

LA BOITE THEATRE AND DEAD PUPPET SOCIETY  
PRESENT A WORLD PREMIERE



**A SHOW OF  
MONSTERS  
AND HEROES**

**WE'RE ALL  
GONNA DIE!**

BY MADDIE NIXON

DIRECTED BY DAVID MORTON &  
COURTNEY STEWART

**LA  
BOITE**

 **Dead Puppet Society**

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

At La Boite and Dead Puppet Society, we acknowledge the country on which we work and the traditional custodians of this land – the Turrbal and Jagera people. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present. We honour the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people whose lands, winds and waters we all now share and their ancient and enduring cultures. This country was the home of storytelling long before La Boite existed, and we are privileged and grateful to share our stories here today.



Proudly supported by



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La Boite Theatre is assisted by the Australian Government through Creative Australia, its principal arts investment and advisory body.



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La Boite Theatre is supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland



*Dedicated to a better Brisbane*

LA BOITE THEATRE AND DEAD PUPPET SOCIETY  
PRESENT A WORLD PREMIERE

# WE'RE ALL GONNA DIE!

BY MADDIE NIXON

DIRECTED BY DAVID MORTON & COURTNEY STEWART

MUSIC BY DEAN HANSON (BALL PARK MUSIO)

## DATES

30 JUL – 16 AUG

## DURATION

APPROX.

75 MINUTES

(no interval)

## CONTENT ADVISORIES

*Recommended for  
audiences aged 13+.  
Contains coarse  
language.*

## CAST

**Louise Brehmer**

**Milena Nesic**

**Ngoc Phan**

**Anthony Standish**

**Hsiao-Ling Tang**

## CREATIVES

**Playwright**

Maddie Nixon

**Co-Director & Designer**

David Morton

**Co-Director**

Courtney Stewart

**Lighting Designer**

Ben Hughes

**Composer & Curator**

Dean Hanson

**Sound Designer**

Brady Watkins

**Associate Sound Designer**

Riley Camejo

## PRODUCTION

**Creative Producer**

Nicholas Paine

**Production Manager**

Teegan  
Kranenburg

**Technical Director**

Scott Barton

**Stage Manager**

Jacinta Way

**Assistant Stage Manager**

Jasmin Flynn

**Head of Wardrobe**

Maddi Dailey

**Programmer & Lighting  
Operator**

Tim Gawne

**Set Builder**

Andrew Mills  
Lee Stretton

**Scenic Artist**

Leo Herreygers

**Workshop Coordinator**

Regan Henry

**Additional Set Assembly**

Alexandra  
Macdonald



# COURTNEY STEWART

Bringing *WE'RE ALL GONNA DIE!* to the stage has been a joyful, wildly creative process and a true celebration of everything we love about theatre. As co-directors, it's been a privilege to collaborate on a work that not only speaks to the urgency of our times, but also revels in theatricality, humour, and heart.

It's especially meaningful to premiere this production during La Boite Theatre's 100th year. To mark this milestone with a work that is bold, irreverent, deeply local, and fearlessly forward-looking feels exactly right. It's also a total treat to mark the occasion by reuniting the teams from La Boite Theatre and Dead Puppet Society.

At its core, *WE'RE ALL GONNA DIE!* centres young people, not just as characters, but as truth-tellers and changemakers. In a world that often sidelines their voices, this show hands them the mic. That's important to us. And it's a message that resonates far beyond the theatre walls.

Maddie Nixon's script is a gift – innately theatrical, darkly funny, and full of big, messy ideas that demand a big, messy staging. For a creative team that adores visual theatre, it's been a delicious invitation to dream expansively. Together with our cast and collaborators, we've created something wonderfully Brisbane: playful, political, and just a little bit unhinged.

This play will move you, shake you up, and remind you that stories, especially those led by young voices, have the power to change everything.

## COURTNEY STEWART

(she/her)

CO-DIRECTOR

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR &  
CEO LA BOITE THEATRE





# DEAD PUPPET SOCIETY

In 2020 Dead Puppet Society commissioned Maddie Nixon to write *WE'RE ALL GONNA DIE!*. This was an important moment in the company's history, proving that we could provide significant development opportunities to independent artists. Since then, the script has undergone several workshops in partnership with La Boite Theatre. It's a pure joy to finally have the world premiere as part of La Boite's 100th anniversary season.

As a design-led theatre work that tackles ecological disasters as the biggest threat to our generation and the ones that follow, *WE'RE ALL GONNA DIE!* is a call to action. In true Dead Puppet Society fashion, we've brought Maddie's world to life with shadow puppets, inflatables, miniatures and a whole suite of other tricks. Not to mention the brilliant all Queensland cast and creative team.

It's been wonderful to be home with La Boite once again. This company means so much to us, having nurtured DPS from the beginning and co-producing several works together over the last sixteen years. A heartfelt thanks to Courtney and the team for embracing our ridiculous ideas and being absolute legends to work with.

And as always, thanks to the core team at Dead Puppet Society – Scott, Kat, Helen, Regan, Ella – and our incredible community of supporters and volunteers for working tirelessly to add our dose of magic to the production.

Congratulations Maddie on this significant milestone, we know that you have a bright future ahead.

Strap in and enjoy the ride!

## DAVID MORTON

(he/him)

CO-DIRECTOR & DESIGNER

CREATIVE DIRECTOR

DEAD PUPPET SOCIETY

## NICHOLAS PAINE

(he/him)

CREATIVE PRODUCER

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

DEAD PUPPET SOCIETY





# MADDIE NIXON

Bringing this play to life with Dead Puppet Society has been an absolute delight. As a writer who has often been told 'that's too hard to stage' it's been liberating working with a team that leans into creative challenges. I've also thoroughly enjoyed having permission to use humour to tackle big ideas.

To stage this show at La Boite Theatre has been a homecoming dream. I cut my teeth in this Roundhouse, so to come back and make my mainstage writing debut here feels like I'm coming home - much more grown up than the 19 year old who wrangled props backstage.

We started working on this show in 2020. In that time, a lot has happened, but time and time again the premise of the work has been proven true - we are all going to die. As I write this in 2025, I'm not sure if it will be a cataclysmic upheaval of us all, or a slow whimpering to the finish line, but we are all going to die. The play didn't originally have this title. During a development in 2021, Matt Seery and I were workshopping alternatives and after he suggested *WE'RE ALL GONNA DIE!* nothing else compared.

This play does not point fingers to any individual, politician or party, but points out the fact that the institutions we're meant to trust to keep us safe have been ignoring the impending climate change crisis. Passing on the buck to the next lot who come through, only for the next lot to yet again pass down the buck.

I'm not suggesting that some silly play written by someone from Brisbane is going to save the world. But I hope, maybe, it reminds people that climate change is the one universal truth, the one monster that is coming for us all. If we don't grow up and figure out what we're going to do about it, then... well... read the title of the play.

**MADDIE NIXON**

(she/her)

PLAYWRIGHT









# DEAN HANSON

Diving on the opportunity to steer the sonic ship through the *WE'RE ALL GONNA DIE!* universe has been such a great experience for me. With Brisbane music being so close to my heart, hand picking and curating some of my favourite local songs to guide the audience through this story was a pleasure.

The opportunity to compose and write some original music was the real cherry on top. Working with Brady Watkins on weaving my theme and variation between different emotions, character relationships, the changing moods between scenes and ultimately to compliment the ever building tension throughout the tale was such a truly fun and wonderful journey.

There's a lot of depth to the message throughout this tale which, in turn, required a lot of depth sonically throughout and seeing my vision of the music working hand in hand so well with all the elements from the rest of this incredibly talented creative team is incredibly rewarding.

If it's true that *WE'RE ALL GONNA DIE!*, at least I'll die happy having been able to work on this show.

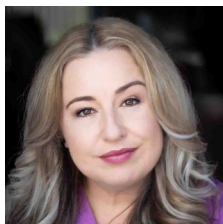
## DEAN HANSON

(he/him)

COMPOSER & CURATOR



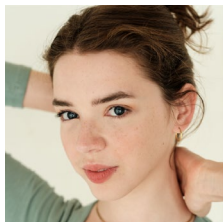
# CAST MEMBERS



**LOUISE BREHMER** (she/her)  
**LANA / TEACHER**

Louise is an award winning actor, with a professional career spanning thirty years. She returns to La Boite after appearing in *Tiddas* for Brisbane Festival, and later performed at Belvoir St in the Sydney Festival production.

Other credits include *The Holidays*, *The Longest Minute* (Queensland Theatre), *The Tempest*, *Romeo and Juliet* (Brisbane Shakespeare Festival), *Children of the Black Skirt* (Real TV), to name a few. She has worked with many companies over the years, is a highly experienced teaching artist, voice over artist and improviser. Louise is a QUT Acting Graduate and has trained in the USA with Shakespeare and Company.



**MILENA NESIC** (she/her)  
**THEO**

Milena Nesic is a local actor and writer who is elated to be working with La Boite and Dead Puppet Society on this original Queensland play. She is a QUT Acting graduate and made her mainstage debut in ATYP's *M.Rock* during her second year of study. While at QUT, she

performed in *Ruby Moon* (Vena Cava), *Stupid Fcking Bird*, *Art of Courage*, and *Joan Must Die\**.

Milena has also trained with Queensland Theatre, Shakespeare's Globe, and the Royal Shakespeare Company. After winning Queensland Theatre's Young Playwrights Award, she completed writing programs with ATYP, Bell Shakespeare, KXT Bakehouse, La Boite, and was published through Playlab Theatre.





**NGOC PHAN** (she/her)  
**JAYMIE / ALICE**

Ngoc Phan is a Matilda Award winning actor and is thrilled to be part of La Boite Theatre's 100th anniversary and to be working for the first time with Dead Puppet Society. She began her mainstage career with La Boite in *A Streetcar Named Desire* over 10 years ago, making this a full-circle moment.

Her other performances include *The Mathematics of Longing*, *The Village*, and *Away*. Ngoc was also a member of the La Boite Artist Company and has facilitated workshops for Assembly. She has worked with numerous companies, including Melbourne Theatre Company, Queensland Theatre, and most recently with Brisbane Festival in *Love Stories*.

Ngoc has also extended her practice to include playwriting and directing.



**ANTHONY STANDISH** (he/him)  
**JAKE / HARVEY**

Anthony is a seasoned performer whose work spans stage and screen. With La Boite Theatre, he appeared in *Cosi*, and has collaborated with Dead Puppet Society on *The Wider Earth*. His extensive theatre credits include *37* (Melbourne Theatre Company), *American Buffalo*, *The*

*Woman Before*, *Puss In Boots*, *Caucasian Chalk Circle*, *A Property of The Clan*, *The Exception and The Rule*, *The Removalists*, *Man Equals Man*, *Kelly*, *Trollop*, *End of the Rainbow*, Matilda Award for best supporting actor for *An Octoroon*, *City of Gold*, *The Wider Earth*, *Our Town*, *37* (QLD Theatre), *City of Gold* (Griffin Theatre Company), *Jane Eyre*, *Wuthering Heights* (Shake n Stir), *Australia The Show* (Hothouse), *Prehistoric* (Elbow Room), and *Brutal Utopias* (Playlab).

On screen, Anthony's credits include *Aquaman* (Warner/DC), *The Bureau of Magical Things*, *Lightning Point*, *Rock Island Mysteries* (Nickelodeon), *Hoges*, *Wanted* (Seven Network), *The End* (Foxtel), *Mabo* (ABC), *Reef Break* (ABC US), *Sea Patrol* (Nine Network), *Heartbeat* (ITV UK), and *Space Chickens in Space* (Disney).

# CAST MEMBERS



**HSIAO-LING TANG** (she/her)  
**NICKLIN**

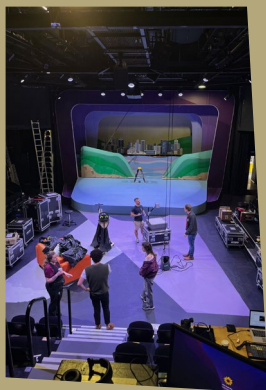
Hsiao-Ling Tang is so pleased to be back at La Boite Theatre and to be working with Dead Puppet Society on *WE'RE ALL GONNA DIE!*. Her past theatre credits include *Single Asian Female*, *Lysa and the Freeborn Dames*, and *An Ideal Husband* (La Boite Theatre); the Queensland premieres of Rice and David Williamson's *Nearer the Gods* (Queensland Theatre); the Matilda Award-winning *Boy Lost* (Belloo Creative); and more. She has voiced characters for ABC's *Bluey*, and her television appearances include *All Saints*, *H2O: Just Add Water*, *Sea Patrol*, and she is currently the face and voice of Terry White Chemmart.

Film credits include *Postcard Bandit*, *Tempted* (co-starring Jason Momoa), the Screen Queensland short film *When the Sky Was Blue*, and *Drea: What Have You Done!*.

Hsiao-Ling is a graduate of the QUT Bachelor of Arts in Drama (Acting).





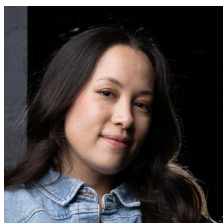


# CREATIVE TEAM



**MADDIE NIXON** (she/her)  
**PLAYWRIGHT**

Maddie is a playwright and journalist. As a playwright she has written for Queensland Theatre, Dead Puppet Society and Playlab. She has co-directed for The Good Room, and directed for La Boite Theatre Company's Young Artist Company. Maddie completed her Master of Journalism and Communication degree at the University of New South Wales and her Bachelor of Fine Arts (Drama) at the Queensland University of Technology. She was a finalist in the Queensland Premier Drama Award in 2020-21, and was awarded the UNSW Faculty of Arts, Design and Architecture Dean's List (Postgraduate) award in both 2022 and 2023. She currently works as a journalist for The ABC, reporting on life in outback Queensland.



**COURTNEY STEWART** (she/her)  
**CO-DIRECTOR**

Courtney Stewart is an acclaimed director, dramaturg, actor and teaching artist with a deep passion for intercultural works and multicultural dramaturgies. She is the current Artistic Director and CEO of La Boite Theatre.

A proud Queenslander, Courtney started her professional career as an actor before honing her talents as an artistic leader, diversity advocate and change maker for some of the country's most prolific companies and organisations including Sydney Theatre Company (as Directing Associate and Richard Wherrett Fellow), Belvoir and Contemporary Asian Australian Performance (as Artistic Associate). Courtney was previously Chair of the Equity Diversity Committee, a delegate to the National Performers Committee, and a former board member for Contemporary Asian Australian Performance. Courtney is a current board member for Creative Australia.

Courtney has worked on acclaimed productions such as Maxine Beneba Clarke's *The Hate Race*, *The Poison of Polygamy* by Anchuli Felicia King, *Miss Peony*, *Top Coat*, and *Single Asian Female* by Michelle Law.



**DAVID MORTON** (he/him)  
**CO-DIRECTOR & DESIGNER**

David is a writer, director and designer, and the Creative Director of Dead Puppet Society. Over the last sixteen years he has led Dead Puppet Society in the creation of large-scale designed theatre works developed with international teams.

Some highlights from work produced includes the Australian premiere of *Peter and the Starcatcher*, produced with JONES Theatrical Group, Glass Half Full and Damien Hewitt; *Holding Achilles*, which was supported through the Major Festivals Initiative and has had successful seasons with Brisbane and Sydney Festivals; *The Wider Earth* (Dead Puppet Society, Queensland Theatre, Trish Wadley Productions, Glass Half Full Productions), which was conceived in residence at St Ann's Warehouse in Brooklyn, New York City and enjoyed a six-month run in a custom-built theatre in London's Natural History Museum; *Laser Beak Man* (Dead Puppet Society, La Boite Theatre, Brisbane Festival, PowerArts), which was a collaboration with Tim Sharp, developed at the New Victory Theater in New York City.

Additional works include *Ishmael* (Dead Puppet Society, Brisbane Festival, QPAC); *The Riddle of Washpool Gully* (Terrapin, Dead Puppet Society); *Argus* (Dead Puppet Society, Lincoln Centre, Queensland Theatre, Brisbane Powerhouse); *Trollop* (Queensland Theatre); and *The Harbinger* (Dead Puppet Society, La Boite Theatre, Critical Stages).

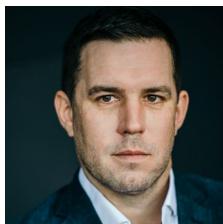
David has been nominated for five Helpmann Awards and an Olivier Award. He holds a Doctor of Philosophy in puppetry and visual theatre from Queensland University of Technology.



**DEAN HANSON** (he/him)  
**COMPOSER & CURATOR**

Dean Hanson is a musician and songwriter best known for his work with Brisbane based band Ball Park Music, over a career of 17 years the band has released eight albums, the most recent one charting at #11 on the ARIA charts. They have also toured the country extensively.

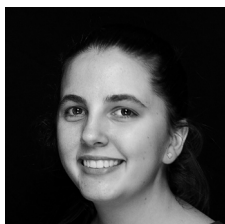
# CREATIVE TEAM



## **BEN HUGHES** (he/him) **LIGHTING DESIGNER**

Ben Hughes is a lighting designer whose design practice spans theatre, dance and opera. He is Associate Artistic Director of The Danger Ensemble.

Ben's lighting designs have appeared on stages throughout Australia, and internationally in the United Kingdom, United States, China, India & New Zealand. He has designed for companies including: Queensland Theatre, Sydney Theatre Company, Melbourne Theatre Company, State Theatre Company of South Australia, Malthouse Theatre, Opera Queensland, Belvoir, La Boite Theatre, Queensland Ballet, Sydney Festival, Brisbane Festival, Australasian Dance Collective, The Danger Ensemble, HotHouse Theatre, The Nest Ensemble, Zen Zen Zo Physical Theatre, JUTE Theatre, Stella Electrika, Queensland Performing Arts Centre, Phluxus2 Dance Collective, Collusion, Company2, Gold Coast Arts Centre, Woodford Folk Festival and Kooemba Jdarra.



## **BRADY WATKINS** (she/her) **SOUND DESIGNER**

As a Composer and Sound Designer, Brady has brought productions to life with work on *Shirley Valentine* and *Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)* with Neil Gooding Productions & Woodward Productions, *Tiny Beautiful Things* at Belvoir St Theatre and with

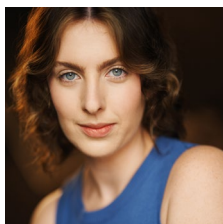
Queensland Theatre on shows like *The Appleton Ladies Potato Race*, and *Othello*. Her Sound Designs can be heard on productions such as the World Premiere of *Round The Twist: The Musical* with Queensland Theatre and QPAC, *First Casualty*, *Fancy Long Legs*, *Bigger & Blacker*, *The Neighbourhood* with La Boite Theatre, *Meet Your Maker* for Blak Social at Brisbane Festival, and *SWARM* with Dead Puppet Society. Other credits include *Bananaland* at QPAC with Brisbane Festival, *Unconditional* with Playlab, and the national tour of *The Wider Earth* with Dead Puppet Society.





**JACINTA WAY** (she/her)  
**STAGE MANAGER**

Jacinta Way is a multidisciplinary artist and experienced stage/production manager based in Adelaide. She has worked across major festivals, national tours, and immersive productions through her 10-plus-year career. This is her second La Boite Theatre show following the premiere season of *IRL* in 2023.

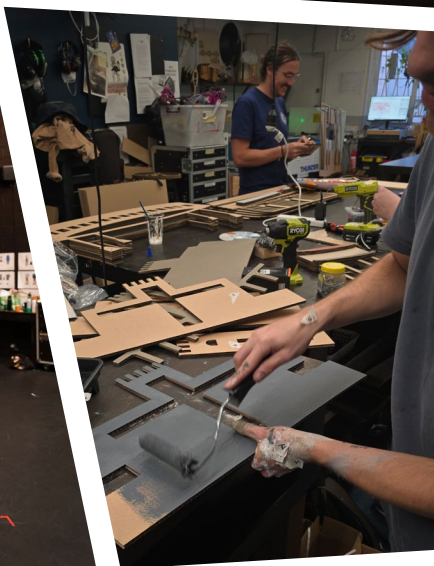


**JASMIN FLYNN** (she/they)  
**ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER**

Jasmin Flynn is a skilled Assistant Stage Manager with a passion for bringing stories to life. Jasmin is committed to collaborating with creative teams to support their artistic vision. Jasmin's most recent work was on *Yoga Play* at La Boite Theatre, and they are pleased to be

returning to work on *WE'RE ALL GONNA DIE!*, an exciting collaboration with Dead Puppet Society. They have worked with companies such as Broad Encounters, APAC, Backbone, Anywhere Theatre Festival, Queensland Theatre, and last year, was Assistant Stage Manager for *Adrift* by Counterpilot at Metro Arts. These productions have built on Jasmin's theatre studies to equip them with the skills to deliver high-quality shows. Jasmin is dedicated to creating seamless and impactful theatrical experiences for audiences.





# THE COMPANY

## LA BOITE THEATRE

### BOARD

Adam Brunes (Chair)  
Hannah Barr  
Gresham Congoo  
Amanda Jolly  
Grace Loyden  
Sarah McAree  
John Saunders  
Jessica Simpon  
Sarah Townsend

### SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

#### Artistic Director & CEO

Courtney Stewart

#### General Manager

Ian Prowse

#### Head of Marketing & Audience Development

Jacqueline Bawtree

### AT THE HEART OF LA BOITE THEATRE

#### Senior Producer

Jess Bunz

#### Production Manager

Teegan Kranenburg

#### Workshop Manager

Andrew Mills

#### Venue & Operations Manager

Garry Wilson

#### Venue & Ticketing Coordinator

Kathryn Collins

#### Technical Coordinator

George Pitt

#### Artistic Administrator

Chelsea August

#### Marketing Coordinator

Siluni Kumarapperuma

#### Graphic Designer

Ella Mars

#### Finance Officer

Julia Beckitt

### FRONT OF HOUSE

#### Espresso Bar & Café Barista

Annabel Gilbert

#### Front of House Supervisors

Cassidy Cahill, Marie David, Sophia Harris, Claire Holland and Aimee Sheather

#### Front of House & La Boite Espresso Bar & Café Staff

Will Carseldine, Courtney Cavallaro, Jo Craddy, Pierson Downey, Fletcher Dunn, Billy Fogarty, Emma Hanson, Peter Keavy, Peta Kishawi, Grace Lashbrook, Mia Lierich, Jiordie Lobwein, Harry Maynard, Georgia McKenzie, Sami Rety, Carys Walsh, Lily Williams, Grace Wilson, Presley Woods and Flynn Young

### PRODUCTION

#### Casual Technicians

Caleb Bartlett, Emma Burchell, Riley Camejo, Winter Chapman, Briana Clark, Tia-Hanee Cleary, Tim Gawne, Charlie Graham, Tommi Hirvonen, Erin O'Shea, Natalie Scott, Abigail Taylor, Sophie Watkins, Sam Gehrke, Kelsey Booth, Hamish Elliot, and Lachlan van der Kreek

#### Photography

David Kelly (Hero)  
Stephen Henry (Rehearsal)

#### Video Trailer

PixelFrame

### SPECIAL THANKS

Andy Geppart (La Boite Season Creative Design and Direction)

# THE COMPANY

## DEAD PUPPET SOCIETY

### MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Sandra Gattenhof (Chair),  
Katherine Hoepper (Secretary),  
Tim Hall (Treasurer), Adam Brunes,  
Kevin O'Brien, Liz Prior and Claire  
Styles

### AT THE HEART OF DEAD PUPPET SOCIETY

#### Creative Director

David Morton

#### Executive Producer

Nicholas Paine

#### Technical Director

Scott Barton

#### Associate Producer and Acting Company Manager

Kat O'Halloran

#### Youth & Engagement Director

Helen Stephens

#### Marketing Associate

Ella Bromback

#### Workshop Coordinator

Regan Henry

#### QUT Placements

Matt Rosolen  
Noah Turnbull  
Jon Whitehead

#### Volunteer Fabricators

Maxwell Corfe  
Carol Jelley  
Gia Murray  
Ben Newth  
Liz Prior

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Queensland Ballet  
Queensland Theatre

#### Development cast/crew

Kerith Atkinson  
Emily Burton  
Billy Fogarty  
Charlie Mitchell  
Gideon Mzembe  
Matthew Seery  
Jazz Zhao

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Liz and Nigel Prior  
Madonna Stinson

#### The Society (our donor circle)

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SOCIAL

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Ⓟ Dead Puppet Society



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**A SHOW OF  
TRANSFORMATION  
AND HOPE**

**4 - 20 SEP**

**BY MERLYNN TONG**

**DIRECTED BY COURTNEY STEWART**



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