

WHAT TO EXPECT

Logan St by Jacob Boehme

Recommended for ages 14+ / Year 9 - 12

The production runs for approximately 90 minutes without an interval.

About the show.

Before you see *Logan St*, it is helpful to understand the world that inspired the play. Logan Street, in Adelaide, has long been a meeting place where cultures, languages, religions and traditions have come together. It reflects a community built through connection, where people from different backgrounds shared knowledge, food, stories and a sense that everyone has something valuable to contribute.

At the heart of *Logan St* is the story of playwright Jacob Boehme's ancestor, Munarto. As a young Kurna girl, she witnessed the arrival of Europeans in Adelaide (Tarndanyangga)—an event that irrevocably changed her life and the lives of her people. She was taken from her family and Country to Kangaroo Island, known to the Kurna people as Pitingga ("the island of the dead"), where she was forced into marriage with a sealer.

Drawing on both personal family history and the broader histories of Kurna people and Afghan cameleers, *Logan St* invites audiences to consider how stories of friendship, resilience and belonging can endure across generations. As you watch the production, look for the ways the past and present are woven together, revealing how history continues to shape the communities and relationships we build today.



Content warnings include: Themes of racism, displacement, trauma and violent and sexual references.

Logan St contains depictions and discussions of racism, discrimination and the ongoing impacts of colonisation. Throughout the play, characters experience prejudice, exclusion and systemic barriers that leave them feeling like outsiders on their own Country and within their own communities.

The production also references historical government policies that sought to control the lives of Aboriginal people, including the role of the Aborigines Protection Board and the Protector of Aborigines. These policies aimed to force Aboriginal people to abandon their cultural identity, language and community connections in favour of assimilation through the “Exemption Certificate”, which required some Aboriginal people to renounce their Aboriginal identity in order to access rights and freedoms available to non-Aboriginal Australians. Through a conversation between Dulcie and Goolie, the play explores the emotional and cultural consequences of these policies, highlighting the impossible choices many Aboriginal people were forced to make.

DULCIE That’s Mama’s language

GOOLIE Can you sing a little bit for me?

DULCIE The sisters used to give us the strap if we got caught

GOOLIE But it’s your mother’s language, yes? From here

DULCIE nods

GOOLIE Then you must sing it, with pride

DULCIE But we can’t

GOOLIE Of course you can

DULCIE It’s not the same you know. You’re allowed to speak your language

GOOLIE But still they laugh at us and they hurl their insults in the street

DULCIE They don’t lock you up for it though, do they? They even let you build this, where you can pray, in your language, to your God.

This loss of language highlights the struggle to maintain cultural heritage.

Displacement and Cultural Loss

Logan St explores the profound impacts of colonisation on Kurna people through the story of Munarto. As colonisation transforms the landscape around her, the play examines themes of forced removal, displacement from Country, family separation and the loss of cultural practices. These experiences are presented as part of the historical realities of colonisation and its lasting effects on First Nations communities. Munarto’s story is told through projections and film against the back of the set.

Violence and Sexual Themes

Munarto’s story includes her forced removal from her family and references to sexual violence perpetrated against her. These events are conveyed through filmed sequences and implied storytelling rather than explicit on-stage action.

Some imagery, including Munarto with blood on her face, may be distressing. However, the production does not depict explicit graphic acts of violence. Instead, these moments are presented with care, emphasising Munarto’s courage, resilience and survival rather than the violence itself.

While these themes may be confronting, they are presented to encourage reflection on Australia’s history and the enduring effects of colonial policies on individuals, families and communities.

The production of Logan St is overwhelmingly about connection, friendship, family, belonging, reconciliation and hope.