

 **UMMTA PRESENTS**

ELTON JOHN & TIM RICE'S



AIDA

THE TIMELESS LOVE STORY

UMMTA's
Production of Elton John and Tim Rice's

AIDA

Book by
LINDA WOOLVERTON
and
**ROBERT FALLS &
DAVID HENRY HWANG**

Music by
ELTON JOHN

Lyrics by
TIM RICE

Originally Directed by
ROBERT FALLS

Originally Produced by
**DISNEY THEATRICAL
PRODUCTIONS**

Assisted by
**Union House Theatre,
The University of Melbourne Theatre Board
& MU Student Union Ltd**

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SYNOPSIS

Elton John and Tim Rice's *Aida* is a contemporary musical take on a grand classic tale of the timeless bond between an enslaved Nubian princess and an Egyptian soldier. As forbidden love blossoms between them, the young lovers are forced to face death or part forever. Together, they set a shining example of true devotion that ultimately transcends the vast cultural differences between their warring nations, heralding a time of unprecedented peace and prosperity.

With a pop-rock score that features stirring ballads and rousing choral numbers, Elton John and Tim Rice's *Aida* is larger-than-life in its themes and conflict, displayed through exuberant dancing, staging and singing.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Why do we always return to tragedies? You would think that as many times as we've heard the story of Romeo and Juliet, we'd tire of it. However, as each new rendition pours in, it is apparent that we don't. *Aida* is another such tragedy, perhaps not as famous as Romeo and Juliet, but familiar enough to question the relevance of yet another retelling.

There is a speech made by the chorus in Jean Anouilh's *Antigone* that addresses this question. The chorus meditates on the nature of tragedy and says, "[Tragedy] has nothing to do with melodrama—with wicked villains, persecuted maidens, avengers, sudden revelations and eleven-hour repentances...In a tragedy, nothing is in doubt and everyone's destiny is known... There isn't any hope...and all you can do about it is shout...you can get all those things said that you never dared say—or never even knew till then,". In *Aida*, we get to see characters "shout" their own personal truths as they face their

tragic destinies. This seems to be what keeps us coming back to certain legendary tragedies again and again. There is a sense of freedom and catharsis in watching people who have nothing to lose lay it all on the line.

Depending on your spiritual beliefs, life itself can also be one enormous tragedy, with each of us hurtling toward inevitable death. I believe art (including musical theatre!) gives us opportunity to "shout" before our own tragic lives come to an end. Through art, we are able to shout about everything from haters, fakers, and heart breakers, to the fragility of humanity and apparently chaotic nature of the universe. I would like to thank UMMTA and the cast, crew and production team of *Aida* for shouting with me. We hope you feel moved to do the same.

— Grace Agnew



CHENEZ DYER BRAY – PRODUCER –

Chenez moved to Melbourne just shy of 3 years ago after a gap year in the UK. Before that, she lived in Singapore and Malaysia. She's currently in her 3rd year at the University of Melbourne studying a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Sociology and minoring in Law & Justice.

She has worked as a Stage Manager for UMMTA's How to Succeed in Business, Kin Collaborative Inc's Gaga & Assange (MudFest season), OCPAC's Seussical at the Athenaeum (as part of the Melbourne International Comedy Festival), and is currently Stage Manager for OCPAC's The Addams Family. She has also directed FLW Theatre's Blasted and Front of House managed UMMTA's RENT and Our House. She is also Company Manager for FLW Theatre and Events Officer for UMMTA.

Chenez has loved working on this show because not only does she have the most hard working and dedicated production team and cast, they have also all been fun and excellent to work with. She hopes you enjoy the show as much as she has loved working on it.



FINLEY ROBERTS – PRODUCTION MANAGER –

Fin is studying a Master of Science (majoring in Botany), researching the conservation of species in Kakadu National Park.

This is his first show production managing and second show with UMMTA, the first being RENT where he was Assistant Stage Manager.

He has also been involved with shows by Queen's College and ICAC in publicity and stage management roles. He has enjoyed working with such a talented cast and production team.



GRACE AGNEW
– DIRECTOR –

Grace was born in Ballarat, but grew up in Moorestown, NJ, USA, and is a dual citizen (cheers, Mum and Dad). As a performer, she has trained in Philadelphia and New York in programs at New York University, MacGuffin Theatre & Film Co., the Prince Music Theatre, and the Walnut Street Theatre. US Performances include Ain't Misbehavin' (Opening Act Soloist, Prince Music Theatre, Phila., PA), La Boheme, Puccini's Edgar (Academy of Vocal Arts, Phila., PA), and Into the Woods (Little Red; MoorArts, Moorestown, NJ, USA). In Australia, she has performed in both 2013 and 2014 seasons of Hair (Tribe/Mom; 2013 Jeanie u/s) with StageArt. Upcoming performances include A Super Brady Cabaret with StageArt, and a performance at Hugh Jackman's Red Ball with the 2014 cast of Hair. Last year, she studied music theatre at Centrestage Performing Arts School's Showfit course. She is currently a first year acting student at the National Theatre Drama School. Aida is her second time directing, having previously created a company and produced/directed the musical bare at the Eagle Theatre in Hammonton, NJ, USA in 2010.



ANTHONY CARDAMONE
– MUSICAL DIRECTOR –

Anthony is a recent graduate from the University of Melbourne Conservatorium of Music with a Bachelor of Music (French Horn). He regularly plays in orchestras around Melbourne for musical theatre shows. He has been a member of the Australia Music Theatre Orchestra (AMTO) since their first China tour in 2013 and will be travelling again late 2014.

Anthony has been an active member of UMMTA since his first Musical Directing job for Curtains in 2011, where he received a Music Theatre Guild of Victoria Award nomination. A committee member, then Company Manager for UMMTA, Producer, Production Manager and performer for Splendour 2 and 3 and also Sondheim's Assassins as Giuseppe Zangara.

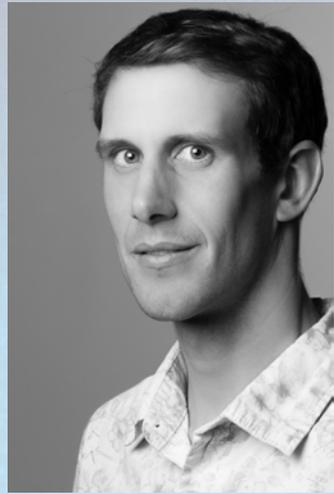
Anthony would like to give a special thank you to the musicians for their time and effort for helping him and the rest of the cast and crew make Aida as great as it could be.



EMMALEE MEISELS – CHOREOGRAPHER –

Emmalee graduated from Sandringham College with a Certificate II in Dance Performance & Production (Ausdance), later obtained her Certificate IV in Dance Teaching & Management from the Australian Dance Institute, before completing a year of full-time Musical Theatre (Dance) training at IPAS.

As a performer, Emmalee has toured with the original musical Spirit to the UK & USA and has performed in such events as: AFL Grand Final (MCG), Melbourne-Moomba Waterfest-Parade, The-Australian-Grand-Prix, Candyman – The Musical (Melbourne Arts Centre), The Melbourne International Comedy Festival, Monsterball (Lady Gaga Tribute), The Cranbourne National Rodeo, Melbourne Town Hall, The Malthouse Theatre, Zinc (Federation Square) and Studio 3/The Palms (Crown Casino)... to name a few, and is a coveted dance teacher in Victoria after working as a dance specialist in Maine, USA.



KINLOCH ANSTISS – ASSISTANT DIRECTOR –

Kinloch studied musical theatre at NASDA (Christchurch, New Zealand), graduating in 2005 with a Bachelor of Performing Arts. He has since performed in a range of roles in various cities and countries. Favourites include Peter in Company (2nd Company, London); Jack Worthing in The Importance of Being Earnest (Magic Hat Productions, London); Bitzer Maloney in Hairy Maclary (Tim Bray Productions, Auckland); and Nick in Speaking in Tongues (Cairns Little Theatre, Cairns).

Kinloch has also directed several 10 minute plays for Short + Sweet Auckland, including the original musical What Love Can Be. Kinloch moved to Melbourne in July this year, and wishes to thank UMMTA for the warm welcome.



LIZZIE ENG
– ASSISTANT MUSICAL
DIRECTOR –

Born in Singapore, Lizzie is a graduate of the University of Melbourne, with both a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) and a Graduate Diploma in Music.

She has regularly been involved in musicals around Melbourne, including *1938: An Opera* (Keyboard, UHT), *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* (Keyboard, UMMTA), *Third Person* (Repetiteur, UHT), *Starlight* (Musical Director/Composer, tROC), and *Our House* (Assistant Musical Director, UMMTA).

Lizzie feels privileged to have worked with such a dedicated cast, crew and band, bringing the story of *Aida* to life.



JOSEPH MILLER
– ASSISTANT
CHOREOGRAPHER –

Joseph is a graduate of the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School, where he studied full time dance whilst completing his VCE, receiving the 2013 Lenton Parr Award for Academic Excellence. At VCASS he was privileged to be able to part take in numerous choreographic seasons, igniting a passion for choreography.

As of this year Joseph is studying at the Australian Ballet School and hopes to pursue a career in classical ballet, before branching out into other mediums of the industry.

Joseph was honoured to have been a part of *Aida* and has thoroughly enjoyed watching the production come to life, and learning from the talents of the cast.



JACKSON HARNWELL STAGE MANAGER

Aida is Jackson's UMMTA debut and his first time in the role of Stage Manager (wish him luck!). Hailing from Wangaratta, Jackson spent a large proportion of

his childhood and teenage years in the theatre with Wangaratta Players Inc. and the Wangaratta High School. In 2010 Jackson moved to Melbourne to pursue a Bachelor of Music (Classical Voice) at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, the University of Melbourne. Jackson performed in CLOC Musical Theatre's *The Phantom of the Opera* in 2013 and was the Musical Director for OXAGEN Productions' Fifth Year Anniversary Gala O2 earlier this year. In addition to his work in the amateur scene, Jackson works professionally as a singer and is the Associate Conductor for Opera Scholars Australia, working with leading Australian artists including Teddy Tahu Rhodes, Yvonne Kenny AM, David Hobson, Marina Prior, Guy Noble, and Anthony Warlow, not to mention the stars of tonight's show!



NHAN VIET BUI ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER

Nhan is currently studying a Bachelor of Arts at the University of Melbourne. His previous roles include Pro-

duction Assistant for *Miss Saigon* and various other stints from stage management to lighting and sound at Melbourne High, and four years as an assistant stage manager at the Victorian State Schools Spectacular. He has immensely enjoyed his experience at UMMTA working with such a talented group of people.



TOM FELLOWES SET DESIGN

Tom is currently studying a Bachelor of Science at the University of Melbourne. Although he is from Christchurch, Tom is no stranger to musical theatre, immers-

ing himself in numerous projects, including Set Design for *As You Like It* (MUSC) and *RENT* (UMMTA), Set Construction for *Our House* and *How to Succeed in Business* (UMMTA), and Stage Crew for *Blood Brothers*, *Shirley Bassey* (Manila Street Productions), *Busybody* (Peridot), *Spamalot* (OXAGEN). Tom is excited to have the chance to use the Union Theatre to its full potential, and can't wait to show you what he has created!



BLAKE CONDON LIGHTING DESIGN

A graduate of Knox Grammar School in Sydney and previous student of the VCA, majoring in lighting design, Blake has invested many hours into the crafts

of dance lighting, TV and film lighting and musical theatre itself, performing in a multitude of productions, both on the stage and being a creative behind the scenes. *Aida* is in a way a perfect challenge for Blake, as its intense instrumental moments require the facets of traditional dance lighting, its dramatic changes between time and place beg the use of intricate Cyclorama effects and when mixed with such an incredible set design, the lighting aspects fall into their place. *Aida* has combined all the hardest parts of lighting design and challenged the design in ways he never thought possible. Blake hopes you enjoy the production.



DAVID KELLY SOUND DESIGN

David discovered UMMTA early on as a student at Melbourne University and worked on many shows while he should have been studying (Sweet Charity, Into the Woods, The Wed-

ding Singer, A New Brain, Assassins, Lucky Stiff, How to Succeed in Business). He was also Company Manager and Treasurer on the UMMTA committee in 2010 and 2011 respectively. During that time, he also worked on shows with Four Letter Word Theatre, Queen's College and ICAC. For his work on his university shows, David was awarded the Robert McDonald award and received a Stage Management Secondment for his work in Melbourne Theatre Company's production of Top Girls (2012). While beginning as a Stage Manager, Dave has since extended his skills into Lighting and Sound Design. He recently returned from a National Tour of the children's musical, Wombat Stew (Garry Ginivan Attractions). David's upcoming work includes sound operation on Carrie - The Musical at Chapel Off Chapel, and touring China as Sound Designer for multiple Orchestral Concerts. David is beyond grateful to UMMTA for introducing him to the technical side of theatre, and is excited to be returning home for Aida.



JEMMA O'CONNOR MAKEUP DESIGN

This is Jemma's first foray into makeup design for theatre, and she couldn't be more excited. She has enjoyed researching and designing Egyptian makeup,

as it is every Makeup Artist's dream! A particular favourite character to design for Jemma has been Amneris.



AIRLIE BRETT COSTUME DESIGN

Hailing from both Canberra and Adelaide, Airlie is a third year Arts student at the University of Melbourne, majoring in Philosophy. She has had numerous costume-related roles, including

Assistant Director and Head of Costume for Grease (UC, 2012), Head of Costume for Footloose (UC, 2013) and Anything Goes (ICAC, 2012), and Costume Designer for Our House (UMMTA, 2014). Whilst a challenge, Airlie has enjoyed creating Egyptian costumes for a culture that she has always been fascinated in.



MICHAEL LEAVER HAIR ARTIST

Aida marks Michael's 20th UMMTA credit (#ummta4lyf). As a jack-of-all-trades and master of none, his previous UMMTA roles include Assistant

Director & Concept Designer for Into the Woods, Costume Design for RENT, Microphone Tech for The Wedding Singer and Solicitor/ensemble member for Lucky Stiff. Michael is very excited to once again be layering the walls of the Union Theatre with hairspray and is even more excited for the fact that cornrows will not be featuring in the show.



ANNIE NELSON PUBLICITY MANAGER

Annie is in her final year of a Bachelor of Commerce/ Diploma in Languages at the University of Melbourne,

with a triple-threat major in Marketing, Finance and French. As she often gets stage fright, Annie prefers to work behind the scenes, with her most notable roles including Producer of Our House (UMMTA), Head of Publicity for Metamorphoses (Ormond Drama), Head of Sponsorship for Spring Awakening (Ormond Drama) and a member of the creative team for Peter Pan (Ormond Drama). She has enjoyed her role working with such a professional production team and cast, and cannot wait for you to experience the magic of Aida.



AARON DONNELLY VIDEOGRAPHER

Aaron has recently moved to Melbourne from Ireland on a work basis. He has worked on numerous musicals and concerts with both sound and lighting. He also

works as a camera operator, sound recordist and editor in the TV and film industry, mainly working on outside broadcasts. He has gained the majority of his knowledge through working alongside industry professionals both back in Ireland and here in Melbourne. In Musical Theatre Aaron has worked with sound and lighting for *Lés Miserables*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Oklahoma* and *The Sound of Music*. His favourite thing about Aida is meeting new people in a new country, and of course making new friends with such good people.



BEN FON PRODUCTION PHOTOGRAPHER

Through photography, Ben loves capturing the emotion and artistry of performance and documenting the behind-the-scenes magic as a production comes

together. He seeks to not only capture, but also honour the artistic talent and creative vision of the director, performers and crew of each production. Ben has been the production photographer for the past three UMMTA productions (*RENT*, *Our House*, *Aida*) and several other productions of which some favourites include *The Crucible* and *Sweeney Todd* (Queen's College), *Anything Goes!* and *Little Shop of Horrors* (ICAC), *Melbourne Model the Musical* (Crunch), *Equus* (FLW Theatre), *The Dice House* (Periscope Productions) and *Fish on Europa* (Cryptophasia).



CATRIONA NGUYEN- ROBERTSON FRONT-OF-HOUSE MANAGER & TICKETING SECRETARY

Catriona is a University of Melbourne student, studying a Bachelor of Science and Japanese. She has been involved in previous UMMTA shows *Our House* and *Lucky Stiff*, as well as performing in LIVE's *Aladdin* and tROC's *Starlight*. She is also on the General Committee for UMMTA, and is excited to be involved in such a friendly production.









SARAH CALSIÑA
– AIDA –

A native of the Philippines, Sarah grew up in Heidelberg Heights and is currently working in Mental Health with people with brain injuries.

Her previous roles include Reecey in *Our House*, ensemble in *RENT*, *How to Succeed in Business, Tommy!*, *Assassins*, *Curtains* and *The Wedding Singer* (UMMTA), *Tribe Member in Hair* (StageArt), ensemble in *The Wild Party* and *Our Lady of the Spa* in *NINE* (FLW Theatre), and *Ronnette* in *Little Shop of Horrors* (OPTC).

Whilst she struggles to keep a straight face while acting opposite some of her best friends, she has immensely enjoyed her long-standing friendship with UMMTA.



JOSEPH SPANTI
– RADAMES –

During high school, Joseph was never involved in the musicals offered at Parade College. However, in year 12 he decided to audition for *Jekyll and Hyde*, and loved his experience playing *Sir Danver Carew*.

These days he has enjoyed working with a few different companies, such as *Waterdale* (*Gypsy* and *Witches of Eastwick*), *SLAMS* (*RENT*) and *PEP Productions* (*Variety High*), and thoroughly enjoys the thrill of live musical theatre.

This is Joseph's first show with UMMTA, and has loved getting to know the fantastic production team and rest of the cast, and hopes you enjoy the show as much they have enjoyed putting it together.



GRACE KINGSFORD

– AMNERIS –

Aida is Grace's UMMTA debut. Having played roles in Bayside community shows, such as Ariel in Footloose, Maureen in RENT and Jeoffrey in Godspell, she is thrilled to be welcomed into this magnificent theatre community.

She has also performed To Sir with Love at the Crown Palladium at her high school, St Leonard's College, 100-year centenary event. Her strongest suit, rather than clothes, is in marketing, as she is currently studying a Masters of Advanced Marketing at Monash University.

Grace would like to give a shout out to her gorgeous family and to say a big thank you to everyone who has come to see the show!



ANDREW WHITE

– ZOSER –

Andrew is in his second year of a Bachelor of Science at the University of Melbourne. Dedicated to UMMTA, he has performed as Emmo in Our House, and as an ensemble member for How to Succeed in Business and RENT.

Even though his character in Aida, Zoser, is considered to be all-mighty and powerful, Andrew doesn't consider himself to be intimidating at all.

He would like to thank the cast and crew for creating such an enjoyable experience.



PASQUALE BARTALOTTA – MEREB –

Pasquale completed his VCE in 2009 studying drama and receiving Dux in Media Studies. After having no previous formal training, Pasquale landed his first role as Sailor Rudy in Cabaret (BuST CO). Meanwhile, Pasquale continued to study a Bachelor of Creative Arts, majoring in Drama at Deakin University. Other roles that Pasquale has played are Eddie in Jason Robert Brown's 13 (BuST CO), Duane in Hairspray (SLAMS), Ron Taylor in Bat Boy (PEP), Ensemble in Aida (MDMS), Joe Marino in The Witches of Eastwick (Waterdale) and Ernst in Spring Awakening (Altona City Theatre).

Most recently, Pasquale created and performed his highly anticipated, critically acclaimed cabaret titled Pasquale: The Musical, as part of Fab Nob's Cabaret Season, Fabaret.

Pasquale is thrilled to be in the cast of Aida for the second time having enjoyed Elton John and Tim Rice's soul-stirring soundtrack so much the first.



ELLE RICHARDS – NEHEBKA –

Originally from Darwin, Elle is currently studying a Master of Arts and Cultural Management.

She has previously featured in the ensemble for UMMTA's RENT and Four Letter Word's Wild Party, and as the Short and Sweet Cabaret Finalist and Season at the Butterfly Club in Can You Catch Pregnancy (a self-devised cabaret).

Elle has immensely enjoyed her Aida experience creating such good friendships, and, like her character, also has a soft spot for her friend Sarah who plays Aida.



SPENCER HADLOW – AMONASRO –

Having previously completed a Bachelor of Professional & Creative Writing, Spencer now balances full time work, freelance writing and rehearsal.

He has previously appeared in several UMMTA shows (Curtains, Assassins, Our House) and directed UMMTA's Lucky Stiff in 2012.

Spencer has enjoyed working with the team behind Aida and would like to thank them for allowing him the opportunity and excuse to finally grow a beard.



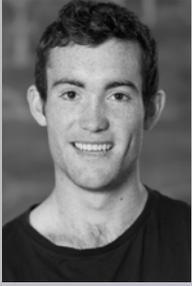
CHRIS DEMPSEY – PHARAOH –

This is Chris's fourth production with UMMTA. He has previously appeared in UMMTA's How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying, RENT and Our House. He has also performed in productions of Pippin (Pippin), Honk (Ugly), Jekyll and Hyde (Jekyll), Into the Woods (Jack), Chicago, West Side Story, Carousel and Seussical.

Chris is currently studying Arts at the University of Melbourne as well as a Diploma of Music in Classical Voice, and is one of Regional Arts Victoria's Young Creative Leaders.

His favourite part of Aida has been spending time with the cast and getting the chance to perform this beautiful score.

ENSEMBLE



BRIAN ALLEN

Brian is originally from Wodonga. He moved to Melbourne last year and is studying a major in creative writing at the University of Melbourne. Brian appeared in his high school's productions of the Wizard of Oz

and Vaudeville a Viva. This is his largest role in a production and he has really enjoyed learning from the production team and other cast members. When Brian is not acting, he enjoys writing and playing sport. He likes being a soldier in Aida because he gets a sword.



MARISABEL BONET

Born in Puerto Rico, Mari's performed in Livid Production's Spelling Bee (Rona), in Albury Wodonga Theatre Company's The Sound of Music (Sr. Margarita), You Can't Stop the Beat

80s, Creatures, Broadway Unplugged, Strictly Steamroom (Anya), Miss Saigon (Ivette), and Lipstick Dreams, and in The Other Theatre Company's Midsummer Night's Dream (Hippolyta). In October, she is set to play the role of Olive in Spelling Bee in Chiltern. As a producer, Mari's worked on Byte Sized Production's The Little Mermaid. Aida's given her the opportunity to perform in Melbourne, where she's developed her stage presence, dancing and acting under the guidance of its experienced production team. Not to mention, Aida has allowed her to become extremely familiar with the trains in Victoria!



SASHA CHONG

Sasha is currently studying Psychology and Linguistics at the University of Melbourne. Her previous roles include ensemble in Our House, Tommy! (UMMTA), Joseph and the

Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (HOSA), Beauty and the Beast, West Side Story (High School productions), and as Taylor McKessie in High School Musical (Kidz Act). For Sasha, Aida has been the most professional-feeling show that she has been in, as she feels that everyone is doing their absolute best to reach their full potential.



SAMANTHA COSTANZA

Originally from New York (hooray exchange!), Samantha is currently studying Media and Communications. Her past roles include Introductions in Vagina Monologues (Boston College),

Electric Blues Quartet in Hair (Random Farms Theatre Company) and Silly Girl and Dance Captain in Beauty and the Beast (Pleasantville High School). Coming here as an exchange student, UMMTA has immediately made Samantha feel so welcome and at home and has provided her with an incredible support group of new friends. She could not be more thankful for her fantastic Aida experience and hopes you enjoy the show.



LAURA DE IONGH

Laura is a student at the University of Melbourne in her final year of a Bachelor of Arts, with a double major in Ancient World Studies and Psychology. This is her third show with UMMTA,

having previously performed in *RENT* and *How to Succeed in Business, as well as singing* as part of UMMTA's showcase, *Splendour*. Her most recent credits include playing the leading lady in the debut performance of *Mythweaver* and singing showtunes in her shower. Laura has enjoyed the opportunity to challenge herself as a performer. Her experience as part of this show has been second to none and she is so grateful to the cast, crew and production team for their passion and dedication.



HOLLY DONOGHUE

Holly Donoghue is currently in her first year at the University of Melbourne, commencing a Bachelor of Biomedicine in semester one, and then transferring to a Bachelor of Arts at the

start of semester two. This is her first ever UMMTA production and she has loved having the opportunity to work and make friends with so many fantastic and talented people. Holly has performed roles in several high school productions, including *Briggita* in *The Sound of Music* (St Bernard's and St Columba's), *Ophelia* in *Hamlet* (Mac.Rob and Melbourne High), *Irene Molloy* in *Hello, Dolly!* (Mac.Rob and Melbourne High), *Mary Warren* in *The Crucible* (Mac.Rob and Melbourne High) and *Cinderella* in *Into the Woods* (Mac.Rob and Melbourne High).



TAYLEN FURNESS

Taylen is a student of the University of Melbourne and is due to graduate in November or, to be more precise, 83 days (not that he's counting). Whilst having played in a number of pit

orchestras for various shows in the past, Aida marks his debut on-stage performance and, as such, he hopes you will judge him lightly. He has enjoyed the whole *Aida* experience, particularly getting to know the cast and crew post-rehearsals at The Clyde. As an ensemble member Taylen plays many different characters during the show, however he has found playing the role of the official Egyptian Cartographer to be particularly enjoyable, as it has allowed him to channel his own love for map-making and *Melways*-reading. He hopes you enjoy the show, and is more than happy to personally sign any maps/atlasses post-performance.



ASHER HARRINGTON

Asher is currently studying Arts (majoring in writing because she's a dreamer!) and Classical Voice at the University of Melbourne. This is her first show outside high school, but has

previously been involved in several productions at *Ivanhoe Girls' Grammar School*, as a chorus member in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Helene* in *Sweet Charity* and *Edith* in *Picnic at Hanging Rock*. Asher loves the music in *Aida*, especially the contrast between the "toe-tapping fun" and its "heartbreakingly, raw and beautiful" moments. She has loved being a part of a show where the cast and crew care so passionately about the material and do the justice that it deserves.



LIZZY HOWELLS

Lizzy is from Melbourne, currently studying a Bachelor of Science. This is not her first time working with UMMTA, previously starring as Sarah in Our House last

semester. Lizzie has enjoyed hanging out with great people and heading to the pub after rehearsal, and is incredibly passionate about the show.



JASMINE KWAN

Jasmine's passion for the stage began at an early age. She trained with the Children's Performing Company of Australia (CPCA) for three years, performing

numerous bi-annual gala shows and toured America with them. With eight years flute, three years voice and 17 years dance training, some of her show credits include: RENT, Tommy!, Curtains (UMMTA), Sweet Charity (Babirra), Jesus Christ Superstar (OSMaD) and Miss Saigon (Yvette; CLOC). Jasmine is thrilled to be performing in another UMMTA show!
#ummta4lyf



ELLEN LANE

Aida marks Ellen's tenth show in amateur theatre. She has previously performed in the ensemble for ARC's Westside Story and Hello Dolly, Waterdale's FAME and Annie, and Babirra's Sweet Charity. Ellen

has played Peaseblossom in Purely Pensive's A Midsummer Nights Dream and Katie and Mrs. Fitzhubert in their 2014 production of Picnic at Hanging Rock. Some of Ellen's most favourite

times on stage have been in the dual roles of Farmboy Angie and the dumb but electrifying stripper Electra (Waterdale's Gypsy) and the no-clue hollywood film star Lina Lamont (ARC's Singin' in the Rain). Ellen would like to thank the A-team and cast for giving this beautiful show real life and respect and making the experience a lot of fun.



JAMES LOWTHER

James is a University of Melbourne student, studying a Bachelor of Arts. His previous roles include Cogsworth in Beauty and the Beast (Xavier Genazzano

production), and as an ensemble member in Aladdin, Annie, The Music Man (Xavier Genazzano production) and in Our House (UMMTA). Whilst challenging, James love the choreography in Aida and is incredibly excited to see how it turns out for the audience!



ELLIE MCEVOY

Ellie is originally from Geelong, but is currently studying Hairdressing to help her progress further within the Hair and Makeup departments for Film and Tele-

vision. She played the Rose Seller in Geelong Lyric Theatre Company's production of Oliver, Auntie Em in her school production of The Wiz and ensemble parts in various other shows. Her favourite thing about her Aida experience is the loving environment she was welcomed into. For Ellie, it has been an amazing opportunity to play a Nubian slave, and be able to research the dramatic differences between our privileged lives and their fight for survival.



MAIREAD O'CONNOR

Mairead O'Connor is in her first year at the University of Melbourne, studying a Bachelor of Arts and a Diploma of Music. She was a super keen musical theatre kid at

University High School, starting as an orphan in their production of *Oliver!* in year seven, and working her way up to roles such as Dulcie in *The Boy Friend* and Yum Yum in *The Hot Mikado*. This is Mairead's first show at UMMTA and she is super impressed with how quickly the *Aida* cast smashed out 6-part harmonies! She has loved being part of such a dedicated team and working towards such a great show.



NIAMH O'KEEFE

With *Aida* being her second production with UMMTA, Niamh is thrilled to be a part of such an exciting show. Having played Kath in UMMTA's first semester

production of *Our House* this year, being a part of the ensemble has been a challenging yet rewarding experience. Niamh has also been involved in various other school musicals over the years, including *Annie* (Duffy), *The Music Man*, (Mrs Paroo) and *Sweeney Todd*, again as an ensemble member. Niamh is currently studying a Bachelor of Arts at the University of Melbourne.



CHLOE RIELY

Chloe is currently completing a Bachelor of Arts at Monash University. Most of her theatre experience was in high school, namely VCE Drama and Theatre Studies and the musical productions with Genazzano FCJ

College and Xavier College. She also attended the Victorian Ballet School where she gained most of her dance training, as well as musical theatre classes at Centrestage Performing Arts School and is a member of Melbourne University Choral Society. Chloe has absolutely loved coming into UMMTA's *Aida* after taking a year-long break from acting. Along with working with such a wonderful company, she has most enjoyed being able to rediscover a great deal of confidence in herself. Chloe would like to thank the wonderful cast, crew and production team of *Aida* for this unbelievable opportunity.



PETER TURNER

Peter is a first year Arts student. This is his first show with UMMTA, however was actively involved in theatre throughout high school. He has played Nicely-Nicely Johnson in *Guys and Dolls*, King Alonso in *The Tempest*,

Dr. Rank in *A Doll's House*, and a cast member in *Medea* and *To InfiNiddrie and Beyond* (all with Penleigh and Essendon Grammar School). He was also the Co-creator of *To InfiNiddrie and Beyond*, a comedy sketch show at his high school. Peter would like to give a shout out to Steph Watt for driving him everywhere, while he continues to drive her insane.



STEPHANIE WATT

Stephanie is currently studying a Bachelor of Arts and Diploma in Languages at the University of Melbourne. She trained for six years at Centrestage Performing Arts

School, and is a current student at Vocal Arts Studio. Her previous credits include ensemble in Crazy For You (PEGS), Hotel Rwanda (rock eistedford, PEGS) and Romeo and Juliet (rock eistedford, PEGS). Aida is Stephanie's UMMTA debut, and has been blown away by the talent and rapport between the cast and crew.



JAMES WORSNOP

James is from Melb-town, currently studying a Bachelor of Science at the University of Melbourne. His previous roles include Vinnie DiRuzzio in Lucky Stiff

(UMMTA), Bud Frump in How to Succeed in Business (UMMTA), Angel in RENT (UMMTA), Phil D'Armano in Wild Party (Four Letter Word), and has also performed in UMMTA's Splendour 3. His favourite part of his Aida experience, is of course, Sarah.



DUDU YANG

Dudu is a first year Bachelor of Arts student, majoring in Art History and Screen Studies. Aida marks her debut onstage performance, however is no stranger to the theatre scene. Last year she assistant directed

CMG's musical The Butterfly Lovers, and plays the piano, guitar, flute, and sings of course! Her (not-so) hidden talent is her ability to "pop". Dudu's favourite part of Aida is Dance of the Robe, as she finds it incredible moving.



LIZZIE ENG

KEYBOARD 1



PATRICK PAEVERE

KEYBOARD 2

Dep. Trevor Jones



BIANCA SOH

KEYBOARD 3



BEN PROVEST

ELECTRIC GUITAR



OLIVER POWELL

BASS GUITAR



**KATIE
CLARKE**

REED 1 (FLUTES)



**MADELINE
ROYCROFT**

**REED 2 (OBOE AND
COR ANGLAIS)**
Dep. Emma De Boer



**JENNIFER
BARRY**

CELLO



**BYRON
GOODWIN**

PERCUSSION



SEAN NEWELL
DRUM KIT

Artwork, Graphic
Design and
Programme

Patrick Paevere

Additional
Photography

Blake Condon

Stage Manager

Jackson Harnwell

Asst. Stage Manager

Nhan Viet Bui

Lighting Operator

Blake Condon

Sound Operator

Aaron Donnelly

Make-Up Artist

Jemma O'Connor

Make-Up Assistant

Lyndsay Channon

Hair Artist

Michael Leaver

Dresser and Hair
Assistant

Kristen Mihalos

Head Flyman

Adam Grikepelis

Fly Operator

Alice Pollard

Microphone Technician

Ashlee Clapp

Stage Assistants

Ryan Turner

Thomas Fellowes

Eric Wu

Tristan Lawrence

Clynton Jones

Bump-in Crew

Eugene Mackinnon

Nick Grant

Eleanor Toulmin

David Browne



Elisabeth Alexander
and the National
Gallery of Victoria,
MDMS, VCA,
Queen's College MADS,
Stage School Australia,
LSS Productions,
Aluminium Industries,

Mirror Paints
The Clyde Hotel,
Grill'd Carlton,
Chookas Ticketing,
The Fellowes family,
Tristan Lawrence,
Gus, Clynton, Adam,
Cam and UHT

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UNION THEATRE

