



U
NSW

UNION
HOUSE
THEATRE

***Ida* is a musical about the first female students at the University of Melbourne. It is a celebration of the achievements of these women who bravely challenged an institution – and triumphed.**

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Tonight, you will be watching *Ida* – a reimagined incarnation of Punton & Meyers' 1994 production *The Princess Ida Parlour*. In keeping with the spirit of the original production, *Ida* celebrates the achievements of young women who challenged the institution and became the first women to study at the University of Melbourne.

Women were first admitted to study at this University in 1880 as a result of a Royal Commission into Victoria's Education System. In 1883 Bella Guerin became the first female graduate from an Australian University. The Princess Ida Club was formed in 1888 and lasted until 1925. It enabled all women at the University to meet socially and speak with one voice on University affairs. The club's home was the Princess Ida Parlour – two rooms on the upper story of the east side of the Law Quad. The parlour's name was derived from the popular Gilbert & Sullivan comic opera *Princess Ida*.

We embarked on a new score for this work as the original was composed on an Ensoniq ASR-10, a vintage sampling keyboard which is no longer manufactured. A big thanks to composer, musical director and alumnus, Ashlee Clapp who worked with the cast to create this original score. Ashlee has the amazing ability to take a bucket-load of ideas and synthesise them into a coherent musical form.

Big thanks to the whole UHT team who do so much to support the realisation of student work. Second Semester is a particularly busy time for our office with a huge array of student theatre supported as well as workshops to up skill and mentees to guide. To add an in-house production into the mix is no mean feat. As usual the staff at UHT take it in their stride. To Khat, Allen, Clynton, Erin, Bella and Xanthe and to all our casual theatre workers: thank you. You have all worked so very hard and *Ida* completes a huge and successful semester. Thank you.

**Petra Kalive, Co-Artistic Director
Union House Theatre**



umsu.unimelb.edu.au/ida



IDA

10-20 OCTOBER 2018

GUILD THEATRE, UNION HOUSE, UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

Ida

Presented by

Union House Theatre (UHT)

Performances

10-20 October, 2018 at 7.30pm
(Matinee Saturday Oct 20, 4pm)

Running Time

90 mins, no interval

Venue

Guild Theatre, Level 1
Union House, University of
Melbourne

Cast

Zoe Cantwell
Yufan Jo Chen
Merryn Hughes
Alina Jin
Mavin Karunanidhy
Nicholas Kirkby
Andre Martinovici
Mariana Ricci
Matthew Schaffner
Lucy Seale
Olivia Wang
Emily White

Union House Theatre (UHT) is the hub for co-curricular student theatre at the University of Melbourne. We program performances, masterclasses and events giving students a taste of professional practice.

We have been nurturing student playwrights, directors, performers and technicians since 1969! UHT is staffed by industry professionals who advise and assist students in all aspects related to performance and production.

Production Team

Director

Petra Kalive

Composer/Musical Director

Ashlee Clapp

Movement Director

Xanthe Beesley

Set Designer

Gabrielle Lewis

Costume Designer

Natalie Gillis

Lighting Design Mentor

Lisa Mibus

Lighting Designer

Lucy Davidson

Production Manager

Khat Kerr

Stage Manager

Ashleigh Morris

Head Technician

Clynton Jones

Stage Carpenter

Allen Laverty

Marketing & Publicity

Erin Adams

Documentation

Rachel Shrives

Assistant Director

Ellie Hamill

Assistant Musical Director

Abby Pemmelaar

Assistant Choreographer

Bronya Doyle

We respectfully acknowledge the Elders, families and descendants of the Wurundjei people who have been and still are the custodians of the land on which this performance takes place.



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