

Queensland Theatre Company and Sydney Theatre Company present the  
Australian premiere of

# *The Effect*

Anna McGahan – Angie Milliken – Eugene Gilfedder – Mark Leonard Winter

***It's a clinical romance on stage ... and love is not the only drug!***

Queensland Theatre Company and Sydney Theatre Company, in a powerful co-production, present the Australian premiere of *The Effect*, by acclaimed British playwright Lucy Prebble – opening in the Bille Brown Studio from 7 June in Brisbane before moving south for the Sydney season.

Winner of the 2012 UK Critics' Circle Theatre Award for Best New Play, stars a marquee cast - star of Australian stage and screen, **Anna McGahan** recently seen in *House Husbands* and *Underbelly: Razor*, and onstage in *Managing Carmen*, alongside AFI Award-winning actress **Angie Milliken**, a well-known face of Australian film and television (*My Brother Jack*, *The Shark Net*, *MDA*), **Eugene Gilfedder**, straight from the *Macbeth* set, and acclaimed Sydney-based actor, **Mark Leonard Winter**.

*The Effect* follows two clinical trial volunteers, as their subtle attraction becomes fully-fledged flirtation when sealed off from the outside world; examining the world of drug-testing clinics and neuroscience, and, perhaps, true love.

Lucy Prebble is the author of West End and Broadway hit *ENRON* and TV's *Secret Diary of a Call Girl* and in *The Effect* she pierces the unknown mysteries of the brain, and plumbs the depths of sanity, neurology, destiny and loyalty.

In this Australian premiere, under the directorship of **Sarah Goodes**, audiences will follow psychology student Connie (McGahan) as she trials a new, super anti-depressant and meets charming, cocky, cheeky fellow volunteer Tristan (Winter). Soon, the naturally occurring chemicals running rampant through their youthful bodies ignite clandestine canoodling. This threatens to throw the drug trial off track – much to the annoyance of the supervising clinicians, who have secrets of their own to keep. When Connie and Tristan begin to fall in love, that's where the questions start; is their newfound passion instinctive or a side-effect of the drugs?

*The Effect* follows Lucy Prebble's spectacular Broadway hit *Enron* – it is an intelligent and absorbing play examining love, depression and the limitations of neuroscience. The set and costumes are the work of well-known designer, **Renee Mulder**, with sound design by the respected **Guy Webster**, who has crafted the soundtracks to many major productions. Following the Brisbane season, where many of the performances are already selling out, *The Effect* will open in Sydney at The Wharf Theatre.

**Queensland Theatre Company and Sydney Theatre Company present *The Effect* by Lucy Prebble**

**7 June to 5 July** at Bille Brown Studio QTC

**Writer:** Lucy Prebble  
**Director:** Sarah Goodes  
**Set & Costume Designer:** Renée Mulder  
**Sound Designer/Composer:** Guy Webster  
**Cast Includes:** Eugene Gilfedder, Anna McGahan, Angie Milliken,  
Mark Leonard Winter

Warning: Contains strong coarse language, nudity and sexual references.

Tickets: [queenslandtheatre.com.au](http://queenslandtheatre.com.au) or by calling 136 246.

**QTC SEASON 2014:**

**7 May – 17 May | A TRIBUTE OF SORTS**

Bille Brown Studio QTC

**20 May – 31 May | THE MAGIC HOUR**

Bille Brown Studio QTC

**7 June – 5 July | THE EFFECT, Australian Premiere**

Bille Brown Studio QTC

**19 July – 16 August | GLORIA, World Premiere**

Bille Brown Studio QTC

**24 September – 12 October | BLACK DIGGERS**

Playhouse QPAC

**17 November – 7 December | GASPI! By Ben Elton, Australian Premiere**

Playhouse QPAC