

MELVILLE●●●●  
**THEATRE●**  
COMPANY

# The **SOUND** of **MUSIC**

Music by RICHARD RODGERS

Lyrics by OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II

Book by HOWARD LINDSAY and RUSSEL CROUSE

Suggested by "the Story of the Trapp Family Singers"

**Directed by Neroli Sweetman**

"The Sound of Music" is presented by permission of ORiGiN™ Theatrical  
on behalf of R&H Theatricals, A Concord Theatricals Company



# Maria    The von Trapp Family story

**“An only child, an orphan” - I had a most unhappy childhood” - Maria von Trapp.**

Maria was born on a train and delivered by the conductor (father of nine) somewhere between Vienna and the Tirol. Her parents both died when she was very young and Maria spent her early years in a household of adults with little contact with other children her age.

This was an Austria emerging from the agonies of the Great War, the Vienna of 1918, where the so-called new regime was discouraging religion and, if anything, actually injecting anti-religious feeling into the school system.

Maria left school with a non-sympathetic attitude to her religion and in fact became a leader of a group dedicated to promoting anti-Catholic feeling.



*The “Trapp Family Singers”.*



*Baroness Maria von Trapp*

One Palm Sunday a chance meeting with a Jesuit priest changed Maria's life forever and gave her back her religion and faith. Soon, Maria decided she had to give something back and so joined the strictest convent in Salzburg, the Benedictine Abbey of Nonberg - this is where the joyous story of *The Sound of Music* starts - Maria who admits she was something of a tomboy, but in her own words: -“I was constantly in trouble. First of all, one wasn't supposed to whistle



*The “Trapp Family Singers”.*

wordly tunes, but what was wrong in whistling a hymn or Gregorian chant? Then one was supposed to take only one step at a time upstairs and downstairs, whereas it was much easier to come down the bannister, or two at a time. I had been used to being outdoors as much as possible. Vienna has wonderful surroundings such as the famous Vienna Woods. Suddenly, I found myself in a cloistered community, surrounded by walls, a rather small garden sloping up a hill to the very foundations and buttresses of the famous Fortress of Salzburg”.

From this cloistered community Maria was sent as tutor to the von Trapp family and - well, the world knows the rest of this remarkable story.

Where is the von Trapp family now? After the family fled their home country they settled in America, where the Trapp Family Singers became internationally famous, touring extensively throughout the world for concert performances and lectures. Today, Maria von Trapp is living in retirement in Stowe, Vermont, U.S.A., her own son Johannes manages the estate. The captain died in 1947 and the von Trapp children are living in many parts of the world— one daughter is a missionary in Port Moresby.

(Text taken from the 1984 program).

*Post script: Baroness Maria von Trapp died 1987.*





City of  
**Melville**

**Foreword from City of Melville Mayor Katy Mair:**

The City of Melville is very proud to support the Melville Theatre Company as their final production of 2024 *The Sound of Music* takes the stage at the Melville Main Hall.

The City was so pleased to reopen the Melville Main Hall in February 2024 following a major renovation and refurbishment project, 56 years after the civic building first opened.

The reopening heralded a new era of cultural engagement in the Melville City Centre, with the refurbished Main Hall being used by multiple arts and community groups, as well as for the City of Melville's citizenship ceremonies, cultural and formal events.

Among the great outcomes from the refurbishment of the hall was the return of the Melville Theatre Company to the venue after 36 years.

It has been so pleasing that this reinvigorated space has allowed the Melville Theatre Company to resume holding productions in our City Centre, which significantly contribute to our City's cultural vitality and sense of community.

It is so amazing that 40 years since the Melville Theatre Company produced their second ever production, being *The Sound of Music* at the Melville Main Hall, that this timeless musical returns to this venue.

It's the perfect way to complete a wonderful first year returning to the Melville Main Hall for the Melville Theatre Company and I congratulate everyone involved with this production whether it's onstage or behind the scenes.

I also give my thanks to you as the audience for supporting local theatre and I hope you enjoy *The Sound of Music*.

Authorised for Release by:

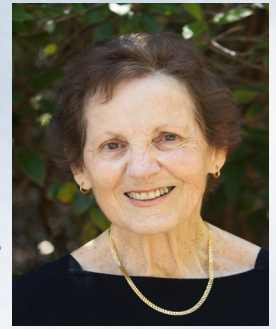
**Katy Mair**  
City of Melville Mayor





# Director's Notes

In 1979 David J Burton, the founder of Melville Theatre Company, was invited to offer his professional experience to the Rockingham Theatre Players by guiding the actor playing the lead in *The King and I*, in the art of presenting this character in a believable manner.



It was here that he met Neroli who was playing Mrs Anna. A brief but memorable time.

Moving forward, David, who had founded the Melville Theatre Company in 1983, posted an audition notice for *The Sound of Music* in March of 1984. This was to be the Company's second production and the first musical to be performed in the Melville Civic Centre.

As a musical theatre devotee "Maria" was a role Neroli had always wanted to play and once again their paths crossed as she gained her dream role. The theatre company became her theatre home and in 1989 she and David were married.

Moving forward 40 years, Neroli was invited by Melville Theatre Company to direct their final season for 2024, once again in the Civic Centre. She felt it was the perfect time to revise the much loved *Sound of Music*, and was thrilled to accept.

She would like to thank her amazing cast and crew who are bringing this beautiful musical back to life and wishes to dedicate the season to the memory of "David". It has completed the circle.

Please sit back and enjoy.

**Neroli Sweetman**  
**Director**

## Nick Navarra (MD)

Music Director, Pianist, and Classical Vocalist, Nick Navarra began his musical training in 2015 with piano lessons, and has had a multitude of experiences playing as a soloist, in ensembles and as an accompanist.



As a classical vocalist, Nick received first place in the Under 18 Classical Vocal section in the North of Perth Music Festival and second place in the 18 and Under Classical Vocal section of the Fremantle Eisteddfod.

Nick is no stranger to Musical Theatre, beginning with Lionel in Rodgers and Hammerstein's 'Cinderella.' He has since performed in Bel Canto Performing Art's Productions of 'Anything Goes' as Evelyn Oakley and 'Mary Poppins Jr' as Robertson Ay and performed in 'You're a Good Man Charlie Brown' as Linus Van Pelt with St Norbert College. A G 'n S fanatic,

Nick has performed with the Gilbert and Sullivan Society of Western Australia in the Peers Chorus in 'Iolanthe' and sung the role of the Herald in 'The Grand Duke.' Desperate to MD ever since he watched his high school music teacher, the incredible Mr Chadwick Beins music direct "Cinderella" in 2021, Nick made his way into the world of Musical Direction this year, as rehearsal pianist/assistant music director for Bel Canto Performing Art's 'Mary Poppins Jr'. Nick is honoured to be music director for such an iconic and beautiful show alongside Neroli's brilliant direction and the incredible talents of the cast.



# SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

## ACT ONE

- Scene 1. Nonnberg Abbey
- Scene 2. The mountainside near Nonnberg Abbey
- Scene 3. The office of Mother Abbess (the next morning)
- Scene 4. The grounds of the Abbey
- Scene 5. The living room of the Trapp Villa (that afternoon)
- Scene 6. The grounds of the Villa (later that afternoon)
- Scene 7. Maria's bedroom
- Scene 8. The terrace of the Trapp Villa (six weeks later)
- Scene 9. Terrace of the villa, prior to the dinner party (three weeks later)
- Scene 10. The living room and gardens of the Villa.
- Scene 11. The grounds and office of Mother Abbess
- Scene 12. Mother Abbess's office (one week later)



*Georg van Trapp.*

## ACT TWO

- Scene 1. The Terrace and interior of the von Trapp Villa (one month later)
- Scene 2. Prior to the wedding of Maria and Georg.
- Scene 3. The grounds and entry to the Abbey  
Wedding of Maria & Georg
- Scene 4. The Von Trapp Villa (one month later)
- Scene 5. The stage of the Concert Hall, Kaltzberg
- Scene 6. The grounds of Nonnberg Abbey

## FINALE

# MUSICAL NUMBERS

## ACT ONE

- Preludium
- Nuns' Chorus
- The Sound of Music
- How Do You Solve a Problem like Maria?
- My Favourite Things
- Do-Re-Mi
- Sixteen Going on Seventeen
- Lonely Goatherd
- How Can Love Survive
- Reprise of The Hills Are Alive
- So Long Farewell
- Climb Every Mountain



- Maria
- Mother Abbess and Nuns
- Maria and Mother Abbess
- Maria and Children
- Liesl and Rolf
- Maria and Children
- Elsa and Max
- Maria, Captain and Children
- The Children
- Mother Abbess



## ACT TWO

Reprise: My Favourite things  
No Way to Stop It  
I Must Have Done Something Good  
Canticle: Confitemini Domini  
Reprise: Sixteen Going on Seventeen  
Reprise: Do-Re- Mi  
Edelweiss  
Reprise: So Long Farewell  
Reprise: Climb Every Mountain

Maria and the Children  
Elsa, Max & Captain  
Maria and Captain  
Nuns Chorus  
Maria & Liesl  
Maria, Captain & Children  
Captain Maria & Children  
Maria, Captain & Children  
Mother Abbess & Nuns

## THE COMPANY

Director  
Musical Direction  
Choreography  
Continuity  
Production Manager

Neroli Sweetman  
Nick Navarra  
Matilda Jenkins  
Josie McAllister & Matty Padley  
Barbara Lovell

Stage Manager  
Assistant Stage Manager  
Backstage Crew

James Gant  
Beth Pleasants  
Luke Oxley, Sarah Bell,  
Amber Pestell, Drew Morgan,  
Emily Schiller

Sound  
Lighting

Mack Chidlow  
Zac Mellor

Set Design  
Set Construction

George Boyd  
Ross Bertinshaw, Lars Jensen, Nigel Goodwin,  
Vanessa Jensen, Matty Padley, Darren Goodison  
Elizabeth Jewiz  
Vanessa Jensen  
Josie McAllister, Michelle Tran, Matty Padley, Barbara Lovell

Scenic Artist  
Props  
Painting Team

Costume Coordinator  
Sewing Team

Michelle Sharp  
Marjorie De Caux, Onah Lawn, Veronica Hudson, Gail Reading,  
Jenny Dawson, Barbara Lovell

Program  
FOH Photos

Lars Jensen  
Vanessa Jensen

FOH & Bar Coordinator  
FOH & Bar Staff

Julia Calvert  
MTC members



### ***Special Thanks***

Gilbert and Sullivan Society, Darlington Theatre Players, and Koorliny for costumes.  
Rex Gray, Jenny Howard, Merri Ford and Pamela Smith for loan props and furniture.  
Victoria Bell for acting as Den Mother/chaperone for the children and liaison with their parents.



# CAST

Maria Rainer  
Sister Bertha  
Sister Margaretta  
The Mother Abbess  
Sister Sophia  
Captain Von Trapp  
Franz  
Frau Schmidt  
Liesl  
Friedrich  
Louisa  
Kurt  
Brigitta  
Marta  
Marta  
Gretl  
Gretl  
Rolf Gruber  
Elsa Schraeder  
Max Detweiler  
Baron Elberfeld  
Baroness Elberfeld  
Admiral Von Schreiber  
Herr Zeller

Hannah Charlotte  
Lily Wakeling  
Ebony MacFarlane  
Eilish Marie Blackmore  
Paris Findlay  
Nigel Goodwin  
Peter Shaw  
Imogen Porter  
Escher Roe  
Leo Brand  
Aurelia Turley  
John Bell  
Quinn Dally  
Jasmin Dally  
Charlotte Theodorsen  
Bowie Silvay  
Halle McDonald  
David Bell  
Erin Strle  
Darren Goodison  
Michael Smith  
Michelle Sharp  
Kieran Smith  
Zac Porter

## NUNS

Victoria Bell  
Ana Fernandez  
Indya Lange  
Anne Williams  
Bec Darlington

Emily Dale  
Alexandra Gordon  
Melissa Kelly  
Yvette Theodorson  
Imogen Porter

Jessica Dilley  
Sarah Hunter  
Chloe Schiller

## Postulants

Lucy Kelly

Sienna Pettit

Nicole Wong



**Hannah Charlotte (Maria)**

Hannah is a WAAPA graduate with a Bachelor in Music Theatre, who has appeared in roles such as Cinderella in “Into the Woods”, Liesl in “The Sound of Music” and Audrey in “Little Shop of Horrors”. She hopes she can do this beautiful role the justice it deserves.

**Nigel Goodwin (Captain von Trapp)**

Since moving to Perth, Nigel’s numerous stage credits include roles in ‘The Full Monty’, ‘Of Mice and Men’, ‘Six Dance Lessons in Six Weeks’, and ‘Art’. He has also sung with the Gilbert & Sullivan Society of WA. Nigel is delighted to play the dream role of Captain von Trapp.

**Darren Goodison (Uncle Max)**

Darren loves the creativity, charm & comradery of the stage and since 2012 has enjoyed regular performances across Albany and Perth in a blend of comedy, drama & musicals. Darren is sentimental about working with Neroli who he first worked with in 2012, and hopes you enjoy the show.

**Erin Strle (Baroness Elsa)**

Erin’s MT credits include The Narrator in “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat” and The Fairy Godmother in “Cinderella Enchanted”. Since completing her WAAPA Classical Voice degree, she has performed in operas and operettas in lead and supporting roles, and as a soloist at St. Mary’s Cathedral and Government House.

**David Bell (Rolf)**

David Bell is currently studying a diploma of classical voice at WAAPA. With extensive stage experience, he has taken on iconic roles such as Judas in John Curtin’s *Jesus Christ Superstar*, Enjolras in Perth College’s *Les Misérables*, and Jack Kelly in Marloo Theatre’s *Newsies Jr.*

**Eilish Marie Blackmore (Mother Abbess)**

Eilish Marie Blackmore is an emerging Australian classical soprano and actress who is currently studying a Bachelor of Music (Classical Voice) at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA). Eilish has as a passion for classical musical theatre and operetta. Alongside performing, Eilish is also a qualified makeup artist.

**Lily Wakeling (Sister Berthe)**

Lily started her journey in community theatre a year ago and has since performed in *Les Misérables* as Cosette with Laughing Horse Productions, *Peter Pan* at Koorliny Arts Centre and *Mary Poppins Jr* as Mary Poppins. Lily loves nothing more than to help create a show to be proud of.

**Ebony MacFarlane (Sister Margaretta)**

Ebony has always loved performing and singing, and finally, after many years of persuasion from her friends and loved ones, she is finally pursuing her passion of musical theatre for this first time as Sister Margaretta in this production in *Sound of Music*. She hopes you enjoy the show!

**Paris Findlay (Sister Sophia)**

This is Paris’ first production with MTC and she is so excited to be a part of such an iconic musical. Paris has been a part of a number of productions with the Busselton Repertory club as well with UWAs Dramatic society where she studies literature and music.





### **Imogen Porter (Frau Schmidt/Nun)**

Imogen was born in Leicestershire, England and moved to Australia at four years old. Imogen uses her love of performing arts to teach Italian. You may recognise Imogen from her roles in Gilbert and Sullivan Society productions, including 'Fiametta' in *The Gondoliers*. She is excited to perform in this production.



### **Peter Shaw (Franz)**

Peter has acted in community theatre productions for the last 41 years starting in Victoria at the age of 30. Since moving to Perth in 1987, he has performed locally, at Mandurah, Kwinana and Rockingham. He is pleased to perform with such a talented cast in his first Melville production.



### **Zac Porter (Herr Zeller)**

Zac was born in Leicestershire, England and moved to Australia at 2 years old. He is passionate about the performing arts and has appeared in many Gilbert and Sullivan Society productions, including as 'The Duke of Plaza-Toro' in *The Gondoliers*. Zac is thrilled to perform in *The Sound of Music*.



### **Kieran Smith (Admiral von Schreiber)**

Kieran has been invested in performance since a young age. Since completing school he has thrown himself into the community theatre, having most recently performed in Stirling players' *Evita*, he is enjoying the opportunity to play an antagonist role as Admiral Von Schreiber.



### **Michael Smith (Baron Elberfeld)**

Mike Smith is joining musical theatre for the first time playing the role of Baron Elberfeld, having spent 15 years singing in choirs. Mike feels extremely fortunate to have his first experience with the Melville Theatre Company.



### **Michelle Sharp (Baroness Elberfeld)**

Michelle studied Acting & Creative Writing at Curtin's Hayman Theatre. She has performed in numerous Melville shows including as Mrs Dashwood in *Sense & Sensibility*. She became Wardrobe Mistress in 2011, directed *Plaza Suite & The Heist*, and became President of MTC this year. She hopes you enjoy the show.

## **Children:**



### **Escher Roe (Liesl)**

Liesl has been a dream role for as long as Escher can remember, and she's so grateful for the opportunity to bring her to life! She recently played Emma in *The Guy Who Didn't Like Musicals*, and Cheryl in the Australian Premier of *Evil Dead The Musical*.



### **Leo Brand (Friedrich)**

Leo Brand, 15, has had several school and community musical theatre roles, including with Playlovers. As Friedrich, his love of music and performing continues. Leo plays drums, piano and this year, he performed on trumpet at the Sydney Opera House, with his school concert band.



### **Aurelia Turley (Louisa)**

Aurelia is an 11-year-old performer who loves Musical Theatre. Recently, she starred as Young Fiona in *Shrek the Musical* at Crown and as Annie in *Annie* at The Regal Theatre. Trained by The Production Academy, Paige Fallu, and Sophie Nock, Aurelia is looking forward to performing in her favourite musical.



### **John Bell (Kurt)**

John has enjoyed watching Community Theatre from a young age and is excited to get involved himself playing Kurt! John had fun at rehearsals, learning from both the older cast members and from Nick and Neroli's direction. He's glad to share the stage with his older brother playing Rolf.





### **Quinn Dally (Brigitta)**

Quinn is thrilled to be playing Brigitta, a character for whom she feels a strong affinity for being an avid reader and keen observer herself! This will be her first production with Melville Theatre Company and she is loving every moment of being on stage alongside such a talented cast.



### **Jasmine Dally (Marta)**

Jasmine is delighted to be playing Marta in her first production with the Melville Theatre Company. She is having lots of fun performing with the other kids, especially with her older sister, Quinn. Outside of theatre, Jasmine is a keen gymnast and soccer player.



### **Charlotte Theodorsen (Marta)**

Charlotte has always loved singing and started performing when she was 4. In her free time, she loves role-playing and making up lines for her friends to say. Having performed previously with Light Up Productions, Charlotte is thrilled to join the Von Trapp Family in MTC's *The Sound of Music*.



### **Halle McDonald (Gretl)**

Halle is a vibrant 9-year-old with a passion for performing! She portrayed Young Fiona in Showcase Entertainment Group's *Shrek the Musical*, performed with Bel Canto Performing Arts as Child Anna and played Sandy in Mandurah Murray Music and Drama Club's *Annie Jnr*. She is thrilled to bring Gretl to life.



### **Bowie Silvey (Gretl)**

At only 6 years old, this is Bowie's first musical. Bowie has lived for the stage since her first ballet concert at 3 years old, and has been under the excellent guidance of Bel Canto Performing Arts for the past 2 years. She is thrilled to be Gretl, the youngest Von Trapp.



## **Nuns:**

### **Emily Dale (Sister Berthe alternate)**

Emily is a primary school educator who has always had a passion for theatre and performance. This year, she appeared in the role of the Pirate Ancestor in *'Addams Family: The Musical'* at Roleystone Theatre. Emily is excited to be a part of *The Sound of Music* at Melville Theatre.



### **Melissa Kelly (Sister Sophia understudy)**

Melissa's has been performing since a young age and now teaches Secondary Drama. She received an ITA Finley Award for her costuming for Bel Canto Performing Arts' *Anything Goes: Youth Edition*. Melissa played Liza in Koorliny's *Peter Pan*. She is thrilled to be a part of this MTC production.



### **Chloe Schiller**

Chloe Schiller is a vibrant individual with a deep passion for musical theatre and singing. Her love for the stage is matched only by her enthusiasm for cooking, where she enjoys experimenting with new recipes and flavours. She brings a unique blend of creativity and curiosity to everything she does.



### **Bee Darlington**

Bee was in the music industry most of her life, and is now very excited to be performing in her first musical. *The Sound of Music* is dear to her heart, and she is grateful to be part of such a wonderful cast with her daughter Bowie (playing little Gretl).



### **Victoria Bell**

*Sound of Music* was a family favourite for Victoria growing up and she's excited to be part of the joyful music the Nuns chorus adds to such a beloved story. Victoria is grateful to MTC for the fun family activity with two of her kids on stage and one backstage!





### Indya Lange

Indya grew up watching *The Sound of Music* with her Baba, and is excited to be performing in this show, her first ever musical. Indya has performed in many other productions including Peter Pan. This is her first show with MTC. Indya has almost finished her Secondary Education studies at ECU.



### Ana Fernandez

Ana Fernandez was born in Spain. She has been involved in music for 9 years, having studied music at the Conservatory. She is currently singing with the Australian Musical Theatre Choir. She is immensely enjoying her first musical as an adult and wishing to continue this musical theatre path.



### Jess Dilley

This is Jess's Perth debut, having spent the last sixteen years with the Donnybrook Theatre Troupe and Bunbury Musical Comedy Group. She enjoys singing both as a soloist and in a choir. Jess hopes to pass on her love of music and theatre to her daughter Beth.



### Anne Williams

Anne's love of singing began after watching *The Sound of Music* as a child, and she is having the time of her life now as one of the Nuns. Anne previously performed in community theatre ensembles for Phantom of the Opera (Limelight) and Camelot (Old Mill).



### Yvette Theodorsen

A long time musical theatre lover, Yvette enjoyed performing in her youth and has absolutely loved supporting her children from the audience and backstage in various community theatre productions. Now, she's very excited to join her daughter on stage for Melville Theatre Company's production of *The Sound of Music*.



### Sarah Hunter

This is Sarah's first show with Melville Theatre Company. She made her community theatre debut this year with Roleystone Theatre's production of *The Addams Family*. Sarah is excited to be part of bringing this Golden Age musical to life, and thanks the other nuns for making rehearsal so enjoyable.



### Alexandria Gordon

Alex won runner up in her school's Talent Quest, having written songs since 8 years old. She studies Drama and Music at JCCA. She has performed as a soloist in the WA Massed Choir Festival and ABRSM Music Theatre High Scorers concert, and had leading roles with Stagecoach Performing Arts.

## Postulants:



### Sienna Pettit

Sienna is delighted to be a part of Melville Theatre Company's *The Sound of Music*. She has performed with Bel Canto Performing Arts, Koorliny Arts Centre, and The Colourblind Theatre, as well as in numerous school productions. Her love for musical theatre grows with each performance



### Lucy Kelly

Lucy loves dance and currently trains in jazz, tap and contemporary at Betty Bentley Dance Academy. She has performed in Bel Canto Performing Arts' annual musicals since 2021, and has also performed with Koorliny Arts Centre, and school productions. Lucy is excited to perform in her first musical with MTC.



### Nicole Wong

Nicole learned singing when she was four and has recently attained her AMEB Grade 6 classical singing. Last year, she performed in "La Bohème" for West Australian Opera. This year she has enjoyed being in the Nuns Ensemble of *The Sound of Music* and is looking forward to future opportunities.



# *Escaped Alone*

Directed by  
Lucy Eyre

and

# *What If If Only*

Directed by  
Natalie Burbage

by Caryl Churchill



February 14th  
to  
March 1st  
2025

Melville Theatre  
10 Almondbury Road, Booragoon  
Licensed for amateur performance.

Tickets

