



PETER PANTO

A huge & successful opening weekend!

Flying into a window* near you; it's Castlemaine Theatre Company's newest production, a cheeky mash-up between two literary favourites. Adapted by Director and CTC President, Kate Stones, "Peter Panto or One Flew Over the Second Star on the Right", is shaping up to be a rollicking ride from Castlemaine to Never Land. (*When we say "window", we mean "theatre"!)

Asked what inspired the combining of the two stories, Kate said: "I was thinking a lot about the Peter Pan story, and I happened to re-watch the film One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest. I was struck by the similarities. McMurphy is such a Peter Pan character - he's arrogant, a born leader, definitely averse to being a sensible grown up, and he ends up with his own band of lost boys in the ward, whom he takes on various crazy adventures." Find out more about the director's process later in this edition of Headliner.

WHEN: Final Shows 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20 November

WHERE: Phee Broadway Theatre, Mechanics Lane, Castlemaine

HOW MUCH: Adults \$29, Concession \$25, Children (Under 18) \$18

BOOKINGS: www.castlemainetheatrecompany.com/whats-on/ticket-sales/

TICKETS ARE STILL AVAILABLE FOR THE FINAL PERFORMANCES, DON'T MISS OUT!



Costumer Extraordinaire, Kristine Browning

**Headliner asked
Kristine Von
Hilderbrandt,
Costume Designer
for Peter Panto,
about her influences
and inspirations**

Kristine on Costuming

How did you come to be a costumer?

Before I was a Costume Designer I worked as a Band Manager and a Florist. Not at the same time though. Eventually I studied fashion history, art history and architecture at the Queensland University of Technology. During that time, I volunteered at Brisbane Arts Theatre as a Costume Assistant. I eventually got a paid job at their 2IC (second in charge) Costume Designer, working on children's and adult production, and doing costume hire to the general public. I worked with every Brisbane theatre I could network with.

What are some highlights of your costume career so far?

I've been working as a Costume Designer since 2011 so there are a lot of highlights. One that really sticks out though was when I was 12, I saw a production of *The Glass Menagerie* by Jan Paterson. It was my first theatre show and it changed my life. I loved what she did with that story by Tennessee Williams. Before I moved away from my home town in 2016, I got to work with her on another production of the play. It was magical.

If you could create and wear any costume, what would it be?

I'd love to copy and screen print some of my son's artworks and turn them into gowns. He's three. I love his paintings.

What have you enjoyed about working on Peter Panto?

I loved watching the creative team's ideas gradually coming to life. I adore the dedication. I loved assisting Kate, the writer/director, by bringing her narrative to life!

What would your dream costuming job be?

I'd love to make Stephen Fry a suit jacket. His portrayal of Oscar Wilde in the 1997 film *Wilde* was glorious, along with everything else he's ever done.



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Wintry Words

The CTC Speakeasy – a night of impromptu readings amongst friends

Our first Speakeasy event in a number of years took place on a dark and stormy night and attracted earnest lovers of the performed word ...and their umbrellas. Our small crowd was made up of stalwart CTC members and some curious newbies who were welcomed warmly. Quite a few attendees insisted upon entry that they would only observe, but they all changed their minds!

Designed as a night of performed readings, the Speakeasy was intended to be casual, gentle and low pressure. It was a chance to get up and read some scenes together with a rough theme of "Beat" to help us choose. (Photos were banned during performances to prevent self-conscious blockages; we staged a few to share here and on social media).

The initial question, of course, was "who will go first?" and once Chris Curtain-Magee had wowed us with her portrayal of a frazzled mother, everyone decided, in the end, to take part.

Our scenes included characters trying to beat the odds at the races or beat death; our writers included Joanna Murray-Smith, Tim Winton and Tennessee Williams with impromptu cameos from Euripides and Shakespeare.

We made ourselves cosy with candles and wine in the newly decked-out CTC Studio. It was wonderful to read together on such a wintry night.



*Above: Chris Curtain-Magee performed an energetic monologue from "Bombshells" by Joanna Murray-Smith.
Below: Toby Heydon brought the Shakespeare goods.*



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Email: castlemainetheatreco@gmail.com

PETER PANTO - BEHIND THE SCENES

The director of our current production, Kate Stones, was thrilled with the response to auditions to Peter Panto. Such a diverse and talented group has come together to make this show!

"People seemed to be very keen to get out of the house and have some creative community fun, post-covid", said Kate, noting that it is a cast of all ages.

"We have 3 cast members who are 11, and several in their teens, the oldest cast members are in their 50s (I think!). There are some wonderful skills amongst them, we have a choreographer, some wonderful musicians and singers, a martial arts expert, and some great comedians".

The show features some music that audiences will recognise, and again the cast is helping to put a special stamp on it. "The vocal arrangements are being created by cast member Orvokki Britton (who plays Lost Boy Nibs) and fun dance routines are being created by cast member Paula Russell (Pirate Starkley)" says Kate.

Kate has made the most of her skilled cast; "I wanted to give everyone a chance to use their talents, and I've recruited them into the creative process as much as possible".



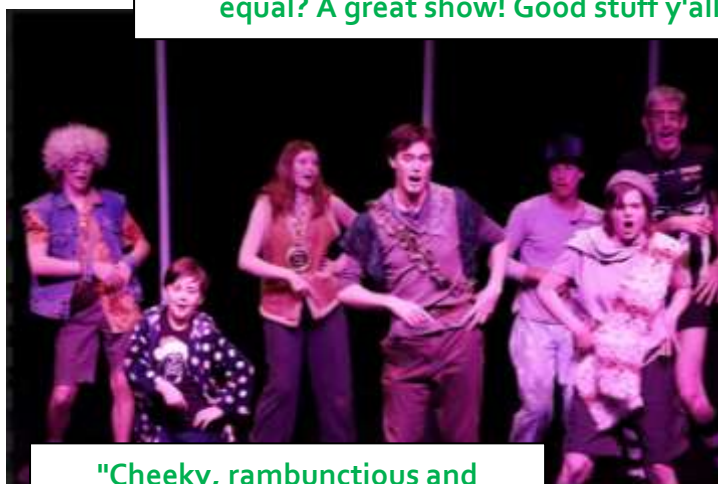
PETER PANTO IS THRILLING AUDIENCES!

So Much Fun for Everyone! Tickets are still available, visit:
www.castlemainetheatrecompany.com/whats-on/ticket-sales

"I could watch it 100 times a day and never get bored" (Melody, aged 8)



"What do 25+ locals of all ages and backgrounds, a wild script, huge dedication and killer performances equal? A great show! Good stuff y'all" (Cath)



"Sooooo entertaining" (Marty)

"Cheeky, rambunctious and utterly charming, this show is just a delight!" (Stephen)



"Laughed my guts out!" (Rob)



(Fabulous Photos by Stephen Mitchell)

TREASURER OPPORTUNITY

Join The CTC Team!

CTC is still on the hunt for a treasurer to join our committee and undertake book-keeping tasks and assist with budgeting and reporting. Experience in finance or theatre not essential but would be bonus -- dedication and focus is required. The company uses MYOB and can provide training and guidance.

We are an inclusive and supportive committee and we'd love you do join us! Work in your own time, and you'll need to meet with us once a month at our ETTY St HQ. It will require up to 3 hours a week, but this varies.

SOUND LIKE YOU? EMAIL US!



Committee Update

There have been some comings and goings on the CTC committee, which now consists of:

President: Kate Stones

Vice President: Clare Shamier

Secretary: Michelle Dorian

Committee Members: Toby Heydon,
Kristine Von Hilderbrandt, Isis Jordan

We have not yet filled the Treasurer's chair; please contact us urgently if this interests you, we would love a passionate "numbers person" to join us!

*Thanks for reading Headliner
Hopefully you are so excited Peter Panto
that you have already seen it!
Catch you at the theatre*