



2022 IMPACT REPORT



STATE THEATRE
COMPANY SOUTH AUSTRALIA



State Theatre Company South Australia is one of the most prolific and impactful arts organisations in South Australia, committed to making phenomenal, transformative and inclusive theatre that enriches South Australian and Australian culture.

Here is a snapshot of the Company's remarkable achievements in 2022, through our mainstage subscription season, touring, education program and more.

It's all made possible by the efforts of an amazing pool of artists from South Australia and around the country, and by the generous support of our community of audiences, donors, and partners. Thank you to everyone who has contributed their work and support to make it happen.

**"I LOVE ANYTHING STATE THEATRE COMPANY
SOUTH AUSTRALIA DOES"** HELEN, THEATREGOER *(THE NORMAL HEART SURVEY)*

**"WE'VE SEEN EVERY PLAY
FOR THE LAST 10 YEARS!
TOP QUALITY! VERY
ENTERTAINING!"**
KATHRYN, SUBSCRIBER

**"STATE THEATRE COMPANY SOUTH AUSTRALIA
IS ONE OF THE GREAT CULTURAL ASSETS OF
SOUTH AUSTRALIA"**
THE HON ANDREA MICHAELS MP, MINISTER FOR ARTS

**"I CAN ALWAYS
TURN TO STATE
THEATRE COMPANY
SOUTH AUSTRALIA
WHEN I NEED A
NIGHT OF FANTASTIC
PERFORMANCES"**
TAYLA, THEATREGOER *(SINGLE ASIAN FEMALE SURVEY)*

**"WE ARE FORTUNATE TO HAVE SUCH A
GREAT COMPANY WHICH OFFERS WORK
THAT ENTERTAINS, PROVOKES, AND
CHALLENGES THE AUDIENCE."**
ALI, SUBSCRIBER *(SINGLE ASIAN FEMALE SURVEY)*

**"DISCOUNTS FOR UNDER
30'S IS THE BEST THING
THAT STATE THEATRE
COMPANY SOUTH
AUSTRALIA HAS DONE."**
JESSICA, THEATREGOER
(THE NORMAL HEART SURVEY)



2022 AT A GLANCE

FIRST NATIONS WORK

- o **2** First Nations-led works
- o **3** productions featuring First Nations actors
- o Appointment of inaugural First Nations board member

EDUCATION & LEARNING

- o **4,923** school students attended our productions
- o **Over 100** tertiary drama students attended our rehearsals and masterclasses
- o **Over 200** students and school teachers attended our drama workshops

ARTISTS

- o **132** artists employed on productions
- o **Over 50%** of artists were South Australian
- o **31** independent artists provided with financial and in-kind assistance

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

- o **13** performances across regional South Australia with **1,196** attendees
- o **Over 50%** of mainstage productions by South Australian or Australian writers

SHOWS & AUDIENCE

8 mainstage productions in South Australia, attended by **46,932** people

DIVERSITY

- o **5** productions led by or featuring culturally and linguistically diverse artists
- o Gender parity of writers and directors on mainstage shows

NEW WORKS

- o **3** new Australian world premieres
- o **2** new commissions
- o **9** writers in total under commission receiving creative development

2022 AT A GLANCE

COMMUNITY

- o 39 corporate, community and creative partnerships
- o Engagement across the South Australian and National arts sector including CAST, MEAA and others

COLLABORATIONS

- o 5 co-productions with South Australian and national companies
- o Support for 2 independent companies as Stateside productions

AWARDS & NOMINATIONS

- o Ruby Award for Best Collaboration (*Clock for No Time*), two Ruby Award nominations for Best Work or Event In and Outside of a Festival, nominations for the Nick Enright Prize for Playwrighting, multiple nominations for Victorian Green Room Awards

TOURING

- o 238 interstate performances in Australia
- o Over 30,000 interstate attendees
- o 44 international performances

TALKS & EVENTS

- o Over 2,500 attendees at various Tangent Talks, Subscriber Briefings, Post-Show Q&A's and launches

DIGITAL REACH

- o 155,118 website users
- o 673,227 page views
- o 505,336 people reached on Facebook
- o 56,561 people reached on Instagram



GIRLS & BOYS

BY DENNIS KELLY

25 FEB - 12 MAR 2022 ODEON THEATRE
PERFORMANCES: 18 TOTAL AUDIENCE: 3,870

CREATIVE TEAM

Playwright Dennis Kelly | Director Mitchell Butel | Set & Costume Designer Ailsa Paterson | Lighting Designer Nigel Levings | Composer Alan John | Sound Designer Andrew Howard | Dialect Coach Jennifer White | Mime Consultant Glynn Nicholas | Directorial Intern Zach Sheridan | Directorial Observer Chloe Zodrow | Understudy/Assistant Director Rachel Burke | Production Manager Gavin Norris | Stage Manager Laura Palombella | Assistant Stage Manager Grace Calabretto

CAST

Woman Justine Clarke

“Justine Clarke as Woman is utterly remarkable. Potent stage positioning reveals a director (Mitchell Butel) expert at the effect of presence to the storytelling process. The result is a deeply moving piece of theatrical communication.”

LIMELIGHT

“A finely wrought and harrowing piece of theatre and a highlight of the 2022 Adelaide Festival.”

ARTSHUB

“*Girls & Boys* is a clever play intelligently built on quiet passion and no hiding places. It will change your image of Justine Clarke forever – and should result in a swag of awards for her and the production; she is brilliant.”

STAGE NOISE



GIRL FROM THE NORTH COUNTRY

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY BOB DYLAN
WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY CONOR MCPHERSON

25 MAR - 10 APR 2022 HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE
PERFORMANCES: 20 TOTAL AUDIENCE: 15,584

CREATIVE TEAM

Writer & Director Conor McPherson | Set & Costume Designer Rae Smith | Orchestrator, Arranger & Musical Supervisor Simon Hale | Lighting Designer Mark Henderson | Sound Designer Simon Baker | Movement Director Lucy Hind | Musical Director Andrew Ross | Resident Director Corey McMahon

CAST

Tony Black | Peter Carroll | Tony Cogan | Laurence Coy | Terence Crawford | Helen Dallimore | Grace Driscoll | Blake Erickson | Elizabeth Hay | Peter Kowitz | Lisa McCune | Samantha Morley | Christina O'Neill | Grant Piro | James Smith | Greg Stone | Chemon Theys | Liam Wigney | Elijah Williams | Band | Andrew Ross | Leah Zweck | Cam (CJ Stranger) Henderson | Mark Harris

"This is storytelling of the richest kind. Playwright Conor McPherson, who also directed, has done Dylan proud in choices and treatment. Francis, McCune, Newman and, in particular, O'Neill are superb (McCune's Forever Young is unforgettable) but if any show is a group endeavour, this is it."

THE AUSTRALIAN

"A stellar cast, and the immortal music of Bob Dylan, make this production shine...the production is a winner."

THE ADVERTISER



CATHEDRAL

BY CALEB LEWIS

6 MAY - 21 MAY 2022 SPACE THEATRE
PERFORMANCES: 18 TOTAL AUDIENCE: 3,587

METRO & REGIONAL TOUR
PERFORMANCES: 13 TOTAL AUDIENCE: 1,196

CREATIVE TEAM

Playwright Caleb Lewis | Director Shannon Rush | Set & Costume Designer Kathryn Sproul | Lighting/Video Designer Mark Oakley | Sound Designer/Composer Andrew Howard | Assistant Director Zola Allen | Production Manager Gabrielle Hornhardt | Stage Manager Bridget Samuel

CAST

Clay Nathan O'Keefe | Angie Anna Steen | Jock Chris Pitman | Keithen Arran Beatie | Jess Annabel Matheson | Will/Ted/Super Rory Walker | Dj/Dev/Dan AJ Pate | Topside Gavin Norris | Aditi Sandra Anderson

"...it is the central solo performance by Nathan O'Keefe which ensures the success of this terrific production. His easy delivery of Lewis's often beautifully cadenced (and expertly detailed) text brings a vernacular warmth that makes it even more poetic and compelling. *Cathedral* is surely a highlight of State's 2022 season. It has all the markings of a South Australian classic."

INDAILY

"Lewis and O'Keefe have together created something rather special that is enhanced by the talented creative team. The tight staging, clever lighting, and other-worldly soundscape ensure our attention is fully focused and add significantly to the overall impact of the play. It is fitting that in this, the 50th anniversary year of State Theatre Company South Australia, they should focus on local talent and producing new works such as *Cathedral*."

ARTSHUB



ANTIGONE

BY ELENA CARAPETIS (AFTER SOPHOCLES)

27 MAY - 11 JUN 2022 ODEON THEATRE
PERFORMANCES: 19 TOTAL AUDIENCE: 3,688

CREATIVE TEAM

Playwright Elena Carapetis | Director Anthony Nicola | Designer Meg Wilson | Lighting Designer Gavin Norris | Composer Jason Sweeney | Directorial Secondment/AV Content Creator Jennifer Stefanidis | Accent Coach Jennifer Innes | Dramaturg Tom Healey | Production Manager Gabrielle Hornhardt | Stage Manager Laura Palombella | Assistant Stage Manager Isabella Strada

CAST

Girl 3 Kathryn Adams | Girl 2 Chiara Gabrielli | Man Mark Saturno | Girl 1 Kidaan Zelleke

“Inventive, valorous and uncomfortable, this multi-media adaptation of *Antigone* is a challenging, sharp and worthwhile production. This is a unique production where rage-fuelled invectives and deeply personal quieter moments are equally laudable and sit successfully in adjacent theatrical spaces.”

LIMELIGHT

“A stunning theatre experience. This version of *Antigone* is a revolutionary act.”

INDAILY

“*Antigone* is an ode to the females who have embodied the spirit of the young heroine of Greek tragedy. Think Greta Thunberg, Malala Yousafzai, Grace Tame and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez to name a few. It is a broad-reaching, original theatrical work that deserves a wide audience. ”

STAGE WHISPERS



CHALKFACE

BY ANGELA BETZIE

5 AUG - 20 AUG 2022 DUNSTAN PLAYHOUSE
PERFORMANCES: 18 TOTAL AUDIENCE: 7,016

CREATIVE TEAM

Playwright Angela Betzien | Director Jessica Arthur | Designer Ailsa Paterson | Lighting Designer Mark Shelton | Composer & Sound Designer Jessica Dunn | Assistant Director Clement Rukundo | STC Literary Manager Polly Rowe | Production Managers Gabrielle Hornhardt & Gavin Norris | Stage Manager Bridget Samuel | Assistant Stage Manager Carmen Palmer

CAST

Pat Novitsky Catherine McClements | Denise Hart Susan Prior | Douglas Hosten Nathan O'Keefe | Anna Park Stephanie Somerville | Cheryl Filch Michelle Ny | Steve Budge Ezra Juanta

"A joyous, frolicking new Australian play that importantly holds up a mirror and challenges us to glimpse at the lives of those who choose to shape the lives of our future leaders."

STAGE WHISPERS

"Director Jessica Arthur has allowed Betzien's cracklingly funny, freewheeling text its frequently absurdist and eccentric streams of consciousness, as well as giving exuberant latitude to the excellent and inventive actors."

INDAILY

"A very timely and amusing exploration of the state of our school system"

GLOBAL MEDIA POST



SUNSHINE SUPER GIRL

BY ANDREA JAMES

2 SEP - 17 SEP 2022 DUNSTAN PLAYHOUSE
PERFORMANCES: 18 TOTAL AUDIENCE: 5,420

CREATIVE TEAM

Writer & Director Andrea James | Set & Costume Designer Romanie Harper | Lighting Designer Karen Norris | Composer & Sound Designer Gail Priest | Movement Director & Additional Choreography Katina Olsen | Original Choreographic Concept & Initial Movement Direction Vicki Van Hout | Video Media Designer Mic Gruchy | Dramaturg Louise Gough | Mentor Paige Rattray

CAST

Evonne Goolagong Ella Ferris | Barbara/Ensemble Katina Olsen | Mum/Linda/Ensemble Jax Compton | Roger/Dad/Ensemble Lincoln Elliott | Larry/Mr Edwards/Ensemble Kirk Page | Larry/Mr Edwards/Ensemble (Swing) Sermsah Bin Saad

"A fun, thought provoking and uplifting night at the theatre. A true celebration of an Australian icon. Much like Evonne Goolagong Cawley's career, this production is indeed a triumph."

GLAMADELAIDE

"An engaging portrait of both an Australian sporting icon and a pivotal period of history. Beautifully staged and lovingly performed, it is a fitting tribute to Evonne Goolagong's legacy."

ARTSHUB

"A graceful, energetic production, honouring Goolagong Cawley's life story while also capturing the feeling of vicariously basking in the glow of her on-court glory."

THE GUARDIAN



THE NORMAL HEART

BY LARRY KRAMER

30 SEP - 15 OCT 2022 DUNSTAN PLAYHOUSE
PERFORMANCES: 18 TOTAL AUDIENCE: 4,640

CREATIVE TEAM

Playwright Larry Kramer | Director Dean Bryant | Designer Jeremy Allen | Lighting Designer Nigel Levings | Composer Hilary Kleinig | Sound Designer Andrew Howard | Accent Coach Jennifer Innes | Intimacy Coordinator Ruth Fallon | Assistant Director Connor Reidy | Dramaturgical Secondment Abby Hampton | Production Manager Gavin Norris | Stage Manager Kelly Butterfield | Assistant Stage Manager Jennifer King | Stage Management Secondment Serena Cann | Wigs Jana Debiasi

CAST

Craig/Grady/Orderly AJ Pate | Mickey Marcus Evan Lever | Ned Weeks Mitchell Butel | David/Hiram/Pianist Michael Griffiths | Dr Emma Brookner Emma Jones | Bruce Niles Matt Hyde | Felix Turner Ainsley Melham | Ben Weeks/Examining Doctor Mark Saturno | Tommy Boatwright Anthony Nicola | Cellist Clara Gillam-Grant

“A production not to be missed – with smart people making passionate Sorkinesque arguments, performances that invoked applause after almost every scene – and a five minute standing ovation with most of the audience sobbing through it.”

HECKLER

“Mitchell Butel is simply amazing in the lead. Every member of the cast is equally committed, and the atmosphere is electric. Director Dean Bryant does a brilliant job of keeping a volatile mix in check, allowing the earth to tremble and the lava to flow just beneath the ground, but without losing control. The stuff of modern theatrical legend.”

THE ADVERTISER

“Challenging, confronting, stimulating, inspiring, moving, provocative and extraordinary play. It is a credit to the magnificent cast and crew that Director Dean Bryant has recruited.”

AUSTRALIAN STAGE



SINGLE ASIAN FEMALE

BY MICHELLE LAW

4 NOV - 19 NOV 2022 DUNSTAN PLAYHOUSE
PERFORMANCES: 18 TOTAL AUDIENCE: 5,127

CREATIVE TEAM

Playwright Michelle Law | Director Nescha Jelk | Set & Costume Designer Ailsa Paterson | Lighting Designer Chris Petridis | Composer/Sound Designer Andrew Howard | Associate Director Valerie Berry | Accent Coach Jennifer Innes | Intimacy Coordinator Eliza Lovell | Singing Coach Rosie Hosking | Fight Choreographer Ruth Fallon | Cultural Consultant Nicky Tsz Tung Li | Directorial Observer Danielle Lim | Directorial Intern Samuel Lau | Lead Production Manager Gavin Norris | Production Manager Gabrielle Hornhardt | Stage Manager Isabella Strada | Assistant Stage Manager Carmen Palmer | Stage Management Secondment Marsha Makarushkina

CAST

Pearl Fiona Choi | Zoe Juanita Navas-Nguyen | Mei Elvy-Lee Quici | Paul Allan Lyra Chang | Katie Kristen O'Dwyer | Lana Kathryn Adams

"A family drama fully as intense and truthful as any of Tennessee Williams' works."

GLAMADELAIDE

"This is an excellent production, directed by Nescha Jelk, with a truly magnificent set design by Alisa Paterson. Congratulations and thank you to the State Theatre Company South Australia for this production of Michelle Law's *Single Asian Female*."

STAGE WHISPERS

"*Single Asian Female* celebrates Asian Australian women, all ages, all relationship statuses, and does it in style."

COLLAGE ADELAIDE



TOURING

State Theatre Company South Australia toured *Cathedral* by Caleb Lewis with our co-production partner Country Arts SA:

- 9 metropolitan and regional venues, 13 performances
- 1,196 total attendances (May - June 2022)

We also toured:

- Edward Albee's *Who's Afraid Of Virginia Woolf?*:
 - Sydney Opera House, with Sydney Festival, 13 performances, 1,461 total attendances (January 2022)
 - QPAC, with Queensland Theatre, 16 performances, 7,274 total attendances (February 2022)
 - Total interstate performances 29, total attendances 8,735
- *Girl From The North Country*, music and lyrics by Bob Dylan, written and directed by Conor McPherson:
 - Theatre Royal, Sydney, 83 performances (January - March 2022)
 - Canberra Theatre Centre, Canberra, 12 performances (April 2022)
 - Comedy Theatre, Melbourne, 54 performances (June 2022)
 - Civic Centre, Auckland, 22 performances (July 2022)
 - St James Theatre, Wellington, 22 performances (July 2022)
 - Total interstate/international performances 193
- *Chalkface* by Angela Betzien:
 - Sydney Opera House, with Sydney Theatre Company, 51 performances (September - October 2022)
 - Riverside Theatre, Parramatta 4 performances (November 2022)
 - Canberra Theatre Centre, Canberra, 5 performances (November 2022)
 - Total interstate performances 60

EDUCATION

STATE EDUCATE is State Theatre Company South Australia's long running and highly valued Education program. In 2022:

- 4,923 secondary students attended STCSA productions
- 37 Theatre skill and knowledge workshops were delivered to 528 students
- 2 week-long theatre intensives (Winter School and Summer School) were delivered for 25 participants
- Work Experience week saw 12 students spend a week learning about the various artistic and production parts of our theatre making
- The Flinders University Young Playwrights' Award received 12 entrants and the winning entrant received a public reading of their play
- *Cathedral* and *Euphoria*, two South Australian plays appealing to secondary students, were published by Currency Press
- *Cathedral* was presented to schools audiences in four outer metropolitan and five regional venues
- Over 100 tertiary students attended State Theatre Company South Australia rehearsals and masterclasses

"THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR PUTTING THIS INCREDIBLE WEEK TOGETHER AND LETTING ME BE A PART OF IT. ... I HAVE LEARNT SO MUCH; NOT JUST ABOUT THEATRE TECHNIQUES BUT ALSO ABOUT MYSELF. I WAS ABLE TO DO AND EXPLORE THINGS I NEVER THOUGHT I COULD DO". WINTER SCHOOL STUDENT



Winter school students



Set tour for vision impaired audience members

ACCESS FOR ALL

State Theatre Company South Australia is committed to giving all South Australians the opportunity to share the experience of theatre. In 2022 we:

- Offered touch tours and audio described, captioned and audio enhanced performances
- Offered free tickets to Companion Card holders.
- Presented a series of theatre-making workshops specifically for South Australian veterans living with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (Theatre for Change).
- Presented a Rainbow Monologues storytelling project with Feast for older LGBTQIA+ community members
- Presented Pay-What-You-Can performances for holders of Healthcare cards
- Provided discounted tickets for Media Entertainment Artist Alliance members
- Provided discounted tickets to all performances for under 30s and full-time students
- Ran Matinee Club performances for older patrons which includes a post-show Q&A with artists
- Presented a special program called A Date with State to engage older and socially isolated patrons
- Provided discounted subscription ticket prices to Seniors Card holders with the support of the South Australian Office for Ageing Well

INCLUSION

In 2022, State Theatre Company South Australia:

- Provided in-kind rehearsal space, tickets and staffing support to ActNow Theatre's Arts Pathway Program for First Nations people developing careers in the arts
- Provided complimentary tickets to Adelaide's First Nations and BIPOC communities through 'Community Night' offers for select productions
- Delivered 5 productions led by or featuring culturally and linguistically diverse artists
- Achieved gender parity of writers and directors on mainstage shows
- Delivered 2 First Nations-led works
- Delivered 3 productions featuring First Nations actors
- Achieved First Nations and CALD representation on our Board



Community night attendees



ARTIST SUPPORT

STATESIDE

State Theatre Company South Australia supports and showcases great local theatre companies as part of our Stateside program. In 2022, we supported *Kill Climate Deniers* by David Finnigan, presented by Kinetik Collective, as well as *Yes by the Rabble*, presented by The Rabble and Vitalstatistix.

Each company receives extensive marketing and production support from the new scheme, allowing local artists to tap into the extensive networks and resources the company has to offer.

STATE RESIDENT

Our State Resident program offers financial support and development time in our rehearsal room. In 2022, we supported companies and projects through our State Resident program through means including mentoring, in-kind rehearsal room hire and in-kind set and costume hire. The following independent artists were supported through the program: Brink Productions, Kinetik Collective, Flying Penguin Productions, ActNow Theatre, Michele Sant-Yves, Amelia Ryan, Michael Griffiths, Josh Belperio, Kyron Weetra, Georgi Peach, Tim Overton, Elaine Crombie, Mathew Briggs and Gina Rings.

COMMISSIONED ARTISTS

The Company's program of commissioning new plays from emerging, mid-career and established writers and nurturing the creative development of new scripts to production is one of the nation's most successful. Writers under commission in 2022 included Samuel Adamson, Elena Carapetis, Anna Goldsworthy, Verity Laughton, Meow Meow, Alexis West, Emily Steel, Van Badham and Richard Wise.

We also provide:

- Sector support of independent companies (rehearsal room and prop/costume support).
- Marketing support to the cultural sector and other arts organisations.

STATE THEATRE COMPANY SOUTH AUSTRALIA

BOARD

Amanda Anderson
Alexandra Dimos
Jude Henshall
Jodie Newton
David O'Loughlin
Diané Ranck
Joe Thorp (Chair)
Gavin Wanganeen

FOUNDATION

Coralie Cheney
Matt Hyde
Anthony Keenan
Diané Ranck
Sarah Rohrsheim
Rose Senesi
Andrew Sweet (Chair)
Simon White

EXECUTIVE

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
Mitchell Butel

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Julian Hobba

ARTISTIC

ARTISTIC PROGRAM MANAGER
Shelley Lush

EDUCATION

EDUCATION PROGRAM MANAGER
Fiona Lukac

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

HEAD OF FINANCE &
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
Scott Grimes

DEVELOPMENT, MARKETING & TICKETING

HEAD OF MARKETING &
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
Kristy Rebbeck

PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT

HEAD OF PRODUCTION & TECHNICAL
Gavin Norris

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Gabrielle Hornhardt

ADMINISTRATION

Kaurna Country
Lion Arts Centre
Level 1, Fowlers Building,
Corner Morphett St and North Tce,
Adelaide SA 5000
Ph 08 8415 5333
Email info@statetheatrecompany.com.au

PRODUCTION

(including prop and costume hire)
Kaurna Country
Wigg & Sons Building
Access via 30 Walsh St,
Thebarton SA 5031
Ph 08 8415 5351
Email
propshop@statetheatrecompany.com.au

KEEP IN TOUCH



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STATE THEATRE

COMPANY SOUTH AUSTRALIA



Government of South Australia
Arts South Australia