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La Mama Theatre is on traditional Wurundjeri land. We pay our respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, past and present, and we recognise their continuing spiritual and cultural connection to the land.

La Mama Theatre is registered by the Heritage Council Victoria and has received National Trust status.



La Mama is financially assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council – its arts funding and advisory body, the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria, and the City of Melbourne through the Arts and Culture triennial funding program.



 **LA MAMA** presents

TWIGS THAT NEVER TOOK



3 - 7 JULY 2019

TWIGS THAT NEVER TOOK

Written by **Donna De Palma**

CREATOR NOTES

TWIGS THAT NEVER TOOK is my first venture writing a solo show. It premiered at the 2017 Melbourne Fringe Festival. I am very grateful to La Mama for the opportunity and support they have given me to have another season of this piece.

I was inspired to write this piece particularly because I felt that there aren't enough roles written for middle aged women. I decided to create such a role, not just for myself, but for other women too. Revisiting 'TNT' has been an opportunity to explore the piece further and given me more insight into some of the issues the piece deals with. Life's journey is not one you can have full control over and I'm still learning that all the time.

ANGELA COSTI Dramaturgy

Angela Costi is a playwright and poet. Her most recent poetry collection is 'Lost in mid-verse' by Owl Publishing with forward by Peter Lyssiotis. Her successful play 'Shimmer' continues to be remounted by secondary schools across Australia including Loreto College, South Australia. She has dramaturged a number of inspiring plays such as Hoa Pham's 'Silence', Sofia Chapman's recent plays and 'Cafe Rebetika' which was staged at the MTC and has had an extensive production run across Australia.

DONNA DE PALMA Performed as Bianca and Blackie (A feline puppet)

Donna has been performing most of her life, in one form or another. She graduated from Melbourne University with a Bachelor of Education majoring in Drama/Performing arts and has worked extensively in theatre, Theatre in Education and touring comedy shows. She has also worked in film, television, voice overs and puppetry. She currently works in environmental theatre in education, writing scripts and performing in a team of talented artists.

LEE NAISH

Set design and Constuction

Lee Naish is a mostly retired Computer Scientist academic and MA/MIL. Most of his performing work in theatre has mostly been on stage in the hand to many things. Lee is a Senior Fellow at the University of Melbourne and doesn't normally work with Windows.

TERI STEER

Lighting and Sound Operation

Teri grew up in Brisbane, studying Theatre and Stage Management at USC in Toowoomba before moving to Melbourne. Teri has worked both on the stage and behind the scenes. She spent many years performing, as well as designing, constructing, stage and production managing and working as stage crew. She spent several years working for Brisbane Arts Theatre before her move and has worked freelance for some companies in Melbourne

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SPECIAL THANKS:

Thank you to everyone at La Mama for their help and support. ANGELA COSTI for her valuable time guiding me with my writing, ideas and giving me the confidence to continue with the piece. MOIRA CALLEGARI for her generosity and wonderful photography over the years. JEAN WATSON for her very snazzy poster design. CARMEL HYLAND for all her help, gorgeousness and time, while she was also writing school reports. KAVISHA MAZZELLA and LA VOCE DELLA LUNA choir for their lovely rendition of "Va Fenstero". FELICITY O'HANLON for reading the script and her thoughtful opinions. ANGELA SARBIN for practically giving me her wonderful wedding dress of yesterday. My handsome strong nephews Adem and Danyal for their help bumping in and out. That leaves my lovely little family, my partner LEE NAISH for just about everything else and not just the set making. He went far beyond what could be expected. A special thanks to my girl JASMINE DE PALMA for her musical talent and help.

PETER FERNON Puppet and Screen Maker

MOIRA CALLEGARI Photography credit

Moira is a freelance Melbourne based photographer:

JASMINE DE PALMA Front of House Musician

Jasmine has been playing violin since the age of 4 and has generously volunteered her time and talent to set a lovely atmosphere for the audience pre-show.

Social Media:

Please use #twigs that never took and #lamamatheatre in your posts.

Please note:

This play deals with suicide: If this causes any issues you can call Lifeline on 131114.