

HOUSE

When you lose something, you gain something else...

Cathelijn is completely and undeniably alone: no friends, no family, no-one to turn to. All by herself in the centre of a dark forest, she tries to be strong, like a Viking. And that's when she sees it – the house. A higgledy-piggledy mess of a place as tall as the trees. Inside, she finds Piotr, a boy who never stops talking, and Elka, a grey-haired explorer who insists they keep the curtains closed tight.

When they suddenly launch into the air and set off across the sky, Cathelijn learns that this is no ordinary house: it's a Rescue House, and it rescues the Loneliest Child in the World. So begins an extraordinary adventure that takes Cathelijn across the world and deep inside herself, on a journey of self-realisation and self-determination. Part fairy-tale, part mad-cap adventure story, *HOUSE* is a heart-felt and hilarious tale of loneliness, friendship and flying houses.

CREATIVE AND PRODUCTION CREDITS

Story by Dan Giovannoni and Luke Kerridge

Playwright Dan Giovannoni

Director Luke Kerridge

Designer Charlotte Lane

Composer and Sound Designer Rachael Dease

Lighting Designer Richard Vabre

Puppetry Consultant Hamish Fletcher

Contraction Designer Philip Millar

System Designer Tim Collins

Dramaturg Jennifer Medway

Cast Nicola Bartlett, Isaac Diamond and Chanella Macri

Stage Manager Georgia Landre-Ord

Assistant Stage Manager Emily Stokoe

Production Manager Michael Maclean

Executive Producer Helen Hristofski

Producer Sean Walsh

Marketing & Communications Manager Kira Ridders

Creative Learning Manager Hannah Smith

Philanthropy and Sponsorship Manager Monique Beaudoire

BARKING GECKO THEATRE

Barking Gecko Theatre makes exquisitely crafted theatre that inspires audiences to imagine the world anew. Established in 1989, Barking Gecko Theatre is Western Australia's longest running professional theatre company, creating award-winning productions, with a history of innovation and excellence.

Barking Gecko Theatre has delivered over 100 original Western Australia productions, toured 12 countries and reached almost 1 million children. Alongside Barking Gecko's theatre productions is the company's deep commitment to creative learning and social outreach. At a grass roots level, Barking Gecko delivers drama programs for children ages 4 – 18 across Perth, regional and remote WA every year.

Chanella Macri - Cathelijn

Chanella is a Melbourne based actor, writer and theatre-maker from the Blue Mountains, Sydney. Graduating from VCA in 2017 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre Practice, the Patricia Kennedy Award and as Valedictorian of the University of Melbourne VCA and MCM. In 2019 she received two Green Room Award nominations for Performer and Ensemble in Independent Theatre (*Moral Panic*). Theatre credits include; *Orlando* for Red Stitch, *I Still Haven't Found What I'm Cooking For*, *Australian Realness* for Malthouse Theatre, *Whale* for Darebin Speakeasy, *Truly Madly Britney* for Theatre Works, *Moral Panic*, Red Stitch's *Suddenly Last Summer*, *La Mama's Crazy Brave*, *Speak of the Devil* (self-devised) for Melbourne Fringe 2017 and Adelaide Fringe 2018, *La Mama's Woman with a Tomahawk*. Chanella is a Lead Artist with Western Edge Youth Arts and a member of New Working Group and Red Stitch Actors' Ensemble.

Isaac Diamond - Piotr

Isaac is an emerging theatre maker and actor from Perth, Western Australia. With a Bachelor of Performance Making from WAAPA, his training in diverse disciplines such as Butoh, Suzuki, clowning, dance, View Points, puppetry and various approaches to acting have helped mould Isaac into an adaptable, versatile and deeply connected performer. Upon graduation, Isaac received awards for his performance and collaboration and in 2018 Isaac was honoured to receive the Stephen Stone award for Best Performance at the Blue Room Theatre awards. Isaac has appeared in shows and theatres all over Australia with: *Cloud Nine* (WAYTCO), *The Night Zoo* (Spare Parts Puppet Theatre) *Penthouse* (Lazy Yarns), *The Twits* (SPPT Australian Tour) and *I Feel Fine* (public service announcement).

Nicola Bartlett - Elka

After graduating from NIDA, Nicola pursued a career in TV, film and stage acting and was involved in multiple projects, receiving the PAWA award for her role in Edward Albee's *The Goat, or Who is Sylvia* and appearing at the Rome, Sydney and Melbourne International Film festivals for her lead role in the feature film *Little Sparrows*. Theatre acting credits include *Antigone*, *The Cherry Orchard*, *Face to Face*, *Soul Mates*, *Charitable Intent*, *The Unexpected Man*, *Jimmy and Pat Meet the Queen*, *The Ghost's Child*, *Old Love*, *Is This Thing On*, *Signifying Nothing* (winner at 2017 Adelaide Fringe Festival). Her television and film work includes *Ship to Shore II*, *The Gift*, *Wormwood*, *Parallax*, *Rapture of the Deep*, *Contagion*, *Three Acts of Murder*, *Sororal*, *The Reckoning*, *The Legend of Gavin Tanner*, *Automatic*, *Factory 293*, *Council*, *Emerald Way*, *Antecedents* and *Little Sparrows* (official selection IRFF, Palm Springs Film Festival, MIFF).

Luke Kerridge - Director

Luke Kerridge is an award-winning theatre director, experienced arts educator, and Artistic Director of Barking Gecko Theatre. For Barking Gecko Theatre, Luke was the director and co-adaptor of *Bambert's Book of Lost Stories*, which won a Helpmann Award for Best Presentation for Children and was nominated for Best New Australian Work (2016). The production also won a Drama Victoria Award (Best Presentation for Children) in 2017. Luke won a Green Room Award for his direction of *Dream Home* (Darebin Speakeasy, Melbourne) in 2015, with the production nominated for a further six Green Room Awards. Luke has an established practice as an arts educator and was the Artistic Associate at St Martins Youth Arts Centre in Melbourne. Luke completed a Post-Graduate Diploma in Directing at the Victorian College of the Arts in 2012 where he was the recipient of Grace Marion Wilson Trust and the Jim Marks Postgraduate Scholarship

Dan Giovannoni - Playwright

Dan's plays for young audiences include *Bambert's Book of Lost Stories* for Barking Gecko Theatre Company, *Air Race* for Arena Theatre, *Mad as a Cute Snake and Cut Snake* (both with Amelia Evans) and *HOUSE*, his second play with director Luke Kerridge. His plays for adults include *Merciless Gods* (after Christos Tsiolkas) for Little Ones Theatre and *Jurassica* for Red Stitch Actors Theatre. He has won two Green Room Association awards – for *Merciless Gods* and *Jurassica* – and *Bambert's Book of Lost Stories* won a Helpmann award for Best Presentation for Children and was nominated for Best New Australian Work. Dan was an inaugural writer-in-residence at Melbourne Theatre Company as part of the NEXT STAGE writers' program, where he wrote the forthcoming *SLAP. BANG. KISS*. He is currently working on four new plays for young audiences and one for grown-ups.

Richard Vabre - Lighting Designer

Richard is a freelance lighting designer who has lit productions for MTC, STC, Malthouse Theatre, Belvoir Street, Black Swan State Theatre Company, Back To Back Theatre, Victorian Opera, Circus Oz, Windmill Theatre, Arena Theatre Company, NICA, The Darwin Festival, Stuck Pig's Squealing, Chambermade, Rawcus, Red Stitch, Polyglot, Melbourne Worker's Theatre, Aphids and many many productions at La Mama Awards: Richard has won five Green Room Awards including the Association's John Truscott Prize for Excellence in Design (2004). He has also been nominated for 10 other Green Room Awards.

Charlotte Lane - Set and Costume Designer

Charlotte is a set, costume and production designer. Since graduating in Design at NIDA, she has worked primarily in live performance, designing for theatre, opera, screen, events and installations. Charlotte has worked between Australia, China, and the UK, for companies including Beijing Children's Art Theatre, Shanghai Opera House, Tron Theatre Glasgow, Theatre Gu Leòr, Darlinghurst Theatre and Sydney Chamber Opera. Her work has toured regionally and internationally, including to the Edinburgh Festival, Belfast International Arts Festival, Adelaide Fringe, Commonwealth Games Home Nations Festival, and Cannes Film Festival. Charlotte has received several awards and nominations from the Critic's Awards for Theatre in Scotland and the Australian Production Design Guild, including receiving the 'ACS Award for Design for Live Performance' (2018) and the 'AIT Award for Set Design' (2017). She was the 2016 recipient of the Thelma Afford Award for Costume Design Grant.

Rachael Dease - Composer and Sound Designer

Rachael's artistic practice encompasses art music, film and theatre scoring, installation and songwriting. Graduating from WAAPA, she won the inaugural Martin Sims Award at Fringe World, the Melbourne Fringe Music Award and received critical acclaim at New York Fringe Festival for her contemporary song cycle *City of Shadows*. Her composition and sound design for theatre include the Helpmann Award-nominated *It's Dark Outside* (The Last Great Hunt), *Sunset* (Strut Dance/Maxine Doyle) and *Rest* (WAYTCO). Installation includes *Black Mass* (PICA) *Winter Feast* 2018 and 2019 (Dark Mofo), *Museum of Water* (Perth Festival), and *Like Embracing Ice* (Fremantle Arts Centre). Dease was awarded the 2017 Department of Culture and The Arts Performing Arts Fellowship, won the Performing Arts WA award for Best Music for *Let The Right One In* (BSSTC) and has been a Besen Fellow at Malthouse Theatre. Residencies include PICA, Proximity Festival, Lumen Studios Italy and The Arctic Circle. She is currently a Prelude Composer In Residence at Gallop House, Western Australia.

Georgia Landre-Ord - Stage Manager

Georgia Landre-Ord is an Event Program Coordinator and Stage Manager based in Perth Western Australia. Georgia has worked as Stage Manager for various companies including Co3 Australia and Black Swan State

Theatre Company on multiple productions including *The Line* and *In the Next Room (The Vibrator Play)*. Georgia has worked for the Perth Festival as the Literature and Ideas Program Coordinator and previously coordinated Perth Festivals Ground Transport department. Georgia has worked for Bill Kenwright Ltd in The West End London and touring multiple musicals throughout the UK. Georgia also works in film and television, having worked as the Production and Development Officer Scripted at Screenwest. She has had various production roles on WA feature films and produced a series of adverts for Guide Dogs WA's *Dine in the Dark* campaigns. Georgia is a graduate from WAAPA and the WA Screen Academy.