

“ELECTRIFYING” “SUPERB” “ICONIC” “BLOODY GOOD”
“OUTSTANDING” “HIGHLY ENERGETIC” “PULSATING BEATS”
“ABSOLUTELY HILARIOUS” “★★★★★” “UNIVERSALLY EXCELLENT”

LADY MACBETH

PLAYED WING DEFENCE



Department of
Local Government, Sport
and Cultural Industries

CRASH THEATRE COMPANY

In a thrilling Shakespearean twist on the netball court, Mac Beth passionately pursues the coveted title of Year 12 Netball Captain of the Dunsinane Hell-Hounds. Expect a gripping tale of ambition, betrayal, and redemption as Coach Duncan's decisions spark a fierce battle for leadership. The Dagger Divas, a trio of dreamy melodies (think Dreamgirls but Mean Girls), visit Mac in her slumbers, echoing the bard's famous ghostly encounters. They fuel her with the fire to overcome adversity and fight on. Amid accusations and plot twists, Mac's determination leads her to the brink of glory. But her reckless actions take her to the edge of despair, creating suspicion and fear among her teammates. As alliances shift and friendships fracture, a climactic showdown awaits the netball battlefield. Will Mac's relentless drive for success ultimately lead to her triumph, or banishment?

This production acts as a rallying cry for the persistence and strength of young female athletes on the netball court. The musical's narrative reverberates with stories of resilience, ambition, and fierce competition, challenging outdated stereotypes but also igniting a fervour of inspiration among the next generation of female athletes, arming them with a suite of powerful and catchy anthems to rally behind.

Lady Macbeth Played Wing Defence isn't just another musical; it's a vibrant cultural touchstone that is set to reignite across several stages throughout the globe. It serves as a catalyst for the crusade of gender equality, inviting audiences not just to an electrifying multidisciplinary experience of music, dance and theatre, but the emotional journey of sisterhood, reinforcing the vision for a more inclusive, diverse, and equitable future for women in sports.



CAST

Mac Beth Orla Poole [she/her]
Coach Duncan Courtney McManus [she/her]
Summer Banquo Kate Sisley [she/her]
Chloe Macduff Shannon Rogers [she/her]
Mia Porter Ana Ferreira Manhoso [she/her]
Jess Malcolm Gabriella Munro [she/her]
Brooke Ross Georgia McGivern [she/her]
Ashley Donalbain Emily Semple [she/her]

CREW

Director & Music Composer Bec Price [she/they]
Writer Courtney McManus [she/her]
Lyricists Bec Price [she/they], Courtney McManus
[she/her] & Ana Ferreira Manhoso [she/her]
Creative Producer Ana Ferreira Manhoso [she/her]
Stage Manager Ella Cooke [she/they]
Choreographer Shannon Rogers [she/her]
Production Designer Rachel Porter [she/her]





**Bec Price [director, composer & lyricist]
[she/her]**

Bec Price is a Musician, Artist, Mental Health Advocate, Youth Mentor and qualified Social Worker, with a passion for youth justice, mental health, women's rights and promoting First Nations people's self-determination and cultural safety. Creating original music under the artist name PROJECT BEXX, Bec has most recently been nominated in two categories for Australian Women in Music Awards 2024. She was also awarded WAM'S Best Live Electronic Act 2021, WA Electronic Song of the Year Award in 2022, and has performed alongside some of Australia's biggest artists like Tame Impala, Peking Duk, Shockone & The Presets. Rebecca is passionate about the power of creativity and expressive therapy in all forms of social services with an undergraduate degree of Performing Arts from the West Australian Academy of Performing Arts, and a Masters Degree in Social Work at the University of Western Australia. Her acknowledgments of achievement in the community sector include presenting at the WA Mental Health Conference 2022 and on the Youth Panel for the Western Australia Council of Social Services 2023 conference. Bec is also the WA's Girls Rock Programme Coordinator, engaging young people in week long music and mental health camps- taking the camp for the first time to Geraldton in 2023, in conjunction with Regional Sounds WA. Over the last 7 years, Bec has combined her passion of music and the arts with her drive to be an agent of change in the social justice space, educating, collaborating and performing across Western Australia.

**Ella Cooke [stage manager & operations]
[she/they]**

Ella Cooke is a creative based in Boorloo (Perth), living and working on Wadjuk Noongar Boodja. She is a new graduate from Curtin University and is currently working with the Language Development Centre as part of their Speech Pathologists in Schools Program. They are currently based across two primary schools where they work one on one with students, with small groups, and at the whole class level, up skilling teachers and school staff to support learning and language development. Ella has been involved in theatre with working as a stage manager, a sound technician, a costume designer and a director for the last four years. Ella has been involved with theatrical productions since 2021, including the Performing Arts Association of Notre Dame Australia (PAANDA)'s productions of Noël Coward's Blithe Spirit (2021) and David Williamson's The Removalist (2022), as well as the Performing Arts Alumni Society's productions of Murder on the Midland Line' (2021), Grogwarts (2022, 2023) and Crash Theatre Company's Sisterhood of the Travelling Lighter (2023) and Lady Macbeth Played Wing Defence(2024). Ella is passionate about telling stories and they are excited to be continuing on the role of stage manager and sound technician, learning new skills and further developing their knowledge while working as a creative.



Ana Ferreira Manhoso [creative producer, lyricist & performer] [she/her]

Ana Ferreira Manhoso is a creative and an organiser based in Wayalup (Fremantle). She has been managing artists and producing theatre for over ten years, founding Crash Theatre Company and working largely in festival landscapes and artistic touring. After completing her undergraduate studies in behavioural science and a master's in business leadership, her current working role in tertiary education involves developing strategies aimed to widen participation and diversify the student body by increasing support and educational access for underrepresented cohorts. Ana is pragmatically passionate about turning ideas and concepts into reality. Through an academic lens of social science and leadership theory, she is focussed on impactful storytelling and promoting transformative benefit for communities. In 2022 Ana formalised her creative producing practical skills by completing the Producing for Live Theatre and Performance course at the National Institute of Dramatic Arts (NIDA).

Courtney McManus [writer, lyricist & performer] [she/her]

Courtney McManus, a notable theatre artist and playwright based in Boorloo (Perth), has been active in the WA performing arts scene since 2014. She has performed at various Fringe Festivals across Australia and showcased her work at venues such as Lazy Susan's Comedy Den, Girls School, and The Blue Room Theatre. In 2022, she co-founded Crash Theatre Company (CRASH), focusing on innovative and impactful work which is underpinned by a commitment to telling stories of risk, resilience and resourcefulness. In 2023, CRASH toured Courtney's one-woman show WHALE, nationally, and staged Sisterhood of the Travelling Lighter at The Blue Room Theatre with which Courtney was nominated for Outstanding Performance in The Blue Room Theatre 2023 Annual Season Awards Night. Also in 2023, Courtney wrote CRASH's first musical, Lady Macbeth Played Wing Defence, winning two prestigious awards at the Perth FRINGE WORLD Festival. Beyond her theatrical accomplishments, Courtney is a high-school English teacher in public education where she not only delivers impactful performances on stage but also runs a project-based learning program for extension students and oversees a team of 12 staff members. Her dedication to both the arts and education underscores her multifaceted talent and commitment to storytelling and mentorship.

Shannon Rogers [choreographer & performer] [she/her]

Shannon is an actor, dancer, singer and choreographer from Boorloo (Perth). After graduating from Murdoch University with a Bachelor in Theatre and Drama and a minor in Literature, she began performing as her alter ego, Polly St. Pearl. Under this name, Shannon is a founding member and performer with the award winning all-queer troupe, BurLEZque. She has also spent over a decade working in children's entertainment including working alongside The Magic Coat Foundation to create the Magic Coat Theatre Company, producing educational theatre in order to give children the tools to understand mental health and navigate difficult situations. This passion for theatre and the arts has led Shannon to work as a choreographer for musicals, cabarets, and plays with choreography credits that include Playthings (Black Swan Theatre Company), Sh*t We Like to Sing (Broken Crayon Productions), Hail Satan! (NEXT Productions), Mr. Burns: A Post-Electric Play (Murdoch University), Be More Chill (Phoenix Theatre). Some recent theatre credits include Holly in Sisterhood of the Travelling Lighter (Crash Theatre Company), Cinderella in Cinderella (City of Rockingham), Kristen in Woof. (Runaway Balloon), Suzy in Time Capsule (Runaway Balloon), Dorothy in The Wizard of Oz (Goldfields Arts Centre) and Chloe in Lady Macbeth Played Wing Defence (Crash Theatre Company).

Orla-Jean Poole [performer] [she/they]

Orla-Jean Poole is an emerging theatre maker and performance artist based in Boorloo (Perth) who has credits in acting, directing, stage management and design. She is currently studying the Bachelor of Performing Arts, majoring in Performance Making at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA). Orla-Jean was selected from 300 individuals to perform her Original Solo Performance at the Perth Concert Hall as part of the 2021 Performing Arts Perspectives, performing her originally written piece entitled 'The White Chrysanthemum'. They were elected President of the Performing Arts Association of Notre Dame Australia (PAANDA) in 2022. Within this season, Orla-Jean was also cast as Martha in Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf in which she received many reviews containing positive notes. Orla-Jean has participated in three Perth Fringe seasons; firstly in 2021 in which she performed in Murder on the Midland Line, secondly in 2022 in which she stage managed Grogwarts. Most recently, she performed as Mac in the 2024 FRINGE WORLD Festival sold out season of Lady Macbeth Played Wing Defence. Broadening her theatre skills in 2023, Orla-Jean stage managed Sisterhood of the Travelling Lighter at The Blue Room Theatre, developing her skills in production/show management, theatre occupational health and safety, and professional theatre protocol.





HELL HOUNDS

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Kate Sisley [performer] [she/her]

Kate Sisley is a music theater performer, singer, actor and singing teacher from Boorloo (Perth). She has a Diploma of Music Theatre from WAAPA and has been singing and performing for over a decade. Kate's most recent show credits include Summer in Lady Macbeth Played Wing Defence (Crash Theatre Company), Julia Sullivan in The Wedding Singer (DAC), Fran in Strictly Ballroom (DAC), a role that won her The Broadway World Award for Best Performer in a Musical, Beth in Little Women The Musical (OM), Frenchy in Grease (DAC), Featured Ensemble in Annie (HAMA) as well as travelling around WA with Perform Education for presenting Way Too Cool! for Book Week 2023 and partaking in The Sounds of Italy Singing Contest in 2023. Kate also teaches the singers of tomorrow and thoroughly enjoys watching the love of music, singing and performance grow with each child she teaches. She is so incredibly excited for more audiences to see this amazing show and to partake in this original, all female presenting, Australian musical.

Georgia McGivern [performer] [she/her]

Georgia is a performing artist, vocal and music theatre teacher based in Boorloo (Perth). She has a Certificate II in Contemporary Music, as well as Certificate II in Music Theatre and a Diploma of Acting from WAAPA. Some of Georgia's notable show credits include Brooke in Lady Macbeth Played Wing Defence (Crash Theatre Company), Natalie in Next to Normal, Penny Pingleton in Hairspray and Nancy in Oliver! both of which she won a Robert Finley Award for Best Supporting Actress and Best Actress in a Musical respectively. Georgia played Cinderella in two sold-out seasons of Disenchanted! at both The Subiaco Arts Centre and Downstairs at The Maj, and made her professional theatre debut in 2021 as the Queen Ancestor in The Addams Family with Zealous Productions, and also appeared as Mermaid/Lost Boy/Pirate in both their 2022 and 2023 Christmas Pantomimes, Peter Pan and Sleeping Beauty. Georgia is a full-time cast member at Improv RPG, performing in their 2022 & 2023 Fringe Season 'State of Play' at the State Theatre. Georgia also works as a vocal teacher at a number of high schools in Perth, teaches Music Theatre classes at The Production Academy, and works as a role play actor/voice actor at Murdoch University (SimLab). Georgia is currently represented by Now Actors Talent Agency.





Gabriella Munro [performer] [she/her]

Gabriella Munro (she/her) is a performance artist based in Boorloo (Perth) and has a diverse range of skills in acting, directing and production. She has completed her Bachelor of Performing Arts in Performance Making at WAAPA, and also holds a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts from Curtin University. Gabriella's passion for theatre began from a young age and has grown and developed throughout her studies. Gabriella's recent credits include producer, writer, and performer in Gatecrasher for Perth Fringe World 2023 with her theatre company siamo collective. Other credits include working as associate director in Orlando at WAAPA with direction from Younghee Park, and the roles of director and dramaturg for Pseudo as part of TILT 2023 at WAAPA. In addition to this, Gabriella has taken on roles of stage manager, sound, set and lighting designer. Her diverse experiences, extensive training, and creativity and passion have equipped her to foster collaborative environments where all artists feel valued and ready to contribute.

Emily Semple [performer] [she/her]

Emily Semple is a talented singer, actor, and screen performer based in Boorloo (Perth). Originally from Geraldton, Emily began her performance journey in local musicals and plays before relocating to Perth in 2014. She holds a Certificate II and Diploma of Musical Theatre from WAAPA and a Bachelor of Theatre Arts from Curtin University. During her studies, Emily showcased her versatility performing in Sweeney Todd with Fresh Bred Productions, Urinetown with Melville Theatre Company, and Blackrock with Curtin University. She performed in The Karaoke Club for Perth Fringe 2021 and in 2022 originated the role of Penelope Johnson in The Summer of Our Lives with Western Sky Projects. Her exceptional performance earned her a nomination for Outstanding Newcomer in a Musical/Opera at the 2022 Performing Arts WA Awards.





Crash Theatre Company (CRASH) is a radical and future bound independent theatre company based in Boorloo (Perth, Western Australia). Led by two young women, Ana & Courtney, CRASH is authentic, messy and raw. The result of over a decade's worth of collaboration and labour of love that began in a university common room, CRASH has been producing original and intentional productions since our inception.

CRASH is resistant to the status quo and committed to telling stories of **resiliency**, **risk** and **resourcefulness**. Our purpose is to reflect the path less travelled and encourage audiences to question the world around them. We aim to be a mouthpiece to expressive and impactful stories that need to be told.

Lady Macbeth Played Wing Defence marks CRASH's ambitious step into uncharted waters. The original musical debuted at Perth's 2024 FRINGE WORLD Festival followed by a sold-out encore at the popular Rechabite Main Hall. The production received resounding acclaim, achieving multiple five star reviews and taking home two of the biggest awards at the Festival's Awards Ceremony. Crash Theatre Co received the Adelaide Tour Ready Award presented by Adelaide Fringe, and was also presented with Artrage's premier accolade, the Martin Sims Award - recognising *Lady Macbeth Played Wing Defence* as the best new Western Australian work that is destined to succeed on the world's stage. Since this launch, the production is set to tour nationally in 2024 - 2025 across Sydney, Melbourne, Perth, Bunbury, and Adelaide.

This production represents a resolute display of fearlessness, led by co-directors Ana Ferreira Manhoso and Courtney McManus, who have ventured into musical theatre for the first time.



We extend our sincere gratitude to our community and audiences, who have contributed to the success of this show.

Ana & Courtney
Company Directors

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