

## COMING SOON TO A TOWN NEAR YOU!

Tasmania Performs will be touring *A Girl and Her Squid* throughout Tasmania in November-December 2008. This quirky circus show uses extreme physical comedy and suitable for adults and children 8yrs and up.

Incredible circus tricks combine with a gentle narrative about a girl and her rather unusual pet ...a squid (played by a 6ft male contortionist who lives in the bath)...you won't have seen a show like this before and you won't want to miss it!

If you wish to be kept informed about our future tours, send a message with "keep me informed" in the subject line to E: [annette.downs@artsatwork.com.au](mailto:annette.downs@artsatwork.com.au)

If you would like to offer any feedback about the tour or suggestions on ways we might improve the Tasmania Performs experience, please email Annette or post to 27 Tasma St, North Hobart 7000

# HAPPY ME

**A new Tasmanian  
musical about love,  
loss and happiness**

**Tasmania Performs proudly presents  
the 2008 Regional Tour of Happy Me  
in partnership with...**

Project Queenstown  
The Stanley Hall Committee  
Burnie Civic Centre  
Meander Valley Council and  
Arts Deloraine  
Devonport Entertainment Centre  
The Go Highlands Committee  
Brighton Council  
Palais Management Committee  
Great Oyster Bay Regional Arts  
Break O'Day Council  
Rotary Club of Scottsdale  
Lighthouse Regional Arts Branch

**Happy Me Authors and Composers**

Tony Carew  
Anne Grainger  
Travis Hennessy  
Georgina Todman





in your town or for your organisation, contact Annette Downs at Tasmania Performs;  
P: 6233 5935  
E: [annette.downs@artsatwork.com.au](mailto:annette.downs@artsatwork.com.au)

Jan Hughes;  
Lighthouse Regional Arts, Lorraine Wootton and Pat Webb;  
and George Town Council  
Plus our gratitude to the various businesses who have provided the ticketing outlets across the state.

# HAPPY ME

touring. Three more SVPA graduates have joined the show, one in the cast, one as rehearsal director and another as Stage Manager.

Georgina Todman:

**Alex Shipway,**

*Linda Love, Amy and Meredith.*

Joss Thomas:

**Andy Love,**

*Will, John, and Sav.*

It is exciting to see young artists able to train, develop a production like *Happy Me* and then tour it to share with other Tasmanians. I trust you will enjoy their creativity and in particular the beautiful songs.

**ABOUT**  
Tasmania Performs is proud to present this, the second of three regional tours for 2008. We have partnered with a range of Councils and local organisations to deliver first class theatre into your community.  
Launched as a state government performing arts initiative in 2006, Tasmania Performs selects and presents fine Tasmanian productions across the State. Tonight's production of *Happy Me* is touring to thirteen communities from 2-20 September, 2008.

*I have enjoyed partnering with motivated local organisations that use these performances as fundraising events for their communities. I am constantly amazed at what a difference a few passionate and energetic community leaders can make to their region*

**Annette Downs,**  
**Producer, Tasmania Performs.**

If you would like to discuss the possibility of hosting a fundraising performance

## MANY THANKS

Many thanks to our Tasmania Performs touring partners, we couldn't do it without you:

Project Queenstown Inc and

Megan Crump;

Stanley Town Hall Committee,

Circular Head Council and

Caroline Gillam;

Burnie Civic Theatre, Jenny Cox,

Mary Duniam and Margaret Englund;

Meander Valley Council and

Patrick Gambles;

Arts Deloraine, Diana Tuleja, Annie

Robinson and Niecy Brown;

Devonport Entertainment Centre,

Debbie Kershaw and staff;

Go Highlands Committee;

The Central Highlands Council;

Brighton Council, John Klug and the

Brighton Arts Alive Committee;

Palais Management Committee,

David Sales and Dr Charles Zuba;

Great Oyster Bay Regional Arts

Branch, Jenny and David Lathwell;

Break O'Day Council, Chris Hughes

and John McCullum;

Rotary Club of Scottsdale and

## ABOUT THE SHOW

Tonight you will follow the journey of four main characters, Madison Shaw-Buchanan a successful interior designer struggling to balance life and love, Alex Shipway a new mum aspiring to take the State's top job in politics, Andy Love a dedicated worker on the cusp of retirement and Ross Gordon a forestry worker struggling through difficult times...all are touched by happiness but in different ways.

This musical was originally devised by four talented graduates of the Launceston based School of Visual and Performing Arts and presented as part of the Centr Stage subscription seasons in Launceston in 2005 and 2006.

Tasmania Performs supports the development of Tasmanian productions for regional touring. Tonight we are delighted to show you this production.

The team were given the support of experienced Director Robert Jarman who assisted them in revisiting the show and refreshing the directorial approach and it was redesigned for

## CREDITS

**Writers, Composers and Original Cast:**

Tony Carew, Anne Grainger, Travis

Hennessy and Georgina Todman

**Dramaturge and Production Concept**

**Development:**

Robert Jarman

**Rehearsal Director:**

Jane Johnson

**Designer Maker:**

Roz Wren

**Lighting Design:**

Chris Jackson and Jen Cramer

**CAST 2008**

Anne Grainger:

**Madison Shaw-Buchanan,**

*Jan, Lou and Michelle.*

Travis Hennessy:

**Ross Gordon,**

*Mr Phelps, Ian and Derek.*

**Stage Manager, Lx and Sound Operator:**

Chris Jackson

**Tour Manager, Crew and Dresser:**

Jen Cramer

**Additional Composition:**

Shaun Robinson

**Musicians:**

Travis Hennessy - Piano

Frank Kerr - Drums

Joss Thomas - Guitar

**Sound Recordist:** Chris Jackson

**Poster Photography:** Nicole Jobson

A very special thanks to...

CentrStage who produced the initial

season of this musical under the title

Letf of Centr, SVPA - Academy of the

Arts, Michael Edgar, Peter Hammond,

Annelies Crowe, Jessica Brownrigg,

Paige Rattray. Elizabeth Bennett,

Frank Bansel.

Joh Muddle and Queechy High School

for kindly providing the Launceston

rehearsal venue.

## BIOGRAPHIES



### TONY CAREW

Tony first gained an affinity with theatre when he was cast as Adam in the Don College's *Children Of Eden*. He pursued a career in acting, joining the School of Visual and Performing Arts in Launceston and graduating in 2004 with a Bachelor of Contemporary Arts. He appeared in a number of shows, most notably Tony McNamara's *The Café Latte Kid* (2002) and Harold Pinter's *A Slight Ache* (2004), before being offered the chance to co-write, co-direct, and co-star in *Left Of Cent* (2005-06), now *Happy Me*.

His most recent appearance was in CentrStage's production of Noel Coward's *Hay Fever* (2007). He is currently pursuing a new career path: studying computing so that he can one day develop Websites.



### JEN CRAMER

A graduate of NIDA Jen has 13 years experience as a Production Manager, Stage Manager, Tour Manager and teacher of technical theatre. Jen spent five years in Sydney where she worked with Company B Belvoir St, Theatre of Image, Fox Studios Australia and Ceremonies for the 2000 Sydney Olympics.

Since returning she has worked with every professional Theatre Company in Tasmania including Theatre Royal, Is Theatre, Terrapin, TasDance and Ten Days on the Island as well as many local community and amateur companies. She is a trainer and assessor for the Salamanca Arts Centre Course in Entertainment and most recently *Les Miserable* for the Tasmanian Theatre Unit Trust and Production Managed *Bombshells* for the new Tasmanian Theatre Company.



### ANNE GRAINGER

Anne graduated from the School of Visual and Performing Arts (SVPA) in 2004 and has been involved in theatre in Launceston in many different capacities. Her acting, writing and directing credits include: *A Slight Ache*, *Cicada Sonata*, *Baggage the Musical* (2004), *Bed Among the Lentils* (2005) and *Left of Cent* (2005-2006). She most recently appeared in *Tis the Season* (2007) and *Blood Brothers* (2008) and stage-managed Mudlark Theatre's 2008, *One Day Extravaganza*.

In 2006 Anne completed a Bachelor of Teaching and is currently a full time teacher of Drama, Humanities and English at Scotch Oakburn College.

Anne is thrilled to tour *Happy Me*, as there is nothing so fulfilling as watching a show develop from its first thought through to a full blown production!



### TRAVIS HENNESSY

Travis graduated from the School of Visual and Performing Arts (SVPA) in 2004 with a BCA and then spent a year as the Country Club Tasmania Theatrical Development Awarded in 2005. Since then Travis has worked as a freelance actor/singer/composer/director on a variety of shows, concerts and community productions. Some highlights include: *Jocasta* (2005), and *Demon King* (2006) with CentrStage theatre company, *One Day Projects* with Mudlark Theatre and a regional tour of Tasmania of the show *Café*.

This year Travis has appeared in *Spilling Bodies* and *Dame Nelly Edgar and Friends Farewell Concert* with CentrStage and *AsteRisk* with Mudlark Theatre. Travis is also currently doing his Masters with the SVPA with a focus on composition and music theatre.



### CHRIS JACKSON

Chris Graduated from the School of Visual and Performing Arts (SVPA) in 2005 and was then employed as Production Manager for CentrStage and The Annex theatre for 2 years. Chris has worked as a Performer (in anything from Shakespeare to the highly experimental), *A Squaddies' Shrew* - CentrStage, *On the Death of Character* - SVPA, *Show 5* - SVPA, *Dr. Faustus* - SVPA (recently restaged for a showing at NIDA); Writer of *White Dark* - Ten Days on the Island, *AsteRisk* - Mudlark Theatre Inc., *Whoops!* - *One Day Project*, *Atlantis* - SVPA; Director of *White Dark* - Ten Days on the Island, *AsteRisk* - Mudlark Theatre Inc., *Poster of the Cosmos* - SVPA; Designer; and Technical Manager *Tamar Tidings*, *Terminal Murder*.

He is currently undertaking his Masters in Contemporary Art at the SVPA.

## BIOGRAPHIES



### ROBERT JARMAN

A freelance theatre worker, Robert has tutored, performed and/or directed classic and new work for all major Tasmanian performance companies including Zootango State Theatre, Terrapin, Is Theatre, Australian Script Centre, Theatre Royal, Big Picture Theatre, Al Fresco, Ihos, TSO, Bel Canto Opera, TasDance, Two Turns Dance, O and O, CentrStage, and interstate for Griffin, Music Theatre Sydney, Jure, One Extra Dance, X/Wellington, Melbourne Comedy Festival. He has created numerous independent works, and a series of five one-man shows. In June this year he directed the inaugural production for the Tasmanian Theatre Company. Robert is a former member of the Tasmanian Arts Advisory Board and former Chair of the Theatre Panel. His work has featured regularly in Ten Days on the Island. In 2001 he was awarded the Centenary of Federation Medal for services to the performing arts.



### JANE JOHNSON

Jane holds a Bachelor of Performing Arts from the UTAS and is the Artistic Director of Mudlark Theatre and Second Storey Youth Theatre. She works primarily as an actor, director and tutor and has worked with companies including; TasDance, Theatre North, Tasmanian Regional Arts, The Australian Script Centre, SSTP and Centr Stage. Acting credits include: *Rooted*, *Timon of Athens*, *What is the matter with Mary Jane?*, *One Day Projects*, *Our Path*, *Cosi*, *F:emails*; *Hit and Run*, *Hedda Gabler*, *Crazy Brave*, *Little Murders*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *The Coming of Stork*, *Leaving*, and *A Doll's House*. Directing credits include: *Café*, *A Number*, *Our Path* (associate director), *The Kid who Talked to Penguins*, *James and the Giant Peach* and *The Comedy of Errors*.



### JOSS THOMAS

Joss graduated with a BCA in Theatre in 2007. During his time at the School of Visual and Performing Arts he performed in a number of productions including; *Marat/Sade*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *The Mules Foad* (where he was also Musical Director), *American Buffalo* and *The Picketers* to name a few. In his final year he directed Nick Darke's *The Dead Monkey*. Joss also delves into the world of scriptwriting and several of his scripts have been performed by the UTAS Student Theatre Company. This year Joss has performed in *Five Kinds of Silence* by Shelagh Stephenson, *Time Flies* by David Ives and the CentrStage production of *Dame Nellie Edgar and Friends Farewell Concert*, in November he will Co-Direct and Devise *Infraction* for Mudlark Theatre Company.



### GEORGINA TODMAN

Georgina has enjoyed performances in Tasmania with the Gilbert and Sullivan Society in *Les Miserables*, Launceston Musical Society in *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Guy's and Dolls*, *The Music Man* and *South Pacific* and The Launceston Players in *Assassins* and *Les Miserables*. Georgina graduated from the School of Visual and Performing Arts (SVPA) in 2004, whilst completing her degree she directed Van Badham's *Morning on a Rainy Day*. Most recently she has worked with Centr Stage Theatre Company in *Jocasta*, *Tis the Season*, *Spilling Bodies* and *Happy Me*, originally titled *Left of Centre*, was born in the beautiful valley of Launceston with the support of this company. Georgina's core character Alex Shipway is torn by her duties as wife, mother and politician.



### ROZ WREN

Roz studied retail display and design in London and worked there as a visual merchandiser for ten years, during that time she designed and made sets, props, jewellery for most of the installations. Outside of work she had fun making exotic costumes for many fancy dress parties. After moving to Hobart she was lured by the smell of the grease paint and made costumes for Theatre Alfresco's (now Big Monkey) production of *Robin Hood* and has subsequently been their principal designer/maker. Since that time Roz has created sets, props, costumes or puppets for most of Hobart's theatre companies, and still continues to love her work.