

# DAREBIN ARTS SPEAKEASY

PRESENTS

# ONE NIGHT ONLY

By Jackson Castiglione and Rawcus



**Darebin  
Arts**

Image by: Darren Gill

# CREATOR'S MESSAGE

**JACKSON CASTIGLIONE**  
CONCEPT, WRITER & DIRECTOR

*One Night Only* started as a napkin pitch with Kate Sulan (then Artistic Director of Rawcus) at a cafe in Northcote in 2018. Kate's enthusiasm helped to birth the journey of a project which ended up being close to impossible to realise but with the exceptional work of many people it is finally here, alive and in front of you tonight.

The idea came to me at a time in my life when I was reconciling with the responsibility I had as a first-time parent after nearly 10 years of trying to conceive then navigate Australia's deeply problematic adoption system. In lots of ways, how my partner and I finally became parents was also close to impossible, and when it finally arrived it was something I felt completely unprepared for. Whether I wanted it to be or not, becoming a parent was life changing. Feeling ill-equipped to take on this lifelong responsibility, I started to wonder: what moments in other people's lives had had these similar effects? What other moments, big and small, come to define us?

This project is also a collaboration with Rawcus, and without them, it would not have been possible. It's important to acknowledge the

contributions of Morgan Rose (Co-Writer and Rawcus's Co-Artistic Director), Josh, Paul and Rachel along with the other members of Rawcus who have contributed their stories and expertise to help develop this performance. Alison Halit has also made a wonderful contribution helping to bring the many parts of this show together. Samuel Kreusler and Kate Neal have added an exceptional immersive composition and sound design. Richard Vabre's lighting and sculptures have helped to clarify the worlds of the show and created beautiful abstract imagery. And Kaite Head and Kate Washington's production support has helped to shape the diverse needs of our team ad project. Finally Connor Brown's sound mixing provides the best possible sound.

*One Night Only* is an attempt to connect people — to connect our audience with many different stories. It's an attempt to recognise difference and diversity but also celebrate what it is we have in common. And to acknowledge and accept the joy, sadness and infinite possibilities of what it means to be human.

This show is dedicated to my beautiful daughter, Lucienne.

DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGES THE WURRUNDJERI-WOI WURRUNG PEOPLE AS THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF LAND IN WHICH DAREBIN STANDS. WE RECOGNISE THEIR CONTINUING CONNECTION TO LAND, WATERS AND CULTURE. WE PAY OUR RESPECT TO ELDERS PAST, AND PRESENT.

# ABOUT

## AN UNREPEATABLE THEATRICAL EXPERIMENT

Multidisciplinary artist Jackson Castiglione (*Field Theory*, *ICON*, *Anything & Everything*) makes innovative live experiences that champion the voices of ordinary people. In this new theatrical adventure, he's teaming up with members of the award-winning Rawcus ensemble (*Interior*, *Glass*) to tell a tale like no other: yours.

Each night an ordinary citizen takes on the role of the Protagonist, playing out the story of their life before our eyes. With the Rawcus team as their supporting cast, the Protagonist jumps backwards and forwards through time, reenacting the pivotal moments large and small that have shaped who they are.

Revisiting love, grief, heartbreak, joy, conflict, catharsis and serendipity with us as their witness, this bold production journeys into what make us unique, and what we all have in common. With a new Protagonist stepping onto the stage each night, *One Night Only* is an unrepeatable experiment that asks, what constitutes our shared humanity?

## CREATIVE TEAM

### Concept, Writer and Director:

Jackson Castiglione

**Writer:** Morgan Rose (Co- Artistic Director of Rawcus)

**Performers/Devisors:** Rachel Edward, Paul Matley and Joshua Lynzaat (Rawcus Ensemble Members)

**Sound Design:** Samuel Kreusler & Kate Neal

**Lighting Design:** Richard Vabre

**Sound Engineer:** Connor Brown

**Executive Producer:** Alison Halit

**Production and Stage Manager:** Kaite Head

**Assistant Stage Manager:** Kate Washington

Running time: approx. 80mins, no interval.

Show warnings: This production contains references to death and grieving, mentions of hospitals and car accidents and uses flashing lights.

This production has been supported by Creative Australia, Creative Victoria, Arts House, and the City of Darebin and sponsored by DH Buchanan Consulting.



# RAWCUS

# THANK YOU FROM THE CREATIVE TEAM

## We would like to extend a big thank-you to:

All the individuals who open-heartedly shared their life story with us and in doing so contributed to the evolution of the *One Night Only* script: (Lulu, Beck, Kate, Maggie, Younghee, Caroline, He, Matt, Earl, Agnieszka, Oliver, Amarantha, Ibo, Eza and Michele).

The larger Rawcus Ensemble for their magical contributions to the early development stages of *One Night Only*: Clement Baade, Michael Buxton, Nilgun Guven, Mike McEvoy, Ryan New, Kerryn Poke, Louise Riisik, Harriet Devlin, Leisa Prowd, Prue Stevenson and Danielle von der Borchm. Along with Rawcus Co-Artistic Directors: Katrina Cornwell, Morgan Rose and General Manager Jacque Robinson for their incredible support.

The amazing *One Night Only* creative and technical team: Richard Vabre, Samuel Kreusler, Kate Neal, Kaite Head, Kate Washington, Connor Brown and of course our courageous Protagonists who have willingly undertaken this brave challenge.

Shane Grant, Tomoko Yamasaki and Sarah Fitzgerald for being valuable rehearsal Protagonists during our creation process. The generosity of Fay Greenhalgh and our sponsor Dugald Buchanan.

We would also like to thank Kate Sulan, Erin Milne, Xavier O'Shannessy, Freya McGrath, Caroline Higgins, Daniel Holmes, Coco McGrath, Shelley Xue, Andrew Gaynor, Claire Portek, Isaac Gunoo, Kate Neal, Pipp O'Brien from Auspicious Arts, The University of Melbourne and the extremely supportive staff of Northcote Town Hall Arts Centre and Darebin's Speakeasy program.

# COLLABORATING COMPANY RAWCUS

Rawcus is an award-winning and critically acclaimed long-term ensemble of artists with diverse minds, bodies, and imaginations. The ensemble devises new work that expresses the imaginative world of its members. Drawing on dance, theatre and visual art disciplines, the work is crafted with a precision that supports the performers, and allows space for their inherent sense of anarchy. Rawcus' performance aesthetic is characterised by a marriage of intense physicality, arresting visual imagery and devised text.

Rawcus is known for adventurous, unexpected and highly successful collaborations. For 25 years, Rawcus' work has been featured as part of the Melbourne International Arts Festival, Dance Massive, Next Wave, and Melbourne Fringe, and has worked with artists and companies including the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, The Invenio Singers, Fast Fashun, and Restless Dance.

In addition to work in the theatre, Rawcus has created photo exhibitions, community gatherings, short films, visual artworks, interactive public performances, and projection art. Rawcus has been nominated for and won numerous awards including a 2019 Helpmann Award Nomination for Best Production for *Song for a Weary Throat*. Most recently the company was awarded a Green Room Award for Outstanding Production/Independent Theatre for the new work *Interior* (2024).

# DAREBIN ARTS SPEAKEASY

Darebin Arts Speakeasy is Darebin City Council's award-winning year-round independent performance and development program. Since 2013, the program has curated and invested in contemporary dance, circus, theatre and multi-disciplinary artists whose works offer audiences a dynamic and diverse mix of stories that matter to the community, celebrate cultural diversity and reflect the times we're living in.

Darebin Arts has backed many of the groundbreaking artists and companies that make Melbourne's art sector so iconic: RAWCUS, Ilbijerri Theatre Company, The Hayloft Project, Little Ones Theatre, Stephanie Lake Company, Elbow Room, MKA, Double Water Sign, and lead artists like Joel Bray, Michele Lee, Emilie Collyer, Anna Seymour, Stella Young and Sammy J.



# ARTIST BIOS



## **JACKSON CASTIGLIONE**

Concept, Writer & Director

Jackson is an artist, director and teacher working to make contemporary theatrical performances. He loves working with interesting people who may or may not consider themselves performers or artists but offer something to stimulate and challenge our cultural, social and political ideas and assumptions.

Jackson has had work commissioned by the Hong Kong Arts Festival, RISING Festival Melbourne, the National Gallery of Victoria, the Australian Centre for the Moving Image, International Online Theatre Festival USA, KUKI International Film Festival Berlin, Back to Back Theatre, OzAsia and the International Music Festival, Canberra.

Jackson works both as an independent artist and as the Artistic Director of Infinity, a company making performances and experiences with and for young people and adult audiences. He was also a co-founding member of *Field Theory* (2009 to 2019) and has also been a core member of pvi collective (1999 to 2010). Jackson was born on Whadjuk Noongar Country Boorloo/Perth and lives and works on the sovereign lands of the Kulin Nation in Narrm/Melbourne.

[www.jacksoncastiglione.com](http://www.jacksoncastiglione.com)

[www.infinityensemble.org](http://www.infinityensemble.org)

# ARTIST BIOS



## MORGAN ROSE

Artistic Director (Rawcus)

Morgan Rose was born in New Orleans, grew up in New Mexico, and currently lives in Melbourne. She is an internationally produced playwright, performance maker, and dramaturg. Recent works include: *Peacemongers* (writer, The People/Darebin Speakeasy), *Interior* (writer, Rawcus/Substation), *The Bachelor S17E05* (co-creator, The People/La Mama), and *desert, 6:29pm* (Red Stitch). She is co-founder of the company The People ([thepeoplemaketheatre.com](http://thepeoplemaketheatre.com)) and the current co-artistic director of Rawcus ([rawcus.org.au](http://rawcus.org.au)). More info on her work at [roseisnotarose.com](http://roseisnotarose.com).



## RACHEL EDWARD

Performer/Rawcus Member

Rachel's work is shaped by a deep commitment to inclusion and access in the arts. For nearly 30 years, her wide variety of roles have included; production manager, director, mentor, filmmaker, arts support worker, audio describer and advocate. Rachel has been an ensemble member with Rawcus for 23 years and is currently working with Vitae Veritas as an audio describer, a support artist with Fog Theatre and is a Creative Producer with Arts Access Victoria.



# ARTIST BIOS



**PAUL MATLEY**

Performer/Rawcus Member

I am a man with a big heart. A respected, caring, supportive Rawcus member who explodes with emotions and encourages the enthusiasm of others. I am protector, keeping them at bay in heart and spirit. I am open to opportunities in the future like being a facilitator, a teacher and an actor.



**JOSHUA LYNZAAT**

Performer/Rawcus Member

Josh grew up in Geelong and Bendigo, and then moved to Melbourne to study music at university. He got really involved in student theatre and has been involved in theatre ever since. He is also a high school teacher.

# ARTIST BIOS



## AHMAD

Protagonist

An award-winning architect, dad and friend, who once performed onstage as a Siamese cat.



## FAY

Protagonist

An Architectural lighting designer and creative, with a longing heart as the guardian of a much-loved dog, now sadly deceased.



## CHARLI

Protagonist

A follow spot operator and theatre fan girl.



## HARLEY

Protagonist

A high school English teacher and devoted ice hockey fan.

# ARTIST BIOS



**LINDA**

Protagonist

A lovely, weird person, a mum who loves animals, camping and kayaki.



**PHIL**

Protagonist

An ex-elite triathlete who loves the colour pink.



**CAROLINE**

Protagonist

Pet funeral celebrant and dog whisperer.



**SHELLY**

Protagonist

An arts worker who still carries the feelings of that one night dancing at Yah Yah's.

# ARTIST BIOS



**SAMUEL KRUESLER**

Sound Design

Samuel is a Melbourne-based composer, guitarist, and performer working across theatre and film. His work has been performed internationally at Edinburgh Fringe Festival 2023, European Juggling Convention 2025 (Netherlands), and around Italy and China. A University of Melbourne graduate, he has held residencies with the Flying Fruit Fly Circus and Sō Percussion at Princeton University. He co-created *Escalate* (Best Circus, Melbourne Fringe 2022), which premiered at Arts Centre Melbourne.



**KATE NEAL**

Sound Design

Kate is an artist with over 20 years experience as a composer, arranger, educator, and collaborator. She works closely with visual media artist Sal Cooper, and in 2025 their work — in collaboration with choreographer Gerard Van Dyck and Rubiks collective — *A Book of Hours* toured nationally. Kate is a lecturer in Interactive Composition at the University of Melbourne, Faculty of Fine Arts and Music.

# ARTIST BIOS



## **RICHARD VABRE**

Lighting Design

Richard is a lighting designer who has lit productions for Melbourne Theatre Company, Sydney Theatre Company, Malthouse Theatre, Belvoir Street Theatre, Black Swan State Theatre Company, Back To Back Theatre, Victorian Opera, The Australian Ballet School, Circus Oz, Rawcus, Windmill Theatre, Arena Theatre Company, National Institute of Circus Arts, Barking Gecko Arts, The Flying Fruit Fly Circus, Darwin Festival, Stuck Pigs Squealing, Chambermade, Red Stitch Actor's Theatre, Polyglot Theatre, Melbourne Worker's Theatre, Speak Percussion, Aphids, Lyric Opera and many productions at La Mama. Richard has been recognised by his industry peers by winning 5 Green Room Awards including the Association's John Truscott Prize for Excellence in Design (2004). He has also been nominated for 13 other Green Room Awards.



## **ALISON HALIT**

Executive Producer

Alison has produced more than 60 critically acclaimed productions across the mediums of theatre, dance, live-art and music. She has toured many of these works throughout Australia, Asia, Europe and North America. Artists include Aphids, Luke George, Joel Bray, Daniel Tobias, Prue Lang, Leah Shelton, Tim Darbyshire, The Rabble, Angela Goh, Nicola Gunn, BalletLAB, Chunky Move, Rawcus, Arena Theatre Company and Ranters Theatre. She is currently working for Jackson Castiglione, Isha Shavani and Collaborators, Project Amino and is the Executive Producer of Infinity and Too Close to the Sun.