



ET TU THEATRE PRESENTS

ORPHANS

BY DENNIS KELLY



PROGRAM

1-11 OCTOBER 2026



CO-ARTISTIC DIRECTORS' NOTE

Love is one of the most powerful elements of being human, and is a guiding force for us when we choose what plays to do. In *Orphans*, Dennis Kelly explores facets of love and human nature that are rarely talked about. How much we love people, what we will do for that love, and what it can expose in the depths of our beings.

Love and family are powerful forces that can bind us and change us. This play expertly reveals how twisted these bonds can become when exposed to darker influences.

As we grapple with the rise of extremism in almost all areas of life, and are more frequently exposed to violence – physical, psychological and technological – theatre is a force to bring us together. A space where we can all be present with one another, sharing a story and learning more about what it is to be human.

The incredible writing of this play is best exemplified in Dennis Kelly's dialogue. Messy, chaotic and truthful, it reveals how we may speak to one another when things are difficult and the possible far-reaching consequences that simple words can have when weaponised. And what slips out when we're under pressure, provoking laughter, shock, horror.

The way Kelly tells this story shows how conflicting feelings can exist alongside each other. And maybe that also shows how we as humans – with all our feelings, beliefs, thoughts, actions and relationships – can also be together through all kinds of situations.

While this play goes to dark places, remember why we are all here. To be together. To share a story. To witness Helen, Danny and Liam as they grapple with extreme and confronting circumstances. And to remember that we each have the power to choose love and kindness in our own lives.

Orphans was first presented by Birmingham Repertory Theatre Company and Traverse Theatre Company in association with Paines Plough at the Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh on 31 July 2009.



ORPHANS

BY DENNIS KELLY

CAST

Helen: Amy Bradney-George

Danny: Seton Pollock

Liam: Peter Nelson

CREATIVES

Directors: Amy Bradney-George, Seton Pollock

Stage manager: Macy Lane

Voice and dialect: Lisa Dallinger

Sound design: Sean Bradney-George

Set: Terry Wilkins

Lighting and sound technician: Nic Hogan

Official photography: Jamie Barber

Producers: Amy Bradney-George and Seton Pollock



ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Dennis Kelly is an award-winning British playwright and screenwriter. His plays include *Girls and Boys* (2018), *Our Teacher's A Troll* (2015), *The Ritual Slaughter of Gorge Mastromas* (2013), *The Gods Weep* (2010), *Orphans* (2009), *DNA* (2008) and *Osama The Hero* (2005).

He also wrote the book for the globally successful *Matilda the Musical*, with recognition including a Tony Award for Best Book of a Musical (2013). His screen credits include *Matilda the Musical* (2022), *Together* (2021), *The Third Day* (2020), *Utopia* (2014) and *Pulling* (2009). *Orphans* won the Fringe First Award and Herald Angel Award in 2009.



AMY BRADNEY-GEORGE - HELEN



Amy is an actress who has worked across Australia and in Vancouver, Canada. For Et Tu Theatre, she has played Ruth Davenport in *Ulster American* (2025), Connie in *The Effect* (2024), Maz in the Australian premiere of *Maz and Bricks* (2023), Kali in *Stockholm* (2019) and Desdemona in *Othello*.

Other theatre credits include Olga in *Summerfolk* (2017), Hermia in *A Midsummer Night's Dream Re-Imagined* (2016), Sicinius in *Coriolanus* (2016), Nora in *The Plough and the Stars* (2016) and an ensemble actor for MKA Theatre's *HOT!HOT!HOT* (2016).

Screen credits include Ellie in *Ironbark* (2026), Henry VI in the international online production of Shakespeare's *Age of Crowns Cycle* (2020), *As You Like It* (2020), *Julius Caesar* (2020), *Liz Drives* (2017), web series *Ninja Panda* (2014) and Canadian thriller *Chain of Fools* (2011).

Amy has trained with Scott Major, Brett Cousins (Red Stitch), Howard Fine, David Coury and Marilyn McIntyre (Howard Fine Acting Studio Australia) and with Andrea Moor as part of her degree at Griffith University (B.Arts Drama, Journalism).

She also works as a writer, editor, SEO specialist, voice over artist and creative consultant.

This includes a 2024 commission from the City of Coffs Harbour, [Reflections for the Future](#), an arts-based recovery project, writing verbatim theatre monologues and directing young people in audio performances of them.



SETON POLLOCK - DANNY



Seton is incredibly proud to be the co-founder and co-director of Et Tu Theatre Company, based here in the beautiful Bellingen Shire.

For Et Tu Theatre, Seton performed the role of Todd in the 2019 production of *Stockholm* by Bryony Lavery, Iago in Et Tu's workshop of William Shakespeare's *Othello* (2021) and Bricks in the Australian

premiere of *Maz and Bricks* by Eva O'Connor in 2023, Tristan in *The Effect* by Lucy Prebble and Jay Conway in *Ulster American* by David Ireland.

A classically trained actor, Seton graduated from NIDA in 2009. Whilst at NIDA Seton played the lead roles in David Williamson's *Third World Blues* and William Shakespeare's *Pericles*. Seton also performed in Maxim Gorky's *Summerfolk*, Arnold Wekser's *The Kitchen* and Middleton and Barkers *Women Beware Women*.

Other notable roles include Caliban in Sly Rat Theatre's *The Tempest* for their acclaimed Shakespeare on the Maribyrnong River festival, and the title role of *Ajax*, for Burning House Theatre's take on the Greek classic. He also played Prince Hal, later King Henry V, for Circle in the Sand's *Age of Crowns* online productions in 2020.

Seton hopes you find this production of *Orphans* by Dennis Kelly engaging and insightful and thanks you greatly for supporting professional independent theatre on the Mid-North Coast.



PETER NELSON - LIAM



Peter Nelson has been immersed in school productions and short acting courses for the past eight years, steadily building his passion for theatre.

He has completed Amy and Seton's Camp Creative: Acting for Adults course each year over the last three years, further sharpening his craft and commitment to performance.

He has also trained in improvisation with Louise van der Post, and undertook actor training while in London in 2025.

Et Tu Theatre's production of *Orphans* by Dennis Kelly marks his first appearance in a professional role, a milestone that brings both nerves and excitement.

Pete hopes to pursue full-time acting studies next year as he works toward his long-term acting goals. He would like to thank all of the excellent mentors that have helped him get this far and hopes that this production gives everyone an entertaining and thought-provoking time in the theatre.



LISA DALLINGER - DIALECT COACH



Lisa Dallinger is a Melbourne-based voice and dialect coach and actor. After completing a BA (Acting) through the University of Ballarat (now Federation University), Lisa continued her studies at the University of Melbourne and Victorian College of the Arts (VCA).

She holds a Master of Teaching, a Post-Graduate Diploma in Voice Studies, as well as a Post Graduate

Certificate in Teaching Shakespeare.

Lisa is a fully certified Vocal Combat Technique practitioner and has also completed training in Knight-Thompson Speechwork, which greatly informs her dialect work.

In addition to coaching privately and on productions, Lisa tutors regularly at VCA and has also taught at VCASS, Federation University, JMC Academy and Western Edge.

Lisa is a core ensemble member of the all-female collective 'Girls Act Good', in which she creates, performs and coaches regularly. When she is not performing or teaching, she is 'Mum' to Hewie and Alani.



SEAN BRADNEY-GEORGE - SOUND DESIGNER AND COMPOSER



Sean Bradney-George is a diverse creative with a passion for writing, music production, rapping, theatre and poetry.

As Wyldcard he has performed in numerous clubs and festivals in Australia and New Zealand, often producing his own beats and DJing for himself. He has put out a string of releases in that time, including

his debut feature album *Tunnel Visions*.

Sean first got into doing sound effects for theatre working with his Dad and sisters on plays in the early to mid 2000s. This was his introduction to electronic music production. Fast forward to 2023 and he added some sound effect work whilst also directing *Maz and Bricks* for Et Tu Theatre.

Two years ago he did his first full play score for *The Effect* by Lucy Prebble. Now back again to collaborate after visiting the UK, Sean has been tasked with comprising a grime backdrop for this raw and real piece of theatre.



MACY LANE - STAGE MANAGER



Macy Lane is a graduate from Coffs Harbour Senior College with a Cert III in Entertainment Industries.

Working as a production assistant with Et Tu Theatre on *The Effect* in 2024 cemented her desire to be involved in professional theatre and she is delighted to have the opportunity to stage manage this

production alongside such a passionate and dedicated team. She was also stage manager for Et Tu Theatre's 2025 production of *Ulster American* by David Ireland.

As a Bellingen local, Macy has been involved in various productions in and around the area. Her experience includes work on numerous musicals at Bellingen High School, most recently *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (2025), as well as serving as a Stagehand for *Wayne the Whale With A Hole In His Tail* (Seacrest Productions) in April 2025.

She also volunteers as a lighting operator at Bowraville Theatre.



TERRY WILKINS - SET



Terry is an experienced professional carpenter based in Bellingham who has decades of experience and a creative eye for reusing materials.

Et Tu Theatre's production of *Orphans* by Dennis Kelly is his first set build, realising a long-held interest in applying his skills to theatre productions. For this play, Terry collaborated closely with co-

artistic directors Amy Bradney-George and Seton Pollock to bring the vision to life. Reusing materials, salvaging pieces and creating new forms that meet the specific requirements for the production.

"Sets are always amazing, I love the way they're short term but they're beautiful and they're mystical and a bit magical."

TERRY WILKINS



THANKS

A show may start with a small team, but its reach is far greater and only comes to life through the generous contributions of everyone connected to it.

Thank you to our families for the emotional and practical support you've given us.

To Dennis Kelly and Casarotto Ramsay & Associates Limited in the UK. They have been a pleasure to work with and we greatly appreciate the support we had from the other side of the world.

The Bellingen Memorial Hall Studio has become a second home to us, thanks to the ongoing support from Phil Nicholas, whose drive and passion for creative work is a gift to us and the community. We are also grateful to the whole Bellingen Memorial Hall team and Bellingen Shire Council.

We're incredibly fortunate to live and work in this beautiful part of the world, Gumbaynggirr Country, surrounded by businesses and individuals that also value the way the arts bring us all together. Thank you to Inspired Audio Visual, Ben at Mid North Coast Arts Guide, Brad and the team at Bellingen Shire News, Arts Mid North Coast, The Happy Frog and Kevin and Lowanna at Kombu.

Thank you to Beck, Rich, Ellie, and Lena Field for the kind loan of toys. To Terry, Camilla and the Wilkins family for continued support. To our dear friend and industry colleague Ben Steel for his wisdom and additional directorial guidance.

Thanks also to our industry colleagues in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Perth, Port Macquarie and around the world who have supported us from afar.

We also want to give a special thanks to the people you see before and after the show: our wonderful front-of-house and bar team, led by Michele Bradney-George, and including Simon Lavery for Opening Night.

And thank you to you, our amazing audience, for being here and experiencing this story with us.







Et Tu Theatre is a proudly independent professional theatre company, always looking for ways to develop further work and creativity in Bellingen and on the Mid North Coast of NSW.

If you run a business or are interested in patron opportunities, we'd love to connect. Please reach out via our website:

<https://ettuproductions.com/contact> or by calling 0421225109.



Et Tu Theatre acknowledges the Gumbaynggirr people as the traditional custodians of the land on which we live, work and play. We pay respect to their elders, past, present and emerging, and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.