

HANDSOAP AND HOLOS



WRITER Kat Moritz
DIRECTOR Stephanie Ghajar
PRODUCER Lilja Owsley



PLAYWRIGHT

Kat Moritz



Kat Moritz is a Melbourne-based writer. In 2016, her debut play (in)tent premiered at the Melbourne Fringe Festival to sold out audiences. Last year, as part of her residency at the Abbotsford Convent, Australia, she developed and workshopped her play Disgust, which went on to have a full season as part of La Mama Theatre's 2018 Winter Program, in Melbourne. As well as being a writer, Kat also works as a screen producer, publicist, and is currently Resident Dramaturge at MKA. This year she was the recipient of an Ian Potter Cultural Trust grant which she is using to further her professional development in New York.

Kat's obsession, artistically, is with the everyday. It also revolves around challenging the theatre's ability to represent. All too often she sees works that claim to be about very real and current issues and yet she leaves the theatre feeling alienated; thinking, *I don't speak the way those characters do; that isn't how that issue manifests in my life; my mum/partner/friend don't behave that way*. All her work, but particularly *Scotch and Handsoap*, is a response to this and an attempt, on her behalf, to just present and, in turn, create something that's unique, thoughtful, informed but, most importantly, accessible. Part verbatim, part observation, part movement, Kat thinks of *Scotch and Handsoap* as a composition of voices, relationships, and interactions that asks the question: we communicate with each other on a daily basis but, are we actually connecting - really?

DIRECTOR

Stephanie Ghajar



Lebanese-born, Australian theatre and filmmaker, Ghajar's work delves into the human condition to explore the individual in deeply personal situations where the familiar motions of the everyday darken and veer towards the tragic, whilst maintaining a ritualistic performance in space and time. Her work in film and theatre together has shown evident streaks of each medium seeping into the other.

In New York, she has been involved with Elevator Repair Service, The Kitchen (Assistant Stage Manager), Mabou Mines, and PRTT/Pregones Theater (Lighting Designer). She also assists lighting designer, Lucrecia Briceño, in her work.



SOPHIE BECKER

"I talk about the gods, I am an atheist. But I am an artist too, and therefore a liar. Distrust everything I say. I am telling the truth. The only truth I can understand or express is, logically defined, a lie. Psychologically defined, a symbol. Aesthetically defined, a metaphor."

— Ursula K. Le Guin,
The Left Hand of Darkness



JESSIE TIDBALL

Jessie has worked with Jim Findlay on VINE OF THE DEAD, performed at The Collapsible Hole, The Invisible Dog Arts Center, and the Fusebox Festival in Austin, TX. In 2014 she was invited to play Anne Frank in ANNE AND EMMETT, performed at the Supreme Court for a convention of women judges, and hosted by Ruth Bader Ginsberg.



LILJA OWSLEY

Lilja is an actor, producer, and theater maker. Lilja spends her days producing at Elevator Repair Service and nights on independent passion projects (like this one). She dreams of starting her own theater company upstate. If that fails, her plan B is to be a goatherd.

www.liljaowsley.com



SAMUEL WRIGHT
RICHARDSON

Sam is an alumni of the Stella Adler Studio through NYU Tisch, but don't hold that against him. He loves three things: coffee, the sound of his own voice, and not getting paid. Looks like he picked the right field.



LAURA TROSHYNSKI

Laura is from Wisconsin and enjoys cheese even more than the stereotype suggests. A graduate of NYU Tisch at the Stella Adler Studio, Laura works as a theater maker, actor, and teaching artist in New York. She teaches at the women's facility at Rikers Island. She lives in Brooklyn with her cat. For more information, visit lauratroszynski.com



SAM GIBBS

Sam Gibbs is an actor, director, and writer from Brooklyn. Ever since he was a boy, he's had an unhealthy obsession with Shakespeare. He enjoys performing, creating site specific classical work with his company Stairwell Theater, and drafting unpublished fantasy and sci-fi novels. Needless to say, his parents are thrilled.

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