

ENSEMBLE BIOS

KITTU HOYNE

Kittu Hoyne is a singer and performer based in Sydney, trained in classical voice, with a background in contemporary and classical dance and the Suzuki actor training. Kittu has had a variety of professional performing roles ranging from classical opera to contemporary chamber ensembles.

She performed with Opera Australia as the second spirit of the spirit trio in **Opera Australia's** The Magic Flute originally directed by Julie Taymor with a full season at the Sydney Opera House. She also performed in **Pinchgut Opera's**, The Chimney Sweep at Angel Place Recital Hall. In 2018, she was invited to perform in **Sydney Chamber Opera's** world premiere opera, Howling Girls with a season at Carriageworks, directed by Adena Jacobs and composed by Damien Ricketson.

As a member of the all female ensemble The House that Dan Built, directed by Danielle O'Keefe, Kittu with ensemble members devised and performed the show **Tender Young Creatures** with seasons at Carriage works and Bondi Pavilion as well as the opening of the 2018 Blake Prize. Kittu is one of the selected performers who will be singing and performing in the video artwork representing Australia at the 2019 **Venice Biennale**, directed by Angelica Mesiti.

She was a former member of Sydney Children's Choir with performances with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra and Jessica Mauboy. She is currently a member of the new group Toy Choir committed to original works and songwriting and performances in festival settings. The choir has performed with Paul Capsis at the opening of the 2016 Sydney Mardi Gras with the performance broadcast on SBS television and a tribute performances to David Bowie at the 2017, Sydney Festival.

JAYDEN SELVAKUMARASWAMY

Jayden is a student studying a bachelor of music and musical theatre at The **Australian Institute of Music**. She has grown within the performing arts industry since the age of three, when she started classical ballet training. She has been vocally trained for ten years, leading church youth choirs, and in 2014 started a children's choir to promote children's involvement with storytelling through music in everyday life.

I first worked alongside Danielle in the production of The Little Mermaid at ATYP for midnight theatre in 2014, and Tender Young Creatures for Danielle's company, The House That Dan Built in 2016. I am delighted to be collaborating with this creative team on various projects this year. Through my involvement in the Toy Choir, I have learnt the power and simplicity of song writing, and the difference it makes to approach and share what we love to do. This year I look forward to growing with the choir in our development of original repertoire and spreading joy. The AKIN workshops grant me opportunities to travel across Australia, not only share my passion and knowledge for songwriting with students of diverse backgrounds but to learn the stories and voices of the children we encounter. I am very excited to start the development of The Long Table documentaries, which takes us on a journey into the lives of young women, interviewing them, their mothers and grandmothers. The House That Dan Built activates a platform for girls to connect and learn from each other in the creation of their own works.

KIRI JENSSEN

15yo Kiri Jensen is already a seasoned performer making her professional stage debut at 9 years of age at the Sydney Opera House as the youngest member of the Children's Chorus in Opera Australia's *La Bohème*. She has since appeared in 5 further opera seasons with Opera Australia including twice as the First Spirit in Julie Taymor's acclaimed Metropolitan Opera production of *The Magic Flute*. She has also performed with Sydney Independent Opera and most recently with Sydney Chamber Opera in *The Howling Girls*.

As a classically trained singer, pianist, actor and dancer, Kiri has been performing and competing at eisteddfodau around Sydney since she was 5 years old. So far, she has won more than 150 prizes, including the Speech & Drama Rotary Scholarship at Ryde Eisteddfod in 2016 and 2018. She has performed with the Australian Theatre for Young People (ATYP) in their production of *The Trolleys* (2015) and *Fight With All Your Might The Zombies Of Tonight* (2016). She has also performed several times as a guest performer for Sydney Eisteddfod.

As a member of Ryde Youth Theatre since 2013, she has performed in numerous drama productions. She has also performed in *Tender Young Creatures* and *Seven Ravens* with the all-female ensemble from *The House that Dan Built*. Currently she is a member of the Toy Choir and is involved in devising the next production *Salt* as well as being chosen to perform in the video artwork directed by Angelica Mesiti which will represent Australia in the Venice Biennale in 2019.

In December, Kiri will be performing as Lady Macbeth and Ariel in Sport for Jove's Second Age Project *The Spill* during the company's Summer Season at Bella Vista Farm.

GRACE CAMPBELL

Grace Campbell has been involved in many programs and productions in addition to *Salt*. In 2016, Grace was part of the development and production of *Tender Young Creatures*, which required her to contribute to the development and creation of the show. She has since performed this show in its following two seasons. Grace was recently part of *The Howling Girls* in 2018 with the Sydney Chamber Opera, a piece "dissecting the medium and metaphor of the voice". Grace was also recently involved in the 2019 Australian Entry to the Venice Biennale, *Assembly*, from artist Angelica Mesiti. Grace has been attending acting classes at Australian Theatre for Young People (ATYP) since 2013 and was cast in their Foundation Commission performance of *The Trolleys* in 2015. In 2016, Grace was an Atypical advisor for ATYP, a position that allowed her to build an understanding of Youth Voice in Theatre. Grace also trained in Suzuki Method of Actor Training with Shy Magsalin on 2017. Through *The House*, Grace has been involved with the *Toy Choir* since 2016, which has allowed her to cultivate her singing and songwriting skills. This has allowed her to be part of many projects with *The House*, including the *Aurobindo Project* in 2017 as well as *AKIN* (since 2016), which involves travelling to regional NSW and, through workshops, encouraging arts participation with teenage girls.

EMILY PINCOCK

Emily Pincock is a member of the training artist ensemble at The House the Dan Built. She has performed in their devised work *Tender Young Creatures* which has had three seasons, including a two week season at the Bondi Pavillion. Emily performed as part of the teenage girl chorus for the sold out and critically acclaimed new opera *The Howling Girls* with Sydney Chamber Opera, directed by Adena Jacobs at Carriageworks. Emily is also a singer songwriter and regularly performs with The Toy Choir. She teaches other young girls songwriting skills as part of the Akin workshop season in rural NSW. Emily and the House ensemble collaborated with Angelica Mesiti on her 2019 Venice Biennale project and she is currently rehearsing *SALT*, that will premier at Bondi Pavillion in April 2019. She studies acting at NIDA Open and Dance with Sydney Dance Company. Emily recently had her acting debut in the play *Good, Die Young* for the Sydney Fringe.

IRIS SIMPSON

Iris Simpson is a writer and performer based in Sydney, Australia. She is interested in the intersections between language, feminine experience, and the power of music as a form of storytelling.

As a member of The House that Dan Built ensemble, Iris devised and performed in all three developments of *Tender Young Creatures*, and performed at the opening of the 2018 Blake prize. She was selected to perform in Angelica Mesiti's video work, *ASSEMBLY*, for the 2019 Venice Biennale d'Arte.

Iris has been performing in plays since she was 12, and has appeared in multiple ATYP plays. She played Jerry in the first ever *Intersection* in 2017, directed by Katrina Douglas of PACT Centre for Emerging Artists. Iris has filmed two short films in 2018, in collaboration with students from AFTRS.

She has written extensively for House that Dan Built shows, with a writing background in poetry. She has undertaken Suzuki training with Shy Magsalin of Ninefold Ensemble, and extensive physical and vocal training with Danielle O'Keefe and the House ensemble.

RUBY McVICAR

Ruby McVicar is a Sydney born artist, who works as a creative director and artist utilising a multitude of mediums to create dreamlike, obscure portrait/character-based artworks, with a mixture of stylistic inspiration from surrealist, realistic and contemporary art. She has worked on many projects that range from murals, costume design for modern productions, commissioned paintings, character design, and illustrations & themed art pieces for Good Material Mag, and Lithium Magazine.