FLINDERS FESTIVAL
OF CREATIVE ARTS
13-24 November 2023

DRAMA STUDENT
SHOWCASE:
be/ginning

Adelaide Festival Centre, Drama Centre Rehearsal Room
15 - 17 November 2023

A special presentation of new works-in-progress, written and performed by the 2023 Flinders Drama Centre graduating actors.

“He has a story to tell — it is banging around inside him, aching to come out. But how does he begin?” Matthew Lopez, The Inheritance

Director Anthony Nicola
Production Manager Andrew Bailey
Technical Director Scott Castledine
A/V Manager Kristoffer Lucia

Camera Operators Adam Ovadia & Nicholas Burt
Assistant Director Monica Patteson
Stage Manager Marie Docking
Vocal Coach Jennifer Innes

For further information and to arrange to meet with the graduates, please contact: Christopher Hurrell Christopher.hurrell@flinders.edu.au
The Acid Queen (dir. Tom Young & Tiffany Lyndall-Knight), and both Mission Operation Protectors, Lover’s Quarrel II and Nobody Panic for the 48-Hour Film Festival (dir. Kristoffer Lurie).

In 2023, Lauren also participated in the creative development of Five Trials on the Queen’s Stage (dir. Christopher Hurrell). Previously she performed in The Literati (dir. How Parham), Blood Wedding (dir. Renato Musolino), and Coming of Age in the 21st Century (dir. Glenda Linscott).

90 Degrees Does Lauren have what it takes to become the perfect swan? Will she ever join the flock?

The Bottom Line Performed with Tayla Cecere. A tormented employee is at war between true customer service and the bottom line.

Connor Pullinger Thorough dance, acting and singing classes, Connor was scouted and cast as a supporting character in the hit musicals, The Hunting, now on Netflix. As a queer actor, Connor is thrilled to re-enter the Australian and international film and theatre industries.

While at the Drama Centre, Connor has appeared in Coming of Age in the 21st Century (dir. Glenda Linscott), In The Club (dir. Renato Musolino), The Caucasian Chalk Circle (dir. Anthony Nicola), Blood Wedding (dir. Christopher Hurrell), and Spring Awakening (dir. Rosalba Clemente). He also worked under the direction of Tom Healey, and Wayne Harrison, and on the creative development of Five Trials on the Queen’s Stage (dir. Christopher Hurrell).

His film credits include Kinderspiel (dir. Tom Young & Renato Musolino), Miracle (dir. Tom Lawrence-Doyle), and the feature film Lumiciding (dir. Tom Young). Connor Pullinger

Tom Spby

Born and raised in England until the age of eleven, Tom is no stranger to the stage and all things musical. Honing his performing skills in both professional and amateur musicals in the UK.

During his time at Flinders, Tom has performed in Spring Awakening (dir. Rosalba Clemente), 100 Reasons For War (dir. Renato Musolino), The Caucasian Chalk Circle (dir. Anthony Nicola), Blood Wedding (dir. Renato Musolino) and Coming of Age in the 21st Century (dir. Glenda Linscott).

Tom’s film credits include Kinderspiel (dir. Brendan McDonnell), SWIM (dir. Isabella Vassallo), Cats for Lunch (dir. Genevieve Mooy), and Darling (dir. Amy Evans).

Tom is also a skilled musician, creating musical scores for The Caucasian Chalk Circle, Blood Wedding, In The Club and Coming of Age in the 21st Century. Tom also plays in an international touring Oasis Tribute band.

The Family Curse Tom is plagued by his family curse. Impossible to live with it, impossible to live without it.

Isabella Vassallo

As a queer woman, Isabella has found ultimate refuge in the performing arts. She has always believed in the power of storytelling and looks forward to being involved in work that represents and inspires. During her time at Drama Centre, Isabella has performed in Spring Awakening (dir. Rosalba Clemente), The Caucasian Chalk Circle (dir. Anthony Nicola), In The Club (dir. Renato Musolino), Blood Wedding (dir. Renato Musolino), Sweet Road (dir. Christopher Hurrell), and Coming of Age in the 21st Century (dir. Glenda Linscott).

Films include Kinderspiel (dir. Brendan McDonnell), SWIM (dir. Isabella Vassallo), The Bottom Line and Blood Wedding, additionally working as singing captain on both productions.

The Lord Isabella’s love for all things Gaga led her to a shocking discovery.

Luke Furlan

During his time at Flinders, Luke explored a variety of traditional and emerging theatrical mediums to influence and shape his own unique practice. This year, Luke appeared in Coming of Age in the 21st Century (dir. Glenda Linscott) and collaborated on the incisive development Five Trials on the Queen’s Stage (dir. Christopher Hurrell). Previously he performed in The Literati (dir. How Parham), Autobahn (dir. Tiffany Lyndall-Knight), The Caucasian Chalk Circle (dir. Anthony Nicola), 100 Reasons For War by Tom Holloway (dir. Renato Musolino) and Spring Awakening (dir. Rosalba Clemente).

Luke’s screen credits include The Acid Queen (dir. Tom Young & Tiffany Lyndall-Knight), CHROMA (dir. Tom Lawrence-Doyle), Firsts (dir. Nicholas Bouriotis), Hush of Night (dir. Ellis Pernis) which screened at the Trinity Film Festival and Bulldog (dir. Tom Lawrence-Doyle) which premiered at the Adelaide Film Festival.

Luke has also worked with Rising Sun Pictures as a motion capture artist on international film and TV projects from internal Disney, Apple and Warner Brothers.

Used (Like New) Luke, an avid marketplace user, stumbles across an ad that takes him on an unexpected journey.

Franca Lafosse

Franca is a multidisciplinary Argentinian- Australian performer driven by stories about marginalised, displaced and misunderstood people.

Performances at the Drama Centre include Martha (dir. Rosalba Clemente), The Caucasian Chalk Circle (dir. Anthony Nicola), and Tommy Murphy’s adaptation of Blood Wedding (dir. Renato Musolino).

Her film credits include Lucid Dreaming (dir. Tom Young), and The Acid Queen (dir. Tom Young & Tiffany Lyndall-Knight), winner of the Judge’s Choice Award at the inaugural Glenelg Film Festival 2023.

Franca is a motion-capture performer at The Void Flinders Studio, where she devised a virtual adaptation of Strindberg’s Miss Julie and worked with Rising Sun Productions on motion-capture for Marvel and Disney projects.

Also an avid writer, Franca wrote and performed her first play Luna for the 2022 SA Playwrights Staged Readings, and is eager to keep making work about cultural dissonance and ‘belonging’ for interstate and international audiences.

Home Goal Performed with the Ensemble. A group of strangers flying 40,000 feet above the South Atlantic Ocean are brought together on their search for home.

Em Ritson

Em has always been passionate about storytelling. As a nonbinary theatre maker, Em is excited to enter the industry as both an actor and writer. They look forward to being involved in work that showcases their unique practice.

During their study, Em has performed in Spring Awakening (dir. Rosalba Clemente), 100 Reasons For War (dir. Renato Musolino), The Caucasian Chalk Circle (dir. Anthony Nicola), Autobahn (dir. Tiffany Lyndall-Knight), and in The Club (dir. Renato Musolino) Blood Wedding (dir. Renato Musolino) and Coming of Age in the 21st Century (dir. Glenda Linscott).

Em’s film credits include The Acid Queen (dir. Tom Young & Tiffany Lyndall-Knight) and Kinderspiel (dir. Brendan McDonnell).

Chicken Em seeks enlightenment in the only place they know how: Marty’s Chicken Shop. Top To bottom Performed with Isabella Vassallo. Two friends compete for dominance, but who will come out on top?

Luke Withille

Luke has always been passionate about theatre, film, and music. He is a proud and active member of the queer community, he is excited to bring that passion to bear on his commitment to activism and visibility for his community.

During his time at Drama Centre Luke has performed in Coming of Age in the 21st Century (dir. Glenda Linscott), Blood Wedding (dir. Renato Musolino), The Caucasian Chalk Circle (dir. Anthony Nicola), Spring Awakening (dir. Rosalba Clemente), In the Club (dir. Renato Musolino), Sweet Road (dir. Christopher Hurrell), and 100 Reasons For War (dir. Renato Musolino).


The Family Curse Tom is plagued by his family curse. Impossible to live with it, impossible to live without it.

Amour Performed with Tom Spby. First kisses are hard, but a little practice won’t hurt. After all, what are best friends for?

Tayla Cecere

From a young age Tayla has pursued her love of performing through dance classes, Commercial TV appearances, and amateur theatre. At Drama Centre, Tayla has performed in Spring Awakening (dir. Rosalba Clemente), 100 Reasons For War by Tom Holloway (dir. Renato Musolino), The Caucasian Chalk Circle (dir. Anthony Nicola), Autobahn (dir. Tiffany Lyndall-Knight), The Literati (dir. How Parham), Blood Wedding (dir. Renato Musolino), and Coming of Age in the 21st Century (dir. Glenda Linscott).

Tayla’s film credits include Edward Has a Tree (dir. Anthony Nicola), Sweet Road (dir. Christopher Hurrell), The Caucasian Chalk Circle (dir. Anthony Nicola), and Spring Awakening (dir. Rosalba Clemente).

On camera, she’s appeared in Edward Has a Tree Inside Him (dir. Kristoffer Lurie), The Sixth Sense (dir. Charles Silverstone), Nobody Panic – 48-hour film competition (dir. Kristoffer Lurie), the award-winning film The Acid Queen (dir. Tom Young & Tiffany Lyndall-Knight), AWA (dir. Genevieve Mooy), and SWIM (dir. Isabella Vassallo).

New Romantics To mend her broken heart, Tayla desperately turns to the classic rom-coms of her childhood. Can she uncover the secret to true love?
Bachelor of PERFORMANCE
NEW in 2024

Acting, Directing and Theatre-Making

The unique accomplishments of this year’s graduating actors, presented today, richly represent the unique identity of the Flinders University Drama Centre – which for fifty years has combined the research-led conceptual and intellectual education afforded by a university, with rigorous, skills-based, professional performance training, to develop generations of autonomous, bold, dynamic South Australian artists.

In 2024 we launch the next phase of that journey, with our own unique degree programme, the Bachelor of Performance.

Three distinct degree pathways; Acting, Directing and Theatre-Making, meet the unique curriculum needs of students training for a range of careers in the performing arts and empower them to take their place on the world stage.

Find out more Flinders.edu.au/performance

Flinders University Drama Centre is situated on Kaurna land.
We work, learn and gather on land which is unceded.
We offer our respects to the Kaurna Elders; past and present. We stand on your shoulders and we acknowledge the privilege our tenancy affords us.