



The Burrow presents:

SLUT

BY PATRICIA CORNELIUS

Slut is a powerful indictment of misogyny from one of Australia's most celebrated playwrights. It follows the rise and fall of Melbourne schoolgirl Lolita, chronicling her fraught journey from girlhood to womanhood.

Inspired by true events and interviews with young women about their sexuality and the 'slut' label, **Slut** is a searing exploration of the female experience that undeniably Australian.

Written by **Patricia Cornelius**

Directed by **Rachel Baring**

Performed by **Laura Jane Turner, Lauren Mass, Jessica Tanner**
and **Michaela Bedel**

Stage Management by **Jordan Carter**

Produced by **Michaela Bedel** and **Jessica Tanner**

Image by **Sarah Walker**

DATE: 5 - 21 March

TIME: 8 pm

VENUE: The Burrow, 83 Brunswick St Fitzroy.

TICKETS: Full \$28 | Conc. \$25

BOOKINGS: <https://www.burrowunderground.com>





DIRECTOR'S NOTES

BY RACHEL BARRING

It is hard when you are creating new feminist theatre, because part of you hopes that it won't be relevant by the time it goes to stage. So it is really hard when you take a piece from 2007 and it is just as relevant now as it was when it was written; some days it feels more relevant now. It makes you angry and it makes you sad, and even though anger and sadness are hugely important it is more important to reflect. How have we been complicit? I don't care how "woke" you are, how the only paper you read is the Guardian (cough, me), how much you protest; when we reflect back there are ways in which we are all complicit. This play has made us, as creatives, dig deep into our own past, our conversations and our choices. There are moments we aren't proud of from both sides of the fence, there are some scars that won't heal. If we stay in sadness and anger we won't learn; get mad, get really mad, cry, sob, rage, but then reflect: What can I change about me to try to make a difference?

CAST & CREW

MICHAELA BEDEL - GROUP



Michaela Bedel is a graduate of the National Theatre Drama School, where she was awarded the William P. Carr scholarship for acting. She later trained in Meisner Technique with Ward Studio in New York, and was granted a residency with Kingston Arts as part of their New Blood initiative. She went on to work on numerous theatre productions, including Grit Theatre's Heaven for Darebin Arts, and played the lead roles of Daphne in Sly Rat Theatre's Pluck! and J.O.A.N in Rei Poh's Attempts. In 2017 she joined Complete Works Theatre Company's tour of Romeo and Juliet and Macbeth, playing Juliet and Lady Macbeth in over 300 live performances. In 2019 she performed in the US series Preacher, played a recurring role in Realestate.com.au's The Other Saturday Game campaign, and performed leading roles in short films The Spark or The Fuel, Dovetail and Uncovered.

LAUREN MASS - GROUP



Lauren Mass has been passionate about the arts from a very young age and always knew that she would pursue performing in her adult life. After graduating from The National Theatre Drama School, she proceeded to further hone her skills in the US at the New York Film Academy. Lauren has been fortunate enough to train and work with some of the most well regarded directors and creatives in the industry. Since returning home to Australia, she has landed key roles for both stage and screen. Among her many stage credits, include a one-woman show that Lauren conceived, wrote and performed, which premiered as part of the Melbourne Cabaret Festival. Her film & television credits include 'Secret Bridesmaids' Business', and Netflix's 'Rostered On'. She recently starred as Gemma in Jamaica Zuanetti's premiere production of Thigh Gap at La Mama.

JESSICA TANNER - GROUP



Jessica Tanner graduated from the National Theatre Drama School in 2013 with an Advanced Diploma of Acting and studied Postgraduate Voice at the Victorian College of the Arts in 2016. She performed in The City They Burned (Attic Erratic), which was selected to tour to Queensland as part of the 2015 Brisbane Festival, The Legend of King O'Malley (Don't Look Away) for La Mama and the Sydney Seymour Centre, Coriolanus and Marie Antoinette (Heartstring Theatre), Low Level Panic (Someone Else Theatre), The Tempest (Melbourne Shakespeare Company), The Fairytale Lives of Russian Girls and Abigail/1702 (Boutique Theatre Company) and Too Ready Mirror (Darebin Speakeasy). Most recently, Jessica performed in The Bar: A Farce of the Law (Gasworks), The Book of Ducks for La Mama's 2019 Explorations season and Blackrock (Ebb & Flow Theatre Company).

CAST & CREW

LAURA JANE TURNER - LOLITA



Laura Jane Turner is an award nominated actor. Graduating with First Class Honours from the Victorian College of the Arts in 2013, she has gone on to perform locally with Red Stitch Actors Theatre & Complete Works Theatre Company, and internationally with Chunky Move. Her Academy Award qualifying and solo performance short film, *Curve* premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival and has screened at over 50 festivals worldwide, collecting multiple award wins including Best Short Film at Sitges Film Festival - one of the world's leading international film festivals. Since 2017, Laura Jane has focused on creating female driven content. A soon-to-be film school graduate, she teamed up with Girls Act Good to create the award winning web series *Last Breath*, adapted Cate Kennedy's *The Testosterone Club* for her graduate film (in which she wrote, directed, edited and produced).

RACHEL BARRING - DIRECTOR



While studying acting one of Rachel's lecturers had the audacity to say she would be directing in 5 years- it took her one. She has been directing for 15 years and has had work performed in the UK, America and in every state of Australia. Her previous credits include; *Hildegard/Knef* and *Too Ready Mirror* both for Darebin Arts Speakeasy, *Marie Antoinette* (HeartStrings Productions), *Brustwarze- The Wart on My Breast* (Melbourne Comedy Festival), *Murder Ballads* and *The Goat*; or *Who is Sylvia* (5Pound Theatre). In 2015 she was a part of the Women's Directing Program at the MTC. Rachel is a NIDA graduate (directing 2011).

JORDAN CARTER - STAGE MANAGER



Jordi Carter is a freelance Stage Manager who graduated from The Victorian College of the Arts in 2018 (Bachelor of Fine Arts, Production: Stage Management) and Swinburne University in 2012 (Diploma of Theatre Arts) Jordan has previously worked on *The Crucible* (Adena Jacobs), *The Production Company's Jesus Christ Superstar* (Gale Edwards) *The Book of Ducks* (Glenn Saunders) *Make Me A Hour* (Stephanie Ghajar) and *Thigh Gap* (Alice Darling). Jordan loves the variety of work, people and the many new experiences of working in Stage Management. In her spare time, Jordan is teaching herself special effect hair and makeup.

CAST & CREW

JOHN COLLOPY - LIGHTING DESIGN



John Collopy is a lighting designer with a severe allergy to all noise, who lives in a dark, vacuum-pumped room, his lungs surgically connected to a supply of oxygen, his ears blocked with several layers of hearing protection. He surfaces only to mutter Lee Gel numbers and stare into bright lights. John Collopy studied the dark arts at Monash, where he discovered his distaste for photonic scarcity. Now, using sophisticated technology, he throws photons at actors, in the hope that they bounce around and enter the retinas of audience members. He believes in theatre's power to change, but is not so sure of the power of photons to cause anything of real consequence. His light-related credits include *The Market is a Wind Up Toy*; *The Nose*; and *Paradise Lost (The Bloomshed)*; *Thigh Gap (La Mama)*; *Norma and Otello (Melbourne Opera)*; *Marie Antoinette (Heartstring Theatre)*; *Too Ready Mirror (Darebin Speakeasy)*; *Kilter and Sensory Decadence (One Fell Swoop Circus)*; and *The Man Who Cannot Sleep (Magic Lantern Studio/White Night)*.

DANIELLA ESPOSITO - SOUND DESIGN



Daniella Esposito is our incredible Sound Designer. Daniella is a Sound Designer and Composer at the Victorian College of The Arts, BFA, Design and Production. As an advocate of the arts, she creates aural landscapes that ignite a transformative world from hearing to experiencing as an integral element of story-telling and performance. During her time at VCA, she has contributed to projects such as *Doctor Faustus Lights the Lights (2019)*, *On The Town (2019)*, and *Swim Between The Flags (2019)*. Professionally, her credits include sound design and composition at The Malthouse 2020 Season Launch (2019), Patalog Theatre's production of 'Punk Rock' (2019), Three Fates Theatre Company's production of 'Land', 'Never Said Motel' immersive theatre experience debut at The Writer's Festival (2019) and OK Motels Festival (2019), 'Adam' by Frances Poet for 'Midsumma', (2020), as well as associate design on the Science Gallery Melbourne/Jetpack Theatre collaboration, 'Disposable' Walking Tour (2019).

THANK YOU

Pippa Bainbridge, Heath Ivy-Law, Daniel Rice, Paul Tanner, Cameron Fleming, Lachlan Fleming, Sarah Walker, Russell Goldsmith, The Australian Cultural Fund and all of our generous contributors, The Kathleen Syme Library, Richmond Uniting Church, The City of Yarra