



Image credit: Christina Todaro

WAVES

Alice Mary Cooper

IN ASSOCIATION WITH
Catherine Wheels Theatre Company
& Imagine Festival

FREE PROGRAMME

POST-SHOW TALK THURSDAY 10 MARCH & THURSDAY 17 MARCH



WAVES

Q LOFT

WEDNESDAY 9, 6:30 PM

THURSDAY 10, 6:30 PM

SATURDAY 12, 6:30 PM

SUNDAY 13, 4:00 PM

FRIDAY 18, 7:30 PM AT ARTWORKS THEATRE, WAIHEKE

THURSDAY 17, 7:00 PM AT BARNETT HALL, PIHA

50 MINUTES WITH NO INTERVAL

Waves tells the story of the unofficial history of the invention of the Butterfly stroke. It is a solo theatre work written and performed by Alice Mary Cooper. Combining new writing, highly expressive storytelling, delicate movement and humour, Waves is the amazing tale of Elizabeth Moncello and how, growing up on Gabo Island in the 1930s, she employed sea creatures to teach her how to swim. With the help of fish, penguins and amphibian friends, Liz, the daughter of immigrants, developed "the Dolphin," known to the world as the Butterfly.

NOMINEE: Brighton Fringe Festival, New emerging talent award nominee.

All In Edinburgh Theatre

*"Fifty glorious minutes...imperceptibly crafted,
cleverly told tale with its feel good twists."*

-Thom Dibdin

Sydney arts Guide

*"The standing ovation at the end was our inadequate thanks
for the smiles on every face as we left the theatre."*

- Allan Chapple

Broadway Baby

"An exciting glimpse of something truly beautiful..."

CREATOR'S NOTE—FROM ALICE MARY COOPER

Waves started as a short story I wrote for a French magazine *Jean Marie*. The theme for the edition was 'Islands' and so I began researching, finally choosing Gabo Island as my setting for a tale. The play grew from there. While the character is fictional, the story is influenced by my own love of swimming and perhaps moreover, by doing laps in a pool named 'The Fanny Durack' in my hometown of Sydney. I was interested in creating a work that paid homage to pioneering female swimmers of the early 1900s, of which Fanny was one. I also felt that too many women 'of a certain age' particularly from that era disappeared without a trace. Even though Elizabeth may not have existed I am certain incredible people like her did, but were not recorded by history's grand narrative. There is always more than one history, particularly when it comes to inventions.



Image: Jonathan Charles

CREDITS

Creator	Alice Mary Cooper
Director	Gill Robertson (Catherine Wheels)
Producer	Louise Gilmour Wills (Catherine Wheels)
Composer	Danny Krass
Dramaturgical support	Naomi O'Kelly
Designer	Lisa Sangster & Alice Mary Cooper
Stage Manager	Ainsley Kerr
Performer	Alice Mary Cooper

CREATOR'S BIOGRAPHIES

PERFORMER – Alice Mary Cooper

Alice Mary Cooper is a performer and theatre-maker from Sydney, Australia. She lives in Edinburgh where she is an Associate Artist with Imagineate, and is a FST Assistant Director Bursary Recipient with Catherine Wheels Theatre Company (2015-16).

Following a Bachelor of Creative Arts Degree at Melbourne University, Alice trained at L'Ecole Philippe Gaulier (Paris), was Resident Artist at Shopfront Contemporary Arts (Sydney), ensemble member at PACT Centre for Emerging Artists and a part of Fresh Ink & the National Studio, Australian Theatre for Young People's Playwriting program.

Alice devises and performs solo performance works with a strong character and physical focus. To date she has made two very different pieces, *Waves* and *When Alice (Cooper) met (Prince) Harry*. Alice recently collaborated on a new site-specific work for the Royal Shakespeare Company and has created two new solo works, *Blue Cow* (part of Summer Nights at the Blue Room, Fringe World Perth 2016) and *The Box* (a commission from the Harlow Playhouse, England).

alicemarycooper.com

CREATIVE TEAM'S BIOGRAPHIES

DIRECTOR – Gill Robertson

Gill Robertson is the founder and artistic director of Catherine Wheels Theatre Company. She has worked as a director, actor and drama mentor throughout Scotland. Her credits as a director include: *White, Pobby and Dingan* (winner Total Theatre Award), *Kes*, *Caged*, *The Ballad of Pondlife McGurk*, *Kappa*, *Martha*, *Lifeboat*, *Cyrano*, *A Town Called Elsewhere* and *Hansel & Gretel* (Catherine Wheels); *The Purple Potting Shed* (Topiary Dance); *The Curious Scrapbook of Josephine Bean*, *Cinderella* and *Spend a Penny* (Shona Reppe Puppets); *Chasing Angels* (Complete Productions); *Giant Steps* and *Bill's New Frock* (Visible Fictions) and *The Wizard of Oz* (Lyceum Theatre). As a performer: *Martha*, *Red and Frankenstein*, *The Lion of Kabul* and most recently *The Book of Beasts* (Catherine Wheels); *Cinderella* and *A Midsummer's Night Dream* (Brunton Theatre); and *The Snow Baby* (Catherine Wheels/macrobert co-production). She also directed *Home: East Lothian* for National Theatre of Scotland, which won best show for children & young people at the 2006 Critics Awards for Theatre in Scotland (CATS) awards. Both *White* and *The Ballad of Pondlife McGurk* have appeared to much acclaim and had full houses at Auckland Arts Festival.

COMPOSER – Danny Krass

Danny has been working as a composer and sound designer since 2001. He began working in his native Sydney through his association with Australian Theatre for Young People.

Theatrical credits include: *Who Cares* (Royal Court); *The Artist Man* and *The Mother Woman*; *Quiz Show*, *Spoiling*, *The Devil Masters* (Traverse Theatre); *Smokies* (Solar Bear); *Up To Speed* (Imaginate/Ros Sydney); *The Adventures of Robin Hood* (Visible Fictions/Kennedy Centre); *The Voice Thief*, *Stuck*, *The Ballad of Pondlife McGurk*, *White*, *Kes* (Catherine Wheels); *My House*, *A Small Story* (Starcatchers); *Peter Pan* (Sherman Cymru); *Skewered Snails*, *He-La* (Iron Oxide); *Mikey and Addie*, *Littlest Christmas Tree*, *Rudolf*, *Mr Snow*, *The Little Boy that Santa Claus Forgot* (Macrobert); *The Infamous Brothers Davenport* (Vox Motus/Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh); *One Thousand Paper Cranes* (Lu Kemp); *The Curious Scrapbook of Josephine Bean*, *Huff* (Shona Reppe Puppets), *The Day I Swapped My Dad for Two Goldfish*, *The Tin Forest* (NTS); *Couldn't Care Less* (Plutôt la Vie/Strange Theatre) and *Sanitise* (Melanie Jordan & Caitlin Skinner).

CO-DESIGNER – Lisa Sangster

Lisa trained at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama. Her design credits include *Waves*, *Alice Cooper*, *Blood Wedding*, *Cars and Boys*, *The Snow Queen*, *Whisky Galore*, *Baby Baby and Talking Heads*, *Dundee Rep*; *O is for Hoolet*, *Arches*, *How to Choose*, *Trigger*; *News Just In*, *The Incredible Adventures of See Thru Sam*, *Double Nugget*, *Smalltown*, *Little Johnny's Big Gay Wedding*, *Promises*, and *Random Accomplice*; *Rantin*, *Jump*, *Transform: Dumfries*, (National Theatre Scotland); *Misper*, *Scottish Opera*; *Educating Ronnie*, *Utter/Macrobert*; BBC Comedy Showcase, BBC Scotland; *My Romantic History*, *Borderline*; *Carthage Must be Destroyed* (Ustinov Studio); *The Pearlfisher*, *strangers*, *babies*, *Broken*, *Distracted*, *White Point*; *Traverse*.

DRAMATURGICAL SUPPORT – Naomi O'Kelly

Naomi is an award-winning theatre director, and a community practitioner highly experienced working in creative settings with children and young people. She has an MFA in Theatre Directing from Birkbeck, University of London, and was previously the Resident Assistant Director at the Lyric Hammersmith, London. Her work includes being company director on the UK-wide tour of *Filter's Three Sisters*. Naomi trained originally in physical theatre, and has directed a number of ensemble theatre pieces in both Ireland and London, including *The Pied Piper*, winning awards for *Best Production* and *Ensemble Performance* at the Unfringed Festival (Ireland), and *Best Director* at the Mid-West Media, Arts & Culture Awards (Ireland). Naomi recently directed *Kettle's Boiling* for the World Puppetry Festival 2015, and is currently working with *Two Detectives* on *10,000 Mistakes*.

naomiokelly.com

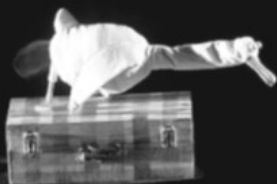
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11 - 13 March
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Little Dog Barking Company
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Music composed by Gareth Farr
Aotearoa/ New Zealand



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