

WHAT'S YOUR DAMAGE?

HEATHER (HANDLER WUZ HERE)

Fab
Nobs
THEATRE INC.
presents

HEATHERS

The Musical

*Book, Music & Lyrics by
Kevin Murphy & Laurence O'Keefe*

*Based on the film written by
Daniel Waters*

October 25th - November 9th

*By Arrangement with ORiGiN™ Theatrical
on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.*

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director/Choreographer.....Felicity Bender
 Musical Director.....Sally McKenzie
 Production Manager.....Keith Stuble
 Director/Choreography Assistant.....Aimee John
 Stage Managers.....Tori Lewis, Kaitlyn Elliott
 Rehearsal Pianists.....Sally McKenzie, Adeline Han, Matthew White, Ryland Sack
 Sound Design and Operation.....Michaela Philp, Peter Philp
 Lighting Design and Operation.....Keith Stuble
 Set Design.....Felicity Bender
 Set Construction.....Steven McKenzie, Graham Andrew, Peter Garratt, Jason Lord, Maeghan McKenzie
 Poster Design.....Magenta Townsend
 Programme Design.....Hayley Todd, Magenta Townsend
 Photography.....Craig Wetjen
 Prop Co-ordinator.....Maeghan McKenzie
 Costume Design and Co-ordination.....Kate Williams
 Set Painting.....Cast and Friends of Fab Nobs

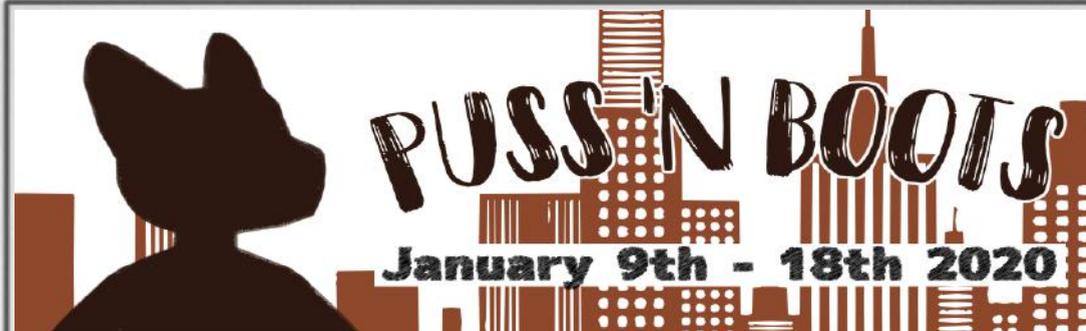
EW! →

NERDS! →

SCHOOL BAND ~~HAHA~~



Conductor.....Sally McKenzie
 Keyboard.....Ryland Sack
 Drumkit & Percussion....Ryan Evans
 Bass guitar.....Tom Young
 Guitar.....Darryl Barron
 Reeds.....Alyce Yeoman
 Violin.....Charlotte Black
 Trumpet.....Dave Bowden



craigwetjen **Photographer**



PROPERTY GROUP



BROUGHAM PRESS

Thank You

Wes Porch, Jack Clift, Ohad Orr, Jennie Brown for Boronia West Primary School, Sharyn Jackson, SLAMS, PEP, Front of House Staff, Craig Wetjen, Brougham Press, Surreal Real Estate, Lauren Edwards



Julian Dods
Ensemble

Julian has been performing in choirs, operas and musicals since he can remember. He started his professional career performing in *The Magic Flute* with both Victorian Opera and Opera Australia. He continued singing professionally with The National Boys Choir of Australia until his voice broke in 2013. Once his voice had settled, Julian continued with his passion of performing, appearing in the Victorian State Schools Spectacular twice as a Principal Vocalist (2015, 2016). Julian would like to thank his family and friends for their support.



Heloise Meighan
Ensemble

Heloise is thrilled to be making her debut Fab Nobs performance in *Heathers*. Recently she has performed in Altona City Theatre's *Rock Of Ages*, and Babirra's *The Sound Of Music*. Heloise graduated from Melbourne University and by day works as a veterinarian. Heloise adores musical theatre, and has previously played in orchestras for various theatre and ballet performances. Over the last few years she has undertaken vocal coaching with Sophie Weiss and Lisa Marie Parker and has loved transitioning from the pit to the stage. Heloise is proud to be a part of such a talented cast.



Stephen Amos
Ensemble

Stephen has recently completed a Bachelor of Arts (Theatre) and Bachelor of Music (Jazz and Popular voice) at Monash University. His theatre credits include Leo Frank in *Parade* (UMMTA), Warren in *Ordinary Days* (Life Story TC),

William Beaumont in The Australian Premiere of the musical adaptation of *The Dressmaker* (Monash University – Written by James Millar & Peter Rutherford), Gabe in *Next to Normal* (OXAGEN), Ernst in *Spring Awakening* (PEP), Bernstein in *Dogfight* (FabNobs TC), Peter in *BARE: A Pop Opera* (MUST), *Edges* (Life Story TC) and more. He is extremely thrilled to be part of this incredibly fabulous production of *Heathers*!



EW!
Four Eyes
LAAAME

DIRECTOR'S NOTES



Heathers is a difficult piece of theatre, the musical companion to the original 1988 film by Michael Lehmann. On the surface it presents as a light hearted piss-take of late 80's America, however, in true black comedy style, it deals with the very real challenges and issues faced by teenagers across the world. For this reason, it is very important to keep the show rooted in truth. The definition of black comedy is to promote audience amusement through discomfort and distressing subject matter. We have worked very hard to maintain the emotional integrity of the narrative, as there is always the temptation in allowing fanciful settings and heightened design elements to overshadow the story. It is the characters' emotional experiences that keep the story grounded and ensure that themes such as teenage suicide, sexual assault and murder are cause for thought throughout the show.

It is very important to note that we, the audience, are seeing Sherwood, Ohio through the lens of Veronica Sawyer. The audience should feel as though they have picked up Veronica's diary and are seeing the words on the page come to life in front of them. Take, for example, in the opening number, we see the hallways of Westerberg High School; the only words we hear the other students say are offensive curse words, but the students are actually having normal conversations in real life. However, we are only privy to Veronica's negative perspective, and therefore, our own understanding of the students is coloured by hers.

On a more general note, I believe that stories are told and re-told over time, and therefore, it is possible to find parallels between fables. For this production, I have drawn inspiration from *Alice in Wonderland*, working with the cast and crew to create subtle hints in costuming, settings and character development to explore this. At its core, *Alice in Wonderland* is a story about the loss of innocence, and so is *Heathers*. I have positioned Veronica as our own Alice, Heather Chandler as the formidable Queen of Hearts, and JD as the elusive white rabbit, whom Veronica follows down a proverbial rabbit hole of destruction that only she can get herself out of. One could even go as far as to place Kurt and Ram as Tweedledee and Tweedledum!



I hope you enjoy this telling of *Heathers*, as a first-time director I could not have asked for a more supportive cast and crew, and I would like to thank them from the bottom of my heart for making theatre a safe, and loving place to be. This show was a collaboration from start to finish and would not be the well-rounded piece of theatre it is without every single person involved, so again, thank you.

I would like to leave you with this thought: if, as JD states, "Westerberg is society" is true, then we can draw hope from this tale. If we are willing to take action and right the wrongs we witness, even if that means placing ourselves in the line of fire instead of tearing each other down, then we can make it beautiful.

**GET BENT
BENDER!!**

- Felicity Bender

001 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

"When is Fab Nobs going to put on *Heathers*? It's so perfect for you!" This has been a question asked of us ever since the amateur rights for *Heathers* became available. We are thrilled to finally be bringing this contemporary classic to the Fab Nobs stage. Based on the 80's cult classic movie of the same name, this production with its complex score and dark characters has challenged the actor, singer, creatives and technicians in every way possible.

Felicity Bender has left no stone unturned in her exploration of this story and its characters. As director she has been the perfect fit for Fab Nobs, *Heathers* and the cast. Felicity's rapport with the cast members, detailed character work and clarity of vision for the show has been exceptional. Aimee John's eye for detail in the choreography and staging of the show has been an ideal addition to Felicity's work. Keith Stublely has been superb once again in his role as Production Manager (and lighting operator). A huge welcome to Kate Williams who has co-ordinated costumes brilliantly to depict those fabulous 1989 fashions, and special thanks to Craig Wetjen, our Fab Nobs photographer who incidentally completed school in the U.S. in 1989 and captured those year book photos so perfectly.

Every single member of our production team – all listed in our program here – has gone above and beyond to ensure this production is of the highest Fab Nobs standard and is sure to make you love *Heathers* all over again.

WHATEVER!
COMMITTEE

- Sally McKenzie

Sally McKenzie, Keith Stublely, Owen James, Colin Morley, Steven McKenzie, Maeghan McKenzie, Katelyn Anitema, Emma Gardner, Mark Johnston, Sara Broadway, Bianca Heard, Lindsay Owen, David Youings, Graham Andrew

← ALL LOSERS!!! →



Emily Mill
Ensemble

This is Emily's second show with Fab Nobs after playing the role of Helen in the 2015 production of *Carrie*. After a year of training here in Melbourne at APO Arts Academy, she continued her studies at The American

Musical Theatre Academy in London. Since then she has played a Teen Queen in *We Will Rock You* (Windmill), been a sexy stewardess in *Catch Me If You Can* (OCPAC) & was part of the amazing ensemble of CLOC's *Wicked*.



John Ninis
Ensemble

John has been chasing every performance opportunity since he discovered his passion for singing in 2016, beginning with Camberwell Grammar School's *City of Angels*. He has been part of Monash's Musical Theatre

unit in a new Australian musical, *The Dressmaker*, as well as a three-time performer in the Musical Theatre workshop program, Starbound. *Heathers* is John's third musical this year after performing as King Triton in *The Little Mermaid* and Frank Sr. in *Catch Me If You Can*. John would like to thank his voice teacher, friends and family for their endless support.



Bianca Heard
Ensemble

Bianca is absolutely obsessed with *Heathers*, from the witty humour to the killer ballads, and to be involved with Fab Nob's production is an absolute dream. This is Bianca's second time on the Fab Nobs stage, the

first being Little Red Riding Hood in the Summer Pantomime earlier this year. Other productions Bianca has been involved in are *This Rose Has Thorns* (2018), *Much Ado About Nothing* (2017), *Ensemblah* (2017) and *Hairspray* (2015).



FACULTY



Ash Cooper
Big Bud Dean/Mr Sweeney/Coach Ripper

Ash has been hanging around the Fab Factory for a few years now, trying to be involved in as many projects as possible both onstage and off. While being a bad guy in both Victorian premiers of *9 to 5: The Musical* and *Little Miss Sunshine*, audiences have had (at best) mixed feelings about his stage personas. A regular feature at open mics and after parties, as well as generally hanging around the bar whether he's allowed to or not, Fab Nobs is just a wonderful environment to be in with the most wonderful people in it. *Heathers* marks the third show Ash has trod these particular boards, and hopes that it won't be the last.

IT WILL BE!



Rhys Duncan
Mr Kelly/Mr Sawyer/Principal Gowan

Rhys has been involved in theatre for several years, most recently performing in the first live reading of *Electric Dreams: the Musical*; which also went to Sydney to participate in New Musicals Australia. Other notable roles include Gibbs & Lounge Singer in *Dogfight* (Fab Nobs), 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). When not performing on stage, Rhys works as a Senior Interior Designer and Team Leader for a Melbourne Design Studio.



Lizzie Matjacic
Mrs Fleming/Mrs Sawyer

Lizzie has been a proud member of the Fab Nobs family for 16 years and is delighted to be back on the stage. Lizzie has performed in over 30 productions and written and performed two one-woman cabarets; *Heartaches*, *hang-ups and headcases: A Psychologist's Cabaret* and *From here to Maternity*. Favourite roles include Diana in *Next to Normal*, Charlotte in *A Little Night Music*, Drowsy in *The Drowsy Chaperone*, Miss Adelaide in *Guys and Dolls*, The Witch in *Into the Woods*, Muzzy van Hossmere in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, Abuela in *Strictly Ballroom* and most recently Mrs Potts in *Beauty and the Beast*. In 2016, Lizzie co-wrote and performed in the Lyrebird award winning fundraising concert *Broadway for Life*. In the "real world" Lizzie works as a psychologist and the productions she is proudest of are her two beautiful children Ben and Isobel.

Act One

- Beautiful.....Veronica and Students
- Candy Store.....Heather Chandler, Heather Duke, Heather McNamara (The Heathers)
- Fight For Me.....Veronica and Students
- Freeze Your Brain.....JD
- Big Fun.....Ram, Kurt, Veronica, The Heathers and Students
- Dead Girl Walking.....Veronica and JD
- Veronica's Chandler Nightmare.....Heather Chandler and Students
- The Me Inside of Me.....Heather Chandler, Veronica, Cops, Ms. Fleming and Company
- You're Welcome.....Veronica, Kurt and Ram
- Big Fun (Reprise).....Kurt, Ram and Students
- Playoff (Freak! Slut).....Students
- Our Love Is God.....Veronica and JD

Act Two

- Prom or Hell?.....Veronica
- My Dead Gay Son.....Ram's Dad, Kurt's Dad and Mourners
- Seventeen.....Veronica and JD
- Shine A Light.....Ms. Fleming and Students
- Lifeboat.....Heather McNamara
- Shine A Light (Reprise).....Heather Duke and Students
- Hey, Yo Westerberg.....Heather McNamara and Students
- Kindergarten Boyfriend.....Martha Dunnstock
- Yo Girl.....Heather Chandler, Ram and Kurt
- Meant To Be Yours.....JD and Students
- Dead Girl Walking Reprise.....Veronica, JD and Students
- I Am Damaged.....Veronica and JD
- Seventeen (Reprise).....Veronica, Martha, Heather McNamara and Company

WHAT!?

UGH GAG ME WITH A SPOON!

WESTERBERG STAFF

GO WESTERBERG!



Felicity Bender
Director and Choreographer

Felicity is so pleased to be making her Fab Nobs debut Directing and Choreographing *Heathers*. She has been involved in the Melbourne theatre community for over a decade now in both the cast and production team. Over the years she has discovered her joy lies on the production side and has earned numerous award nominations for her work. These include Best Choreography from the Victorian Music theatre Guild for her work on Bust Co's *21st Show*, Best Choreography from the Lyrebird awards for her work on Pep's *Cry Baby* and won the Best Choreography Lyrebird for her work on MDMS *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*. Felicity has loved working with this cast and production team and hopes you enjoy what they have created. How very.



Sally McKenzie
Musical Director

Sally is ecstatic to finally see *Heathers* come to the Fab Nobs stage. When the cast album came out in 2014 it was played on repeat and has been one of Fab Nobs' most requested musicals. She has revelled in the complexity of the ensemble harmonies, the gravity of the solos and duets as well as 'rocking out' with amazing musicians and singers. Recent MD experiences with Fab Nobs include *Little Miss Sunshine*, *Violet*, *Chicago*, *9 to 5* and *Into The Woods*. Other musical direction highlights have been *Ragtime* with Waterdale and *Children of Eden* with PEP Productions. Sally works as a singing teacher and is so grateful that she can expand her teaching horizons via musical theatre.

HERE COMES THE COOTIE SQUAD!



Sarah Ginsberg
Heather McNamara

Sarah is thrilled to be a part of her first show with Fab Nobs in *Heathers*. She has previously been involved with PLOS Musical Productions as Doralee Rhodes in *9 to 5: The Musical* and also

being involved in the ensemble for *Shrek*, *Wicked*, *Oliver* and *The Wizard of Oz*. Sarah has also appeared in Windmill's *We Will Rock You*, Panorama's *Beauty and the Beast* as a Silly Girl and ensemble in *Les Miserables* and *Rent*. Sarah thanks the incredible production team, the talented cast and crew members for bringing this killer show to the stage!



Jorja Polgase
Martha Dunnstock

Born a drama queen in Bendigo, Jorja sang before she could talk and has not stopped either since! She is thrilled to take the stage as the beautifully kind Martha Dunnstock. Jorja starred in BTC's *Hairspray* and

Nexus BYT's *The Wizard of Oz*, *Annie*, *Music Man* and most recently, as Madame Thenardier in *Les Misérables*. Since moving to Melbourne, Jorja has made her debut in professional musical theatre, portraying lead roles in four new Australian musicals, including *Jack of Two Trades*, *Holloway: A New Musical*, *The Dressmaker: A Musical Adaptation* and *Tone Death: A Ghost Musical* (performed in the 2019 Melbourne International Comedy Festival).

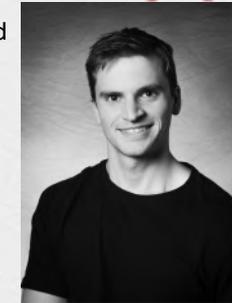


Luca Cirillo
Kurt Kelly

Luca is extremely excited to join the Fab Nobs family in what is expected to be a smash-hit production of *Heathers*. He has previously worked with Windmill Theatre Company in their smash-hit *We Will Rock You* and has worked closely with

PLOS in their smash-hits *Miss Saigon*, *Wicked*, *9 to 5*, and most recently playing Donkey in their smash-hit *Shrek The Musical*. Luca recently made his creative team debut working as the assistant director for PEP Productions' acclaimed smash-hit *Assassins*. Whilst Luca is still studying Commerce and Arts at Deakin University, he hopes to one day combine his two passions, performing and Microsoft Excel. Luca wishes that you enjoy what is to be a smash-hit.

DWEEBS



Nathan Arnold
Ram Sweeney

For much of Nathan's life he has been keenly involved in musical theatre and enjoys being a performer. Whether appearing as a singer, guitarist or an actor, Nathan loves taking the opportunity to get on

stage to have some fun and bring joy to the audience. Nathan is currently completing his final year at Deakin University where he is majoring in Drama. His previous show credits include Kenichie in *Grease* (Phoenix), Joseph in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (MDMS), The Baker in SLAMS' junior production of *Into the Woods*, Emmett Forrest in *Legally Blonde* (Lumina) and most recently Ensemble in *Beauty and the Beast* (Windmill). Nathan is thrilled to be a part of Fab Nobs' cast of *Heathers*. He has had a blast assuming the role of a high school jock and can't wait to show the audience what this wonderful team has produced.

IM EMBARRASSED

LOSERS CAST OF 1989



Elise Cavallo
Veronica Sawyer

Elise is teaching Drama and Theatre Studies at Emmaus College. In 2015 she made her directorial debut staging *Beauty and the Beast*, earning a nomination for Best Director of a Junior Production by the Guild Association,

and again for her direction of *Hairspray* in 2016 and *Seussical: The Musical* in 2018. She has spent the first half of this year staging *The Addams Family*. Stage credits include Ariel Moore in *Footloose* (CPAC), Marty in *Grease* (ARC Theatre), Penny Pingleton in *Hairspray* (CPAC) and Mayzie La Bird in *Seussical: The Musical* (OCPAC). Elise reprised the role of Mayzie in the Athenaeum Theatre, as a part of the Melbourne Comedy Festival in 2014. Elise was awarded the Lyrebird for Best Actress in a Musical for her performance as Elle Woods in CPAC's production of *Legally Blonde* and went on to reprise the role with NOVA Music Theatre. Most recently she played Roxie Hart in Fab Nobs 50th Anniversary production of *Chicago*.



Emily Kay
Heather Duke

This is Emily's first show with Fab Nobs and she is looking forward to finding an alter ego in the hateful Heather Duke. Her last role was as a Silly Girl in *Beauty and The Beast* (Windmill Theatre Company). She played Elle Woods

in *Legally Blonde* (Lumina Theatre Company) and has also performed in the ensemble for *Singin' in the Rain* (Babirra Music Theatre) and *Chicago: The Musical* (Windmill Theatre Company). She has performed in a range of dance showcases, including a Liza Minelli tribute show at Crown Palladium, and continues as a guest teacher at the *Pam Speedy Dance School*.



Dylan Mazurek
Jason JD Dean

Dylan has been involved in theatre productions in Melbourne from a young age. His most recent on-stage appearances include Schlomo Metzenbaum in *Fame: The Musical*, Matt Lloyd in *Bare: A Pop Opera* for the Melbourne Fringe

Festival, *Tribute: A Rock Legends Revue*, and Jeremy Heere in the Victorian premiere of *Be More Chill*. Dylan has been involved in multiple premiere/workshop productions including Mac in *Point of No Return* (Play), and Thomas in *Decoration Day: A New Musical*. Most recently, Dylan played *Moritz Stiefel* in RMIT Performing Arts' highly regarded production of *Spring Awakening*. Dylan has also directed, produced and been involved behind-the-scenes in many productions around Victoria.



Kate Trickey
Heather Chandler

Since a very young age Kate has been passionate about being on stage. After dancing competitively for 15 years and singing throughout school, she found her creative outlet for life in musical theatre.

Kate's stage credits include Sharpay Evans in *High School Musical*, Amber Von Tussle in *Hairspray*, Serena in *Legally Blonde* and most recently an ensemble member for CLOC's Australian Amateur Premier of *Wicked* and a murderer in Fab Nobs 50th Anniversary production of *Chicago*. Playing the brutal and complicated Heather Chandler has been something Kate has wanted since first hearing the soundtrack of *Heathers*. She would like to thank the creative team for giving her this opportunity and the entire cast for making the experience what it was. Kate would like to give a special mention to the strong, talented and unapologetically fierce women whom she has had the privilege of working with during this show.



Aimee John
Director/Choreographer Assistant

Aimee has been dancing on stage since she was 5 years old, but it is only in the last few years that she discovered the wonderful world of community theatre. Her stage credits include Clara Makin in *The Hatpin* (Waterdale), Little Red Riding Hood in *Into the Woods* (Aspect Inc), as well as ensemble in *Witches of Eastwick* (Fab Nobs) and *Joseph* (Aspect Inc). Aimee was Assistant Choreographer for *High School Musical* (Fab Nobs) last year and she is now very excited to be on another Fab Nobs production team working on *Heathers*.



Keith Stuble
Production Manager

Keith has been involved in all aspects of theatre for over 40 years. He started with Fab Nobs in 2002 performing in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. He then joined committee and has worked on many productions both on and off stage. Keith had a hiatus from the company to work professionally and returned to the Fab Nobs family 3 years ago. He is thrilled to be back on committee being creative and helping to bring quality theatre to the Fab Nobs factory. Keith hopes you enjoy this incredible production of *Heathers* as much as he has and would like to thank the creative team (the A team) whom made his job as Production Manager very enjoyable.



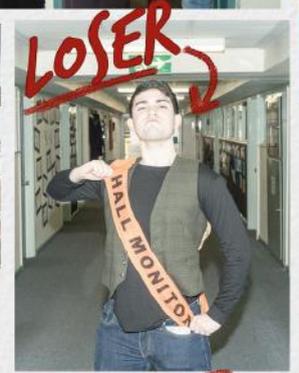
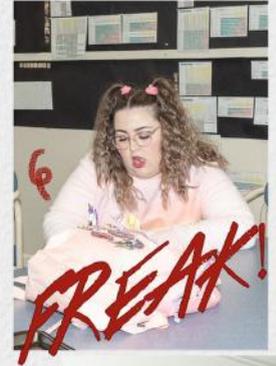
BORING!!

Fab Nobs Theatre's
Production Of
SWEENEY TODD
The Demon Barber of Fleet Street
OCTOBER 24TH - NOVEMBER 5TH

Fab Nobs THEATRE INC.

WHAT'S YOUR DAMAGE?

CLASS OF 1989



HEATHER'S

FREAK!

NO BOYS! ???

KILL ME

LOSER

FOUR EYES

UGH

DIE!

AIRHEAD

NERDS!!

PSYCHO!

QUEERS