

 LA MAMA

AFTER REBECCA



OCTOBER 9 - 13, 2024

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AFTER REBECCA

Writer's note

Growing up as a voracious reader, Daphne Du Maurier's gothic novel *Rebecca* was one of my favourite books. Re-reading it a few years ago in a post-#metoo world, I reflected that it couldn't be told in the same way today. Around the same time, I read Jess Hill's *See What You Made Me Do* and recognised the elements of coercive control that could underpin much of this story. To explore the possibilities of this story, I pitched the concept to Michelle and brought together our team before I even had a first draft. It has been a great collaboration. Sadly, it is all-too relevant and timely. We only need to look to the media to see tragic stories of women and men who have been killed by men they knew. We hope this play contributes to the conversation.

Emma Gibson



MICHELLE COOPER

ACTOR AND CO-DIRECTOR

Michelle is a Canberra-born, Neurodivergent actor, now based in Naarm, Melbourne. She is a graduate of Charles Sturt University with an Associate Degree (Acting for Screen and Stage) and the Howard Fine Acting Studio Full Time Program. Since 2003, she has performed across Australia working on everything from educational theatre and improvised theatre projects to burlesque and Shakespeare. Michelle has taught for Australian Shakespeare Company Holiday Programs and works as a Roleplay Actor in the business and tertiary sectors. Outside of acting, Michelle is a passionate Science Communicator and published scientific author who used her skills to support Victoria's COVID response through 2020-2021.

Her recent credits include *After Rebecca* (Performer/Director), *Walking Shadows Vol. 2* (Performer/Crew, webseries), *Aunty Donna's Coffee Café* (Performer), *Walking Shadows Vol. 1* (Performer, webseries, 2021), *Hotel Sorrento* (Performer, Eltham Little Theatre, 2019), *Macbeth* (Performer, Canberra Repertory Society, 2016), *Party* (Performer/Producer, 2014-2016).



EMMA GIBSON

WRITER/CO-DIRECTOR

Emma Gibson is a playwright, writer and dramaturg. She was part of Melbourne Theatre Company's 2020 Women in Theatre program and a She Writes writer in residence at Theatre Works. She was a dramaturg for Melbourne Theatre Company's 2021 Cybec Electric season. Emma's work has been presented at La Mama, Hothouse Theatre, The Street Theatre and the You Are Here Festival in Canberra, and internationally at, La Mama ETC New York, Paines Plough Roundabout, and the Royal Exchange Theatre in Manchester, UK.

Her credits include: Tramlines (audio story, Melbourne City of Literature, 2023), Alternative Futures (monologue, Bullet Heart Club/Theatre Works 2021), The Cuddle Parlour (The Knack/Butterfly Club, 2021), Monument to Now (site-specific audio tour, City of Merri-bek, 2020) Tourmaline (Street Theatre, Canberra, 2017) War Stories (co-writer, Manchester 24/7 Theatre festival and subsequent seasons, 2014-16), Bloodletting (Bread and Roses Theatre, London, 2015), Johnny Castellano is Mine (Street Theatre, 2014), The Pyjama Girl (Hothouse Theatre 2013).



DANIEL MCCUSKER DESIGNER

Daniel is a maker, an educator and a science communicator. Having taken a few years away from working in theatre, *After Rebecca* is a precious opportunity to get back to a sorely missed arts practice. Daniel worked in theatre as a technician, designer and just about anything else he could wrangle for most of his 20s, then moved on to working in museums and education for most of his 30s. Now in his early 40s, Daniel is studying Games and Interactivity at Swinburne University, and hopes to find more ways to integrate his interests in performance, technology, learning and games.

His credits include *After Rebecca* (Designer, 2023), *Party* (Director & Actor, 2014-16), *You Are Here Festival* (Technical Coordinator, 2012-13).

Thank you

La Mama Theatre, Miles Thomas, Lex Hood, our families and partners.

The sound design utilises many sounds used under a Creative Commons Attribution licence. For a full list, please visit our Linktree: bit.ly/AfterRebecca.

This play discusses violence against women, sexual assault, firearms and death. Support is available at:

1800 RESPECT

1800respect.org.au

Lifeline - 131114

Lifeline.org.au

Beyondblue - 1300 224 636

Beyondblue.org.au



Office Phone: (03) 9347 6948

Office Hours: Mon – Fri | 11am – 4pm

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

205 Faraday Street, Carlton VIC 3053

www.lamama.com.au | info@lamama.com.au

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.

La Mama is financially assisted by Creative Victoria (Creative Enterprises Program), and the City of Melbourne (Arts and Creative Partnership Program).

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

