

where dreams meet power

DreamRunners



A NEW AUSTRALIAN MUSICAL

Mike Lotzof

DreamRunners
will be performed at the
Rebel Theatre
ATYP, Walsh Bay
at 7.00pm on Wednesday 26th April & Thursday 27th April 23

We acknowledge the Gadigal of the Eora nation who are the traditional custodians of the land on which this workshop and audience gather. We pay our respects to Elders past and present, and we extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait islanders with whom we work and share stories.



THANK YOU

to the late **June Lotzof** for her bequest and to everyone that generously donated to support the performers in this workshop & recital.

Your donation will support our performers :
<https://www.trybooking.com/au/donate/dreamrunnersatyp>

MIKE LOTZOF'S

DreamRunners

IN THE FORM OF A WORKSHOPPED RECITAL

The Gods

Mark Power

Armageddon

Julia Pierette

Gaia

Isaac Broadbent

Karma

Sara Camara

Astraea

The Mortals

Jayden Castle

Zach

Isha Desai

Jay

Andy Leonard

Benn

Greg Thompson

Jack

Nurjhan Toi

Salvo

Lisa Callingham

Mother

Justin Wise

Narrator

Music Arranger

Stewart D'Arrietta

Music Transcription

Roman Benedict

Lighting

Julian Dunne

Digital Sets

Just Mike

Choreographer

Lisa Callingham

Producer

Caren Trafford

Hannah Carman, Emma Flynn, Noah Rayner, Gerwin Widjaja
Ensemble

RUNNING TIME 2 hours : including 20 min interval

Executive Producer Endangered Productions



**A MESSAGE
FROM
COMPOSER
AND
LYRICIST
MIKE
LOTZOF**

DreamRunners

Writing music, let alone a musical, was never in my imagination. Story telling by contrast has been my life blood; professionally in my work, embedding new ideas through the power of story, and as a writer. Everyone has stories and as my travels spirited me to cities, villages and vast natural wonders, the myriad stories from every corner of the globe imprinted themselves, indelibly.

DreamRunners is the inevitable result: an amalgam of sounds, images, stories and characters, each of whom is real to me.

You will recognise them. They wrote themselves and demanded songs so they could tell you who they are. The music came from the characters and their stories.

The genesis of DreamRunners was an offhand comment after a COVID enforced zoom concert, 'Why not turn your story into a musical? How hard can it be?'

Three years later, the fact that you are reading this is proof - dreams live. We all dream - asleep and awake. We run from those we fear and to those we wish to embrace.

DreamRunners would never have been realised without the unwavering and indefatigable support of my wife Caren, who has heard every song hundreds of times; brought cups of tea, and lent a sympathetic ear when disaster struck and radical changes had to be made.

And the music would not be what it is without the immensely creative and talented Stewart and knowledgeable Peter, who with care and patience, bashed my songs into shape.

It is now in the hands our talented cast and crew who will share my dream with you.



Mike Lotzof

Composer & Lyricist

Things are impossible - until they are not

SYNOPSIS

DreamRunners

The fate of Earth hangs in the balance as the gods grapple with their conflicting emotions towards humanity. Despite their despair at human behaviour, they cannot help but love the unique beauty of their grand experiment. With the threat of returning Earth to its gaseous origin looming, the gods decide to grant people one last chance.

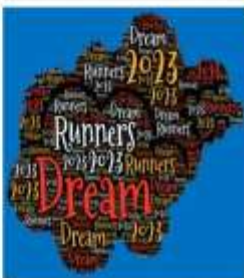
Four unwitting protagonists, Benn and his son Zach, and Jack and his daughter Jay, hold the key to Earth's survival. Benn is a born-again eco-warrior, while Jack is a self-made billionaire oil titan. Benn takes his superstar, self-loathing son Zach to be healed by nature, while Jack takes his opinionated armchair-greenie daughter, Jay, to his oil rig to show her what's real and what he thinks is important.

This leads to a clash of opposing ideologies as the fathers try to influence their children's beliefs.

But fate has other plans in store for them. Jay and Zach find themselves transported to a parallel Earth where the rules of time and space are governed by the gods.

The young protagonists are tested and challenged by the gods to confront their beliefs and identities.

They argue, fall in love, suffer loss and flee pursuers without realizing they are being judged. Failure has dire consequences, and they must make difficult choices without knowing the full extent of what is at stake.



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JAYDEN CASTLE
Zach

Jayden is a non-binary performer and recent BA grad. (Stage and Screen) from ACA where he played roles such as Roy in *COSI*, Mikhail Rakitin in *A Month in the Country*, Edward in *Consent*, and Clive/Cathy in *Cloud 9*. Jayden received their Diploma of Musical Theatre in 2017. In Ft.Worth Texas, he was Pilate in *Jesus Christ Superstar*, Mark in *Rent*, Le Remendado in *Carmen*, Simeon in *Joseph*, Warren Sheffield in *Meet Me in St. Louis*, The Lecturer in *Reefer Madness* and Schaunard in *La Bohème*. He is excited to develop a new piece of musical theatre and work with the talented cast for the first time.



ANDY LEONARD
Benn

Andy's credits include *The Bible, the complete word of God (abridged)*, *Gagarin Way*, *Get Gary*, *Songs of Grace and Redemption*, *Only Fools and Horses*, Paul Keating in *Keating!* Film includes *Something of Vengeance*, *Souvenir* and *Found Footage*. Cabaret includes *Adolf and Eva* and *Happily Ever After*. He directed the Australian premiere of *Next Fall* at the Seymour Centre in 2016. He has co written the new musical *Rabbits on a Red Planet* which he will be performing in at The Flight Path Theatre, Marrickville in June. Andy was the host of the Sydney shows for *The Moth* from 2015-2020.



GREG THOMPSON
Jack

Greg has been singing, playing musical instruments since the early 70's. 1975- 85: Member of PACT Theatre company. Roles included Lysander and Oberon in two productions of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and Cassius in *Julius Caesar*. 2016, roles of 'Filch' and several other minor characters in *FAMS The Beggars Opera*. 2018: twin roles of 'Dixon' and 'Old Bob,' and in 2019 'Irish' in *Reedy River*. 2019 : Edwin in *Trial by Jury*. 2019 to present: 33% of the trio *The Sun-Loungers*.



ISHA DESAI
Jay

Isha is an Indian Australian music theatre performer and graduate with a Diploma of Music Theatre from WAAPA (2022). At WAAPA, she played Ms Tottendale in *The Drowsy Chaperone* and wrote/performed in an original cabaret *The Quarter*. She completed the Shaun Rennie Music Theatre Ensemble at The Hub Studio, the Young Actors Studio at NIDA and was part of the Australian Girls' Choir for over a decade. In 2022 she performed in the *Wildheart Creatives' Christmas Cabaret*. Isha studied Politics & International Relations and enjoys exploring the intersection of politics and theatre. 'I'm incredibly excited to be developing *DreamRunners* with Mike Lotzof and the cast.'



SARA CAMARA
Astraea

Sara is delighted to make her professional Musical Theatre debut as lead 'Astraea' in *DreamRunners*. Her recent credits include *Into The Woods* (Cinderella) and *The Addams Family* (Morticia Addams) with the MMC Company. Sara is a graduate of Newtown High School of the Performing Arts and is set to study Musical Theatre at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music.



JULIA PIERETTE
Gaia

Julia is thrilled to be a part of the development of this epic piece and is honoured to be playing the role of Gaia, the earth goddess. Nature has never been something Julia views as separate from herself but rather something she is connected to. In May, she'll be at the Flightpath Theatre as the murdered, unidentified *Pyjama Girl*, in the cabaret style musical by the same name. Notable stage credits include the powerful production *Three Winters Green*, Lambert House Enterprises & the titillating musical production *BERLIN: The Last Cabaret*, Vancouver City Opera.



MARK POWER
Armageddon

Mark recently played Victor in *Butcherbird*. Mark starred as Max Bialystock in *The Producers* and Edna Turnblad in *Hairspray*. He understudied for Australian entertainment legend Jon English in *Hairspray*; played Burt Healy in Packemin's *Annie* and Baloo in *Jungle Book* at The King St Theatre. Recently Mark played Maurice in Packemin's *Beauty and the Beast*. Credits include King Arthur in *Monty Python's Spamalot*, The Sergeant of Police in *Pirates of Penzance*, Roy in *Così*, Herman in *Sweet Charity*, Bamatabois in *Les Misérables* and Mr Bumble in *Oliver!*



ISAAC BROADBENT
Karma

Isaac received a Dip. of Musical Theatre from NIDA and a BFA (Music Theatre) from Vic. College of Arts. He's worked with Phillip Quast and performed in *Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown* and the Australian Premiere of *Ex Machina*, Eugene Matterson in *The Hello Girls*, Marvin in *Sweet Charity* and in the self-devised *Mongrel*. Since graduating, Isaac has appeared in ASC's *Wind in the Willows* as Ratty and Toad. He worked with RGM productions workshoping *Starstruck: The Musical* and as Clay in *Relative Merits*, winning a Glug Award. Recently Isaac starred in *Jumpers For Goalposts* and is currently directing a new Australian musical *Rabbits on a Red Planet*.



NURJHAN TOI
Salvo

Nurjhan is a triple-threat performer recently graduating with a diploma in musical theatre from NIDA. She is featured in an upcoming short film and has done multiple music gigs for charity events to raise money for not-for-profit organisations. She will play the role of Evangelist and is excited to take on this role and bring her signature enthusiasm and energy to the stage. Nurjhan is passionate about using her talents to make a difference, and this production is an opportunity for her to do just that. She can't wait to collaborate with a new team and feels honoured to be a part of *DreamRunners*.



GERWIN WIDJAJA
Ensemble

Gerwin graduated from National Theatre's Music Theatre course in 2000 under the direction of Mark Jones. His stage credits include: Phra Alack in *The King and I*, *Naked Boys Singing!*, Chantal in *La Cage aux Folles*, *Equus* and *Privates on Parade*. He was recently seen as Gede in Stan's mini-series *Bali 2002*. Other TV credits include Sunny in *The Very Trevor Ashley Show*, *The Code* and *Barons*. Film credits include Les Girl in *Carlotta* and Tran Lo in *Without Warrant*. His career highlight to date is being directed by Ron Howard in *Thirteen Lives*, where he worked alongside Viggo Mortensen and Colin Farrell. He's excited to be part of *Dream Runners* workshop to bring the music and story to life.



EMMA FLYNN
Ensemble

Emma Flynn, a performer from the UK recently moved to Sydney. Since graduating she has set up her own children's theatre company, Magic Elf Theatre, in which she has written and starred in productions such as *Snow White* and *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*. She's performed as a vocalist at a variety of events across the UK and appeared in musical theatre productions such as *Spring Awakening* & *Be More Chill*. She now performs in Australia and is very excited to be joining the cast of *DreamRunners*.



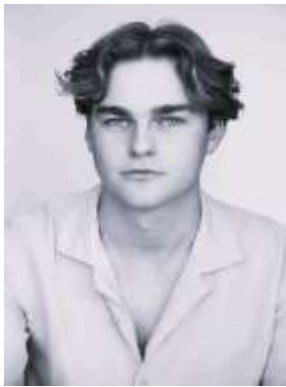
LISA CALLINGHAM
Mother/Choreographer/
Ensemble

Lisa is a singer, dancer, actor and choreographer. Credits include *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Jerry's Girls*, *Hot Shoe Shuffle*, *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, *Oscar's Turn to Sing* and *What the World Needs Now*. She starred in *Pippin* as Fastrada, *Hello Again* as The Whore, Jenna in *The Goodbye Girl*, Maggie in *A Chorus Line*, Bonnie-Mae in *Miracle City* and was an original member of The Trio, Shena, *The Boy from Oz*. Lisa has performed live and recorded with Marcia Hines, Paulini, Paul Mac, Chrissie Amphlett, The Eurogliders, Rhonda Burchmore, Christine Anu, Caroline O'Connor and Deni Hines. In 2022 she choreographed *Anyone Can Whistle* and was Associate Director/Choreographer on both *Singin' In The Rain* In Concert & *Nice Work If You Can Get It*.



NOAH RAYNER
Ensemble

Noah is an accomplished and versatile performer, playing roles such as Enjolras in *Les Misérables*, J.D. in *Heathers*, Stacey Jaxx in *Rock of Ages* and The Beast/Prince in *Beauty and the Beast*. Noah appeared in *Kinky Boots* at The Ensemble in 2022 as well as Musical Directing and performing in *None of Woman Born*. Noah also starred in the original production and workshop of *Where Life Suits Me* about the life of Beatrix Potter playing Norman Warne. Noah has a Diploma of Musical Theatre from NIDA and a Bachelor of Music and Sound Design from UTS, Sydney.



JUSTIN WISE
Narrator/Ensemble

Justin is a Melbourne based performer and graduate of WAAPA receiving a Bachelor of Music Theatre. He first fell in love with performing in his final year of school. Through years of dedicated training and performing experience his credits include Stanford in *Brightstar*, Terry Connors in *Side Show*, Fatty Arbuckle in *Mack and Mabel* and Ensemble/Sid U.S. in *The Pajama Game*. Originally from the Gold Coast, Justin is excited to bring this musical to life as he joins the cast of *DreamRunners* in Sydney.



HANNAH CARMAN
Ensemble

Hannah, actress, singer/songwriter, writer and producer has acted and sung since age 8. Recently, she appeared in the 2023 web-series *Soul Stories*, YouTube channel *Fearless Soul*, boasting over 3.4 million subscribers. Short films include *Behind Our Scars*, dir. Peter Blackburn. In 2021, she was selected as a Top 20 finalist for the Carmen Duncan Scholarship and was a youth ambassador for Sydney's Griffin Theatre Company. In 2022, she studied at the American Arts Film and TV Academy, co-produced, wrote, sung and starred in her own musical short film *The Five Stages* which premiered in the LA 2022 AAFTA Film Festival and was nominated for multiple awards including 'Best Female Actor' and 'Best Producer'.

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STEWART D'ARRIETTA
Musical Arranger

Stewart is known as 'the piano guy' in *Lennon Through A Glass Onion* that he and John Waters co-created in 1992. It remains one of Australia's best loved musical theatre productions. He was musical director of: *The White Album Concert* and *Beatles Back To Back*. Stewart brings his own interpretation to the music of some of the greatest songwriters including John Lennon, Leonard Cohen, Tom Waits & Randy Newman. His new show *Radio Luxembourg* will be staged when he returns from his European summer tour.



JULIAN DUNNE
Sound & Lighting

Julian is a theatrical technician new to the industry, but excited to be given the opportunity to work on a new project.

Passionate about live events, he has worked from amateur theatre and pub gigs to professional orchestras most recently at the Angel Place Theatre.

A musician and aspiring playwright himself, being given a glimpse even further 'behind the curtain,' is a dream come true for Julian.



CAREN TRAFFORD
Producer/Stage Manager

Caren is best known for creating a library of environmental children's books that have been translated and sold all around the world. The Aussie kids favourites are, *Where does the POO go when you flush?* and *It's a Climate for Change*. She has travelled extensively promoting environmental education for kids. She studied Producing at NIDA.

DreamRunners is the first show she's produced & stage managed. In addition she is managing media and promotions for *DreamRunners*.









ABOUT THE REBEL THEATRE

The Rebel Theatre places young people centre stage enabling Australia's future leading actors, playwrights and theatre-makers to walk its boards.

ATYP's new theatre that opened in 2022 was named in honour of ATYP Ambassador, Australian actor, singer, writer, comedian and producer, Rebel Wilson. She has been involved with the company since she was just nineteen.

Rebel Wilson started with ATYP as a workshop participant in the late nineties and was swiftly cast in ATYP productions. An ATYP staff member from 2000 – 2002, she won the Lendlease 2000 Scholarship launched by Nicole Kidman in 2002, which allowed her to enrol at the New York Film Academy and the Second City Training Centre. Her time overseas during this scholarship inspired her to make her name as a comedic actress.

The theatre is in the Walsh Bay Arts Precinct, created to provide a public arts and cultural hub on Sydney's famous waterfront, while preserving its iconic heritage.



Thank you to the following
supporting our performers.

DREAMRUNNERS

Cherry Spoor
Fiona Chapman
Elizabeth & Richard Deveson
Ruku & Parley Gill
Diane Ferrier
Michelle & Elliot Lotzof
Loretta & Julian McGrath
Elliott & Sam Yancy
Christopher Stenhouse
Graham & Diane Burman
Philip Lark
Skye & Rob Briggs
Richard White
Susanne & Russell Meares
Michelle & Phillip Bodiam
Michelle & Phil Carlyle
David Barnes
Janet Alexander

Jen & Saung Chiu
Nola Ainsworth
Graham & Adele
Karen & Robaire Wildau
Heather & Hugh Loewenthal
Judi & Doug Horton
Ron Whyte

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If you'd consider a gift to our performers



