

Lunatic Theatre presents

PUNK ROCK

by Simon Stephens.



**MEAT MARKET
STABLES**

SEPT 17-21

By Arrangement with ORIGIN™
Theatrical on Behalf of Samuel French.
A Concord Theatricals Company

**DIRECTED BY
JAY WOOD**

PRINCIPAL NOTES

At Lunatix we respectfully acknowledge First People's sovereignty and recognise the continuing connection to lands, waters and storytelling by Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia

We pay our respects to the clans and language groups in Victoria, to their elders past and present, and acknowledge the strength and resilience of the Aboriginal peoples.

Always was, always will be Aboriginal Land.

Punk Rock means a lot of different things to people, rebellion, hatred for people in power, fighting for the lower class, apathy, or simply just a wish to see things get crazy.

So imagine trying making a play with that ethos in mind. It's a bit tricky. I'm hoping that if you are reading this you are at least committed to see our attempt.

Our show is set in 2008, a time where not only I was in high school like our characters, but also personally surrounded by punk music (both brothers of mine were in Punk Bands in Regional NSW). I too felt first hand, like that of the characters, that it's hard not to be mad, when the only other emotion we had was boredom. Something I still see a lot of in the schoolyard today.

Simon Stephen's writing allows us to transform stock standard high school tropes, into fully fledged characters. We as a team worked incredibly hard to find the balance between the anger and boredom of our characters to give something that feels performative but also familiar. When the teachers weren't around, we had to make our time up with the 'friends' we had to see 5 times a day every week. Think the Breakfast Club without a filter.

I'll finish by saying no show exists without the entire team committed to putting it up on its feet. Thanks to those in the cast who prepared for this intense show two times a week, my crew for always being ready to take a question (even those who came last minute), and my AD Dani who brought the most essential thing, joy, to every rehearsal.

But the biggest thanks goes to Maddie Richards, Producer, Actor, Director- and whatever hat she needs-, for being the beating heart and brains of Lunatix. It's incredible to work with a brand new company, one that prides itself as feeling incredibly confident, unflinching and eager to go further with each new show.

Hope you enjoy the show (as best as one can enjoy a show like this one), and if you don't? Well, how very Punk Rock of you.

Jay Wood
Director

WESTMINISTER CLASS OF 2008



DIRECTOR

Jay Wood

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Danielle Smith

STAGE MANAGER

Mahi Modouris

Set Design

Sarah Ryan

Lighting Design

Cale Dennis

Projection Design

Jasper James

SOUND PROJECTION OPERATION

Patrick Spencer

Costume Design

Maddie Richards

Intimacy Coordinator

Jessica Stanely

Accent Dialect

Alexandra Whitham

Original Music by
"Plus Many More"

Luke Kingsley, Adam Lagudi, Joel Jakes and Andrew Wood



PROPERTIES

Maddie Richards & Cast

FIGHT CHOREOGRAPHY

Bailey Griffiths

POSTER DESIGN

Fion Chang

Photography
Leo Cherry

CAST

Luke Hill-Smith
Kaitlin Devine
Lachlan Herring
Maddie Richards

Matthew Poggi
Grace McLaughlin
Columbus Lane

With Special Thanks to
Brighton Theatre Company, Adelle Richards, Emily Day, Emma Wood,
Jack Madden, Xanthe Sefton Javier Lumsden, Freya Marsland Murray,
Peter Mitrousis Kothe





STUDENT CLASS OF 2008

WILLIAM CARSILE



Columbus Lane

He/Him

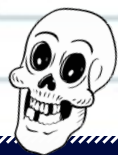
Columbus Lane is studying a BA in Performing Arts at Collarts. He came to acting after completing a BA in Literature and Film at La Trobe University, finally realising a long held passion. Through his studies Columbus has worked with some of Australia's most exciting directors, including Sarah Goodes, playing the title role in her adaption of Uncle Vanya and Stephen Nicholazzo in Merciless Gods. He is active in Melbourne's independent theatre scene. This year he has played Brett Sprague in Sevenfold's production of The Boys and Jim O'Connor in Running With Scissors' acclaimed production of The Glass Menagerie.

BENNETT FRANCIS

Luke Hill-Smith

He/Him

Luke Hill-Smith is an actor based in Melbourne. He is a graduate of NIDA, and is currently studying at CollArts. His previous credits include Constellations with Lunatix, as well as Uncle Vanya with Sarah Goodes, and Pool (No Water) with Sam Strong.



LILLEY CAHILL



Maddie Richards

She/Her

Maddie Richards (she/her) is a Melbourne based artist, working as a performer, producer, designer and photographer. She is currently finishing her Bachelor of Performing (Acting) with the Australian College of the Arts. She most recently appeared as Sonia in Uncle Vanya, Dir. Sarah Goodes with other highlights including Wednesday (The Addams Family), Marianne (Merciless Gods), Daughter (Trail to Oregon), Nancy (Kids Stakes) and Linda (Blood Brothers) for which she was nominated for a CONDA award. Maddie recently made her Directorial debut in Lunatix production of Blackrock as well as playing Marianne in their production of Constellations.



CAISSY FRANKS

Kaitlin Devine

She/Her

Kaitlin Devine is a Melbourne-based actor, currently undertaking her BPA in Performing Arts at Collarts. Having previously graduated from the Warehouse Workshop Intensive Acting Internship in 2016, she gained film and screen experience, including a role on Neighbours (2019). Her recent theatre credits include Waiting for Godot (2025, dir. Naomi Edwards, Collarts), Carrie (2024, dir. Emma Valente, Collarts), and Cymbeline (2024, dir. Rob Johnson, Burning House and Heartstring). She is excited to be returning to the stage in 2025 with Lunatix Theatre's Punk Rock.



NICHOLAS CHATMAN



Matthew Poggi

He/Him

Matthew is a passionate Melbourne-based performer and creative who is a 2024 graduate of Federation University's Bachelor of Performing Arts. Matthew most recently appeared in *What To Do When You Kill Your Co-Star* (Alex) directed by Kay Beischel. Other credits include *Op Shop 'Till You Drop* (Salvatore), as part of the MICF; *Her Majesty's 150th Birthday Blowout Party*, directed by Ian Pidd; *Crush: The Musical* (Dorian Dossierdale), directed by Beng Oh, and *Ariel Songs*, written and directed by Rick Chew. Matthew is also co-composer and co-writer of an upcoming Australian musical in development titled, *Knowing How to Love*.



TANYA GLEESON



Grace McLaughlin

She/Her

Grace is a Melbourne-based artist currently studying a bachelor of Writing and Directing at The Australian College of The Arts (Collarts). Her previous credits include 'co-directing *Blackrock*' (Lunatix), *Waiting for Godot* with Namoi Edwards (Collarts), *Uncle Vanya* with Sarah Goodes (Collarts) and *Mamma Mia the Musical* (The Very Popular Theatre Company).

CHADWICK MEADE

Lachlan Herring

He/Him

Lachlan is a Naarm (Melbourne) based actor and producer. In 2023 Lachlan completed the full-time acting course at 16th Street Actors Studio. As well as this he has also completed training at places such as the Australian Institute of Performing Arts (AIPA) and the National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA) from 2020 to 2021. Some of Lachlan's most recent credits include Davison in 'Mary Stuart' by Kate Mulvany (Chaika Theatre, 2024), Jasper in 'The Inheritance' by Matthew López (Everyman Theatre, 2024), and Baby in 'Mojo' by Jez Butterworth (Red Herring Theatre Company, 2025). Lachlan can also be seen on screen in season 2 of the ABC TV show 'Austin' (2025). Alongside his pursuits as an actor Lachlan is also a theatre producer, having launched his own theatre company, Red Herring Theatre Company, in 2024. He produced the company's first show 'Mojo' by Jez Butterworth in 2025 and has plans for more productions to come.



Lachlan would like to dedicate his performance tonight to the loving memories of Helen Dodds and Jackson Passlow.





DIRECTOR

Jay Wood

Jay Wood is a Producer, Writer, Director and Actor who has been Directing theatre since their first production back in 2010 at the University of Newcastle. A show that managed to get the attention of heads of other companies, leading to a fruitful period of directing many award winning shows in Regional NSW, as well as touring a Shakespeare production in NSW early in their career.

Some of the many shows they have directed were 'Doubt' (Newcastle Theatre Company), 'Seminar' (Stooged Theatre Company), 'Constellations' (Seated Ovation Theatre), 'S-27' (Two Tall Theatre). As a performer Jay recently acted in 'Things I Know To Be True' at Hunter Drama, and also was the Drama Ensemble

Director for the Aspire Program for four years.

This production of Punk Rock marks their first show in Melbourne, and believes there is no better way to debut.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Danielle Smith

She/Her

Dani is an emerging theatre director and dramaturg based in Melbourne/Naarm. She is currently studying her Bachelor of Performing Arts (Writing and Directing) at Collarts. Her previous directing and assistant directing credits include The Laramie Project, Morning Sacrifice directed by Virginia Proud and The House of Bernarda Alba directed by Emma Valente. Dani has loved working on Punk Rock and being exposed to new styles and processes involved in the making of such a work. She has been passionate about theatre her whole life and plans to continue her study's and eventually work full time in the industry.

STAGE MANAGER

Mahi Modouris

She/Her

Mahi is an emerging Melbourne/Naarm-based stage manager and performer. She has completed her Diploma of Theatre Arts at Melbourne Polytechnic in 2022 and is now currently studying a Bachelor of Performing Arts (Stage Management) at Collarts. Her previous credits include Gemco Players Community Theatre's Find Me as 'Verity' and assistant stage manager for Fortyfivedownstair's ILARUN: The Cutting Comb and assistant stage manager for Love and Information at TheatreWorks. Mahi enjoys all aspects of theatre, onstage and offstage and aims to take in as much information during her studies and work as she can. As a theatre maker, she hopes to work in a whole range of different genres and to learn and experience what it's like to work in all aspects of theatre. She is very much looking forward to being a part of this team and assisting in putting on this show.

STAFF

LIGHTING DESIGN

Cale Dennis

They/Them

Throughout my career, I have had the privilege of being involved in a plethora of premier productions. As the director of Silent Sky Collective's premiere production Set Me on Fire I realized a vision that led to the production nomination for two Anywhere Festival Awards. In my work as a lighting designer, I have designed for theatrical productions such as The Wolves through to drag, cabaret and dance as part of the Backbone Festival and The Toucan Club. My work on accoladed productions also extends into my stage management experience, including IMRSE's CAKE which was nominated for three Matilda awards including Best Independent Production. I am also a seasoned performer in theatre, musicals and podcasts and I bring all of this experience to each of my creative endeavours.

My approach to art involves encapsulating my wholistic experience of live performance in all facets of my process to create captivating and ingenious productions.

SET DESIGN

Sarah Ryan

She/Her

Sarah is an upcoming Set Design based in Naarm/Melbourne. She aims to create unique and intriguing sets that allow the audience to question the content of the production. She previously worked on Lunatix's previous production of 'Blackrock'.

SOUND/PROJECTION

Patrick Spencer

He/Him

As a 21 year old originally from Brisbane, he has been interested in theatre from pretty early age. Initially interested in singing and performing in musicals, he quickly discovered his love for all things design in VCE Theatre Studies. Since beginning studies at COLLARTS, he has both stage managed and sound designed shows, often at the same time.

Past productions include Cymbeline (Burning House/Heartstring Theatre Co., dir. Robert Johnson), Cabaret Vertigo (NICA) as an Assistant Stage Manager. And Uncle Vanya (COLLARTS, dir. Sarah Goodes) The Day We Were Not Alone (COLLARTS. dir. Kitan Petkowski) as a Sound Designer

