

Fraser Corfield (Australia - Director)

Fraser is a director, dramaturge and the Artistic Director of the national youth theatre company, the Australian Theatre for Young People (ATYP). One of the Australian theatre industry's most experienced Artistic Director / CEO's, Fraser has run companies in South Australia, Queensland and NSW. His work sits at the intersection of professional theatre, social impact, professional development and advocacy.

Fraser is a passionate champion of new Australian stories and has commissioned and staged over fifty original productions across theatre, musical theatre and opera. His work has challenged perceptions of 'youth theatre' in Australia, receiving the nation's highest awards for artistic excellence and securing a place for young artists alongside the nation's flagship professional companies. His productions have been presented in every state and territory in Australia as well as the UK, Italy, Canada, South Africa, the USA and Japan.

Fraser regularly sits on industry panels and advisory groups for all levels of Government, Foundations, advocacy organisations and peak bodies.

Danielle O'Keefe (Australia - Musical Director)

Danielle O'Keefe is an artistic director, performer and vocalist. One of Australia's leading youth arts creators, she is Founder & CEO of The House that Dan Built, a performing arts organisation which supports young women to write and perform music in front of Australian and international audiences.

She is also creator & conductor of the Toy Choir. Bursting with happiness the Toy Choir brings the sweet perfection of young voices with the joyous sounds of sugar pop harmonies & infectious ukulele strumming whose performances include opening 2016 Mardi Gras with Paul Capsis, Sydney Festival & Morning Television segments.

Danielle's creative work has included critically acclaimed collaborations with Australia's leading arts organisations including the Australian Theatre for Young People (ATYP), Belvoir St Theatre, Sydney Chamber Opera (SCO), and St Martins.

An interdisciplinary contemporary artist, Danielle's site-responsive work with young female singers is being recognised and awarded internationally. Her work has been featured in collaborations through Melbourne Festival, Dark Mofo, & Sydney Festival.

Dirk Nelder (Germany - International Producer)

Born in Hamburg, Dirk has worked as a cultural manager for various theaters and cultural organisations.

Since 1999, Dirk has initiated and directed numerous major international theatre projects with the support of various EU funds: European Schoolyard Stories (1999-2000), Kinderspiel – Sydney (2001), Magic Net (2001-2008), Platform Shift (2009-2018), Documents of Poverty and Hope (2014-2016).

Dirk Neldner designed the national Kleist Year (dedicated to the famous German poet Heinrich von Kleist) for the city of Frankfurt (Oder) in 2008-10. From 2010 to 2015 he was Managing Director of the Distel, the political satire theatre on Berlin's Friedrichstrasse.

Current projects are PlayOn! and ConnectUp. ConnectUp establishes an international cultural initiative for the target group 12+ in order to counteract the process of increasing social and cultural division across Europe.

Odette Bereska (Germany - Dramaturg)

Odette completed theatre studies at Humboldt University, Berlin (GDR). Six years developing scripts for movies and moderating a programme for children and youth in TV. 1991 – 2005 chief literary manager of the biggest theatre for a young audience in Germany (carrousel Theater an der Parkaue in Berlin). As part of the Artistic Leadership renewing the theatre after the German reunification. Starting to work also as a playwright (mainly adaptation of novels for different age groups) and as a director (often in combination of professional puppetry and acting). Freelance working since 2005, mainly as a director in Germany and Norway.

From 1999 on one of the three initiators of EU-funded theatre projects like "European Schoolyard stories", "Magic Net", „PLATFORM 11+", "Boomerang" and PLATFORM shift+ and "PlayOn".

Guiditta Mingucci (Italy - Actor)

Born in Rimini, Guiditta graduated with honours in Classical Literature at the University of Bologna. Her theatrical training began in the Compagnia degli Scalpellini theatre laboratories then with other maestri, such as Antonio Latella, Letizia Quintavalla and Konrad Zschiedrich.

Guiditta has worked professionally since 1997, and in 2000 she joined Elsinor Teatro, as both an actress and a playwright. In 2010 she started directing plays for young audiences. Since 2012 she's Artistic Director of the Teatro Testori, in Forlì, and artistic co-director of Elsinor, together with Gianluca Balestra, Stefano Braschi and Rossella

Lepore. From 2014 to Jan 2017 she was a member of the national board of ASSITEJ Italia. In September 2016 she was appointed artistic co-director (with Renata Coluccini) of Segnali, one of the most important festivals of theatre for young audience in Italy organized in partnership by Elsinor and Teatro del Buratto.

Rafael Rey Domech (Spain - Actor & Puppeteer)

RAFAEL REY DOMECH (Teo, 1997) is a director, actor, and also playwright of the company NAUTA that he founded in 2020 with Mathias Rodriguez, formed with members from Galicia and France, and mixing physical theater with masks, live music and puppets.

From a young age he discovers the world of puppetry and theater thanks to his parents company Titeres Cachirulo. He trained at the Pábulo School of Performing Arts in Santiago de Compostela and in 2015 he decided to move to Madrid where he trained at the Jorge Eines Interpretation School and graduated from the International Mime School and Gestual Theater Nouveau Colombier. His encounter with the pedagogy of Jacques Lecoq at the hands of Arturo Bernal encouraged him to further his training in Brussels. Graduated from the École Internationale de théâtre LASSAAD (2017-2019) he specializes in theatre and movement under the direction of Lassaâd Saïdi and Norman Taylor. He is part of the organization of the Galicreques International Puppet Festival (Galicia) where his interest is to deepen and investigate the world of puppetry, generating activities and meeting spaces for this art.

Ena Jagec (Croatia - Actor)

Ena Jagec was born in Čakovec. She graduated from the Čakovec School of Buildings and Crafts, orientation media technician. She completed her undergraduate studies in Acting and Media at the Academy of Applied Arts at the University of Rijeka.

In 2012, she started acting in theater at the Drama studio Dada, in the same year she joined the Strahoninec Primary School Film Group. In 2016 in The “Festival of Festivals” in Trebinje she won award for the protagonist of the evening and the best lead female role in the play “ZOO!” at the festival. She attended physical theater, improvisation, speech, mask, puppetry and dance workshops in Sarajevo, Belgrade, Varaždin and Čakovec. She has been involved in photography, video, film and animation for 10 years.

In 2021, she goes to the artistic residence “Our House Has No Door” on Cres, where she sets up an audiovisual installation and performance “Pretapanja” with Klara Modrić and audio installation “Micelia” in collaboration with Peter Purg. Her documentary film “Eva, 16” was invited to Liburnia Film Festival in 2020. In 2022, she worked at the

Istrian National Theater on the play “Istra ti mila materina” directed by Rok Olaf Pečečnik, and in 2023 she is working on the play “Novi Sotona” produced by Eurokaz and directed by Branko Brezovac. She specialises in physical theater and dance, stage movement, performance, experimental film and animation.

Raul Atalia (Portugal - Actor)

Born in Tomar (Portugal) in 1952, Raul has attended different workshops in Lisbon, Paris and Brussels, in areas such as movement, music, masks, circus, juggle and clowning.

He has worked in Teatro O Bando since 1975, becoming a member of this cultural co-operative one year later. From 1975 onwards, he has worked as an actor, teacher and director. He is responsible for the management and international affairs at O Bando. He performed in most of the plays of this company, and also worked as stage director.

Iris Simpson (Australia- Producer)

Iris is an emerging producer, arts administrator, and theatremaker. Iris has significant experience in development, having worked with Bell Shakespeare across philanthropy and corporate partnerships from 2023-2025. She served as a Programming Assistant for Midsumma, Melbourne’s premier queer arts festival, where she honed her skills in artist liaising, community engagement, and programming and curation. Iris was the Artistic Director of Muse Festival, a student-led initiative at VCA that reconnected the artistic community in the wake of Covid.

As an artist, Iris has created and performed in both theatre and film works in Melbourne and Sydney, showcasing her versatility and commitment to storytelling. Iris was an original member of The House Ensemble and has contributed as a deviser and performer for Tender Young Creatures, Salt, and Echo.

She is passionate about creating spaces and opportunities for young artists, and is invested in professional development and knowledge-sharing to further her skills and contributions to the sector.