company, Therry Theatre, Barr Smith Library, Jordana Feek, Eleanor Thomas, Mary Mackay, Jesse Budel, Dan Wilson, Dale March, Sharon Rocca, Neve Sargeant, Taikunthi Restaurant, Joys Café, Abigail Jaudian, Toni Pihodnya, Dylan Henderson, Eleanor Danenberg, Lara Pacillo, Coast FM, 5MBS, PBA FM, Shauna Williams, Emma Smith



## ERIN JAMES

Director

Born and raised in Lake Macquarie, Erin James is a director, performer, and educator whose work spans professional theatre, music theatre, film, cabaret and tertiary education.

As a director, Erin has helmed acclaimed productions for the Very Popular Theatre Company, including *Mamma Mia!* (2019), *Chess* (2021) starring Silvie Paladino and David Harris, and *Superstars* (2024) featuring Marina Prior, Chloe Zuel, Silvie Paladino, and Joshua Robson. She also served as Resident Director for Opera Australia on the national tour of *The Phantom of the Opera* (2022–23), Staging Supervisor for *Julie Andrew's My Fair Lady* (2016–17) and was the auditions director for *Hadestown* (2024).

As a performer, Erin starred in State Theatre Company of South Australia's 2023 production of Anna Goldsworthy's *Welcome To Your New Life*. She was nominated for an AACTA award for her performance in the Australian film *The Little Death* (2014) and other notable performance highlights include Australian and international tours of *Fiddler on the Roof*, *CATS*, *Love Never Dies*, *South Pacific*, *Blood Brothers* and *My Fair Lady*.

Currently, Erin is Head of Music Theatre at the Elder Conservatorium of Music, where she leads and oversees the Bachelor of Music Theatre Program. Her directorial work in the tertiary sphere includes productions of *Cabaret* (2021), *Les Misérables* (2022), *On The Town* (2023), *Shrek* (2023), *Little Women* (2024) and *Alice By Heart* (2024).

Erin has also trained as an Intimacy Coordinator for stage and screen. She holds a Graduate Diploma of Education (Music) and is proud to champion both established and emerging voices in Australian music theatre.



## PAUL SINKINSON

### Music Director

Paul has extensive show credits as a resident music director for the Elder Conservatorium Bachelor of Music Theatre including *Jesus Christ Superstar* (dir. George Torbay, 2024), *Shrek The Musical* (dir. Erin James, 2023), *In Pieces* (dir. George Torbay, 2022), *Mamma Mia!* (dir. Zoë Komazec-Kermond, 2021), *Songs for a New World* (dir. Mitre Khammash, 2020), and *Spring Awakening* (dir. George Torbay, 2019). He was also music director and mentor for the third-year *Cabaret Project* (2021, 2025).

In 2022, he was the Associate Music Director for the national Australian tour of *Friends! The Musical Parody* (MD. Steven Kramer). He also served as the Music Director for Rachel Beck's South Australian cabaret tour, *This Girl* (2021), and the *Mean Girls Jr* development pilot (dir. Erin James, 2021) for the Junior Theatre Festival in Australia. His body of work includes Music Director for the Adelaide Fringe Award-winning cabaret, *Not Your Average Asian Girl* (dir. Kira Yang, 2022).

Paul's industry experience includes professional keyboard deputy, rehearsal pianist, and pit musician for national tours of *Hairspray The Musical* (MD. Dave Skelton, 2023), *9 to 5 The Musical* (MD. James Simpson, 2022), *Frozen - The Musical* (MD. David Young, 2022), *Mamma Mia!* (MD. Michael Azzopardi, 2018), *Singin' In*

*The Rain* (MD. Adrian Kirk, 2016), and *The Sound of Music* (MD. Luke Hunter, 2016).

As an accompanist, Paul played for the Australian premiere of the oratorio *Considering Matthew Shepard* (MD. Jesse Budel, 2019 and 2023), and worked with renowned artists Phillip Quast (2019) and Ruthie Henshall (2019). He has also music directed numerous state-based productions including *Wicked*, *Mary Poppins* and *Kinky Boots*.

Holding a Masters of Secondary Education in Media and Music, Paul works as an Educator and Musical Theatre Music Arranger for *On Stage* at the Adelaide Festival Centre, an open access program of school holiday intensives and workshops for aspiring performers.

Since 2018, Paul has been the Choir Director for the award-winning *Sing for Joy* social choir program with ACH Group, with more than one hundred choir members aged sixty and over attending weekly choir sessions. The program was a finalist in the 2024 HESTA Aged Care Team Excellence Award and has expanded to six community choirs and nine ACH Group residential care homes. The 2023 *Pure Imagination* concert highlighted the program's success in combating loneliness and social isolation while celebrating the contributions of older South Australians in the arts.



## ALEXANDER KERMOND

Choreographer

Zan's first professional engagement was at the age of eight when he appeared as the Young Cosmo Brown in *Singin' in the Rain* for David Atkins. He later went on to play one of the brothers in the 10th Anniversary Australian tour of *Hot Shoe Shuffle*, also for David Atkins. Zan's credits include: *Candy Man* – based on the life of Sammy Davis Jnr with Wayne Scott Kermond, *The Kermond 3 Gen Variety Show* at the Adelaide Cabaret Festival, Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines' Bravo Performing Arts Cruise, Dein Perry's *Tap Dogs* at the Dally M Awards, Tony Morwald's *Palazzo* in Austria and most recently *Billy Elliot The Musical* for Louise Withers. Zan produced and directed his own show for the Adelaide Fringe Festival, *The Vaudevillians*. Zan has won two prestigious Mo Awards: Best Entertainer of the Year and Best Variety Production Show for *The Kermond 3 Gen Variety Show*.



## TAYLA ALEXANDER (she/her)

### Ensemble

Tayla is a South African performer who immigrated to Australia in 2021. Her most recent performance was as Aunt March/Beth cover in *Little Women* (ECMT, dir. Erin James). She played the Ugly Duckling/Blind Mouse in *Shrek the Musical* (ECMT, dir. Erin James) and performed as a soloist in *Magic, Myths and Monsters* (ECMT, dir. Joseph Simons). She made her professional cabaret debut in *Love Stage* (&Scene, dir. Drew Bakker). Tayla is excited to finish her degree with *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*.



## SOPHIE CARMODY (she/her)

### Hedy La Rue / Ensemble

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 and Val covers in *A Chorus Line* (dir. Matthew Hyde), the Queen of Diamonds/Alice Spencer cover in *Alice by Heart* (dir. Erin James) and most recently Little Red Riding Hood in *Into the Woods* (dir. Miranda Middleton).



## AMELIA CHAPMAN (she/her)

### The Book / Ensemble / Hedy La Rue (cover)

Amelia performed the role of Rapunzel in the recent ECMT production of *Into the Woods* (dir. Miranda Middleton). She was appointed Dance Captain and played Young Alice in the 2024 production of *Alice by Heart* (dir. Erin James), performed with the ensemble of *A Chorus Line* (dir. Matthew Hyde) and understudied the characters of Kristine Urich and Judy Turner. Before commencing 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 Academic Tutor at Lincoln College and is a dedicated ballet, jazz, and tap dance teacher.



## ALI CLARK (she/her)

### Ensemble

Ali is a professional performer who has performed in the live music industry for numerous years both 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)

### Ensemble

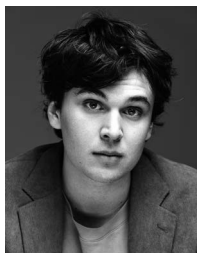
Earlier this year, Melanie performed the role of the Witch in *Into the Woods* (dir. Miranda Middleton) in her third production at ECMT. One of her highlights was playing the role of Red Cross Nurse/Queen of Hearts in *Alice by Heart* (ECMT, dir. Erin James). She is a singer/songwriter from Adelaide who most notably featured on Channel 7's *The Voice Australia* (Season 11). As a Pop artist, Melanie has recently released her debut EP, *Snakes & Ladders*.



## JAZZ GARCIA (she/her)

### Ensemble / Rosemary (cover)

Jazz is an Adelaide-based performer and paediatric Speech Pathologist. Jazz has an extensive background in theatre with professional credits including *Candide* (State Opera South Australia, dir. Mitchell Butel), *Granpa* (Windmill Productions, dir. Andy Packer), *Snugglypot & Cuddlepup* (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)

**Bud Frump / J. Pierrepont Finch (cover)**

This is Joey's final production with ECMT. Most recently he played Jack in *Into the Woods* (dir. Miranda Middleton). Coming from the regional town of Loxton, he was fortunate enough 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)

**Miss Jones / Ensemble**

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



## SALLY HARROP (she/her)

**Hedy La Rue / Ensemble**

Sally is delighted to be performing in her final ECMT production, having previously appeared as Baker's Wife in *Into the Woods* (dir. Miranda Middleton), Red Cross 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).





## MATT HAWKE (he/him)

### J. Pierrepont Finch

In past ECMT productions, Matt appeared as The Wolf from *Into the Woods* (dir. Miranda Middleton), Alfred/White Rabbit in *Alice by Heart* (dir. Erin James) and ensemble in *A Chorus Line* (dir. Matt Hyde). Most recently, he debuted his original work in ECMT's 2025 *Cabaret Project* and hopes to continue writing shows in the future. Professional credits include work with The Australian Ballet, State Opera South Australia and GWB Studios. Outside of theatre, Matt has provided his skill as a multi-instrumentalist to many projects, including shows at the Adelaide Fringe Festival and local gigs with independent artists.



## NAM HOANG (he/him)

### Jenkins & Wally Womper

*How To Succeed In Business Without Really Trying* will be Nam's final show with ECMT, having previously appeared in *A Chorus Line* (dir. Matthew Hyde), *Into the Woods* (dir. Miranda Middleton) 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.



## ERICA JONES (she/her)

### Smitty / Ensemble

Having just wrapped up *The Cabaret Project*, this will be Erica's fifth production with ECMT. Her most notable 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 most recently, Jack's Mother in ECMT's 2025 production of *Into the Woods* (dir. Miranda Middleton). Outside of Music Theatre, Erica is a keen contemporary and pop vocalist.



## JAXON JOY (he/him)

### Bratt / Mr. Twimble & Toynbee (cover)

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 Rapunzel's Prince in *Into the Woods* (ECMT, dir. Miranda Middleton). Jaxon has also worked with Cabaret Festival as a Cabaret Concierge/performer and has been a Fringe Festival Artist for many years. Jaxon dedicates his performances this season to his late Opa, Albert Meadows.



## DAMIAN LEE (he/him)

### Mr. Twimble & Toynbee

How to Succeed will be Damian's fourth and final show with the Elder Conservatorium of Music Theatre. In past productions at ECMT, he played the roles of Dodgy/Duchess in *Alice by Heart* (dir. Erin James), Mysterious Man/Steward in *Into the Woods* (dir. Miranda Middleton) and ensemble in *Shrek the Musical* (dir. Erin James). In 2024, he appeared in the Chorus of State Opera South Australia's production of *Candide* (dir. Mitchell Butel). Outside of musical theatre, Damian performs as a drag artist and is particularly interested in costume design and creation.



## MIA LUPTON (she/her)

### Miss Krumholtz / Ensemble / Smitty (cover) / Assistant Dance Captain

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), the 2024 production of *Alice by Heart* (dir. Erin James) as Caterpillar 2/ Ensemble, and the 2025 production of *Into the Woods* (dir. Miranda Middleton) as Florinda.



## ELLIE ESDENE MCMAHON (she/her)

### Rosemary / Ensemble

Whilst studying at ECMT, Ellie has played the Baker's Wife in *Into the Woods* (dir. Miranda Middleton), Alice Spencer in *Alice by Heart*, and Teen Fiona in *Shrek the Musical* (dir. Erin James). Ellie completed a Diploma of Musical Theatre at WAAPA, where she played The Chaperone in *The Drowsy Chaperone*. Professional credits include the voice of Patches in *Project Haven* (Code351 Games), Chorus in *Candide* (State Opera South Australia), Half-time Dancer (AFL), Ensemble in *Fame* (dir. Tim Hill), and an extra in *The Inbetweeners 2* and *Ticket to Paradise*. Ellie recently completed a directing internship on STCSA's *Kimberly Akimbo* (dir. Mitchell Butel).



## RYAN MURPHY (he/him)

### J.B. Biggley / Bud Frump (cover)

Ryan's previous roles at ECMT have been the Baker in *Into the Woods* (dir. Miranda Middleton), Harold Pudding/Mad Hatter in *Alice by Heart* (dir. Erin James), and Bobby Mills in *A Chorus Line* (dir. Matthew Hyde). Ryan has also played a Page and Spanish Equerry in the Australian Ballet's productions of *The Sleeping Beauty* and *Swan Lake*, respectively. He has been in the Chorus of *Candide* (State Opera South Australia) and was a supernumerary in GWB's *A Christmas Carol*. Ryan is an avid Shakespeare actor and is so excited to take the stage one more time with his cohort and share their hard work.



## JOSH ROCCA (he/him)

### Ovington & Matthews / J. Pierrepont Finch (cover)

Josh is an Adelaide based performer with an extensive, professional background in Trampoline Gymnastics, as an International levelled gymnast. In 2021, Josh was awarded Trampoline Gymnastics Junior International Male Athlete of The Year. His professional theatrical credits include supernumerary in Australian Ballet Company's *Sleeping Beauty* (dir. Marius Petipa) and *Swan Lake* (dir. David Hallberg) and Chorus in *Candide* (State Opera South Australia, dir. Mitchell Butel). For ECMT, Josh appeared as Peter Pan/Ensemble in *Shrek the Musical* (dir. Erin James), Mock Turtle/Young Alfred/Ensemble in *Alice by Heart* (dir. Erin James) and Rapunzel's Prince in *Into the Woods* (dir. Miranda Middleton).



## PHOEBE RODGER (she/her)

### Miss Jones / Ensemble

Phoebe's recent credits include Jack's Mother, Granny, and Giant in *Into the Woods* (ECMT, dir. Miranda Middleton), 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 is currently writing a solo cabaret show titled *Phoebes You're a Lesbian* for the 2026 Adelaide Fringe Season, after premiering a 10-minute set of it during *The Cabaret Project* (ECMT) this year.



## BILLIE-ROSE RUSSELL (she/her)

### Smitty / Ensemble

Billie-Rose is an Adelaide based performer and creative. Previous performance credits for ECMT include Narrator in *Into the Woods* (dir. Miranda Middleton), Clarissa/Mock Mock Mock Turtle in *Alice by Heart* (dir. Erin James) and Humpty Dumpty in *Shrek the Musical* (dir. Erin James). Billie-Rose is the founder of Cool Beans Theatre, an emerging kids' theatre school. She enjoys directing and is currently writing a solo cabaret and a new children's play.



## MADISON SCHUBERT (she/her)

### Ensemble

Madison has always been drawn to performing. Throughout her time at ECMT, she has appeared as Lucinda/Dance Captain in *Into the Woods* (dir. Miranda Middleton), Ensemble/Swing in *Alice by Heart* (dir. Erin James), Ensemble/Lori second cover in *A Chorus Line* (dir. Matt Hyde), and written her own short cabaret. Madison has performed in State Opera South Australia's *Candide* (dir. Mitchell Butel) and at the Adelaide Cabaret Festival in Michael Griffiths' *Big Gay Sing* and Trevor Jones' Piano Bar. A jazz vocalist and bassist, she has sung alongside Salt and Pepper Big Band and danced for the Adelaide Strikers and AFL.



## ELLA SIMPSON (she/her)

### Rosemary / Ensemble

Earlier this year Ella played Little Red in *Into the Woods* (dir. Miranda Middleton). During her time at ECMT she has also played Clarissa/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 chorus of *Candide* with State Opera South Australia (dir. Mitchell Butel). In 2018, Ella performed in the Ga Ga chorus of *We Will Rock You* at His Majesty's Theatre in Perth (Platinum Entertainment), and in 2016 she appeared in the Western Australian premiere of *A Little Princess* (Playlovers, dir. Lisa Johnson).



## BELLA THOMAS (she/her)

### Ensemble / Miss Jones (cover)

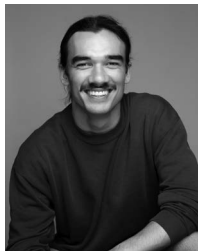
Bella is a third-year Bachelor of Music Theatre student at the Elder Conservatorium of Music. She professionally debuted as Matilda in *Matilda the Musical* (RSC, dir. Nik Ashton/Matthew Warchus), earning a Helpmann Award and a Sydney Theatre Award. Her other credits include Cinderella in *Into the Woods* (dir. Miranda Middleton), 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).



## JACINDA TSAKALOS (she/her)

### Ensemble / Dance Captain

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. At ECMT, she has appeared in *A Chorus Line* (dir. Matthew Hyde), *Alice by Heart* (dir. Erin James) and as the Narrator in *Into the Woods* (dir. Miranda Middleton). Recently, Jacinda was an actor in *Innocence* (Adelaide Festival, dir. Simon Stone).



## KAEMON WILCOX (he/him)

**Gatch & Tackaberry / J. B. Biggley (cover) / Bratt (cover)**

Kaemon most recently performed in *The Cabaret Project* with his self-devised set titled *Grandpa Kaemon*. His other stage credits from ECMT include Cinderella's Prince in *Into the Woods* (dir. Miranda Middleton), Caiaphas in *Jesus Christ Superstar* (dir. George Torbay) and Hansel in *Shrek the Musical* (dir. Erin James). Kaemon also sang in the Chorus for *Candide* (State Opera South Australia, dir. Mitchel Butel) and played the Neapolitan Equerry in The Australian Ballet's, *Swan Lake* (dir. David Hallberg). Kaemon completed his Diploma of Musical Theatre at WAAPA in 2022.

## FIRST YEARS



## JOSH HARTLEY (he/him)

**Ensemble**

Originally from Western Australia, Josh has loved his first year living in Adelaide and training at Elder Conservatorium Music Theatre. Having danced on the Scott Theatre stage last month in *10 Cents A Dance* (dir. George Torbay), Josh is excited to join the third years in their graduation production, and thrilled to be in his first full musical at ECMT. After completing his Diploma in Musical Theatre at WAAPA, Josh featured in several musicals in Perth: Lucas in *Bare: a Pop Opera*, a Bad Idea Bear in *Avenue Q* (Arise Productions) and as ensemble member in *Legally Blonde*, *All Shook Up* and *The Little Mermaid* (Hama Productions).



## COREY MAJOR (he/him)

**Ensemble**

Corey is currently completing his first year of the Bachelor of Music Theatre at the Elder Conservatorium of Music and recently performed in *10 Cents a Dance* (dir. George Torbay). He has previously studied in the full time musical theatre course at APO Arts Academy/DanceWorld Studios before moving to Adelaide. *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* will be Corey's second ECMT production. Corey has been seen in professional commercials, was part of *Woody Woodpecker Goes to Camp* (Universal, dir. Jonathan A. Rosenbaum) and several short films.



## LARA WILSON (she/her)

**Ensemble / The Book (cover) / Miss Krumholtz (cover)**

Earlier this year Lara portrayed The Witch in *Into the Woods* (ECMT, dir. Miranda Middleton). In 2024, she was a member of the *Candide* Chorus with State Opera South Australia (dir. Mitchell Butel). Prior to ECMT, Lara completed her Diploma of Musical Theatre 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*. Lara is a passionate children's entertainer who often hosts and does suit work for *Bluey Live!*, most recently seen at the Royal Adelaide Show.

## FIRST YEARS



## FLYNN SPENCER (he/him)

**Ensemble**

Flynn is a currently finishing off his first year at Elder Conservatorium of Music. *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* will be his second production with ECMT after being a featured performer in the class of 2027's production of *Ten Cents a Dance* (dir. George Torbay). Prior to commencing studying at ECMT, Flynn danced competitively with Dance Explosions Port Augusta for seven years. Flynn comes from a background in dance which he has trained in a variety of disciplines since the age of five.



## ISAIAH WOOD (he/him)

**Ensemble**

Isaiah grew up on the Gold Coast and has recently relocated to Adelaide to pursue a Bachelor of Music Theatre at the Elder Conservatorium of Music. As a first-year student, this is Isaiah's second production with ECMT, having recently featured in the Songs & Scenes Showcase *Ten Cents a Dance* (dir. George Torbay). In 2024, Isaiah completed a Diploma of Musical Theatre at Loic Valmy Broadway Academy, where he performed as Chip Tolentino in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (dir. Georgia Spark) and featured in *Rock on Broadway*, an original showcase (dir. Loic Valmy).



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# Elegies

A SONG CYCLE

BY WILLIAM FINN

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Music Director: Nick Hedger  
Lighting Designer: Mark Oakley  
Audio Designer: Jamie Mensforth

7:30pm: 16 to 18 Oct  
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Little Theatre, University of Adelaide

**Tickets:** [ua.edu.au/ecmt](http://ua.edu.au/ecmt)

