

Man Up!



Rian Howlett – M 5 & 7

Rian is a multi-disciplinary artist, born in Hong Kong in 1993. He has performed across Australia, the UK Hong Kong and Japan. In 2015 he graduated from the three year BA in Acting at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts. He now specialises in fantastical work, which tickles the imagination through movement, text and visual spectacle.

He has a background in devising new work and performed in sold out seasons of *I Can Breathe Underwater* (Lead actor) and *Talk Dirty to Me* (Choreographer, Principal Dancer) within Perth's Fringeworld. He has danced in Perth's Neon Laneway as part of the Winter Lights Festival.



Elias Jabbour – A 87 & 75

Elias Jabbour discovered his passion for performing from a young age, through training in dance and group singing. It was not until later in his years that he discovered the alluring world of musical theatre and the potential to stretch his showmanship flair.

Elias Trained at Centrestage Performing Arts Schools Fulltime Musical Theatre course SHOWFIT for 3 consecutive years. Whilst at SHOWFIT Elias was privileged enough to work with some of Australia's leading industry professionals including Verity Hunt-Ballard, Scott Johnson, Mathew Frank, Dean Bryant and Simon Gleeson respectively.

While there and since graduating, Elias has appeared in both The OC Project's "#LIVFORCUNNINGHAM" and "#LIVFOREUROVISION"; "Songs for the Master" for his SHOWFIT Showcase; "Songs of Bryant and Frank" and "The Crucible" (directed by Scott Johnson).

In 2016, Elias was privileged to play the role of Hugo Dude in the world premiere of the Australian pre-apocalyptic zombie musical "Motor-Mouth Loves Suck-Face" (written and directed by Anthony Crowley).

Early 2017 Elias appeared in Opera Australia's Double bill of "Cavalleria Rusticana/Pagliacci" Performed at the State Theatre (directed by Andy Morton). Late 2017 marked the launch and inaugural production of Elias' Production company EJ PRODUCTIONS. As performer and producer accompanied by Australia's hottest young performers Elias staged The Songs of Drew Gasparini in Concert (directed by Chris Parker).

In 2018 Elias returned to the Cast of "Motor-Mouth Loves Suck-Face" as Zack Stellar with a full season playing at La Mama (written and Directed by Anthony Crowley)



Sorab Kaikobad – E

23 & 35

Born and raised in Melbourne, Sorab Kaikobad has been acting and creating since he was a child.

As a graduate of 16th Street Actors Studio Sorab had the good fortune of working with various master teachers including Elizabeth Kemp and Chris Edmund. He has also worked under some of Australia's finest directors, such as Jason Raftopolous, Iain Sinclair and Paul Currie.

Inspired by films, plays and classic stories, Sorab's creative perspective has matured into a nuanced and unique voice which serves him well as an actor, writer and director.

Playing a vast array of unique and diverse characters from the wise-cracking film nerd Hassan in 'Movie Night' (UNSCENE Film Festival finalist) to Derek - an Ex-Football star with a chip on his shoulder in 'Fly, Waterfowl'. Recently, his versatility has seen him star as a man brought to his knees by emotion after a tragic loss in 'Untitled Music Video' as well as originating the role of The Jock/The Action Hero in the acclaimed play 'Man Up!'.

Sorab's passion for storytelling has seen him produce multiple projects for Aristeia Entertainment - an independent production company he founded many years ago.

In addition to his work on stage and screen, Sorab is a comic book artist who writes and produces his own comic book - PRIME - which was recently released on one of the world's leading digital-comics platforms.





Lucas Hayes – S 12 & 32

Originally hailing from Newcastle, Lucas traded the warm, sunny beaches of coastal NSW for the cool, crisp gale-force winds of Southern Victoria when he picked up and moved to Melbourne in pursuit of a more creative lifestyle. While his primary interest lies in filmmaking, in 2018 he was lucky enough to land his first theatre role in the government-funded school theatre show, "Victoria's Journey of Remembrance", and with it developed a newfound passion for live performance. He is stoked and extremely excited to be part of the team bringing "Man Up" to schools.

Erin Brass – The Woman

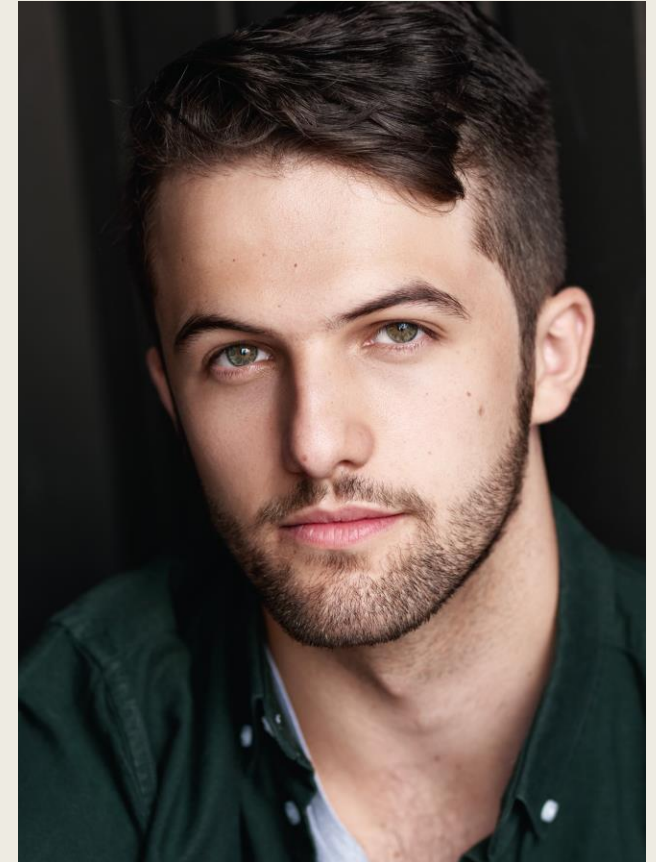
With 25+ years of screen and theatre experience, Erin gets a great deal of pleasure from being on stage, sharing a story with an audience. Erin has worked on and off with Purely Pensive Productions since its inception in 2005; as an actor, director producer, secretary, costume designer plus multiple other roles. Some of Erin's screen credits include *Neighbours*, *Blue Heelers*, *Anti Gambling Campaign Commercials*, *The ABC's Vulture*. Her theatre credits include: *Antigone*, in an adaptation of *Antigone*, *Meryl*, in *Joanna Murray Smith's Bombshells*, *Cecily*, in *Oscar Wilde's The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Ann Deever*, in *Arthur Miller's All My Sons*, *The Proprietress* in *Arthur Miller's Elegy For A Lady*. Erin was fortunate enough to be a part of *Warrandyte and Ballarat Theatres' co production and debut Zoom performance of A 2020 Vision*, last year, which explored the impact that COVID had (and was having) on Victorians.



Noah Janssen – The Woman/Understudy

Noah Janssen

Whilst studying at the Victorian College of the Arts for a Bachelor of Fine Arts (Music Theatre), Noah appeared as Ozzie in *On The Town* (dir. Adam Mitchell), as a featured soloist in *Morning Melodies* in 2018 and 2019 (dir. Tyran Parke, Jayde Kirchert), and as ensemble in *Flora, The Red Menace* (dir. Jason Langley). Since graduating from the VCA in 2019, Noah has started to develop his own work, including a horror short film centred around toxic masculinity entitled *Get Home Safe* that is currently in post production. He was also the proud winner of the *Songs in Isolation* Singing Competition in 2020, judged by Michael Feinstein. As a proud feminist with a deep investment in dismantling toxic and fragile masculinity, Noah is proud to be involved with this production, and hopes that this show will bring attention to the difficult conversations that all young men need to be having.

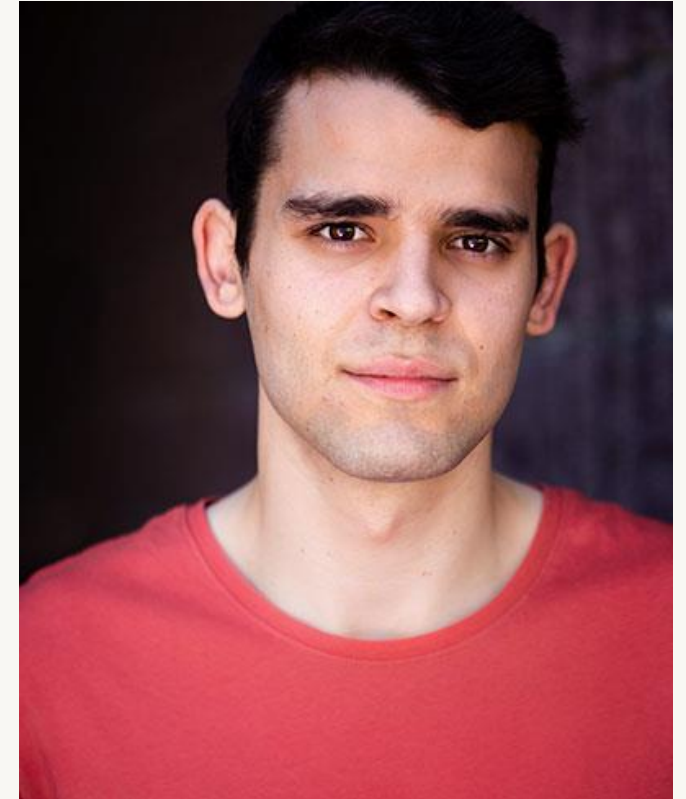


Kurt Russo – M5 & 7/Understudy

Kurt Russo, from Melbourne Australia, graduated with a Bachelor of Music Theatre at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA). His notable roles during his time at WAAPA include “Enoch Snow” in Carousel, 2018; “James Monroe” in Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson, 2017; and a principal role in John & Jen, 2016.

Previous to his time at WAAPA, he studied the one year music theatre course at Showfit.

Kurt’s other most recent stage credits include “Tony” in Centrestage Geelong’s West Side Story, “The Host” in the PJ Masks Show by Entertainment Store in 2018; “The Host” in the Octonauts regional tour by Entertainment Store in 2016 and 2017; as well as the Prince Charming in Sleeping Beauty by Make Believe Productions in 2015.)



Cast

M: Rian Howlett

A: Elias Jabbour

E: Sorab Kaikobad

S: Lucas Hayes

The Woman: Erin Brass

Understudy's: Kurt Russo, Noah Janssen

Written, Directed & Created by Jeremy Ives

Tour & Season Manager: Anita Posterino

Producer: Angie Bedford

