

ECHO

Presented by
Union House Theatre

Directed by
Petra Kalive



22-23, 27-30 MAY 2015

7:30PM

Union Theatre, Ground Floor,
Union House

University of Melbourne
umsu.unimelb.edu.au/echo

Photo by Sarah Walker



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Welcome to this production of Echo at Union House. The idea for this work has been sitting in the back of my brain for the last four years and I am so excited to actually have found a group of willing collaborators to come on the journey with me. What you will see tonight, although guided by me, is the collaborative effort of artists on stage and behind the scenes. This is a devised work – it has been written, choreographed and shaped by the students – my job has been provocateur, out-side-eye and 'connector-of-ideas'. For my first production at Union House, I wanted to find a play that connected in a deep and meaningful way with its audience but more importantly with the students involved.

Through the investigation of narcissism, I think we've found it. The students and I have had incredibly rich and robust discussions about the way narcissism affects our lives in positive and negative ways. The challenge has then been to create a piece of theatre that allows these ideas to live in a way that embraces complexity, isn't all doom and gloom, but still gets us to think about how what we do as individuals has a dramatic impact on the culture that we create. Just as the myth Echo and Narcissus is a cautionary tale, so too is our incarnation of this story – ours happens under the surface of the pool, refracted and echoed in strange and unexpected ways.

This production simply could not have happened without the incredible efforts of all the UHT staff Erin, Gus, Jim and

Clynton, the design team of Casey-Scott, Lisa Mibus, and the irreplaceable SM Joanna Leishman and her assistants Alice and Shannon. Joanna Pidcock, my wonderful Assistant Director thank you for your help and the rabbits. To Jai Leeworthy and Liam Bellman-Sharpe a big thanks. And finally to the performers, an incredible group of talented young people who took a risk and stepped willingly into the unknown. It is a daunting prospect to sign yourself up to a show that doesn't have a script, design and 'roles' to play. These young performers have given me their trust and thrown themselves in the deep-end with spectacular results. I'm very proud of them. Enjoy the play and the work of the extraordinary narcissists involved.

Petra Kalive

CAST

Camilla Best

Sara Bolch

Tatiana Kotsimbos

Jordan Lowe

Manon Neyrat

Sara Pascoe

Hadyus Santoso

Amy Spurgeon

Dudu Yang

Max Yates

CREATIVES & CREW

Director
Petra Kalive

Set & Costume Designer
Casey-Scott Corless

Lighting Designer
Lisa Mibus

Composers
Liam Bellman-Sharpe
& Jai Leeworthy

Assistant Director
Joanna Pidcock

Designer Mentee
Gabby Lewis

Production Manager
Gus Macdonald

Head Technician
Clynton Jones

Set Realisation
Jim Stenson

Stage Manager
Jo Leishman

Deputy Stage Manager
Alice Bouleau

Assistant Stage Manager
Shannon Kim

Lighting & Sound
Operators
Dominic Desribes
Martin Hoggart

Marketing and Publicity
Erin Adams

Marketing Assistant
Hui Bai

Front of House Manager
Ben White

Photographer
Sarah Walker

Graphic Design
Daga Mikolaj

CAST



Camilla Best

"There's a reason why my last name is Best."



Sara Bolch

"Some people are just born stars, you either have it or you haven't, and I was definitely born one."



Sara Pascoe

"My name literally means princess in Arabic, google it"



Amy Spurgeon

"Before you ask, my number is 0401 673 895"



Hadyus Santoso

"I'm the most modest person in the cast"

CAST



Tatiana Kotsimbos

"Tatiana means Queen of the Fairies, I consider myself Queen of the World."



Jordan Lowe

"God saw what he had made and it was goood."



Manon Neyrat

"My whole life is a miracle"



Amy Spurgeon

"Before you ask, my number is 0401 673 895"



Dudu Yang

"Spotlight on ME – that's why theatre exists"

PRODUCTION TEAM



Director
Petra Kalive

"I hope these children realise they've been working in the presence of a genius"



Set & Costume Designer
Casey-Scott Corless

"Having designed for international pop star Justin Bieber, Casey has designed to work with this pack of amateurs."



Lighting Designer
Lisa Mibus

"Lisa said 'let the show have light', and there was light. Lisa saw the light was good."



Stage Manager
Jo Leishman

"I am sorry you can't be me."



Deputy Stage Manager
Alice Bouleau

"I actually find it annoying that everyone I know calls me an over-achiever"

PRODUCTION TEAM



Composer

Liam Bellman-Sharpe

"Waking up looking like this sure does save time."



Composer

Jai Leeworthy

"I don't really have inspirations - how can you be an inspiration to others if your whole life is totally derivative?"



Assistant Director

Joanna Pidcock

"Better than Petra"



Assistant Stage Manager

Shannon Kim

"My hotness will scorch you! Be careful."



Marketing & Publicity

Erin Adams

"But enough about me, let's talk about you... what do YOU think of me?"

RUNNING TIME

60 minutes, no interval

SPECIAL THANKS

Xanthe Beesley,
Carolyn Bolton and all the
Info staff, Sarah Borg for
her incredible advice as
an expert in Narcissism,
Sara Bosch-Brinques,
Dee Jarrett, Tim Stitz
and all our wonderful
theatre casuals.

UNION HOUSE THEATRE

Union House Theatre is
the hub for extracurricular
student theatre at the
University of Melbourne.
We program plays,
workshops and events
giving students a taste of
professional practice.
We have been nurturing
student playwrights,
directors, performers and
technicians since 1969!

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR / THEATRE COORDINATOR

Petra Kalive

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Gus Macdonald

HEAD TECHNICIAN

Clynton Jones

STAGE CARPENTER & MECHANIST

Jim Stenson

THEATRE ADMIN & DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Erin Adams