

MELVILLE THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS

THE SMASH-HIT MUSICAL COMEDY

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS



Directed By Craig Griffen

Musical Direction By Taii Pinker and Tara Oorjitham

Director

Craig Griffen

Craig Griffen began working in the Perth theatre community on stage in shows such as *Hairspray* (2012 SCTC) and *Wizard of Oz* (2013 KAC). Craig is now best known for his behind-the-scenes work directing and designing *Spring Awakening* (2016 FBP), *Urinetown* (2018 MTC), *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe* 2019 KAC) and *Next to Normal* (2020 MTC). Craig has been awarded several ITA Finley Awards including Best Director and Best Musical for *Urinetown* in 2018 at Melville Theatre Company.

Musical Director

Tauai Pinker

A self-taught pianist, Tauai started as a church and choir accompanist at age 14. At 18 he up-skilled as a choir conductor and began working more intensely with vocalists. This passion to diversify his musical portfolio continued following a move to Melbourne, where at age 23 he became fellow founder and Principal Conductor of the Melbourne Regional Orchestra, whilst holding various positions as a musical director and accompanist for numerous choral engagements and projects.

In 2012 he returned to Perth and undertook an invitation to play Keys for a production of *Sunset Boulevard* where his love of Musical Theatre began. On keys, Tauai's credits include *Little Shop of Horrors*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* and *Annie*. As Musical Director; *Beauty and the Beast*, *Altar Boyz*, *Young Frankenstein*, *Spamalot*, *Ruthless!*, *Urinetown*, *The Boy From Oz*, *Tick Tick BOOM*, *Kinky Boots*, *Heathers*, *Seussical the Musical*, *My Fair Lady*, *Curtains* and *Xanadu*. Tauai has won the Robert Finley Award for Best Musical Director three times, for *Urinetown* (2018), *The Boy From Oz* (2019) and *Curtains* (2022, shared with Tara Oorjitham), and has been nominated eight times.

Musical Director

Tara Oorjitham

Having played the clarinet since primary school, Tara pursued her love of music through high school and into university, studying to become a music teacher at WAAPA/EQU. Tara has been teaching now for 8 years, has played in community orchestras and in pit bands with several different theatres. In recent years she has done a little less playing and a lot more conducting - taking on the role of musical director for shows such as *Les Miserables* (Marloo), *Next to Normal* (Melville), *Footloose* (Art in Motion) and most recently, *Once Upon a Mattress* (Art in Motion). In 2018 she won the Break- Through Finley award for her musical direction of *Little Miss Sunshine* and at the most recent ceremony she and Tauai Pinker were awarded Best Musical Director for their work on *Curtains* (Koorliny).



LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

Crew

Set, Costume & Puppet Design

Craig Griffen

Sound Install

Lars Jensen

Sound Operation

Paul Dielesen

Lighting design and operation

Craig Griffen

Rigging and Focus

Steven Correia

Props

Craig Griffen

Set Construction and painting

Craig Griffen, Steven Correia, Casey Gray,
Lochlan Curtis, Ellie Hart-Peterson, Chris Alvaro
Barbara Lovell, Sarah McCabe

Stage Drapes

Steven Correia

Head of Wardrobe

Michelle Sharp

Wardrobe

Shaeyla Oosthuizen

Sewing Assistance

Margaret Williston, Onah Lawn,
Alex Banham & Sarah McCabe

Wardrobe Assistants

Laura Mercer and Barbara Lovell

Backstage Manager

Julia Calvert

Photography and Publicity

Curtain Call Creatives

Headshots

Chris Alvaro

Program

Vanessa Jensen

Box Office, Bar and FOH

Susan Lynch and MTC members

Special Thanks

Our production of *Little Shop of Horrors* was originally conceived, designed and staged for MTC's upcoming new venue which has a larger stage and an enormous backstage space. Due to construction delays at that venue, this production was relocated midway through rehearsals. The show has had to be re-conceived, re-designed and almost entirely re-staged. I wish to extend my sincere thanks to the cast for their hard work managing that change and to everyone who helped us re-jig this show.

Extra special thanks to Lars Jensen for his enormous effort supplying and installing the microphones and sound equipment.

Marloo and Old Mill Theatres for the loan of costumes.

Jo Shelver, Chloe Shelver, Lily Shelver and Lucas Sharp for costume construction help.

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

Cast

Lochlan Curtis as Seymour

Grace Johnson as Audrey

Chris Alvaro as Mushnik

Tomas Clifford as Orin

Abrieanne Aviles as Ronette

Adriana Herrera as Chiffon

Natalie Winsall as Crystal

Daniel Burton as Audrey II

Steven Correia as Bernstein/Ensemble

Ellie Hart-Peterson as Luce/Ensemble

Matthew Walford as Snip/Ensemble

Sarah McCabe as Martin/Ensemble

Band

Conductors – Tara Oorjitham, Tauí Pinker

Keys 1 – Jay Anderson

Keys 2 – Jasper Cruden

Drums & Percussion – Lachlan O’Driscoll, Monica Wescombe, Steven Hartley

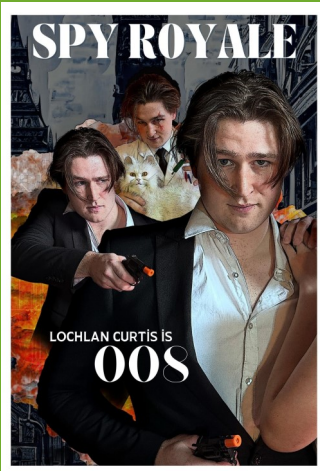
Guitar – Chris Johnston

Bass – Christian Ingram

Reeds – Talitha Broughton, Alice Annetts

Trumpet 1 and 2 – Paul Marion, Michael Baker

Little Shop of Horrors runs for approximately 2 hours including a 20 minute intermission.



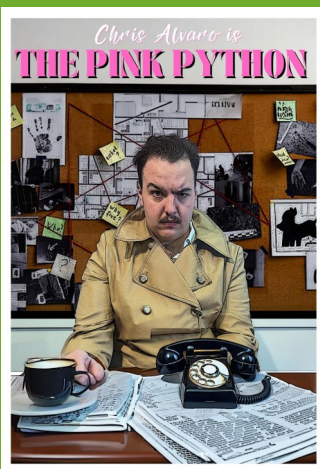
Lochlan Curtis (He/Him) as Seymour

Lochlan is a new face to Perth theatre having started his theatre endeavours through school drama projects in the southwest region. He received musical theatre vocal training and studied ATAR Drama and Music in high school. Lochlan's theatre credits include ensemble for *Cinderella* (2015, Southwest Opera Company), *HMS Pinafore* as Ralph Rakestraw (2016, Southwest Opera Company), *High School Musical* as Troy (2016, Broadway Boot Camp) and *The 39 Steps* (2019, Busselton Repertory Club). Most recently, Lochlan performed the role of Grunt in *Firebringer* at Melville. (2022).



Grace Johnson as Audrey

A graduate of Theatre and Drama at Murdoch University and Classical Voice at WAAPA, Grace now works as a Performing Arts teacher and WA based performer. Grace's recent on-stage credits include Georgia Hendricks; *Curtains* (KAC), Rosalie Mullins; *School Of Rock* (KAC), Meg March; *Little Women* (OMT), *Cinderella*; *Into The Woods* (STC), Heather Chandler; *Heathers The Musical* (LTC), Cathy; *The Last Five Years* (ATC), Susan; *Tick Tick Boom* (KAC) and Norma Smallwood in the world premier of *Miss Westralia* (BRT).



Chris Alvaro as Mushnik

Christopher Alvaro studies theatre education and stagecraft at The University of Notre Dame. Recent credits include Sir Archibald Proops in *Jekyll and Hyde* (2020, LHP), Lord Boxington in *My Fair Lady* (2022, PAT), and Christopher Belling in *Curtains* (2022, KAC), for which he won the Best Supporting Male Actor in a Musical award at the 2023 ITA Finleys. This year Christopher took his first seat in the director's chair for *Lovers: Winners* (2023, PAANDA)



Tomas Clifford as Orin

Tomas Clifford is a Perth-based music theatre performer and composer. Having previously studied music theatre at WAAPA, Tomas is now undergoing a Bachelor of Music majoring in Composition and Music Technology. He uses his combined understanding of music theatre performance and theory to write his own music and musicals, something he is excited to utilise going forward in his career. Most recently, Tomas has starred as Wayne Burns in *Strictly Ballroom* (2023 DAC) and as Marius in *Les Miserables* (2023 LHP).



Abrienne Aviles as Ronette

Abrienne is excited to make her Musical Theatre debut in Melville Theatre Company's *Little Shop Of Horrors*. Abrienne studied Theatre and Drama at Murdoch University. Over the past five years she has shared her passion for the performing arts through her work as a High School Drama teacher. In the past, Abrienne has been a member of local church choirs and orchestras.



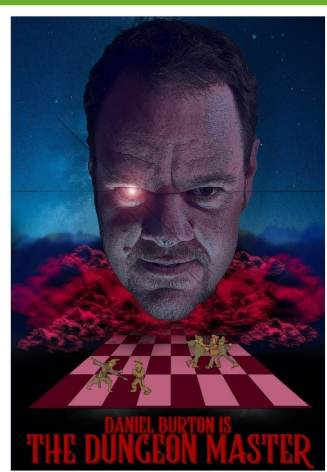
Adriana Herrera as Chiffon

Adriana Herrera is a 20 year old musical theatre performer. Since she was little she loved dancing and singing, she has been taking dance classes since she was three and singing lessons since she was nine. At school she always participated in all the events related to performing arts from specialist choir, rock bands, and dance teams. She enjoys being a dance teacher at Centre Stage Dance and Entertainment. In community theatre she has participated in *Aladdin Jr* (2012), *The Little Mermaid Jr* (2014), *Grease Spectacular* (2019), *Grease* (2019), *Peter Pan* (2020), *Heathers* (2021), *Avenue Q* (2022) and Telethon performances (2021,2022). Currently she is finishing her Diploma in Musical Theatre at Matrix pro Academy of the Arts.



Natalie Winsall as Crystal

Originally from Melbourne, Natalie moved to Perth early 2022 to begin her Bachelor of Music Composition at WAAPA. Natalie's theatre experience includes Jane in *arzan* (2022 LHP), Olive Ostrovsky in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (2020, PCTS), Tituba in *The Crucible* (2020, PCTS), Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (2019, PCTS), The Witch in *Into The Woods* (2018, PCSC), Belle in *Beauty and the Beast* (2017, PCMT), Cosette in *Les Misérables* (2016, PCSC), and Pepper in *Annie* (2015, PCMT). Natalie's theatre experience has recently furthered into Musical Directing/Directing shows such as *Les Misérables* (2023, LHP), *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (2023, LHP), *Tarzan* (2022, LHP) and *The Crucible* (2020, PCTS).



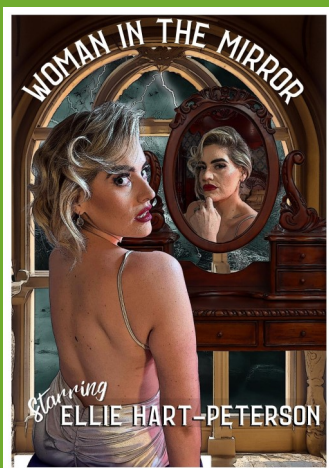
Daniel Burton as Audrey II

Daniel is a qualified Primary Teacher and Education Consultant, Ukulele Teacher and Drama Specialist. Daniel was the Co-Founder and Managing Director of the youth theatre school, BoPPA and over 10 years produced cutting edge original theatre productions with 6 – 17 year olds. Daniel has been seen on stages across Perth from Mandurah to Wanneroo. He has played a number of lead and supporting roles including Dan in *Next to Normal* (Melville Theatre), Jock Allen in *Nevermore* (Grey Lantern Productions), Toad in *A Year with Frog and Toad* (Mind the Change Inc), Caldwell B Cladwell in *Urinetown* (Melville Theatre), Inspector Kemp and The Hermit in *Young Frankenstein* (Koorliny Arts Centre), Bustopher Jones in *Cats* (Theatre Bits) , Chip Tolentino in *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* and Sebastian in *Disney's The Little Mermaid* (Koorliny Arts Centre).



Steven Correia as Bernstein/Ensemble

Steven is taking a break from his regular work on theatre shows to make a return to the stage for a limited time only. Steven's usual role in theatre has him working behind the scenes as a Theatre Technician at the University of Western Australia and a freelance Stage Manager working for companies like Perth Festival and WAOpera. Most recently in community theatre you can find Steven's work as a Production/Stage Manager for *Firebringer* (2021, MTC) and *Next to Normal* (2020, MTC), or you can find his last acting roles on stage in *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* (2019, Koorliny) or *A Midsummer Night's Drink* (2019, Booze and the Bard).



Ellie Hart-Peterson as Luce/Ensemble

Ellie returns to Little Shop after performing in Shine's production 14 years ago. Ellie's theatre credits also include *Urinetown* (MTC 2018), *Kinky Boots* (LTC 2019), *Heathers* (LTC 2021), *Kinky Boots* (AP 2019) & *The SpongeBob SquarePants Musical* (AIM, 2021).



Matthew Walford as Snip/Ensemble

Matthew Walford is an accomplished performer with a wealth of experience in the performing arts and theatre. He holds a Diploma of Contemporary Voice from the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts. Matthew's recent credits include performances in "Legally Blonde (Kiki/Ensemble) at Crown Perth, "My Fair Lady" (Harry/Ensemble) also at Regal Theatre, and *Les Misérables* (Enjolras). He has showcased his talent in various other productions such as *Little Shop of Horrors* (Orin/Understudy Seymour,) *High School Musical* (Troy Bolton), *Footloose The Musical* (Ren McCormack), *Heathers The Musical* (Kurt Kelly), *Curtains* (Harv Fremont), *Wicked* (Featured Ensemble) and *Chicago* (Featured Ensemble).



Sarah McCabe as Martin/Ensemble

Sarah is making her Melville Theatre Company debut in the ensemble of *Little Shop of Horrors*. You may have seen Sarah in the ensembles of *Kinky Boots* (2021, Arise Productions) and *My Fair Lady* (2022 Alexandra Theatre), as Maggie Jones in *42nd Street* (2022 Drew Anthony Creative), and in her screen debut as a jazz singer in the musical feature film *Sweet Rhythm* (2023 Outatime Pictures). Most recently, Sarah performed as Madame Thenardier in *Les Misérables* (2023 Laughing Horse Productions).

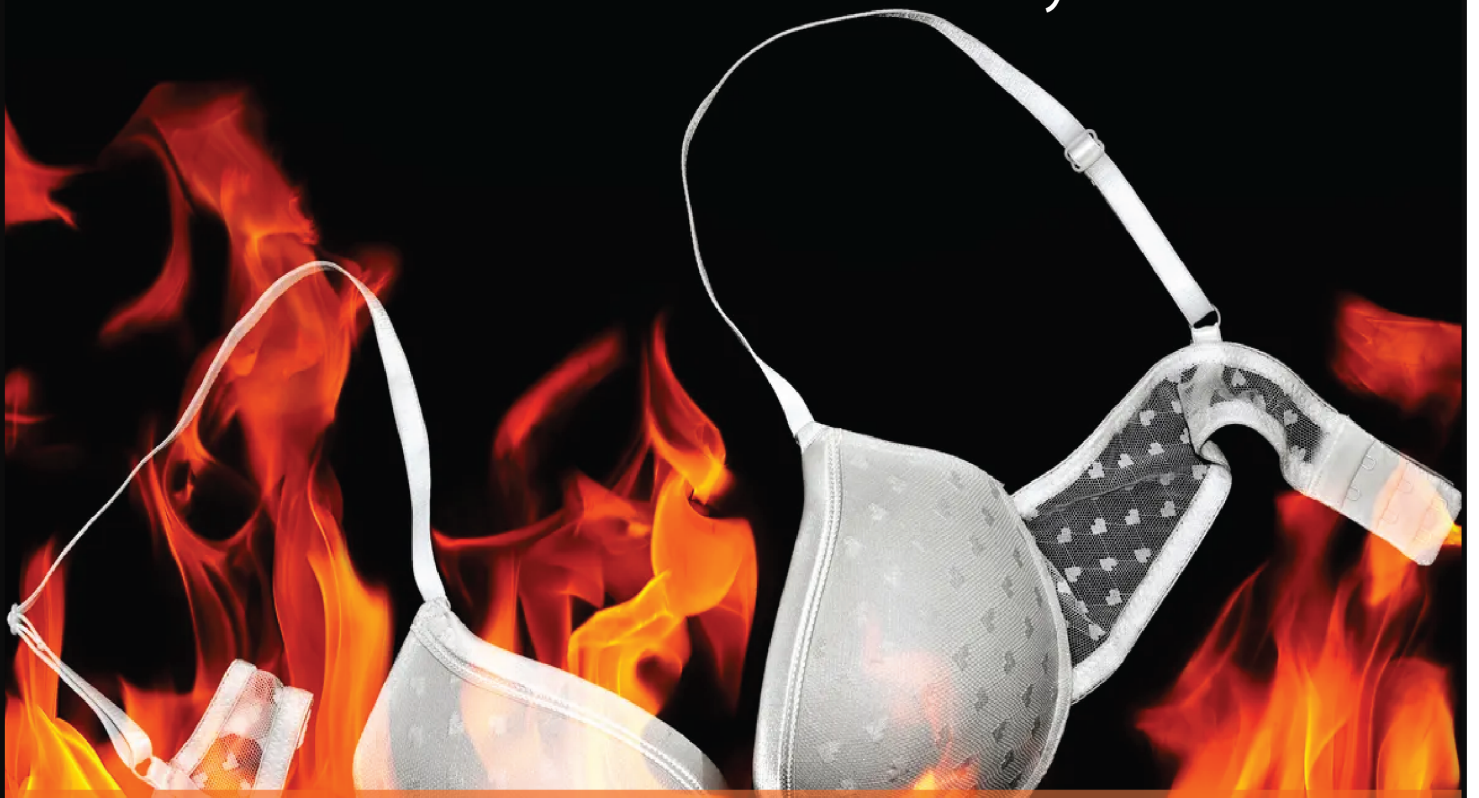
Coming Next to Melville Theatre

MELVILLE
THEATRE
COMPANY

THE FEMALE ♀ OF THE SPECIES

By Joanna Murray-Smith

Directed by Lars Jensen



A deliciously wicked comedy that proves that the female of the species is not only deadlier, but funnier than the male.

November/December 2023

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