



# The Spotlighter



Official Newsletter of The Spotlight Theatrical Company Inc.  
Gold Coast Queensland Australia

Fostering an outlet for creative youth and community, while seeking to produce vibrant, quality entertainment that enriches, engages, and educates.

**MAY 2024**

*Our next musical*

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW AT [www.spotlighttheatre.com.au](http://www.spotlighttheatre.com.au) or phone box office on 5539 4255**

The Spotlight Theatrical Company  
Proudly presents

# DOGFIGHT

Music and Lyrics by  
**BENJI PASEK & JUSTIN PAUL**

Book by  
**PETER DUCHAN**

Based on the Warner Bros. film and screenplay by Bob Comfort  
Licenced exclusively by Music Theatre International (Australasia)  
All performance materials supplied by Hal Leonard Australia

**Halpin Auditorium**  
**10 May – 1 June 2024**  
[www.spotlighttheatre.com.au](http://www.spotlighttheatre.com.au)

**DOGFIGHT: THE MUSICAL**

**a moving story about finding love in unlikely places.**

## ABOUT THE SHOW: DOGFIGHT THE MUSICAL

**Dogfight** is a musical with music and lyrics by Benj Pasek and Justin Paul and a book by Peter Duchan. It is an adaptation of Nancy Savoca's 1991 film *Dogfight* starring River Phoenix. The Musical premiered off-Broadway at the Second Stage Theatre in 2012, and in August 2014, the musical had its European premiere at the Southwark Playhouse in London.

A group of young Marines engage in a transformative night before deployment for the Vietnam War. Set against the backdrop of 1960s America, this poignant tale follows Eddie Birdlace as he navigates the complexities of love, loyalty, and the true cost of camaraderie. With a dynamic score by Benj Pasek and Justin Paul, acclaimed composers of "Dear Evan Hansen" and "La La Land," the production showcases stirring performances and powerful storytelling.

**Read the Reviews :**

<https://dramadispatch.blogspot.com/2024/05/review-dogfight-spotlight-theatrical.html>

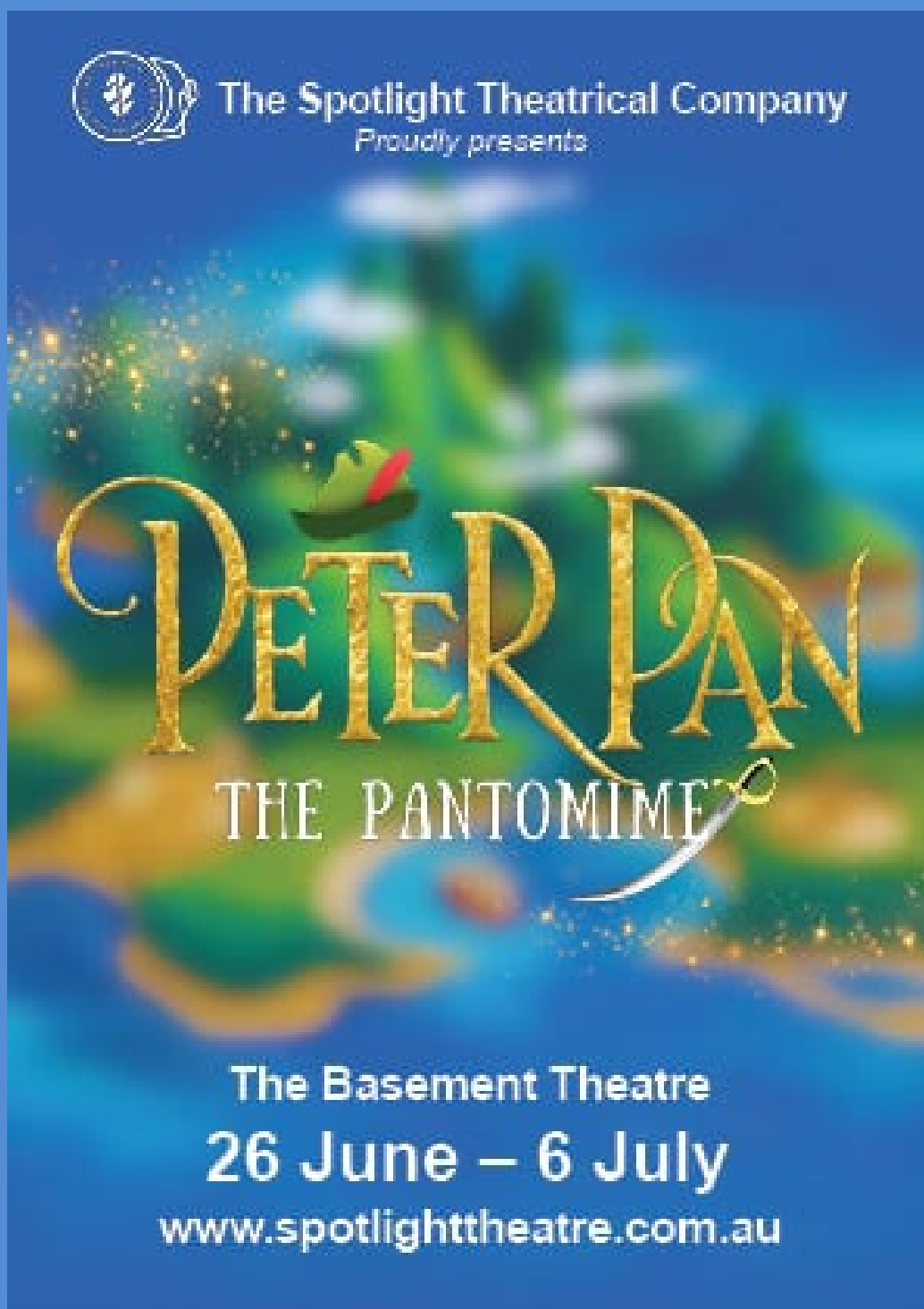
<https://www.stagewhispers.com.au/reviews/dogfight-2>

## ABOUT THE DIRECTOR: JOSH MCCANN-THOMSON



Josh is a seasoned director and producer from Southeast Queensland. His study background is in Contemporary Theatre, so he is interested in innovating musical theatre and approaching it from a contemporary lens. In the Gold Coast Area Theatre Awards, he has won awards for Best Director, Best Set Design and Outstanding Community Theatre Production. All-in-all, he loves bringing amazing people together to have a great time and create something different to what you usually see on the GC. By day, he works as a Producer at HOTA. He'd like to give a massive shout out to all the cast for tackling such a challenging show and approaching the text with empathy and understanding. Josh's directing experience has taken him to such venues and events such as QPAC, HOTA, COMMONWEALTH GAMES and BRISBANE POWERHOUSE. Credits include GREASE, WELCOME TO SAMEVILLE (AD, COMMONWEALTH GAMES), MY SURROGATE BOYFRIEND (BRISBANE POWERHOUSE, MELT FESTIVAL), THE DROWSY CHAPERONE, XANADU, SPAMALOT, INTO THE WOODS and SPRING AWAKENING.

## Our Next Basement Show



Directed by **Lucy Martin**

Thursday to Saturday daily at 10.30 am and 2pm Monday to Wednesday 10-30am.

Tickets on Sale to Members 15 May by phone 5539 4255 at 12pm or in person in Costume Hire.

Online General sales from 22 May

ALL TICKETS \$20

**COMING SOON**

Directed by **Clay English**



**The Spotlight Theatrical Company**  
*Proudly presents*

# GHOST

## THE MUSICAL

Book & Lyrics by  
**BRUCE JOEL RUBIN**

Music & Lyrics by  
**DAVE STEWART & GLEN BALLARD**

*Based on the Paramount Pictures film written by Bruce Joel Rubin*

**Original West End Production Produced by**  
Colin Ingram, David Garfinkle, Adam Silberman, Land Line Productions,  
Donovan Mannato, Michael Edwards / Carole Winter

*"Unchained Melody"*

Written by Hy Zaret and Alex North, courtesy of Unchained Melody Publishing LLC

Orchestrations by David Abbinanti

**BY ARRANGEMENT WITH ORIGIN™ THEATRICAL**  
**ON BEHALF OF THEATRICAL RIGHTS WORLDWIDE, NEW YORK**

Director & Choreographer  
**CLAY ENGLISH**

Musical Director  
**SHARI WILLNER**

Associate Choreographer  
**LAURA ENGLISH**

**Halpin Auditorium**

**19 July - 17 August 2024**

**[www.spotlighttheatre.com.au](http://www.spotlighttheatre.com.au)**

Ghost is a musical with book and lyrics by Bruce Joel Rubin and music and lyrics by Dave Stewart and Glen Ballard. Based on the hit 1990 romantic fantasy thriller of the same name.

Ghost the Musical is a poignant romance that builds comedy, suspense, and deeply felt emotion to an ethereal climax that audiences will never forget.

# Spotlight Youth Theatre

CLASSES HELD AT: Unit 4 - 50 Johnston Street Studios & Spotlight Basement Theatre

Our teachers and students have selected which shows they will be performing this year.

HALPIN AUDITORIUM: Senior Musical **CRY BABY** 12, 13 & 14 September.

BASEMENT THEATRE: Senior Drama **HOW TO VOTE** 3,4, 5 October.

HALPIN AUDITORIUM: Sophomore Musical **CHARLIE & THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY** 10,11,12 October

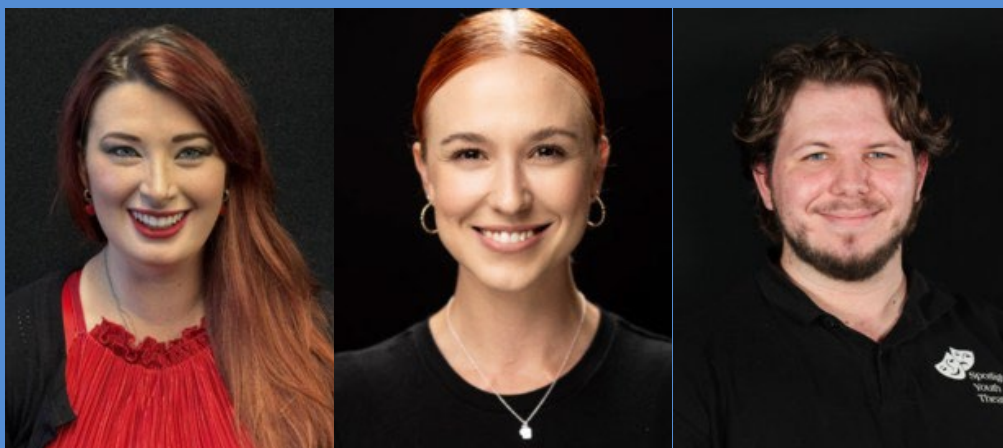
BASEMENT THEATRE: Freshman Drama **BIZ TOWN** 18, 19 October

HALPIN AUDITORIUM: Freshman and Intermediate Musical **FROZEN JNR** 25,26 October

BASEMENT: Sophomore Drama **THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME** 1,2, November

BASEMENT THEATRE: Intermediate Drama **BEDTIME ADVENTURES** 9 November

## OUR HEAD TEACHERS 2024



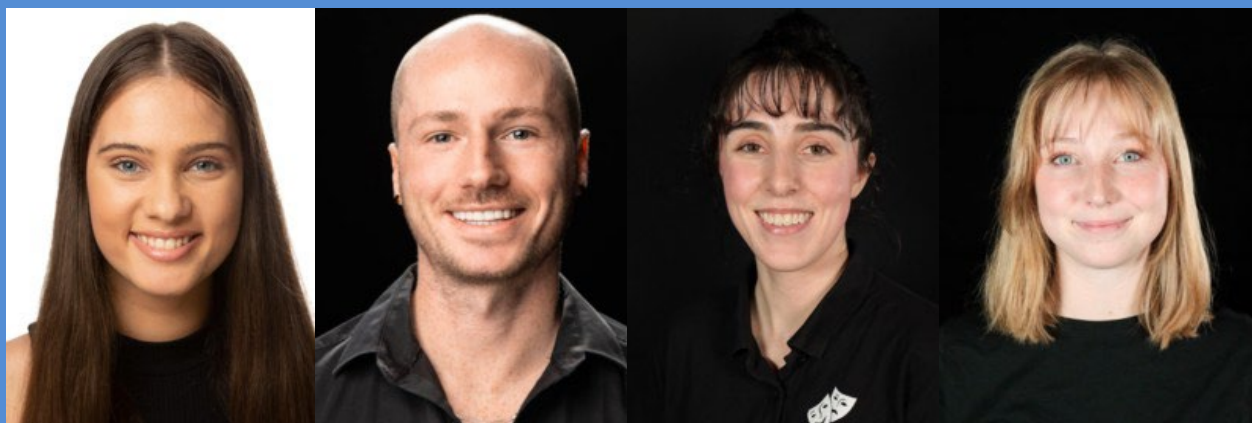
Mel Dorge

Lucy Martin

Ethan Speight

## OUR ASSISTANT TEACHERS 2024

Alana Schokman Jackson Kook Sarah Hunt Olivia Hardcastle



Our Trainee Teacher



Georgia Ogge

# Spotlight Costume Hire

## SATURDAY 15 JUNE

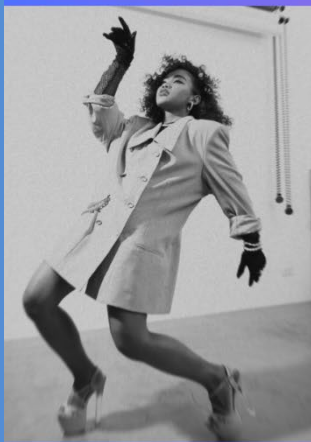
Visit our website <https://spotlight-costume-hire.com>

2024

SPOTLIGHT  
Costume Hire

## CARPARK SALE

THE SPOTLIGHT THEATRICAL COMPANY



BARGAINS

**S**potlight theatre complex

Not to be missed!

Date: SATURDAY 15th June 2024

Time: 9 am to 2 pm

Address: 185-187 Ashmore Road, Benowa  
Spotlight Theatre

Ex hire costumes, Theatre outfits,  
accessories and more



# HISTORY OF SPOTLIGHT

We want to find out.

## *What happened during the last 25 YEARS at THE SPOTLIGHT THEATRICAL COMPANY?*

As we are turning 70 next year it is an ideal time to update the History of the Theatre over the last 25 years. Peter Meggitt wrote and published the History of Spotlight Theatre in 1999 and now we need to hear from all the Directors, Actors, Patrons and creatives who have stories to tell.

The wonderful **Peter Maden**, an experienced actor, fresh from a successful performance as Donny in the Play BURN, Master of Ceremonies and lifelong supporter of the Company has offered to compile all the information received and to research the archives to find those hidden gems and moments that make Spotlight the success that it is.

If you have any stories to tell or photos about the last 25 years, please email Peter at [mailbox@spotlighttheatre.com.au](mailto:mailbox@spotlighttheatre.com.au) . He would love to hear from you.

# PLAYBILL 2025 SUBMISSIONS

Directors, if you would like to direct a musical, pantomime or play or have other exciting unique suggestions for the Spotlight 2025 season we want to hear from you.

Submissions are now open and close 30 June 2024.

Any questions can be directed to the  
Production team,  
[productions@spotlighttheatre.com.au](mailto:productions@spotlighttheatre.com.au)



Proudly supported by

**Councillor Brooke Patterson**

Division 6

 @brookepattersondivision6goldcoast

Proudly supported by

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**GOLDCOAST**<sup>TM</sup> 





# Note from the President

Welcome to the MAY Edition of The Spotlighter

As usual it is full steam ahead at the theatre. Since the last edition we have entertained you with the play **BURN** in the Basement which was received and enjoyed by the audiences. This young local writer James Hall has tremendous creative writing talents, and we look forward to seeing what he might do next. Congratulations to Clem Halpin and the cast and crew for bringing James's vision into reality and entertaining us.

Although we are renowned for putting on the blockbusting well known musicals it is also important to give lesser known shows a chance to be seen. **DOGFIGHT** directed by Josh McCann- Thomson is one such show. This is the first time that this show has been produced on the Gold Coast and Josh has found a superb cast to bring you this very important story that needs to be told. Set in the sixties it highlights how far we have come, or have we? The show opened on 10 May and runs until 1 June. Read the reviews in this edition and book online at <https://spotlight.sales.ticketsearch.com/sales/salesevent/130607>

With the school holidays fast approaching why not bring the children and grandchildren to our **Pantomime Peter Pan**. All tickets are \$20 and in true pantomime tradition there will be audience participation with lots of cheering and booing. There will be photo opportunities afterwards with the characters. Lucy Martin directs this production which has been adapted by Nathan French. There is two shows Thursday to Saturday at 10:30 am and 2pm. Monday to Wednesday at 10-30am.

We are holding our annual **Costume CAR PARK** sale on Saturday 15 June so lock the date in your calendar and come along to get some fantastic bargains.

Kathryn Henderson has joined the management committee to fill the vacancy left by Hayley moving to Melbourne to further her career and be involved in The Rocky Horror Show. We wish Hayley all the best in her new endeavours.

That's it from me so until the next edition look after yourself and each other

Best Regards

Duncan

# PLAYBILL

## 2024

SEASON

Join us for another fabulous year of entertainment!

### **THE SOUND OF MUSIC**

Directed by David Walks  
Halpin Auditorium  
9 February - 9 March

### **BURN**

Directed by Clem Halpin  
The Basement Theatre  
12 April - 27 April

### **DOGFIGHT**

Directed by Josh McCann-Thomson  
Halpin Auditorium  
10 May - 1 June

### **PETER PAN - THE PANTOMIME**

Directed by Lucy Martin  
The Basement Theatre  
26 June - 6 July

### **GHOST THE MUSICAL**

Directed by Clay English  
Halpin Auditorium  
19 July - 17 August

### **A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE**

Directed by Hunter Wall  
The Basement Theatre  
23 August - 7 September

### **OUR YOUTH THEATRE SEASON**

Halpin Auditorium and The Basement Theatre  
10 September - 2 November

### **A CHRISTMAS CAROL**

Directed by Elodie Boal  
Halpin Auditorium  
15 November - 7 December

### **SPOTLIGHT ON CHRISTMAS**

Halpin Auditorium  
13 December - 15 December

**THE SPOTLIGHT THEATRICAL COMPANY**  
185 - 187 Ashmore Rd, BENOWA, Qld, 4217

ENQUIRIES & BOOKINGS (07) 5539 4255  
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