

Fab  
Nobs  
THEATRE INC.

# THE TOXIC AVENGER



APRIL 2016

# Presidents Report - Lizzie Matjacic

Welcome to Fab Nobs Theatre's Australian Premiere of "The Toxic Avenger". We are so excited to bring this gem of a show to our audiences and for the first time in Australia. It might seem unlikely to create a musical based on a 1984 American superhero horror comedy film and cult classic, but then again, why not? With a rocking score and a hugely entertaining script, we could not resist the temptation to bring this show to life and welcome Toxie to our Fab Nobs family.

The cast and production team have truly done Fab Nobs proud with this production. The sheer talent on stage and off is simply awe inspiring. The combination of Peter Robert's brilliant direction and Vicki Quinn's superb musical direction with this sensational cast are sure to delight. We thank them sincerely for the gift of their work.

And of course, we are always supported by our wonderful Fab Nobs helpers. We are indebted to this team of passionate people who work tirelessly to create our shows and bring to our audiences the highest quality of theatre. I would like to sincerely thank Graham Andrew and Travis Eccles (our superb production managers), Meredith Cooney (costumes), Kym Bird (set design) and Steven McKenzie and Graham Andrew for their building skills, xx (lighting), Peter Philp (sound) and again to Travis Eccles (stage manager). And no less important are our front of house and bar staff and let us not forget the Fab Nobs committee who give up so much of their time to steer this Fab Nobs ship faithfully.

But there are no shows without audiences and so I would like to finish by thanking you, our loyal patrons and new comers to the Fab Nobs experience alike. It is always a joy to see you here! Now, without further ado, please grab a platter and a drink and strap yourselves in for a fun and thrilling night of entertainment as you enter the world of Tromaville New Jersey and get up close and personal with "The Toxic Avenger".

**Book and Lyrics by** **JOE DIPIETRO**      **Music and Lyrics by** **DAVID BRYAN**  
**Orchestrations and Arrangements**  
**DAVID BRYAN & CHRISTOPHER JAHNKE**

Based on Lloyd Kaufman's *The Toxic Avenger*  
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All performance materials supplied by Hal Leonard Australia.

Originally Produced Off-Broadway by Jean Cheever and Tom Polum

World Premiere Production

Presented by

George Street Playhouse

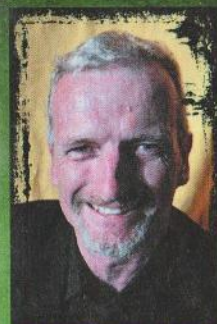
October 10, 2008

David Saint, Artistic Director      Todd Schmidt, Managing Director

George Street Playhouse Bio

Under the leadership of Artistic Director David Saint since 1998, George Street Playhouse has become a nationally recognized theatre, presenting an acclaimed mainstage season while providing an artistic home for established and emerging theatre artists. During his tenure, the Playhouse has been well represented by numerous productions in New York and around the country including the Outer Critics Circle, Drama Desk and Drama League nominated production of *The Spitfire Grill* and the Tony®-and Pulitzer Prize-winning play *Proof*, which was developed at GSP during the 1999 Next Stage Festival of New Plays. The Outer Critics' Circle Award-winning production of *The Toxic Avenger* premiered at George Street Playhouse in 2008, where it was a run-away hit and the highest-grossing musical in the theatre's 35 year history. In addition to its mainstage season, the Playhouse's Educational Touring Theatre commissions and produces issue-oriented plays that are seen by more than 70,000 students annually.

# Peter Roberts - Director



Peter is delighted to be making his Fab Nobs debut after many years admiring and enjoying the varied, alternative programming this company is renowned for. His association with Melbourne community theatre goes back ten years or so when he directed a production of "Cabaret" for Windmill Theatre Company. He then directed a number of productions for various companies including *Godspell*, *The Producers*, *Little Shop of Horrors* and *Kiss Me Kate*. In recent years Peter has chosen to focus on performing, most recently in "The Boy From Oz" at Babirra. Favourite roles include Fagin "Oliver" (Babirra), Juror 3 "Twelve Angry Men" (Lilydale Athenaeum), Theardier "Les Miserables" and Nathan Detroit "Guys and Dolls" (Windmill). He also appeared in productions of "Aida", "Fiddler On the Roof" (MDMS), "Carousel" (Babirra), "Cats" and "Jesus Christ Superstar" (Windmill). Peter leapt at the opportunity to unleash this beastly, little-known hoot of a show in the wonderful space of the Fab Factory. Many thanks to a hard-working, fabulously talented cast and production team and everyone at Fab Nobs for making this such a joyous journey. In the words of Toxie..... "ROAR!!!!" (That's a "yes"!)

# 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. Vicki has many on stage credits, her greatest achievement being her Lyrebird winning performance in 'Songs for a New World' (DTC). Vicki is excited to be part of the production team for Fab Nobs October 2016 production of 'Dogfight'.

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 production team for their ongoing support and the exciting opportunity to bring 'The

Toxic Avenger' to life. She would also like to thank the cast for their amazing talent and ongoing hilarity! Huge thanks must also go to her family and friends for their encouragement, love and support. She hopes you enjoy the show!



# Natasha Harvey - Choreographer



Natasha made her choreography debut with Panorama Theatre Company in 2013 with their production of *Cinderella*. Natasha's other choreography credits include, 'A New Brain' (Phill Scanlon Productions), Assistant Choreographer 'High School Musical Jr' (Caulfeild Grammar), 'The Wizard Of Oz' (Panorama Theatre Company), 'Honk!' (PEP Productions), 'Aladdin Jr' & 'The Addams Family' (Warrandyte Secondary College.) This year has been particularly busy with Natasha also choreographing 'Grease' for Panorama Theatre Company and '13' for Morington Players. Performance Credits Include, *The Bride Ancestor*, 'The Addams Family' (PLOS), Marcy Park, '25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee' (SLAMS), Featured Soloist (Lyrebird Award Nominated), 'Variety High' (PEP Productions), Tanya Garret, 'Bare! A Pop Opera' (PEP Productions) and Urleen, 'Footloose' (Panorama Theatre Company).

Natasha has trained in dance for over 20 years, not to mention countless concerts, competitions, floors shows and examinations (ATOD, FAID). She also teaches recreational and elite teams as well as soloist in various styles at Reflections Academy Of Dance.

## Will Sayers - Melvin / The Toxic Avenger



Once upon a midnight dreary, while I pondered, weak and weary, over many a quaint and curious volume of forgotten musical lore. Ah! Distinctly I remember it was in the bleak November, when Fab Nobs announced The Toxic Avenger. "'Tis some play," I muttered, "Merely present to annoy, to tempt me from my promised break; from my Masters: to decoy." ?xml:namespace prefix = "o" / But no, as I sought more information; an insane curiosity and hint of frustration: could I be involved in this mad vocation? From Godspell, Les Miserables and several concerts, both within Melbourne and on the outskirts; contained within my head like skein, memories of Five Guys Named Moe, Evita and A New Brain. Of shows I've done, there've been many more, entreating entrance to my mind on the Night's Plutonian shore, Quoth the raven... Nevermore.

## Angie Bedford - Sarah

Angie has been involved with theatre on and off stage for over 15 years. Her favourite roles include Audrey in Little Shop of Horrors (OPTC), Euterpe in Xanadu (Fab Nobs), Lily St. Regis in Annie, Jennifer in The Witches of Eastwick, Florinda in Into the Woods, Annas in Jesus Christ Superstar (WATERDALE), and Holly in The Wedding Singer (BuSTCo). Other credits include Chess (Catchment), Fame (WATERDALE), The Witches of Eastwick, Cabaret (ARC), Seussical the Musical (Whitehorse), Little Shop of Horrors (Devlin/Arnel) and numerous concert performances. In 2005, Angie co-founded Purely Pensive Productions. She has fulfilled a number of roles at PPP such as Education Manager, Publicist and Stage Manager, but has primarily produced over ten productions and was the company's President for nine years. She is also a Life Member. By day she is a Head of Performing Arts / Teacher of Drama and English and has worked as Director/Producer of Hairspray, Annie and The Wedding Singer. Angie has loved being back at Fab Nobs and would like to thank the team for all their support and laughs.



## Karl McNamara



Karl has worked as a performer with FabNobs Theatre over the last 8 years. He has appeared onstage as Sonny 'Xanadu', Jeff '[title of show]', Roger 'RENT', Jonny 'Zombie Prom', Seymour 'Little Shop of Horrors', Mark 'Altar Boyz' and Glen 'The Wedding Singer'. He has directed 'Superman!', 'The Drowsy Chaperone', 'Spring Awakening' and 'Reefer Madness' for Fab Nobs. By day Karl teaches Drama and Media Studies at Glen Waverley Secondary College. He directed 'Sweeney Todd' which won a VMTG award and Lyrebird award for Best Junior Show and Karl was also awarded the title of Best Director of a Junior Show. Karl has also been nominated for several Guild and Lyrebird Awards for various shows he has appeared in most notable winning Best Lead Male for playing The Cat in the Hat 'Seussical' with Whitehorse Musical Theatre. Karl would like to thank the prod team for a wonderful and crazy fun show experience!

## Jess Ridler



Jess watched the film The Toxic Avenger at 3am on her laptop and hasn't been the same since. She's thrilled to be returning to the Fab Nobs stage following her season as Ti Moune in Once on this Island (2015). She's loved getting to work on this show that is not like anything she has ever experienced - and is sure you have not either. Prior to her Fab Nobs debut, Jess played Yonah in PEP's Children of Eden (2014) and was nominated for a Lyrebird. After starring in several successful school productions at Aquinas College, Jess went on to co-choreograph Seussical Jr with the school in 2014. Jess almost peed her pants laughing when she first read the script so she hopes you brought a spare pair of underwear.

## Joel Armour



It's a brand new day in New Jersey for Melbourne based music theatre performer Joel Armour, as this show marks his Fab Nobs debut. Joel has been a member of the National Youth Jazz Academy as both a saxophonist and a vocalist and thus the rock score of The Toxic Avenger has provided a stylistic change. Previous stage credits for Joel include Edna Turnblad (Hairspray), Fagin (Oliver!), Mr Collins (Pride and Prejudice) and Ceasar Flickerman (Girl on Fire: Hunger Games Musical Parody). Joel has studied Music Theatre at the National Institute of Dramatic Arts (NIDA) residency program. He hopes that you are utterly repulsed by the show! Take it oozy!

## Bec Johnston



Bec is thrilled to be making her FabNobs debut with The Toxic Avenger, after seeing and enjoying many of their shows in the past. She is currently completing her third and final year of her Bachelor of Creative Arts at Deakin with hopes of a theatrical internship overseas in the near future. The Toxic Avenger marks Bec's return to the stage after a year long hiatus - her last role being that of Wendla in Nuworks Theatre's Spring Awakening in late 2014. In her spare time Bec is also a singer/songwriter with her first album currently in progress. She knows you will have a ball with this fantastic cast, and is looking forward to blowing the doors off the Fab Factory with this amazing rock score! Stay oozy.

## Verity Rose Brown - Mayor Babs / Ma Ferd



Declared by many as the 'Mayor of Theatre', it seems only fitting that she returns to the stage as the vilest bitch of them all, Mayor Babs Begoody. Previous psychos include: Rose Hovick, Gypsy (Waterdale Players), Mayor Matilda Hyde, All Shook Up (ARC Theatre), Stella/Governor Miriam Ferguson, Bonnie and Clyde (Fab Nobs), Katie Nana/Miss Smyth, Mary Poppins (CLOC Musical Theatre) and Trio, Boy from Oz (Babbira). She's not sure if it's her strong belt, some sort of disguised control complex, or if people think she's genuinely crazy, but she's extremely excited to be bringing the Toxic Avenger to where it truly belongs; Bayswater. By day Verity works as a Corporate and Facilities Receptionist for Direct Connect Australia, where she spends her days plotting world domination/what to cook for dinner.

"Welcome to New Jersey a hopeless, godless void"

## Synopsis

Set in the fictional town of Tromaville, Exit 13B in New Jersey, The Toxic Avenger tells the story of Melvin Ferd the Third, a hopeless dweeb who loves science almost as much as he loves Sarah, the local (and very blind) librarian. When Melvin discovers the mayor has been littering the town with radioactive waste, he storms into her office and vows to expose her. But not before her flunkies get a hold of him and toss him into a vat of toxic waste. But what doesn't kill you makes you stronger, and Melvin emerges from the goo as a green mutant with superhuman strength! Now the town knows him as Toxie, New Jersey's first superhero, and he's a man (or thing) on a mission, out to crush some heads, save Tromaville and, of course, win the heart of that blind chick.

## Production Team

Production Managers	Graham Andrew & Travis Eccles
Director	Peter Roberts
Musical Director	Vicki Quinn
Sound Design & Operation	Shawn Klueh, Peter Philp & Michaela Philp
Set Design / Toxie Mask	Kym Davies
Set Construction	Graham Andrew, Steven McKenzie, Maeghan McKenzie, Owen James
Set Painting	Cast & Crew
Props	Travis Eccles, Erin Gill & Cast/Crew
Costume Designer	Meredith Cooney
Lighting Design	Michael Brassier
Costume Assistant	Elise Cooney
Stage Manager	Travis Eccles
Backstage Crew	Salina Henderson, David Angelico, Sarah Cliff
Flyer and Program Design	Nicholas Kong
Photography	Karl McNamara, Tim Blencowe, John Milkins
Promotional Video	Owen James
Box Office	Anne King
Front of House	Friends of Fab Nobs

## Cast

Melvin/The Toxic Avenger	Will Sayers
Sarah	Angie Bedford
Mayor Babs/Ma Ferd	Verity Rose Brown
Bozo/Thug/Doc/Juan/Folk Singer/Lorenzo/CSI/Mickey	Joel Armour
Nun/Judy/Shinequa/CSI/Hooker	Bec Johnston
Sluggo/Edna Ferbert/Professor	Karl McNamara
Ken/Chief/Lamas/Hip Dude	
Sal the Cop/Dianne/Little Girl/Hooker	Jess Ridler

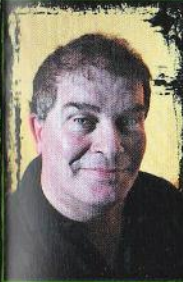
## Band

Conductor	Vicki Quinn
Keys	Peter Pham Nguyen
Reeds	Christina Cirnigliaro
Guitar	Troy Downward
Bass	Chris Rourke
Drums	Graham King
Programming	Nathan Firmin - Patched Keyboards

## Thank You

Owen James, Michelle Nguyen, Jess Berton, Zeb Viscio, Lawson Kennard, Nathan Firmin, Tim Blencowe Photography, PEP Productions, Colin Morley, Waterdale Theatre Company, Stacey-Louise Camilleri, Erin Gill, Michelle Sayers

## Graham Andrew - Production Coordinator



As one of the production co-ordinators for "Toxic Avenger" he was led to believe there would be no stress or work involved in this role at all. As a long time committee member of Fab Nobs he was used to dodging the hard jobs, and trying to palm everything onto Vicky and Peter. However, being involved in this production has been an absolute pleasure seeing first-hand the show come together with such talented, creative and fun people. He has come to realise that it is a treat to be involved in theatre, and highly unlikely he will ever get a role onstage again with such competition around.

## Travis Eccles - Production & Stage Manager

Travis returns to Fab Nobs in the role of Co-Production Coordinator and Stage Manager. In 2015 Travis played Freddy in Carrie with Fab Nobs and various on stage roles with Western Arts Theatre's "Rent". Travis gained many years of experience in theatre both on stage and off having directed, stage managed, produced and performed for Geelong Repertory Theatre Company. He has enjoyed returning to the theatre and working with such talented, fun, accepting and amazing people at Fab Nobs. He knows you'll enjoy The Toxic Avenger, it's been swell bringing it to you.



Off the Leash Theatre  
next to normal  
2nd April (8pm) Latrobe Performing Arts Centre  
8th (8 pm) & Sat 9th April (2pm & 8pm) West Gippsland Arts Centre  
23rd April (8pm) Fab Nobs Theatre, Bayswater  
www.offtheleashtheatre.com.au  
Music by Tom Kitt Book and Lyrics by Brian Yorkey  
NEXT TO NORMAL is presented through special arrangement with Hal Leonard Australia Pty Ltd on behalf of Music Theatre International.  
Original Broadway Production Produced by David Starobin, James L. Nadavander, Barbara Whitman, Patrick Catalio and Second Stage Theatre

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# DOG FIGHT



MUSIC & LYRICS BY

**BENJ PASEK**

**& JUSTIN PAUL**

BOOK BY

**PETER DUCHAN**

BBB

**14 - 29 Oct 2016**  
**fabnobstheatre.com.au**

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