

THE DRAMA MERCHANT & REVERIE THEATRE COMPANY PRESENT

# DOGS

CANDICE DITTMANN

SOPHIE LAWSON

20-21 AUGUST 2021

JAVEENBAH THEATRE, NERANG

WRITTEN BY JODI GRAY



# A PEAK BEHIND PEEP

BY JULIA MESROBIN

Peep is a darkly comic tale of voyeurism and obsession. In present-day Brisbane (originally written to be set in Dublin, Ireland), Caitlin and May, two young women, spy on their mutual ex-lover in his home, from an apartment window across the street, witnessing his prowess with a succession of sexual conquests. Caitlin and May are here, as they claim because he did them wrong. He has done something to them, and their plan is to systematically approach his next victims and warn them off.

They say they want to protect the other girls, let them know what he does, prevent him from continuing his deplorable treatment of women, and contempt for their privacy. They want to scare them away until he ends up all alone. Sounds cheeky and fair enough to me. But that is only the original premise, the tip of the iceberg so to speak, as the play unfolds. Beneath the bursts of girlie chat and friendly interactions, there is an implied uneasiness, an uncomfortable tension. Even though they teamed up against a common enemy and towards a shared goal, they resent each other bitterly, with an underlying jealousy and competition, as they keep at their vigil and work to recruit their ex-lover's latest conquests into the watch.

The play is a welcome addition to the stock of plays by young women writers, for women actors and focusing on women's issues and perspectives. It is a given, the issues are stretched to an extreme and go well out of hand. But, it makes for great entertainment. It is the extreme that brings us to think, ponder, and discuss the issues at hand. This play is unique in its complex web of serious themes such as abuse, revenge, manipulation, dependency, and obsession.

They are brought to life by the only two characters and their conversations. We, the audience, only get to know about what is going on outside of their holed-up apartment in their self-imposed confinement, through their commentary.

Want to read more?  
Read the blog on  
The Drama Merchant  
website

Photo by Andre's Felipe Vanegas





Photo by Neish Media at Motet Creative Studios



Photo by Neish Media at Motet Creative Studios

# EVENT INFORMATION

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Produced by:                        | The Drama Merchant & Reverie Theatre Company                           |
| Written by:                         | Jodi Gray  |
| Cast:                               | Candice Jean & Sophie Lawson   |
| Directed by:                        | Nathan Schulz  |
| In collaboration with:              | Barry Gibson, Candice Jean, Sophie Lawson                              |
| Lightening and Sound by:            | Nathan Schulz  |
| Director Assistant & Stage Manager: | Imogen Heine - Saxton  |
| Blogs and information:              | Julia Mesrobin   |
| Poster design:                      | Mark Lawson  |
| Program photography:                | Andre's Felipe Vanegas and Mark Williamson from Entrepreneur Education |
| Show photography and video:         | Neish Media  |
| Program and web design:             | CC Web design  |

## About the author:

**Jodi Gray** is a playwright and screenwriter, and is published by Nick Hern Books. She works extensively with drama schools, community theatre groups, and national and international theatre companies including Vanner Collective and Living Record.

Work includes Untold (as part of The Motherhood Project online; Battersea Arts Centre and Katherine Kotz); Torched (Lost Souls Monologues podcast); Thrown (Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2018, Winner of Brighton Fringe Award for Excellence; VAULT Festival 2019; Brighton Fringe 2019); Big Bad (VAULT Festival 2018, Winner of the Origins Award for Outstanding New Work; London Horror Festival at the Old Red Lion, London); Peep (Bewley's Theatre Café, Dublin, February 2018, shortlisted for the Stewart Parker Trust Award); Affection, hookup, You Could Move, Reach Out and Touch Me, The Front Room and SSA (all Outbox Theatre, in London and on tour).

Short plays include Finale (Caravan Shorts); This Girl (Bold Tendencies); Broken Meats (Salt at Southwark Playhouse); Quirks (Southwark Playhouse); He's Not There, Peep, Tasty and Rime (Miniaturists at Arcola Theatre).

She has also written the short films Broken Meats (dir. Sam Phillips); and Sidetracked (dir. Freddie Hall; nominated for Best Writer at Underwire Festival 2015), and is currently working with Freddie again on the adaptation of Big Bad for the big screen.

# The Drama Merchant's 2022 Season

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## FRANKENSTEIN

Written by Rona Munro. Directed by Nathan Schulz

**April 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th**

Rona Munro's 2019 'inventive feminist adaptation' of Mary Shelley's Gothic masterpiece places the writer herself amongst the action as she wrestles with her creation and with the stark realities facing revolutionary young women, then and now

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## STEEL MAGNOLIAS

Written by Robert Harling. Directed by Barry Gibson

**June 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th**

Set in Truvy's Louisiana beauty parlour where four scenes spanning three years tell of the lives, loves & small-town gossip of the staff and their customers

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## ***SPOOKY DOG & THE TEEN-AGE GANG MYSTERIES***

Written by Eric Pilner & Amy Rhodes. Directed by Nathan Schulz

**October 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st**

A Parody for Adults Only!

Missing from a starring performance at a creepy county fair, a pop culture icon (suggested by the audience) can only be located by this familiar gang of teen sleuths - a butch, blond frat boy, an even more butch brainy gal with a trusty flashlight, a hot-to-trot diva in a miniskirt, a spaced-out hippie, and a talking dog.

Spooky Dog uncovers hilarious, hidden subtext with razor-sharp wit and affectionate homage - you'll never see Saturday morning the same way again!

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# Supporting Cultural Heritage

## Sunshine Coast: Bankfoot House

Enjoy virtual tours of Bankfoot House Heritage Precinct from the comfort of your own home. Guided tours are available on Friday, Saturday and Sunday 10am-3pm. Bookings can be made online [Here](#)

## Nerang: Preece House

As part of the Nerang Heritage Project Preece House is a timber Queenslander that has been a feature of the town since 1948. Visit the aboriginal photographic exhibition of museum-quality. Self-guided & guided tours. 10am to 3pm. Mon to Sat

36-52 Nerang St, Nerang, Gold Coast, QLD 4211

# Supporting Local Theatre

Gold Coast Little Theatre: American Idiot, Music by Green Day.

American Idiot is a rock opera follows three boyhood friends, each searching for meaning in a post 9/11 world and discovering love, loss, drugs, sex and rock and roll along the way. Sept 4th - 2nd Oct.

Visit [www.gclt.com.au](http://www.gclt.com.au) for more details

Or

[Book Here](#)

COMING SOON TO JAVEENBAH THEATRE



Starring:

Rachel Love, Lee Stoka, Veronica Wnuk, Jake Goodall

A romance on the rocks, an artist's vision stalled, and a graduate thesis in peril lead four young New Yorkers through a series of intersecting vignettes in this captivating new musical.

While Claire and Jason struggle to confront the fracture in their relationship, Warren and Deb form a quirky friendship over an unshared love of the Met. Unfolding through an intricate, original score, their individual journeys ultimately overlap in one extraordinary moment that alters the course of their lives and reveals the simple beauty of letting go to truly live.

Ordinary Days is a sung-through musical with music and lyrics by American composer Adam Gwon. Originally produced by the Roundabout Theatre Company at the Harold and Miriam Steinberg Center for Theatre, the show includes 21 songs which tell the story of these two men and two women.

[BOOK NOW](#)

Or visit [www.javeenbah.org](http://www.javeenbah.org)



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## THE DRAMA MERCHANT

Create • Collaborate • Educate

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The theatrical arm of The Drama Merchant aims to work as an ensemble, collaborating established local talent with new and upcoming performers, musicians, designers, and writers to create new and revived work, which is immersive, interactive, and extraordinary to a new generation of Queensland theatre goers.

The Drama Merchant owes his origin from the life experience gained within the Gold Coast Community Theatre Scene, since 1998, and working with various mentors and people within community theatre.

Branching out in 2015 under the name *Nathan Schulz presents*, he entered into Anywhere Festival - Brisbane and adopting the festivals premise that "theatre can be performed in any space" producing two ghost stories in an oddities shop called *Lights Out Vol. 1* (2015) and *The Curiosity Experiment* (2016) and in 2017 a romantic comedy called *2Across* set on a 1960's Tram at the Brisbane Tramway Museum.

*The Curiosity Experiment*, an immersive ghost story for an audience of 13 only, had sold out shows in both the Melbourne and Adelaide fringe festivals in 2016 - 2017.

In 2017 Nathan Schulz presents became The Drama Merchant and created a retro audio storytelling experience called the "*The Radioplay Hour*", which has been performed in heritage locations between the Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast, and also became an after-school entertainment workshop called *The Golden Age of Radio*.

In 2019 he and produced and directed two shows, *Dial M for Murder* and *The Eight Reindeer Monologues* set in a 1940's Queenslander house in Nerang for intimate audiences, and in 2021 produced an immersive version of David Ives - *Venus in Fur* which performed in 3 very different locations in a self funded Brisbane and Gold Coast mini tour.



## REVERIE THEATRE CO.



Caitlin - Candice Dittmann



May - Sophie Lawson

Reverie Theatre Co. is a boutique Gold Coast theatre production company founded by Candice Dittmann and Sophie Lawson.

Reverie evolved out of a lot of personal experience in the industry. Candice and Sophie have been involved in theatre for two decades whether on the stage or back of house, taking part in a collective 35 productions as actors and crew.

Some recent independent productions you may see include; 2 Across, Dial M for Murder, The Eight Reindeer Monologues and now Peep.

Underpinned by the belief that theatre allows important stories to be told, Reverie Theatre Company is committed to bringing the best shows to Gold Coast audiences and giving creatives a platform to explore and develop their talents.

To find out the latest, follow Reverie Theatre Company on Facebook or Instagram.

[@reverietheatre.co](https://www.instagram.com/reverietheatre.co)



Want more from Candice & Sophie?

CONNECT WITH US



@reverietheatre.co

For any additional information,  
contact us via email:  
[thedramamerchant@hotmail.com](mailto:thedramamerchant@hotmail.com)  
[www.thedramamerchant.com.au](http://www.thedramamerchant.com.au)

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