

GRAVE ISSUES

PROGRAM



24CARROTPRODUCTIONS.COM

GRAVE ISSUES

a new Australian work
premiering September 2023



PRESENTED BY 24 CARROT PRODUCTIONS

Our works take innovative approaches to presentation while remaining accessible and enjoyable for a variety of audiences. Since 2018, we have annually presented a full day of events and activities exploring and celebrating the work of Jane Austen and the Regency era known as 'Austen Con'.



JUNIOR - PLAYED BY KARLI RIESEN



Originally from Yungaburra in FNQ, Karli grew up a country kid with a passion for dance and performance. At 17 she left home to study a Bachelor of Creative Arts (Acting) at USQ in Southern QLD and the passion grew!

From 2018 through to 2022 Karli performed full-time with Brainstorm Productions touring across QLD, NSW, ACT, VIC, and SA. Alongside this, she has performed in other notable pieces such as Share House Theatre Company's Squad Goals, written by Alex Bayliss and co-directed by Emma Black.

Karli has also performed in many roving movement groups for festivals such as Cre8 Festival at Southbank and the Brisbane Museum. Now, she is super keen to grow some roots in Melbourne.

Throughout lockdowns Karli used the time to complete her Master of Arts and develop her own play Scars and Sweet Potato Chips. She is now involved in the arts scene in Melbourne and continues to perform in, produce, write, and develop new work. She is super keen to perform the role of Junior in Grave Issues as it is a play that feels 'good-different' and is a genuine yet impactful piece of work!

SENIOR - PLAYED BY KATE BALL

Kate is no stranger to 24 Carrot Productions, having first worked with writer/director Sharmini Kumar on the short-film Othello vs the Media in 2017. Most recently, Kate played the titular role in the 24 Carrot Productions theatre rendition Saint(s) of Joan.

Kate studied at the Melbourne Actor's Lab under Peter Kalos and has appeared in Australian Television series such as Neighbours, The Wrong Girl and Dr Blake Mysterious, as well as Chinese webseries, Inertopia.

Kate is honoured to be joining the exceptionally talented cast of Grave Issues and would like to extend her thanks and gratitude to the entire team for welcoming her at the last-minute.



THE COLLEAGUE - PLAYED BY OCEAN TRIMBOLI

Ocean is an emerging actor with a background in creative writing, and has previously been involved in the spoken-word poetry scene throughout Australia.

She is a recent graduate of JMC Academy, completing the Diploma of Creative Arts with a major in Acting. During her studies she performed multiple roles in 'Uprising,' an Australian theatre work written by Patricia Cornwell and Melissa Reeves. Her current experience includes acting showcases, devised theatre performances and student short films. Ocean was also granted a role as a Student Ambassador while at JMC.

Ocean is excited by the prospect of establishing herself as an actor-meets-creator, and telling stories that resonate deeply with audiences where they feel both seen and yet also challenged in their way of thinking.



THE FRIEND - PLAYED BY BIANCA CONRY

Bianca Conry (she/her) is an award-winning actor based in Naarm/Melbourne. She trained full-time at Howard Fine Acting Studio and has performed on screen and stage across Victoria, at the Adelaide and Edinburgh Fringe Festivals and at international schools throughout Europe and South East Asia. She was awarded the "Best Acting" award for her role as Eva King in The Everyday Superheroes in the Adelaide 48 Hour Film Festival 2016.

Bianca hopes to tell important stories and spread joy through her art.

THE LOVER- PLAYED BY SASHA LEONG



Sasha Leong is an agile and versatile actor born in Ipoh, Malaysia, and currently residing in Melbourne, Australia. With a passion for performance from an early age, Sasha began her acting career in 2012. She has since honed her skills at Howard Fine Acting Studio in Melbourne, as well as at The Australian Film and Television Academy (TAFTA).

Sasha's recent on-screen experiences include lead roles in *The Unshakable Destiny 2* (2023) and *Some Company* (2022), as well as a supporting role in *Agent Provocateur* (2022). She appeared as a series regular in the web series *Kea's Life* (2022) and will be reprising the same role in *Life of Kea - Season One* (2023) series, supported by Screen Australia and Youtube Australia through the Skip Ahead program.

Sasha's passion for acting extends to the stage where she first started. Her recent theatrical credits include *Flesh Disease* (2023), *Shadowfall* (2023), *Ken's Quest* (2022), and *Dear Mama, There's Something Maybe I Should Tell You* (2022).

Fluent in Malay and conversational in Cantonese, Sasha enjoys learning new languages and has a passion for travelling and spicy food. She is also an experienced event and live performance producer, and co-produced her first short film, *Eating the Other*, premiered at Flickerfest 2023. She is attached as an Associate Producer in *Life of Kea - Season One*. As a producer, Sasha has a reputation for her strong work ethic and her ability to bring projects to life.

Sasha is a proud member of MEAA - Equity.

PLAYWRIGHT AND DIRECTOR - SHARMINI KUMAR

Sharmini Kumar is the founder and artistic director of 24 Carrot Productions. She has written and directed number of plays, including 'The Sisters; or, Galileo's Penance' (2018), *The Regina Monologues* (2021), and 'Sense and Sensibility: The Musical'. She has also written and directed short films and radio documentaries. She works as a medical doctor in her spare time.



LIGHT AND SOUND DESIGN - SARAH GOODA

Sarah Gooda has been working in theatre and film for the last 20 years including as a lighting, sound and set designer, stage manager, producer, director and actor. Previous designs include Sand Sea Surf & Murder (lx & snd), That Spying Game (lx & snd), The Good Immigrant (snd), Spamalot (set), Cock (lx), Reasonable Doubt (lx & snd), How long is a piece of string (lx), The complete works of William Shakespeare abridged (lx), A passage to India (lx), George's Marvellous Medicine (snd), The Hipster (lx), The Drunkards (lx & snd), The art of lies and obfuscation (lx), The woman in black (lx) and Minefields and Miniskirts (snd & AV). You can see Sarah's full credit list and examples of her work at www.sarahgooda.com

ORIGINAL COMPOSITION - LORE BURNS

Lore is a non-binary musician, composer, actor, and writer. Lore began composing at the age of ten and has composed works for a variety of different ensembles, including Ranges Young Strings, the Dandenong Ranges Orchestra, Ensemble Con Fuoco, and private commissions. They are currently pursuing a varied career in acting, composing, writing, music performance, and cello teaching as well as recently completing a Graduate Diploma in Arts. Lore's most recent compositional works include "Cocoon", "Crystal Tresses" and "Here is a Safe Place".

TECH DESK - ROMESH KUMAR**SET DESIGN - VICTORIA NG****POSTER/PROGRAM - LILIANA BRAUMBERGER**

24 Carrot Productions acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which Grave Issues is performed, the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong peoples of the Kulin Nation. We acknowledge that sovereignty was never ceded, and a portion of the show's profits will be donated to Pay The Rent, a not for profit organisation serving First Nations people.