

Fab
Nobs
Theatre Inc

DOG FIGHT!



BBB



DOG FIGHT'

Music and Lyrics by
**BENJ PASEK &
JUSTIN PAUL**

Book by
**PETER
DUCHAN**

Based on the Warner Bros. film and screenplay by Bob Comfort

Produced by Second Stage Theatre, New York, 2012

Carole Rothman, Artistic Director

Orchestrations by Michael Starobin

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Presidents Report - Lizzie Matjacic

When selecting shows to bring to the Fab Nobs stage, we are always looking for the interesting, the innovative, the quirky, the not often performed pieces that are exciting for actors to perform and highly enjoyable for audiences to see. We have been wanting to bring Dogfight to our audiences for a very long time and are thrilled to be presenting it tonight. Dogfight is moving and beautiful; it surprises and thrills and will take you on a journey that will stay with you long after the performance. We are so proud of our exceptional cast and production team who have worked so hard to bring their vision to life and create this stunning show.

Behind tonight's performance is a team of incredibly dedicated and talented people who have worked tirelessly to bring this vision about and I would like to thank them most sincerely for their efforts. The Fab Nobs community is a family and everyone contributes because we all feel passionate about bringing great theatre to our audiences. I would like to thank our director Karl McNamara for bringing his creativity, heart and soul into this project. Karl has brought this story to life with his exceptional direction and we thank him for his outstanding work. Karl has been most ably supported by our fabulous musical director Vicki Quinn. Vicki's guidance and musical expertise, her indefatigable energy and positive spirit have helped us to make musical magic tonight.

The production team have of course, also been supported by our army of behind the scenes helpers whom we cannot forget and without whom we could not be here. We would like to sincerely thank Bec Ginsberg (production manager), Meredith and Elise Cooney (costumes), Vanessa Burke (lighting), Peter and Michaela Phelps (sound) and Emily Carter our stage manager for their wonderful work. And no less important are our committee and extended helpers who look after our venue, staff front of house and bar and brainstorm about how to help our company go from strength to strength year after year.

And last, but by no means least, thank you to you, our patrons. Without you, there would be no shows, no Fab Nobs and no magic. We cannot begin to express how grateful we are for your continued support of our company without which we could not keep fulfilling our passion to bring high quality and innovative theatre to the stage. We hope you enjoy a nice glass of wine and tonight's show!

A Note From The Director

In DOGFIGHT, you're going to meet the adrenaline of hormone-raging, insensitive, raucous young marines on the eve of their deployment to Viet Nam in 1963. They are brash, profane and their 13-week military training has desensitised their humanity. When Eddie is with his buds, the "power of the pack" mentality sets in and he hardly seems any different to his comrades. But on this night, Eddie will meet a gentle, sensitive and compassionate young woman and he'll find himself caught between the aggressive, machismo, live-it-up mentality of his comrades and the quiet gentle nature of Rose. The desensitization of Eddie from his military training crumbles as he discovers, through Rose's kindness and hurt, that he has a heart. This meeting... and the battle in Viet Nam... will forever change the life of Eddie Birdlace.

With our 2016 mentality, what you are about to see will surely make you uncomfortable. The language of these marines will burn your ears; their lack of respect and humiliation of women will sting your eyes. Amidst the profanity and male bravado, DOGFIGHT shows us how the power of compassion and love can conquer even the most inbred inclination for hurling insults and misogyny. Historical degradation of any group is distasteful and unpleasant to watch. But that doesn't mean that we should ignore the fact that it existed. History often makes us uncomfortable.

Bear in mind that these boys are the males of the 60s... November 21st, 1963, on the eve of President Kennedy's assassination and the women's liberation movement. This was a time when equality between the sexes was not even close to being a reality. A time when Americans truly believed they were untouchable. A day later, that belief would implode and the slow erosion of the USA's unshakeable idealism would begin.

These boys expect to return home to a hero's welcome, never considering the possibility of death or of coming back to find themselves regarded by the peace movement as scorned symbols of an unnecessary conflict. This atypical musical recalls the ethical questions war raised and continues to raise today.

The female characters in the story are not to be pitied... they are stronger, brighter and often more in control than their male counterparts. They are no feeble victims. The characters to be pitied are the men. The BOYS. The boys who don't know any better. The boys who cling to the mob mentality and to each other because it's the only thing that makes them feel safe, validated, and powerful... the only thing that makes them feel like 'men'.

What follows is a night of powerful emotions and lessons for Eddie, Rose, and the Marines. It's a night where there are no winners, but in which morals, values, humility, and humanity are explored and dissected. I hope this truly unique show performed by a highly skilled cast affects you as much as it has affected me.

Our rehearsals have been passionate, intense and of course, fun (it's why we do it after all!)

Shows like DOGFIGHT would have struggled to find a home a few years ago. For such a simple black box theatre, it always feels like there is a little bit of magic present in this the Fab Factory. I would like to thank the Fab Nobs committee for all their support and especially the ridiculously gifted Vicki Quinn, the amazing musical wizard who had managed to get the best sound out of this talented cast and Production Manager Bec Ginsberg who has been my organised rock throughout this entire process.



KARL MCNAMARA - Director

Karl is no stranger to Fab Nobs and feels well at home with this truly unique company that is willing to take a chance on new and exciting shows that are not regularly produced. Karl has worked as a director and performer with Fab Nobs Theatre over the last 10 years, directing: It's a Bird... It's a Plane... Its Superman, The Drowsy Chaperone, Spring Awakening and Reefer Madness. Most recently, Karl directed an incredibly well-received production of Mary Poppins with PLOS. Karl has also directed Grease 2 at Chapel off Chapel for Stage Art and co-directing the 2014 VMTG Award Ceremony. By day, Karl teaches Drama and Media Studies at Glen Waverley Secondary College. In 2010 he directed Sweeney Todd which won a VMTG award and Lyrebird award for Best Junior Show and he was also awarded Best Director of a Junior Show. Whilst at Glen Waverley, Karl has also directed Hairspray, Seussical, Zombie Prom, Urinetown, Little Shop of Horrors, Guys and Dolls Jnr, Into the Woods Jnr, Aladdin Jnr, Mulan Jnr and also the Australian premier of Avenue Q. Karl would like to thank Vicki and Bec for all their support and for being amazing at their jobs!



VICKI QUINN - Musical Director

Vicki is best known as a Musical Director, highlights being the Lyrebird nominated The Witches of Eastwick (Players), Songs for a New World (PEP), Hairspray (SLAMS), Bonnie and Clyde (Fab Nobs), Carrie (Fab Nobs) and The Drowsy Chaperone (Fab Nobs) for which she won Best Musical Director, and most recently The Toxic Avenger (Fab Nobs). Vicki has many on stage credits, her greatest achievement being her Lyrebird winning performance in Songs for a New World (DTC). In addition to performing as a soloist, Vicki's experience ranges from large choral and orchestral settings to small ensembles, as both a conductor and a vocalist/clarinetist. She is also an accomplished singing teacher and music arranger. Vicki would like to thank Fab Nobs and the magnificent Karl and Bec for their ongoing support and the exciting opportunity to bring 'Dogfight' to life. She would also like to thank the cast for their amazing talent and ongoing passion. Huge thanks must also go to her family and friends for their encouragement, love and support. She hopes you enjoy the show!



BEC GINSBERG - Production Manager

Bec is delighted to be working with Fab Nobs as Production Manager for Dogfight, her first foray into the wonderful world behind the Am-dram curtain! Bec has just recently returned to Melbourne's amateur theatre family; after many years treading the boards, she had some time off, producing and starring in her very own dramatic production, Starting a Family. Whilst this was entertaining and drama-filled, she was thrilled to be accepted into the ensemble for Mary Poppins with PLOS in 2015 following a seven year break from the stage, last performing in CLOC's Boy From Oz in 2008! During her time off-stage, Bec loves her roles of Production Manager and English teacher at McKinnon Secondary College. She is very happy to be a part of the Fab Nobs community, and has found working with grownups a refreshing break from moody teenagers. She knows you will love Fab Nobs' production of Dogfight!

LUCINDA VENTIMIGLIA - Rose

Having grown up in New York City, Lucinda developed an early love for acting, and has been involved with a multitude of productions since she was given the opportunity to be in the Off-Broadway plays House and Garden with the Manhattan Theater Club at the age of seven. She's beyond excited to be making her debut with Fab Nobs, and to be able to tell this beautiful story. A few of her other favourite roles to date have been Natalie in Next to Normal, Ilse in Spring Awakening, and Madame Thenardier in Les Miserables. Big thanks and kisses on the forehead to all her friends for being so nice, and to Gareth for all of the late dinners and unconditional support.



JESSE THOMAS - Eddie

Jesse has been involved with musical theatre from 2000, when he started in People's Playhouse and Kidz 4 Kidz. Jesse hasn't left the theatre since, learning all forms of his craft from set building to lighting and even Production Managing! His most recent roles include the Solider Ancestor in The Addams Family, ensemble for Legally Blonde and Mary Poppins and G.I Huston in Miss Saigon, all with PLOS Musical Productions, as well as playing Richie Cunningham in Happy Days: A New Musical with Beaumaris Theatre and Benny in Mornington Players Rent. Outside the theatre, Jesse is an emerging contemporary jewellery designer and maker on the Mornington Peninsula and recently finished his first exhibition: Linear Legacy at the Frankston Arts Centre. His spare time is spent as a wildlife carer and rescuer for Animalia Wildlife Shelter in Frankston and creating new jewellery artworks for his business.



STEPHEN AMOS - Bernstein

Stephen has been involved in theatre shows since childhood and currently teaches singing and studies a double degree of Music and Arts (Theatre major) at Monash University. Some of his music theatre credits include playing Leo Bloom in The Producers, Link Larkin in Hairspray, Joseph in Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat (Ringwood Secondary College), Peter in BARE: A Pop Opera (Monash Uni Student Theatre) and Ernst in Spring Awakening (PEP Productions). Stephen was a solo vocalist in the Victorian State Schools Spectacular in 2013 and 2014, has performed in seven different countries as part of Ringwood Secondary College's 2013 World Tour and worked as Musical Director for Fame with Lumina Theatre Company earlier this year. Stephen is hugely grateful to be part of such an amazingly talented and friendly cast and to get to work with such a fabulous production team! He hopes you enjoy the show!



CREW

Director/Choreographer - Karl McNamara

Musical Director - Vicki Quinn

Production Manager - Bec Ginsberg

Costume Design - Meredith and Elise Cooney

Sound Design/Operation - Peter and Michaela Phelps, Lindsay Owen

Lighting Design/Operation - Vanessa Burke

Lighting Designer's Assistant - Kat Elliot

Set Design - Karl McNamara

Set Construction - Graham Andrews, Steven McKenzie, Peter Garratt

Stage Manager - Emily Carter

Crew - Erin Williamson

Poster Design - Karl McNamara, Nicholas Kong

Program Design - Nicholas Kong

Publicity - Owen James

Props - Lindsay Owen, Sam Hornstein

Production Coordinator - Maeghan McKenzie

Rehearsal Pianist - Peter Nguyen

Thank You - Nick Kong, James Davies, Kurt Abell, Christopher Heyward, Doorstep Productions, R Cherie Costumes, Peter Garratt, Owen James, Sally McKenzie, Andrew Amos, Guilian De Vincentis, BeOnd Electrical, Lighting Lab, StarLite Productions, Michelle Nguyen, Stacey-Louise Camilleri and FabNobs Committee

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PRODUCED BY DAVID DUNN, ISABELLA DUNWILL & BEN STRINGER

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SYNOPSIS

It's November 21, 1963. On the eve of their deployment to a small but growing conflict in Southeast Asia, three young Marines set out for one final boys' night of debauchery, partying and maybe a little trouble. But when Corporal Eddie Birdlace meets Rose, an awkward and idealistic waitress he enlists to win a cruel bet with his fellow recruits, she re-writes the rules of the game and teaches him the power of compassion.

SONG LIST

Act I

- "Prelude: Take Me Back" – Rose, Birdlace and Company
- "Some Kinda Time" – Birdlace, Boland, Bernstein and Marines
- "We Three Bees" – Birdlace, Boland and Bernstein
- "Hey Good Lookin'" – Birdlace, Boland, Bernstein, Marines and Girls
- "Come to a Party" – Birdlace and Rose
- "Nothing Short of Wonderful" – Rose
- "Come to a Party" (Reprise) – Rose, Marcy, Birdlace, Boland, Bernstein, and Marines
- "That Face" – Lounge Singer and Marines
- "Dogfight" – Marcy and Rose
- "Pretty Funny" – Rose

Act II

- "Hometown Hero's Ticker Tape Parade" – Birdlace, Boland, Bernstein and Marines
- "First Date" / "Last Night" – Rose and Birdlace
- "Before It's Over" – Rose
- "Hometown Hero's Ticker Tape Parade" (Reprise) - Boland and Bernstein
- "Give Way" – Rose and Company
- "Some Kinda Time" (Reprise) – Birdlace, Boland, Bernstein and Marines
- "Come Back" – Birdlace
- "Finale: Take Me Back" – Company

BAND

- Violin – Charlotte Black
- Cello – Grace Gilkerson
- Guitar – Zeb Vescio
- Piano – Peter Nguyen
- Bass – Lawson Kennard
- Drums – Ben Fleming
- Keyboard Programming
Nathan Firmin - Patched Keyboards

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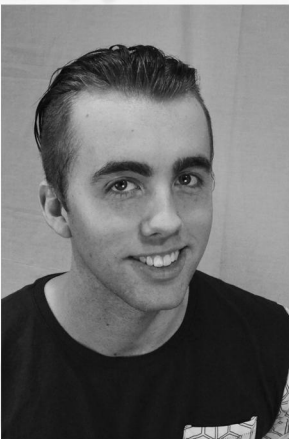
JULIAN CAMPOBASSO - Boland

Returning to Fab Nobs after playing Clyde in their 2014 production of Bonnie & Clyde (Lyrebird Nomination for Best Actor), Julian is thrilled to be back on stage after taking an extended break. Performance highlights include five ARC productions including The Breakfast Club (Bender – VDL Nomination for Best Actor), West Side Story (Riff) and Godspell (Lamar), PEP's Children of Eden (Adam/Noah), Waterdale's Jesus Christ Superstar (Jesus – MTGV Commendation), OSMAD's Normie (Normie – MTGV Commendation), winning an MTGV Award of Excellence for standing in for the Leading Player in Pippin in 2010, and countless other plays, musicals, gigs and films. In recent years Julian has focused more on screen acting, working on independent feature and short films, most notably Endzone and The Pen and the Sword. Julian has completed an Advanced Diploma of Music Performance (Voice) at NMIT and a Creative Arts Drama Degree at Deakin University. Enjoy the show!



ANGIE BEDFORD - Marcy

Angie was last seen on the Fab Nobs stage as Sarah the Blind Librarian in the Australian Premiere of The Toxic Avenger the Musical. Some of her favourite roles include Audrey in Little Shop of Horrors (OPTC), Lily St. Regis in Annie, Jennifer in The Witches of Eastwick, Florinda in Into the Woods, Annas in Jesus Christ Superstar (WATERDALE), Euterpe in Xanadu (Fab Nobs), and Holly in The Wedding Singer (BuSTCo). Behind the scenes, Angie keeps herself busy as the co-founder and life member of Purely Pensive Productions. She has fulfilled a number of roles at PPP such as Producer, Education Manager, Publicist and Stage Manager. By day Angie is a Head of Performing Arts / Teacher of Drama and English. She has thoroughly enjoyed contrasting this with getting to know her inner toothless prostitute at the Fab Factory. She hopes you enjoy Dogfight.



HAYDEN GRIDLEY - Stevens

Hayden's favourite musical is undoubtedly Dogfight, so he's incredibly excited for the chance to be bringing to life the cockiest of the Marines, known as Private Stevens. From his captivating portrayal of a chimney in his prep nativity play, to a high-school performance as a larger-than-life spoon in Beauty and the Beast, Hayden has developed an incredible passion for theatre. Past performances include BIG, Oklahoma!, 12 Angry Men (Whitefriars College) and Grease and Legally Blonde (Nova Theatre), the latter of which was his first character role as Harvard law student, Aaron Schultz. Most recently Hayden took on his first lead role with Lumina Theatre, playing the acting-obsessed Nick Piazza in Fame. Outside of rehearsals, Hayden also works multiple jobs as a screen actor, barista and babysitter.

RHYS DUNCAN - Lounge Singer

Rhys has been involved in community theatre for several years. He has been honoured to play the roles of Angel in RENT (Mornington Players Theatre Company), The Mayor of Munchkinland in The Wizard of Oz (Players Theatre Company) and Carlos in Legally Blonde (SLAMS). Other stage credits include Evan in That Awkward Moment (The Fabulous Nobodies), Jean-Paul in Stage Whispers (Original Works), Seven Brides for Seven Brothers (MDMS) and Jukebox (SLAMS). When not performing on stage, Rhys works as an Interior Designer for a well-known home builder. Rhys is honoured to be a part of this production and is delighted to share the stage with such a talented cast.



JAMES PELLIN - Factor

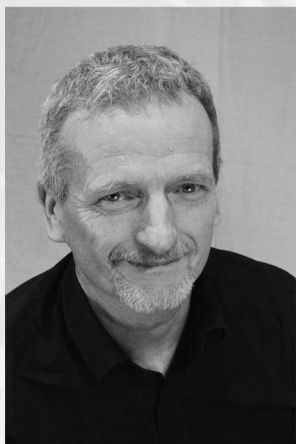
James has been involved in Melbourne's amateur theatre scene now for two years and is taking every opportunity to further his experience. In the past, James has performed both on and off stage with the Leongatha Lyric Theatre; on stage for productions such as Grease as well as performances with the orchestra. All of these early shows ranged from 2007-2009 with a return to the stage in Guys and Dolls with Windmill Theatre Company in 2015. This year has seen involvement in Windmill's The Little Mermaid, performing on the stage with Oxagen Productions in The Wedding Singer, Lumina Theatre Company's first production of Fame and now James' first show with FabNobs. James looks forward bringing this musical to the stage; he has loved every minute of the rehearsal period as well as working with a fabulous production team. He hopes you all enjoy the show!



ALISON COFFA - Ruth Two Bears/Chippie

Alison fell in love with theatre at the age of ten, when she played the title role in Annie Jnr. In the years since, she has pursued this passion with a number of on – and off – stage roles. Stage credits include The Genie in Aladdin Jnr, Peter Pan, Captain Smolksy in Bugsy Malone, The Sound of Music, 13 the Musical, Broadway Stitched Up and RENT. In 2012, she performed in the Melbourne International Comedy Festival and in 2015 was given a chance to fulfill a childhood dream when she was cast as Dorothy in The Wizard of Oz (Players Theatre Company). She then followed this with the drastically contrasting role of Vivienne Kensington in Legally Blonde with NOVA earlier this year. Off stage, Alison volunteers with a children's theatre company, has worked in publicity for theatre companies and the website Theatre People and by day, works in marketing and public relations.





PETER ROBERTS - Adult Male

Peter has been active in Melbourne community theatre for over a decade performing in many productions including Juror 3 in Twelve Angry Men, The Boy From Oz, Nathan Detroit in Guys and Dolls, Thenarider in Les Miserables, Fagin in Oliver!, Fiddler On the Roof and Carousel. He has also directed numerous productions including Cabaret, The Producers, Godspell, Little Shop of Horrors and Fab Nobs' recent Australian premiere production of The Toxic Avenger. It's a great pleasure to be working once again with Fab Nobs on this terrific show.



ADRIENNE GEORGE - Mamma

This is Adrienne's first time back with Fab Nobs since performing the role of Miss Scarlet in their 2005 production of Clue: The Musical. Adrienne has been involved with music theatre for over 15 years and her credits include: Lucy Harris in Jekyll and Hyde: The Musical (Nova), Reno Sweeney in Anything Goes (MDMS), Miss Mona in The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas (Catchment), Carmen Diaz in Fame: The Musical (Dandenong), Mary Magdalene in Jesus Christ Superstar (Plenty Ranges), Irene Roth in Crazy for You (Babirra), Mayzie La Bird in Seussical The Musical (Players), the Narrator in Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (Players), Penelope Pennywise in Urinetown (WTC), Emma Goldman in Assassins (Night Owl) and the Wicked Witch of the West in The Wizard of Oz (Catchment) as well as performing in many other shows and concerts including I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change at Chapel off Chapel. Most recently Adrienne appeared as Judy Garland in Babirra's The Boy from Oz.



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