

DIRECTOR & DESIGNER

ELIZABETH WALLEY

Elizabeth Walley is a Melbourne-based actor, writer, director and dramaturg who trained with Uta Hagen at the *HB Studios*, NYC and has lived and worked in America and the UK. Original plays include: *Commodities* (Covent Garden Fringe and The New End Theatre, London), *Louder Than Words* (Chapel Off Chapel and La Mama) and *The Trauma Project* (La Mama Explorations 2017). Elizabeth is resident director at the Melbourne Writers' Theatre and has directed MWT's annual *Monologues* season since 2015. Other credits include *The Metropolis Monologues* (2020), *Daring Dog* (Fringe 2019), *Beachside Stories* (Gasworks 2019), *Stark Dark Albert Park* (Fringe 2018), *St Kilda Stories* (Fringe 2017), *The Madwomen Monologues* (2018), *Trash Goes Down The River* (2017), *The World Without Birds* (2016) and *The Agreement* (2015). Elizabeth works regularly as an actor and is currently completing a creative practice-based PhD (Playwriting) at RMIT University. Her play *The Trauma Project* will be presented at fortyfive downstairs from 17–28 March.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

MAZZ RYAN

Mazz Ryan joined Melbourne Writers' Theatre in 2012, after travelling extensively and teaching in the UK and Vietnam. She is a playwright, director and performer whose plays and monologues have been performed in MWT productions at La Mama and Gasworks Arts Park, as well as at The Owl and Cat Theatre, Essendon Theatre and on the one-act-play circuit. Following her role as co-director of *Six Degrees at a Hot Melbourne Market* (2019)), Mazz co-directed *The City Park Plays* with Virginia Proud in 2020. She praises the diverse team of actors and participants who have pulled together, stayed together and rehearsed online together during the challenging, changing period leading up to the presentation of this show. 'Through all of this we have continued to bring new Theatre to life, and we continue to be inspired by its power to open minds and influence change.'

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank everyone who has helped us to bring **The Best, The Fairest, The First** to life on stage, especially: Barbara Toohey, our remarkable stage manager; Anna Moloney-Heath, our photographer and videographer; our team of Ushers; and all staff at Gasworks, for supporting us during the creation and production of this show. Special thanks to Isabella Gilbert, who provided the Projections and Sound, and to those who provided us with props. We'd like to acknowledge Jason from Man In Your Head (NZ), who created the Jess Gallagher video, and comedian Bobby Macumber for allowing us to use her song 'White Line Diva' (#/BettyInBronze). Finally and importantly, we'd like to thank our Audience. Without you, there can be no show. We sincerely hope you enjoyed this one, and those to come. *Clare Mendes, Producer – The Best, The Fairest, The First*



The BEST, The FAIREST, The FIRST

*Behind every Australian Sportswoman,
there's an unsung Heroine who blazed the trail.*

A collection of plays, performances and magical moments

Proudly presented by

Melbourne Writers' Theatre

in association with

GASWORKS ARTS PARK



3 – 6 March @ 7.30pm

Sat 6 March @ 2pm and 7.30pm

Gasworks Arts Park 21 Graham St, Albert Park

TICKETS

<https://www.gasworks.org.au/whats-on/best-fairest-first>

Or call (03) 8606 4200 on weekdays between 9.30am – 5pm

Or enquire at Gasworks Reception during the above times.