

A G A Y



ESCAPADE

Little Triangle acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land where we work and live, the Gadigal People of the Eora Nation and pay our respects to Elders past and present. We celebrate the stories, culture and traditions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders of all communities who also work and live on this land.

Always was, always will be, Aboriginal land.

LITTLE TRIANGLE presents

A G A Y ESCAPADE

Music by **JOHN KANDER**

Lyrics by **FRED EBB**

Conceived by **ALEXANDER ANDREWS**

Developed with **AARON ROBUCK**

Step into a dazzling world where musical theatre intersects with a tapestry of LGBTQIA+ stories. This original revue is a vibrant homage to the extraordinary contributions of gay composer, John Kander, and his lifelong creative partner, lyricist Fred Ebb. Together, they revolutionised the Broadway landscape with their unforgettable works, now reimagined through a queer lens.

Prepare to be captivated by an evening of both heart-stirring and electrifying performances that celebrate our community. This production is not just a tribute to Kander and Ebb's musical legacy, it's a bold reexamination of traditional narratives, queering them with authenticity and pride.

Our lineup of some of Sydney's finest LGBTQIA+ performers will breathe new life into iconic numbers, as well as uncover hidden gems that have rarely graced the stage. With every note and lyric, they will weave stories that resonate with love and triumph.

We aim to present a performance that transcends time, offering a dazzling reflection of our queer experience. Whether you're a fan of Kander and Ebb or a newcomer to their work, this is a night that promises to be as enlightening as it is entertaining.



S O N G

WHEN YOU'RE GOOD TO MAMA	<i>Chicago</i>
YES	<i>70, Girls, 70</i>
ALONG COMES LOVE	<i>New York, New York</i>
NOT EVERY DAY OF THE WEEK	<i>Flora the Red Menace</i>
ALL THAT JAZZ / THE HAPPY TIME	<i>Chicago / The Happy Time</i>
BLIND DATE	<i>Funny Lady</i>
GIMME LOVE	<i>Kiss of the Spider Woman</i>
THE GRASS IS ALWAYS GREENER	<i>Woman of the Year</i>
THERE'S A ROOM IN MY HOUSE	<i>A Family Affair</i>
ONE OF THE SMART ONES	<i>New York, New York</i>
I DON'T REMEMBER YOU /	<i>The Happy Time /</i>
SOMETIMES A DAY GOES BY	<i>Woman of the Year</i>
PERFECTLY MARVELLOUS /	<i>Chicago /</i>
EVERYBODY'S GIRL	<i>Steel Pier</i>
MAYBE THIS TIME	<i>Cabaret</i>
SORRY I ASKED /	<i>New York, New York /</i>
A QUIET THING	<i>Flora the Red Menace</i>
ARTHUR IN THE AFTERNOON	<i>The Act</i>
MISTER CELLOPHANE / WALLFLOWER	<i>Chicago / The Rink</i>
COLOURED LIGHTS	<i>The Rink</i>
NOWADAYS /	<i>Chicago /</i>
BUT THE WORLD GOES 'ROUND	<i>New York, New York</i>
I KNOW A GIRL / SING HAPPY	<i>Chicago / Flora the Red Menace</i>
ISN'T THIS BETTER (THAN BEFORE)	<i>Funny Lady / New York, New York</i>
MARRY ME / MARRIED	<i>The Rink / Cabaret</i>
RING THEM BELLS	<i>Liza with a Z</i>
LIFE IS (A CABARET)	<i>Zorba / Cabaret</i>

L I S T

DIRECTOR'S



You can blame Liza Minnelli for this one. Not just for inspiring my bedroom concerts at ten years old, but also for introducing me to Kander and Ebb. After all, most of their big songs were written for her—*Maybe This Time*, *New York, New York*, *Liza with a Z*, all of *The Act*. Can you imagine? She was their muse, and I have mine: my queer collaborators. This show is a love letter to them.

The inspiration for our original Kander and Ebb revue came from *Isn't It Queer?* (Little Triangle, 2022), a collection of Sondheim songs brought to life by some of the most brilliant queer artists I've ever had the pleasure of collaborating with. The true magic came from being in a space where every person—performers, tech crew, and creatives alike—was queer. It was a powerful, affirming experience, and I knew I wanted to recreate that energy. And we did.

Kander and Ebb's work has always resonated with me deeply. Their ability to weave stories of outsiders, misfits, and rebels through music and theatre has been a guiding light in my own creative journey. Growing up, their songs were more than just show tunes; they were anthems of resilience, survival, and defiance—emotions that echo the queer experience.

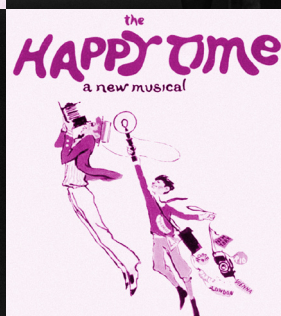
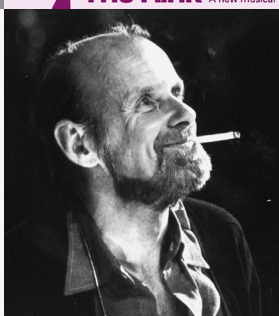
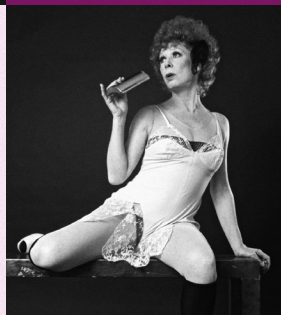
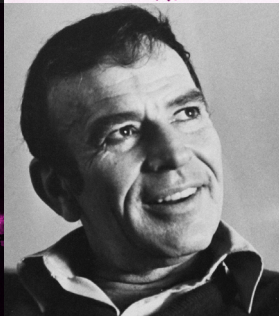
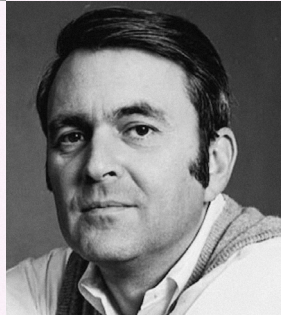
The songs in *A Gay Escapade* come from all corners of Kander and Ebb's remarkable repertoire—ranging from big hits like *Cabaret* and *Chicago* to lesser-known gems like *Flora the Red Menace*, *The Rink*, and *Steel Pier*. We even include songs from shows that flopped, such as *A Family Affair*, from the Barbra Streisand vehicle and *Funny Girl* sequel, *Funny Lady*, as well as the Bob Fosse-directed television special *Liza with a Z*. In creating this show, I handpicked songs from all over the place to weave together a vibrant tapestry of queer love and community.

Kander and Ebb's shows have always featured queer characters, from the eccentric Emcee in *Cabaret* to the glamorous Molina in *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, the working-class Herman in *The Rink*, and even the ill-fated Al Lipschitz and his lover Irving in *Chicago*. Yet, in all of their shows, it's rare for queer characters to take centre stage and tell their own stories of love and triumph. *A Gay Escapade* is our way of changing that—of giving these characters, and the performers who embody them, the spotlight they deserve. In doing so, we hope to create a space where queer stories are not just told but celebrated, where every note sung is a declaration of pride and love.

Putting on our show in Qtopia Sydney's inaugural season has been a wonderful experience. The contributions they are making to the queer community through arts and as a space for queer history are truly inspiring. However, we must acknowledge that for many, the building carries a history of trauma and pain, as it was once a police station where many of our queer elders endured horrific physical and emotional violence. Our hope is to spread a little sunshine in our celebration of queer love, while holding this history in our hearts. In this space, where pain once resided, we bring joy, resilience, and the enduring spirit of our community.

So, to my collaborators, I dedicate this show. To the artists who continue to inspire me and to the audience who will hopefully see themselves reflected in these stories, this is for you.

KISS
OF THE SPIDER
WOMAN



KANDER & EBB

John Kander and Fred Ebb's collaboration transformed musical theatre, pushing the boundaries of the genre with their daring and often provocative storytelling. Their musicals are known not only for their catchy and memorable tunes but also for their unflinching exploration of darker themes, such as the rise of fascism in *Cabaret*, the corruption of the American legal system in *Chicago*, and the oppressive political regimes depicted in *Kiss of the Spider Woman*. Kander's vibrant, jazz-influenced compositions paired with Ebb's clever lyrics created a distinctive sound that remains timeless. Together, they crafted shows that challenged audiences while entertaining them, proving that musical theatre could be both thought-provoking and accessible. Their work continues to resonate on stages across the world, cementing their place as true visionaries of the art form.

Working at a time when LGBTQIA+ representation in mainstream theatre was often subdued, Kander and Ebb's shows embraced themes of outsider identity, subversive sexuality, and challenges to societal norms. Their work often created space for characters who didn't conform to societal expectations, mirroring the struggles and resilience of the queer community. Their ability to blend biting social commentary with heartfelt emotion allowed them to push boundaries, even in an era when such topics were often taboo. Their musicals continue to resonate with LGBTQIA+ audiences and are celebrated for their subversive spirit, boldness, and humanity.

I A R T I S T S E S





ALEXANDER ANDREWS
DIRECTOR / DESIGNER

Alexander (he/him) is a queer theatre maker and educator. As the co-founder of Little Triangle, he has directed more than a dozen musicals, cabarets, and concerts, while presenting original works, providing space for artistic development and platforming emerging artists. In addition to his work with Little Triangle, Alexander has directed shows such as Andy Freeborn's *Everything is Sh*t!* (Garden Party), *Themme Fatale* (Qtopia Sydney), *Prudence Holloway in Cabaret* (Claire's Petit Cabaret), *Dido and Aeneas* (Gondwana Choirs), *Das Namenfest* (Gondwana Choirs), *Painting Seventeen* (Short+Sweet), *The Women* (Sydney Fringe), and *Under Milk Wood* (Tiny Horse Theatre). Currently, Alexander is developing two new musicals, *Bright Young Things* with Andy Freeborn, and *Tip of Oz* with a collection of queer artists. By day, he is the Learning and Engagement Specialist at Monkey Baa Theatre Company as well as an Academic Lecturer at The Australian Institute of Music, where he teaches Acting.



AARON ROBUCK
MUSIC DIRECTOR

Aaron (he/him) is a Sydney-based performer, producer, educator, and creative. An alumni lecturer from The Australian Institute of Music, he is Creative Director for events company Viral Ventures, most recently writing, producing, and performing in *The Great Gatsby*, which toured sold-out seasons in Sydney and Brisbane. He also works as Cantorial Soloist at North Shore Temple Emanuel in Sydney. Performance credits include Leo Frank in *Parade* (Soundworks Productions), *35mm: A Musical Exhibition* (Little Triangle), *La Luna* (Emanuel Synagogue), *Dear World* (Hayes Theatre Co), *Rags* (The National Institute of Dramatic Art), *Bring It On* (Supply Evolution), *The Original Grease* (Squabbalogic), *Hidden Sydney: the Glittering Mile* (Working Management, Live Ideas), *Bare* (Supply Evolution), and *Three in the Bed* (Jonathon Holmes).



ROSE MCCLELLAND
PRODUCER

Rose (she/her) is a digital marketer by day, theatrical producer by night, and sometimes-performer when found with an unattended microphone. Her marketing experience spans Australian tours of prestige productions such as *Come From Away*, *Chicago*, and *The Book of Mormon*, and she is currently guiding digital marketing strategy and execution at leading Out of Home media company, oOh!media. As the proud co-founder of Little Triangle, Rose has produced a dynamic range of works, platforming emerging musical theatre talent and providing audiences theatrical experiences that challenge, inspire, and delight. She is a member of The Spare Keys a cappella group, was seen in Packemin Productions' *Les Misérables*, and can be found behind the bar with Hayes Theatre Co as a member of the Front of House team.



PARIS BELL
LIGHTING DESIGNER

Paris (they/them) is a Sydney-based creative and technician, with a passion for writing, building, and all things electrical. They currently study Animation at JMC Academy, and completed a Diploma of Live Production Design at TAFE Enmore.

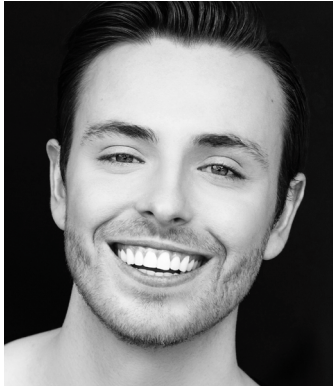
Professionally, they work as a tech at Monkey Baa Theatre Company, and at Flight Path Theatre, and in staging at Sydney Opera House. They have designed the lighting for *35mm: A Musical Exhibition* (Little Triangle), *No :: Intermission* (Theatre Travels), sound designed for *Chimerica* (New Theatre), *Other End Of The Afternoon* (New Theatre), and wrote and directed *Alan Turing*, *Joan of Arc*, and *Vincent van Gogh Walked Into a Bar* (The Sydney University Dramatic Society).



OLI MCGAVOCK
STAGE MANAGER

Oli (they/them) is an actor and singer-songwriter hailing from Perth, with experience spanning stage and screen. After moving to Sydney in 2018 they trained in Musical Theatre at Brent Street followed by Screen Acting at The Academy of Film, Theatre and Television. Oli's commitment to their craft is evident in their involvement in various projects, showcasing their range as a performer. Notably, they worked as a creative collaborator and played Lammeir in *Dumb Kids* (Legit Theatre Co.) a new queer work which debuted in 2023 at KXT on Broadway. Most recently they appeared in *35mm: A Musical Exhibition* (Little Triangle).





GAVIN BROWN

Gavin (he/him) is a tenor currently engaged with Opera Australia as a member of the chorus. He was seen performing as a swing and Raoul de Chagny understudy for Opera Australia's *The Phantom of the Opera* at the Sydney Opera House and Arts Centre Melbourne. After his studies, Gavin spent time in New York and performed the roles of Tamino in *The Magic Flute*, Don Basilio / Don Curzio in *The Marriage of Figaro*, and in an operatic gala at Carnegie Hall. Other recent credits include *Hamlet*, *Watershed*, *Aida*, *Turandot*, *Götterdämmerung*, *La Gioconda* (Opera Australia) *H.M.S. Pinafore* (Hayes Theatre Co), *Isn't It Queer?* (Little Triangle) *Eugene Onegin*, *The Rape of Lucretia*, *Don Giovanni* (Pacific Opera), and the new Australian works *Chop Chef* (Blush Opera) and *Love Burns* (Other Theatre Co). Gavin has toured with a number of internationally acclaimed artists including Hanz Zimmer, Patti LuPone and One Republic. TV appearances include being featured in the 2018 *Carols in the Domain* as a Young Star of Australian Opera and in the 2019 NRL Grand Final as a backing vocalist.



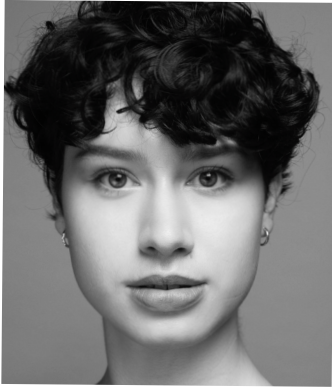
NINA CARMEN

Nina (she/they) is a graduate of the Queensland Conservatorium of Music, where they distinguished themselves in roles such as the title character in *The Drowsy Chaperone* and Barbara Finn in *Elegies*. Since graduation, Nina has continued to build an impressive career. They played Hermia in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with Serpentine Arts Theatre Company, Tweedle Dum in *Alice in Wonderland* with SK Entertainment, and were a featured soloist at the 2021 *Queensland Symphony Orchestra's Music Theatre Gala* alongside Lorina Gore and Simon Gleeson. Nina was also a part of Meerkat's School Touring team in 2021 and 2022. Most recently, Nina starred as Ali in the Australian tour of *Mamma Mia! The Musical*, and will soon be seen in Monkey Baa Theatre Company's national tour of *Josephine Wants to Dance*. Nina is thrilled to be part of their first Little Triangle production.



JAYDEN CASTLE

Jayden (he/they) is a nonbinary actor and classically trained tenor based in Sydney. Graduating from The Actors Centre Australia with a Bachelor of Arts (Stage and Screen) in 2022, Jayden is making their Little Triangle debut with *A Gay Escapade*. Jayden has performed both in Australia and America, in plays, musicals, and operas, including Billy in *Carrie* (Ignite Theatre Co), Clive/Cathy in *Cloud 9* (The Actor's Centre Australia), The Lecturer in *Reefer Madness* (The Sydney University Musical Theatre Ensemble), Schaunard in *La Bohème* (Central Coast Opera), Simeon/Joseph Understudy in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat* (KWC Musical Theatre, Ft Worth, TX), Mark in *Rent* (Palm Studios), Remendado in *Carmen* (Central Coast Opera), as well as a Featured Actor/Vocalist for both the stage and cast recording of KWC Musical Theatre's original musicals *King's Door* and *Look Up!* Jayden is passionate about innovation in Australian theatre, and is excited to be part of queer led theatre.



JULIETTE COLEMAN

Juliette (she/they) is an actor, musician, and performer from Victoria and now based in Sydney. Originally trained as a jazz pianist, Juliette decided to venture towards theatre to combine their love of music, movement, and drama. They are a recent graduate of The National Institute of Dramatic Arts, with a BFA in Acting (Singing Actor), and previously completed a Diploma of Musical Theatre at Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts. Recently, Juliette was Movement Director/Vocal Coach on *Tick...Tick...Boom!* (Good Time Theatrics) and was part of *They's at the Hayes* (Hayes Theatre Co). Juliette is particularly interested in actor-musicianship and looks forward to innovating in this space within Australian theatre. When not performing, Juliette is a session keyboardist for performer Miss Darcy, and a songwriter in their own right, with the aim to release their own EP next year. Juliette is a proud member of Actors' Equity.



IZZY HANLY

Izzy (she/they) is a queer theatre and cabaret performer based in Sydney. They graduated in 2019 with a Diploma in Music Theatre from The Australian Institute of Music, where they honed their skills in performance and musical theatre. In theatre, they have taken on roles such as Olive Ostrovsky in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* with the UNSW Musical Theatre Society and appeared in *A Jolly Good Musical!* as part of the Sydney Fringe Festival with Jolly Good Musicals. Most recently, Izzy was featured in *35mm: A Musical Exhibition* with Little Triangle. Izzy is also active in the cabaret scene, having performed in showcases like La La Lounge and *Broadway Classics* at the Palace Hotel. Their work in both theatre and cabaret reflects their commitment to bringing diverse stories and characters to life on stage.



CLARA HARRISON

Clara (she/they) is a queer artist based in Sydney, whose talents span singing, acting, voice-over work, and writing. With a rich portfolio that includes collaborations with prestigious organisations both in Australia and abroad, Clara has graced stages and screens with the likes of Princess Cruises, The Jim Henson Company, Universal Studios Japan, NCL, the ABC, and MTV. Notable performances include portraying Henrietta in *All Shook Up* at Diamond Head Theatre in Hawaii, participating in the *Wild Aussie Children's Show*, and touring with Perform Education's children's musical *Way Too Cool*. Clara is deeply passionate about advancing queer representation and supporting new artistic works. They have channelled this passion into creating and performing various self-produced cabarets, showcasing their unique vision on national and international stages.



SEBASTIAN NELSON

Sebastian (he/him) is making his Little Triangle debut in *A Gay Escapade*. He has previously appeared in the immersive experience, *The Great Gatsby*, and *Next to Normal* with Whimsical Productions, where his performances garnered praise for their depth and energy. Sebastian holds a Bachelor of Music from The Australian Institute of Music, where he developed his strong foundation in musical performance. His talents were also showcased in the workshop and presentation of the new Australian musical *One of a Kind*, written by Judy Campbell and Aaron Robuck. Sebastian is eager to bring his passion and experience to this exciting new production.



ALLEGRA WILSON

Allegra (she/they) is thrilled to join Little Triangle's production of *A Gay Escapade*. With a strong background in the arts, including extensive dance training at The Australian Institute of Music, Allegra brings a wealth of experience to the stage. Her recent credits feature standout performances as Shirley in *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* and Velma in *Chicago* with SoPopera Productions, showcasing her impressive range and depth as a performer. She is particularly excited to revisit the work of Kander and Ebb and looks forward to collaborating with the exceptional talent in this production. Additionally, her recent appearance at La La Lounge underscores her enthusiasm for immersing herself in Sydney's vibrant cabaret scene.





SPECIAL

CARLY FISHER AND ROSIE NIVEN Qtopia Sydney
MALCOLM ANDREWS AND KIM ANDREWS Set and prop construction
BRYAN RUIZ Promotional photography
INNER WEST COUNCIL
ANDREA PURNOMO AND DANNY CHIFLEY 2ser Radio Station
TORI BULLARD AND ELIZA VINE Stage Door Podcast

Little Triangle Patrons
**SALLIANNE MCCLELLAND, JOHN STRINGER,
MITCHELL WASSINK AND STEFAN JAMAL**

THANKS

FRUIT GLEE



Little Triangle was founded by Rose McClelland and Alexander Andrews, an independent theatre company that has been creating and presenting underperformed musicals and original cabarets since 2017. Our productions provoke and entertain audiences at an accessible price point. Our debut production of *Sunday in the Park with George* received critical acclaim and established us as a major player in Sydney's indie theatre scene. Since then, we have produced a dynamic range of works that celebrate many perspectives and experiences, with the commitment to producing high-quality theatre that challenges and inspires. Through our productions, Little Triangle continues to push the boundaries of the theatrical landscape, offering a unique and unforgettable theatre experience.

2024	A GAY ESCAPE
2024	MY INTERVENTION
2023	35MM: A MUSICAL EXHIBITION
2023	BLANK: AN IMPROVISED MUSICAL
2022	MUSICAL CHAIRS: A CABARET SERIES
2022	WORK OF ART
2022	THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD
2022	ISN'T IT QUEER?
2019	NINE
2019	MURDER, SHE SANG
2018	THE WILD PARTY
2018	A LITTLE CABARET
2018	MERRILY WE ROLL ALONG
2017	SUNDAY IN THE PARK WITH GEORGE

