

ILLUSTRATED BY OLGA MAKARCHUKOVA

 LA MAMA

Meurants Lane

MAY 21 – JUNE 2, 2024

Meurants Lane

Acknowledgments:

For my family. If I failed you, I swear I tried my best.

A Limelight Department Theatre Company production

Written and Directed by:

Christapor Yaacoubian

Cast:

Bedig - Michael Todorovic

Serj - Sorab Kaikobad

Vicken - Yerasimos Raftos

Michael Todorovic is a classically trained actor who plays the role of the burdened Bedig.

As graduate of 16th Street Actors Studio's full-time program (2021), working with acclaimed director Iain Sinclair, he is also as an award-winning actor and filmmaker.

He was recently in Essendon Theatre Company's comedy *The Odd Couple* (female version) (2023).

His first time on stage was at the Victorian Drama League One-Act Play Festival (2019) where he was nominated for Best Actor, and continued to be nominated at several other venues thereafter finally winning the Peridot Theatre Encouragement Award.

He wrote, produced, directed and starred in his award-winning debut film *Never Forgotten* (2020), as well as produced, directed and starred in his first full-length play *After Dinner* (2022).

Michael loves Australian Rules Football, and he plans to bring that love to life on the big screen.

After graduating from 16th Street Actors Studio, where he had the good fortune of working with various master teachers including Elizabeth Kemp and Chris Edmund, **Sorab Kaikobad** has collaborated with some of Australia's finest directors, including Jason Raftopolous, Iain Sinclair, Emma Freeman and Paul Currie. Over the years, Sorab's creative perspective has matured into a nuanced and unique voice which has served him well as a writer, director and artist. As an actor, he has starred in multiple independent features and short films such as 'Cavity', 'What Was' and the feature film 'We Will Never Die'. His television credits include the Channel 31 hit 'Fruit Salad' and ABC powerhouse 'The Newsreader'. In his many years on stage Sorab's credits include Benedick in 'Much Ado About Nothing', Howard & Stanley in Hearth Theatre's 'Death of a Salesman' and an acclaimed performance as Richard Hannay in Hearth Theatre's production of 'The 39 Steps'. Sorab has written and directed multiple short films including 'Fly, Waterfowl', 'Kharon' and 'Movie Night', which was accepted and screened as a finalist in the UNSCENE Film Festival. His illustrated epic poem 'Daiv'Shetra' was exhibited exclusively by the BlackCat Gallery in 2022, and in collaboration with the Starlight Children's Foundation, Sorab wrote and illustrated the official Captain Starlight comic book.

Hayden Hayes has studied the likes of Meisner, Strasberg and Uta Hagen. In 2013, Hayden was part of the Summer Program at the Stella Adler Studio of Acting in New York City. He has also completed the Full Time Program at 16th Street in Melbourne.

His credits include: The series 'Counterplay', the short 'Weekend Reverie' and the stage play 'The Drunkards'. In 2019, Hayden had written, directed and acted in a short film titled 'Stay For The Weak', which premiered at the Marina Del Rey Film Festival in October of the same year.

Recently, Hayden has turned to writing, having finished his first full-length stage play titled 'Untitled Three-Hander', which was produced by Limelight Department Theatre Company in July 2023. Hayden has also completed his first fictional novel titled 'Regiopolis', which was released on April 26th 2024.

Yerasimos Raftos plays a reckless and playful Vicken, youngest of the three brothers. In his most recent role he played "Yorgo" (George) in the in the all Greek speaking award winning short film Gorgo, a Greek immigrant of Australia in the 1940's & 50's.

Writer's notes:

I began to write 'Meurants Lane' while living abroad, chasing acting greatness. At a certain point being alone stopped feeling so lonely and I was able to think back on my life without the sadness creeping in.

I realised that I missed the chaos of my family home, the click clack sounds of mayhem which would erupt from every room and at any hour, I'd taken for granted.

The rotating plate of food of all colours with spices from across the world, and the impromptu singing and dancing regardless of circumstance, company, or timing, were all a distant memory.

Most importantly, I missed the colourful language that painted our walls, the loving way my brothers and I yelled at each other into combat, and how we fought until we hugged and laughed.

It's messy, it's ugly, it's unnecessary, but it's my home, and I wouldn't have it any other way.

I wrote 'Meurants Lane' because I didn't know how to tell my brothers that I loved them, to tell my father that I forgive him, and to tell my mother that I'm sorry for all the pain I've caused.

I wrote 'Meurants Lane' because of all the things that I could not say... so it goes.



Office Phone: (03) 9347 6948

Office Hours: Mon – Fri | 11am – 4pm

Box Office opens 4pm on performance nights, 12pm
for Playreadings and 2pm Sundays

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La Mama Theatre is on traditional land of the people of the Kulin Nation. We give our respect to the Elders of these traditional lands and to all First Nations people past, present and future. We acknowledge all events take place on stolen lands and that sovereignty was never ceded.

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We are grateful to all our philanthropic partners and donors, advocates, volunteers, audiences, artists and our entire community. Thank you!

