

DOOR 3

PRESENTED BY BODYSNATCHERS



SUPERHEROES

BY **MARK ROGERS**
DIRECTED BY **SANJA SIMIĆ**

PRESENTED BY BODYSNATCHERS

7 - 22 NOV 2025
DIANE CILENTO STUDIO

SUPERHEROES

WRITTEN BY MARK ROGERS

Duration

Approx 70 minutes, no interval.

Creatives, Production and Stage Management



**Director and
Costume Designer**
Sanja Simić



Creative Producer
Danielle Carney



Set Designer
Peter Keavy



Lighting Designer
Sidney Younger



**Sound Designer
and Composer**
Wil Hughes



**Production
Manager**
Kat Harch



**Fight and Intimacy
Director**
NJ Price



**Cultural Safety
Consultant**
Katrina Irawati
Graham



**Wellness and
Wellbeing
Consultant**
Emily Burton



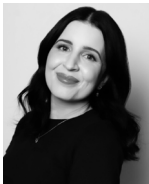
Dialect Coach
Gabrielle Rogers



Stage Manager
Jacinta Way



**Assistant Stage
Manager and Vision
Realiser**
Kelsey Booth



**Marketing
Assistant**
Cola Hardman

Cultural and Language Consultant
Jelena Sajinović-Novaković

Cast



**Jana
Milena**
Barraclough Nestic



Emily
Rachel Nutchey



Simon/Dino
Ethan Lwin

Warnings

This production contains blackouts, flickering lights, haze, loud noises, and the use of vapes and herbal cigarettes. It also contains coarse language, sexual references, discussions around war and mental illness, and theatrical depictions of racial and physical violence. Recommended for ages 15+.

We understand the themes may be triggering for some people. If you have any concerns about the content of the play, we encourage you to contact the Queensland Theatre Company Box Office.

If you or someone you know needs information or support, these organisations are there to help:

BEYOND BLUE 1300 22 4636

HEADSPACE (03) 9027 0100

LIFELINE 13 11 14

A Note from the Director

There's a bit of graffiti somewhere in Mostar that reads "we're all living under the same sky" under a painted blue rectangle littered with white stars. I suspect it's somewhere near the former bank, seized as a sniper's vantage point during the Bosnian War, which has since been reclaimed by the city's graffiti artists. I stumbled upon this image during my research for this production and immediately sent the photo to Mark. He simply replied, "that's our play".

This is *Superheroes*.

A work that parallels two very different lives, on opposite sides of the world, to ask some big questions about our shared humanity, our capacity for change, and the responsibility we have to ourselves, each other, and our communities in the face of suffering.

Mark wrote this play in 2018, while expecting his first child and thinking about the responsibility of becoming a father. The complex questions housed in this sharp, uncompromising piece of work are just as resonant now as they were in the wake of Slobodan Praljak's suicide at The Hague in 2017 – when every country, every citizen grapples with the responsibility of witnessing the genocide currently taking place in Palestine, or the responsibility of acknowledging and making reparations to the first peoples of the land on which this production was created, or the responsibility of countering gendered violence in young people.

Superheroes hasn't left my consciousness since it was written in 2018 – a play that wouldn't exist without Mark and my longstanding creative partnership. As the daughter of survivors, refugees who left the former Yugoslavia as a result of the conflict that haunts this play, I am deeply honoured to tell this story. This play

is neither a polemic nor an allegory. It invites audiences to consider their own humanity through the small choices and small changes of two women shaped by very different histories.

I hope that this production echoes the sentiment of the aforementioned graffiti, with all of its brutality, vulnerability, and hope.

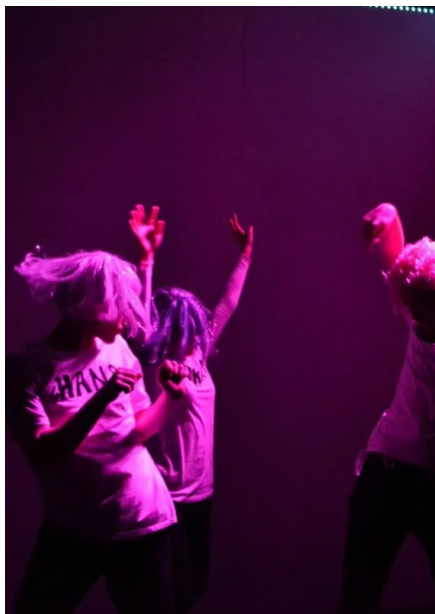
I could not have made this work without the support of an incredible team of people. Thank you to our gang of tireless creatives, without whom this show would not exist. Rach, Ethan, and Milena – thank you for your courage, curiosity, and commitment to this project. Kerrin and Leon, thank you for your unwavering faith and generous support of this work – it means the world. Arts Queensland, BEMAC, and the rest of our wonderful supporters – thank you for backing us.

Thank you, Mark, for writing a play for me to direct.

And to Queensland Theatre Company for programming *Superheroes* as part of DOOR 3. Opportunities like this are vital for our independent ecology and we are grateful to premiere the Queensland production of this play at the Diane Cilento Studio.

Hvala što ste došli. Vidimo se uskoro. (Thank you for coming. I'll see you soon.)

Sanja Simić
Director



About BODYSNATCHERS

Bodysnatchers is a theatre company working between Sydney/Gadigal and Brisbane/Magandjin, founded in 2010 by Sanja Simić and Mark Rogers. Nationally, the company's work has been presented at La Boite Theatre, Brisbane Festival, Old Fitz Theatre, Old 505 Theatre, La Mama Theatre, PACT, and Sydney and Adelaide Fringe Festivals. Productions include *Naked and Screaming*, *Plastic*, *Blood Pressure*, and *Soothsayers*, as well as multiple seasons of Kirby Medway's *Encounter* and Aileen Huynh's *Gobbledygook*. Bodysnatchers works with new writing to expand the possibilities of text-based theatre in Australia, making work that is contemporary, political, and human.

Thank you

A heartfelt thank you to the many generous supporters of this production. To our partner Queensland Theatre Company, specifically Nathan Mills, Bridget O'Brien, Nathaniel Knight, James Carroll, Ari Palani, and Dan Maddison for being on the ground with us and the leadership team who make this program possible, Daniel Evans, Criena Gehrke and Min Collie-Holmes. To our sponsors and donors, Kerrin Benson and Leon Miller, Wes Bluff (Krankd Productions), Lyn Ellison, Amrit Gill, Mark Radvan, Karilyn Brown, Katherine Hoepper, Darren Mew, and Jacqui Somerville. To BEMAC and their dedicated team, Hannah Attwood, Eyal Chipkiewicz, and Sebastian Moody. To Aleea Monsour, Meg Ham, Teresa Tan, Maddison Beazley, Morgan Roberts, and Nevin Howell for your support. And to those who donated valuable time, things, skills, and histories - Mirjana and Nikola Simić, Kate Woodcroft, Solomon Thomas, Anastasia Lihou, Ola Roman and Katy Desmond (and their charismatic chickens).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Queensland Theatre Company acknowledges the Jagera and Turrbal people who are the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work, and their unique relationship with the lands, seas and waterways. We pay our respects to their Elders both past and present, and to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

BODYSNATCHERS

DOOR 3 IS A PROUD INITIATIVE OF

QUEENSLAND THEATRE CO.

Superheroes is presented in partnership with BEMAC and made possible through the generous support of the KBAM Foundation. This project is supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland.

SUPPORTED BY



DOOR 3 is proudly supported by the Australian Government through Creative Australia, its arts funding and advisory body, and the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland.