

2021 SYD
FEST



THE RISE AND FALL OF SAINT GEORGE

PAUL MAC & LACHLAN PHILPOTT
PERFORMING LINES

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THE HEADLAND AT BARANGAROO RESERVE
15 JANUARY

Creators Paul Mac & Lachlan Philpott

Director Kate Champion

Music Paul Mac

Lyrics Lachlan Philpott

Lighting Design Verity Hampson

AV Designer Tony Melov

Sound Design Andy Lysle (dplr)

Choir Preparation Huw Belling and Emily Irvine

Choir Conductor Emily Irvine

Production Manager Liz Young

Stage Manager Emily Oades

Performed by

Andrew Bukenya

Jacqui Dark

HANDSOME

Joyride

Brendan Maclean

Ngaiire

Marcus Whale

With Inner West Voices, and choristers from Sydney Philharmonia Choirs and Sydney Conservatorium of Music

Huw Belling, Diana Burke, Sara Camara, Jennifer Christie, Ben Conolly, Olivia Crowl, Katie Crowl, Rigela Delorino, Rebecca Hanson, Ben Hayes, Ben Kelly, Jawoon Kim, Bruce Laidlaw, Tim Leslie, Kartini Ludwig, Owen Milward, David Morris, Lachlan Philpott, Linda Przhedetsky, Lucie Reeves-Smith, Phoebe Riorden, Drew Rooke, Emma Rosewarne, Russel Torrance, David Vallance, Miranda van der Pol, Centine Wilbello, Emma Wortley (Inner West Voices), Stephen Hankey, Simon Harris, Boghos Keleshian, Naomi Leviton, Alex McEwan, Jesse van Proctor (Sydney Philharmonia Choirs), Gabrielle Ahn, Estelle Andrew, Tiffany Lam, Olivia McNamara, Polina Polyakova, Imogen Temple (Sydney Conservatorium of Music) and James Malone.

Produced by Performing Lines

Performing Lines produces provocative contemporary performance by Australia's most audacious independent artists. We curate a portfolio of work that is propelled by pressing questions and new ways of seeing the world. We champion the unconventional, the marginal, the rebellious and the new.

Executive Producer Marion Potts

General Manager Megan Roberts

Producer Thom Smyth

Marketing Manager Michael Kennedy

Production Manager Mark Haslam

Administration and Operations Coordinator Melissa Monasterio

Chair Robi Stanton

ABOUT THE SHOW

You gotta have faith . . .

Following the death of queer icon George Michael, Paul Mac and Jonny Seymour commissioned a mural by artist Scott Marsh on the exterior of their home. Draped in a rainbow stole with a spliff in hand and a sacrosanct bottle of poppers in the other, Saint George's eyes watched over the suburb and he winked at commuters through the windows of passing trains. He became a landmark, a local shrine, and was adored by all.

But the vivid life of Newtown's patron saint of queer communion was cut short. Hours after the nation said 'YES' to the postal plebiscite on Marriage Equality, the mural was destroyed by a group of young men who claimed it violated their Christian faith.

Leading queer artists, pop icon Paul Mac and playwright Lachlan Philpott, have collaborated to create an immersive and highly personal music experience that is a unique reminder of a tough chapter of our history that shouldn't be forgotten. Directed by Kate Champion, Mac communes on stage with this city's finest singers. With the backing of a giant choir, this is a work of resilience and hope.

A love letter to Sydney's fluid queer audacity, *The Rise and Fall of Saint George* connects us to a shared need to be a part of a community, explores finding solidarity in bleak times. It is an urgent call to arms to not let hard-won rights and freedoms be taken for granted.

THANK YOU

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And endless gratitude to all of the neighbours, LGBTIQ community and allies who tried their best to save the mural from attack.

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Barangaroo



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