CLOUDSTREET

Adapted by Nick Enright and Justin Monjo from the novel by Tim Winton
Presented by Acting Company 2015 and Production Students

When: 15 - 21 May, 2015
Venue: Space 28, 28 Dodds Street, Southbank
THE ACTS

ACT 1 (70")

In Act One we see the two families, the Lambs and the Pickles, face the terrible consequences caused by two accidents which cause them to come together to live at 1 Cloud Street, Perth, Western Australia. The children and the young parents struggle not only with the heritage of the house itself, but also with themselves and all their inner contradictions and hopes and in doing so, for good and bad, they plant a seed in the land that will grow and evolve into something else.

ACT 2 (70")

In Act Two, that seed has firmly taken root. The household has changed, parents and children have aged and grown almost unrecognisable. Only Quick remains the same. The passing of time is reflected by re-casting the character’s leaving Quick played by the same actor. Memories of the past come to haunt both families until amends are made and decisions taken. A final reunion will come, life flows on and the story while not over, becomes a true celebration of all their lives.

Julián Fuentes Reta
Director
Cloudstreet

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Like a big animal, it breathes, moving gently, stretching and moaning, growling and chanting, gazing on us all with a powerful, dangerous yet peaceful stare – like a big animal swimming in an enormous, dark, rich, beautiful river. This is the image that is emerging the work on this production evolves: A creature paddling through the water. And this creature is us, the river. It is all around us. What this creature will be, where the river will flow is up to you, the ones who are observing, witnessing.

For us, the creative team, the process of building this play, of breathing life into this creature, has been one of surrendering, of letting it go, accompanying it rather than crafting or building it. We have surrendered to its power and beauty, and rejoiced in being able to swim with it, this big river that carries all of us as we find ways to overcome every stone, eroding its way through every generation and always finding a place to land.

Winton’s Cloudstreet is an Australian story which has its own particular language. It allows Australia to connect with every other time enduring country, every other people’s time enduring struggle. It is from these struggles that dialogue can, indeed must begin.

Julián Fuentes Reta
Director
Cloudstreet

THE ACTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

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The Faculty of VCA and MCM respectfully acknowledges the Boonwurrung and Wurundjeri people of the Eastern Kulin nation.
Julián Fuentes Reta (1978, Zaragoza, Spain) is Bachelor of Arts in Drama by the University of Kent at Canterbury and MA in Contemporary Practice by SoCA, ECU, Perth, Western Australia. As director, teacher and performer, Julián has worked in Australia, Canada, Vietnam, Portugal, France, Italy and Spain. He is the artistic director of the Spanish-Australian company Corazón de vaca (www.corazondevaca.com). With the company, he has written/developed/directed several works in collaboration with Nyunga playwright and poet Maitland Schnapps and the Yirra Yaakin theatre in Perth, WA. Currently based in Madrid, Spain, he has directed works for the Teatro de la Abadía, Teatro Español, Sala Cuarta Pared and The Centro Dramático Nacional, staging plays such as Possible Worlds by Jhon Mighton, The Pied Piper of the Lower East Side by Derek Ahonen and When the rain stops falling by Andrew Bowell.

Briony Farrell....................Rose/Red/Anthea
Candace Miles....................Elaine/Oriel
Charles Purcell...................Ted/Fish/American Pilot/Gerry Clay
Elizabeth Esquerra...............Dolly/Hattie
Hamish Irvine....................Fish/Cousin Fred/Headly
Jack Currie......................Lester/Lon/Father of Girl Impregnated by Ted
James Bolton.....................Quick
Jim Coulson......................Sam/Chub
Joshua Monaghan................Lon/Lester/Lawyer/Doctor
Madelaine Nunn..................Oriel/Elaine/Meredith
Rosie Clynes.....................Red/Rose
Scott Leek.......................Chub/Sam
Yuchen Wang.....................Toby/Minister
Yvette De Ravin Turner...........Hattie/Dolly
CREW

CREATIVE TEAM

Director
Julián Fuentes Reta

Costume Designer
Laura Jean Hawkins

Lighting Designer
Steve Hendy

Sound Designer
Olivia Joppich

Set Designer
Eloise Kent

Assistant Director
Lara Kerestes

PRODUCTION TEAM

Production Coordinator
David Harrod

Stage Manager
Maddie Korn

Assistant Stage Manager
Danae Reid

Assistant Stage Manager/Crew
Alysha Watt

Head Electrician
Andrew Marshall

Lighting Board Operator
Jake Jobling

Audio Technician
Anthony Craythorn

Head of Show Crew
Megan Evans

Set Manager
Jack Milne

Props Manager
Ana Stassia Poppenberg

Props Maker
Maire O’Brien

Costume Officer
Karen Blanco

Costume Manager
Rebecca Zarb

Assistant Costume Manager
Jordan Carter

Assistant Costume Manager
Stephanie Young

Costume Officer
Karen Blinco

Costume Maker
Brynna Lowen

Costume Maker
Christiana Garvie

Dramaturg
James Jackson

Dramaturg
Chris Fieldus

Dramaturg
Didem Caia

Costume Shadow
Carissa Dea Chandra Putri

Costume Shadow
Nicole Theodore

Props Management Shadow
Jacinda Hill

Workshop Officer
Colin Orchard

Scenery Construction
Richard Andrew

Scenery Construction
James Russell

Scenery Construction
Justin Green

Set Manager
Nicholas Sanders

Set Management Shadow
Jessie Keyes

Set Assistant
Joe Noonan

Set Assistant/Mechanist
Alice Pollard

Show Crew
Rachel Lee

Show Crew
Sidney Millar

Original composition
by Hamish Irvine

CAD Drafting Mentor
James Russell

Industry Professional
Graduates

Performance Technology
Mentor
Danny Pettigill

CAD Drafting Mentor
James Russell

ACTING COMPANY 2015

James is originally from the Gold Coast. The roles that he has played in his hometown include Danny Zuko in Grease, Claudio in Much Ado About Nothing and Superintendent Naylor in Alana Valentine’s Eyes To The Floor among others. In 2009, he was recognised as Best New Talent by Williams Management. His roles at the VCA include Agamemnon in Iphigenia in Aulis, Konstantin Trepliyov in The Seagull, an ensemble member in Sarah Kane’s 4.48 Psychosis and Billy Flynn in Roxie Hart. James also has a passion for martial arts, with experience in amateur wrestling and Taekwondo in which he holds a first-degree black belt.

Jim Coulson

Jim grew up in Launceston, Tasmania and came to the VCA immediately after high school. Prior to the VCA, Jim was involved in a number of youth theatre performances and community musicals. In 2014 he directed and starred in Whitley College’s production of Bat Boy. His roles at the VCA include Achilles in The Thebans, Kostya in The Seagull, Mrs. in The Prodigal Son directed by Iris Galliard and Amos Hart in Roxie Hart directed by Alister Smith. Jim has also collaborated on several devised pieces and looks forward to making a new work for the FR!SK Festival later in 2015.

Jack Currie

Jack Currie grew up in Rockhampton, Queensland where he finished his schooling years before moving to Brisbane to pursue an acting career, studying with Queensland Actors Playhouse. He decided to write and direct a short play for Short+Sweet Theatre festival and write, direct and star in his own short film, Burdened. Since moving to Melbourne to continue his training at the VCA, Jack has performed in Sarah Kane’s 4.48 Psychosis directed by Justin Knot and Cheech in a staged reading of Bullets Over Broadway directed by Gary Abrahams.
After growing up in Brunei and Indonesia, Rosie joined the VCA where she has played roles including Nina in Anton Chekhov’s The Seagull and the role of ‘C’ in Cathy Hunt’s production of Sarah Kane’s Crave. This year she played Olive in Bullets Over Broadway, a staged reading directed by Gary Abrahams. She is the recipient of the Lionel Gell and Mabel Kent Scholarships, is a proficient singer, and trained in classical ballet and piano until her teens. After graduating, Rosie intends to continue her work in both Australia and Indonesia.

Originally from Sydney, Elizabeth is a classically trained singer and musician with a mezzo-soprano range and is skillful in classical guitar. She has attended film performance masterclasses with Les Chantery, Don Christopher, Genevieve Hegney and Aaron Jeffery at NIDA. She was an ensemble member in the musical Mackillop directed by Anthony McCarthy and Clara Webb in A Vampire Story directed by Brendan McDonald. At the VCA she has performed as Masha in The Seagull directed by Melanie Beddie, an ensemble member in Slut directed by Penny Harpham and Eden Brent in Bullets Over Broadway directed by Gary Abrahams.

Before studying at the VCA, Briony was enrolled in a Bachelor of Arts at The University of Melbourne. At VCA her roles have included Helen of Troy in the Trojan Women, as well as Nina in The Seagull by Anton Chekhov. Both productions were directed by Melanie Beddie. In 2014 she performed in Slut by Patricia Cornelius, directed by Penelope Harpham. In the same year she was selected to perform at the Performance Studies International Conference 20, at the Shanghai Theatre Academy. This year Briony has played the role of Roxie Hart in Roxie Hart, directed by Alister Smith.

Hamish moved from Brisbane in 2013 to study at the VCA. 2013 saw him in the role of Talthybius in The Greeks and in 2014 he played Konstantin in The Seagull, both directed by Melanie Beddie. In 2014 Hamish performed a devised piece along with seven peers for the Performance Studies International Conference 20, at the Shanghai Theatre Academy. That year he also played the role of the Son in The Prodigal Son by Jack Hibberd, directed by Iris Gaillard. 2015 has seen him in the role of Warner Purcell in Bullets over Broadway by Woody Allen, directed by Gary Abrahams.

Originally from Sydney, Scott studied a Bachelor of Arts in Communications (Writing and Cultural) at the University of Technology, Sydney. While at the VCA, Scott has created a range of original works as well as performing the role of Doctor Dorn in Anton Chekhov’s The Seagull and being an ensemble member of Sarah Kane’s 4.48 Psychosis directed by Justin Nott. Most recently, he played Homer Howard in Roxie Hart directed by Alister Smith. Scott was a recipient of the Pratt Bursary for 2014. Scott is a trombonist and is also a keen sportsman, specialising in cricket and rugby.

Candace Miles is a Melbourne theatre-maker and actor. Trained in theatre, music and dance from a young age, Candace has grown up performing in theatre, musicals, devised works and has played music at venues across Australia. Roles played during her time at the VCA include: Jean in Stage Door directed by Justine Campbell, Performer in Fewer Emergencies by Martin Crimp directed by Lara Kerestes, Arkadina in The Seagull by Anton Chekhov directed by Melanie Beddie, Hecuba in Women of Troy by Euripides directed by Melanie Beddie. Candace is also trained in contemporary jazz singing, complementing her theatre-making training at the VCA.
Joshua Monaghan is an actor and theatre maker who came to the VCA upon graduating from high school. Having trained for 12 years in dance and singing, Joshua is an adaptable artist with a knowledge and interest in all areas of performance. In 2014, Joshua was selected to perform at the 20th Performance Studies International Conference at the Shanghai Theatre Academy and was awarded the Pratt Bursary the same year. Joshua’s recent performances credits at the VCA include Anton Chekhov’s The Seagull directed by Melanie Beddie, Sarah Kane’s 4.48 Psychosis directed by Justin Nott and Stage Door directed by Justine Campbell.

Originally from Newcastle, Madelaine, has trained as a state level gymnast, touch football and soccer player. In 2011 Madelaine studied Media and Journalism at the University of New South Wales. In 2012 she joined PACT, the Sydney based theatre ensemble. At the VCA Madelaine has played the role of Masha in The Seagull directed by Melanie Beddie, Number 2 in Fewer Emergencies directed by Lara Kerestes as well as Velma and Mary Sunshine in a staged reading of Roxie Hart directed by Alistier Smith. In 2014 she received the Irene Mitchell Award and was selected to perform at the 20th Performance Studies International Conference at the Shanghai Theatre Academy.

Yuchen comes from Fushun, a small town located in Northeast China. He grew up in his mother’s movie rental store which fostered his love for theatre. He studied commerce, photography, film and television before training at the VCA. At the VCA, Yuchen has played the role of Sorin in Anton Chekov’s The Seagull and created many devised works. Last year he performed in 4.48 Psychosis by Sarah Kane directed by Justin Nott. This year he has played Rocco and Rifkin in Bullets Over Broadway directed by Gary Abrahams. Additionally, he starred in the Chinese Music Group’s (CMG) 2014 musical Shot. Yuchen speaks fluent Mandarin and English.

Originally from rural Victoria, Yvette completed a Bachelor of Arts majoring in Cinema, Cultural Studies and Spanish from The University of Melbourne prior to studying at the VCA. Roles at the VCA include Helen Sinclair in Bullets Over Broadway directed by Gary Abrahams; M in Crave, directed by Cathy Hunt; Arkadina in The Seagull, directed by Melanie Beddie. She has also performed in The Falls Music & Arts Festival, Melbourne Fringe Festival, Mudfest and the 70th Anniversary Theatre Gala for Union House Theatre. In 2012, Yvette received the Hannah Barry Memorial Award from Union House Theatre, The University of Melbourne.

Charles’ recent credits include Crave (VCA), Stage Door (VCA) and Use Your Illusion (Field Theory). Prior to the VCA Charles worked with King Street Theatre, Rock Surfers Theatre Company, Griffin Theatre Company’s Griff fringe, Shopfront, piLAB and Starving Wolf, an independent company which he co-founded. He worked as performer and dramaturg on Show Me Yours, I’ll Show You Mine (Melbourne Fringe Festival, La Boite) which won two Melbourne Fringe Awards and saw Charles nominated for a 2012 Green Room Award for Best Male Performer. He has studied writing for performance at UTS, and MetroScreen, and undertook a 2012 Dramaturgy Internship with PlayWriting Australia. Charles is fluent in Spanish.
Laura has been designing and creating clothes since childhood. She began her studies in fashion design before landing a role as assistant costume designer on a feature film. She has since gained experience in set and costume design and construction through her studies at the Victorian College of the Arts, has completed an internship as assistant costume designer on a documentary film, has costume designed student short films, as well as costume designing her first full length theatre work. Laura is passionate about the importance of costume design as an emotive narrative device in both film and theatre, primarily in a contemporary context.

Steve Hendy is a Melbourne lighting designer currently completing the Bachelor of Fine Arts (Production) (Honours) at the Victorian College of the Arts. Steve has worked across many facets of live performance since becoming interested in light and performance at a young age. As a component of his studies, Steve is researching contemporary European performance and its influence on the design process. Steve is thankful to his mentors Paul Jackson and Nigel Levings. Steve’s recent design credits include: Parade, directed by Bruce Hardy at Malthouse Theatre (2015), on y va Program 2, choreographed by Stephanie Lake, Prue Lang and Lina Limosani (2014), Once Were Pirates directed by Dan Czech (2014) and Union House Theatre’s don’t bring lulu directed by Tom Gutteridge (2014).

Olivia Joppich was born in Brisbane where she attended the Queensland Academy for Creative Industries and developed her passion for the performing arts. Majoring in Performance Technology in the Bachelor of Fine Arts (Production) at the Victorian College of the Arts (VCA), Olivia wishes to explore the way that sound works with other elements of theatre. Her work focuses on the way that sound can contribute to the aesthetic of the performance. She enjoys working in various styles of theatre and sound designed for I Still Call Australia Homo that has been performed in the Adelaide Fringe Festival. She is currently the Sound Designer on the Australian play Cloudstreet.

Eloise completed a Bachelor of Arts (Art History, French and German) at The University of Melbourne and has long been an avid painter and artisan. She is currently completing her Masters at the Victorian College of the Arts (VCA), combining interests in contemporary art practice, architecture and literature. Eloise is particularly focused on creating integrated and active scenographic environments. Recent credits at the VCA include set and costume designer for Crave, 2014 and assistant designer on GL RY (2014). Eloise was also the set and costume designer for Peter Pan, Union House Theatre, 2011 (nominated for UMSU Arts Department Creative Design Award).
Maddie Korn
Stage Manager

Jack first encountered live performance with his grandmother when he accompanied her to The Australian Ballet, sparking his curiosity for the behind the scenes activities of theatre production. After leading the design team of his graduating production at Sandringham Secondary College, he realised he could make a career from doing ‘something he loved’. Jack recently underwent an internship with Cirque Du Soleil’s production of Totem, where he was praised for his professional attitude and eye for detail. Jack is driven to create designs that provoke audiences and allow them to step into another a world, where reality and imagination collide.

Anastassia Poppenberg
Props Manager

Anastassia Poppenberg is a stage designer, maker and collaborator. In 2011 she completed a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre at the Queensland University of Technology in Australia. During her studies she found her love for stage design and is currently studying Design Realisation at the Victorian College of the Arts. Her creative practice is focused on independent and devised theatre practice with involvement in events such as the 2high Festival, Short and Sweet and Supernova. Most recently Anastassia has been exploring film as both a designer and maker. Most notably she has worked as a builder and scenic artist on feature films The Dressmaker and Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales. Her creative practice has always been guided by the notion that art should occur within a wide spectrum of conversation and that one’s mind should always remain open and ready for all information the world has to offer.

Maddie is a vivacious, driven individual who has found herself thriving in the creative, collaborative environment of the Victorian College of the Arts (VCA). Throughout her time here she has completed various internships, including Strictly Ballroom the Musical, SummerSalt Festival and auditions with Lynne Ruthven Casting. Her VCA credits include Assistant Stage Manager on Dancescape 2013, The Little Prince and UN/clean and Costume Manager for the One Act Plays 2014. Maddie looks forward to an exciting career working with equally passionate individuals who share her love for theatre, and is thrilled to be working on Cloudstreet with such a talented team.