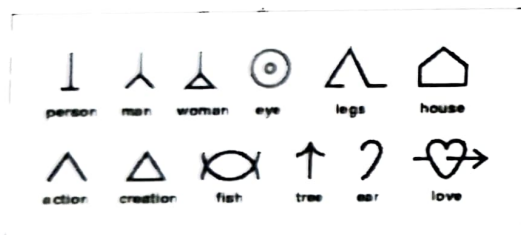




Sylvia Hartgen, Jackie Smith, Jem Hartgen and Joel Hartgen - My Life, My Love 2002 Adelaide Festival



About Bliss Symbols

Bliss symbols combined the logic of science, pictographs and graphic icons like arrows and geometry to form complex meanings and Jem greatly admired Charles Bliss the chemical engineer and holocaust survivor who conceived and designed this visual language system to bring people closer together. Bliss believed that war was often caused by the misuse of language, and could be avoided if we could create a way to communicate the truth without the trickery of words. Having lived through the hell of Nazi concentration camps, he set about creating the perfect language based on symbols and logic, which however went unrecognised until a teacher discovered it and began using it to communicate with students living with cerebral palsy who couldn't speak. The children quickly picked up the language and made it their own. In *Eye Music* we've tried to show the connection between Jem's eyes and the 500 symbols on the Bliss board attached to his wheelchair. As Jem said: "Bliss symbols gave me a voice. Without that board no-one would have known I had a brain."

Tutti Arts
presents



SEX, RELIGION, MONEY, POLITICS...

How do you communicate about life's BIG QUESTIONS when you can't speak?

EYE MUSIC is adventurous, accessible music theatre inspired by a young man whose sole means of communication is through his eyes.

State Opera Studio • 22–31 May 2014

Director's Notes

I've never met Jeremy Hartgen, but I've been inspired learning about his life. Eye Music began through conversations between Pat Rix and Jeremy in the final year of his life. My involvement came six years later, after many stages and influences to the project. It's been a privilege and a daunting task to come into a project with such a long history about such an inspirational man and his truly amazing family.

I'm in awe of the beauty and bravery of Jem's family – Sylvia, Jackie and Joel – and struck by the joy and pain they must have experienced through Jeremy's journey. Though the details of Eye Music have been distanced from the details of Jeremy's life, we wanted to tell the story with authenticity.

The representation of Jeremy has been crucially important. The story of Jem is of a contradiction between such an active mind and such a restrictive disability. In searching for authenticity, we were privileged to cast Anton, who shares a very similar experience of Cerebral Palsy to Jeremy. In doing so I hope we're able to provide an insight to the audience of Jeremy's, including the process of communication itself, which is indicative of the struggle faced day-to-day by people with such disabilities.

Edwin Kemp Attrill



Writer's Notes

Jeremy Hartgen once told me it was vital that people with disability tell their stories because they usually have to survive some tough experiences which are rarely talked about, and they are too often invisible.

Jem first told me his story on a Bliss board back in February 2006 and ever since, I've wanted to bring it to the stage in a way that does justice to Jem, his mother Sylvia, sister Jackie, brother Joel, nephew Possum and childhood friend Wendy.

Although some names, events and details have been changed for dramatic effect and to protect privacy, Eye Music remains true to Jem's wish "that audiences would leave the theatre understanding that I am way more than my disability."

Above all Jem wanted Eye Music to be accessible to all people living with disability and to include Bliss symbols so that those familiar with Bliss language would understand and access the work on a different level. Jem clearly wanted an immersive theatre experience for audiences and I am forever indebted to Edwin Kemp Attrill, everyone on the creative and production teams and the amazing performers who have brought the power of Jem's personality and imagination to the stage.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank Catherine Campbell, Hew Parham, Jamie Jewell, Emma Salter, Alias Sluiter, Philip Griffin and everyone in Tutti who was with us on the first stage of this journey back in 2006.

Since then others have supported this project's progress and I sincerely thank Glenn Haydon, Sean Riley, Michael Hill and Chris Drummond for the insight and advice offered in recent years.

At its heart Eye Music is about how families survive tragedy and continue to support each other even when they disagree about the big stuff of life. I am deeply indebted to Sylvia, Jackie and Joel for their trust in me and in Tutti. Their part in Jem's story is testament to the remarkable courage, resilience and love which bind this family together.

Pat Rix



Creative Team Biographies

James Kurtze is a Visual and New Media artist working in the Tutti Visual Arts Studio. A self-confessed tech head, his works take on themes of horror, doom, comedy and new technologies as inspiration for digital photographic and video works. In 2011 Kurtze was awarded a Richard Llewellyn Arts and Disability Trust Emerging Artist Grant for Skills development for a mentorship in New Media. Later that year his work was projected onto the Festival Theatre sails during the SALA Moving Image festival. He has presented at numerous conferences including "Conquering Public Spaces", Prague, Czech Republic, "AS WE ARE", Western Australia, and "Arts Activated" NSW. In 2012 Kurtze received his third grant to develop and create animated film called 'EYE TV, which won an award for 'Best Special Effects' at the 2013 Oskia Bright Film Festival, Brighton, UK. Inspired by the Oskia Bright learning disability led film festival model, James is a founding committee member of Sit Down Shut Up & Watch! - Australia's first disability led film and new media festival.



Grateful thanks

Tutti is one of Australia's leading disability arts companies working with disabled and non-disabled people to create *Inclusive Extraordinary Art*. Tutti is a place where the arts unlock creativity and talent, enabling individuals and groups to speak revealingly to everyone.

Tutti gratefully acknowledges the support of the Community Partnerships Section of the Australia Council, the Federal Government arts funding and advisory body, and the South Australian Government through Disability SA and Arts SA.

Many people have helped in many ways and Tutti would like to thank the following people and companies.

Deb Pahl	Access Arts Australia
Tim Sexton	Access 2 Arts
Alexandra Lopes	Glenn Rappensberg
Isabel Vanhakartano	Gianna Ferrara
Timothy White	PJ Rose and No Strings Attached Theatre of Disability
Natalia Kandybko	Jed Richards and the Macquarie Foundation
Kaye Jamieson	Staff at Coronation and Northlink
Ben Flett	Garage of Awesome, Dave Carey & Ross Smith
Andrew Downing	Urban Myth Theatre of Youth
David Holst	ROLA Australia
Wendy Todd	
Marie Docking	

Finally, special thanks to our front of house volunteers: Kellie, Amanda, Mark, Fran, Anna, Pat, Shelley, Cass, Linda, Daniel, Annie, Judy, Steven, Keith, Dana, Caroline, Nadine, Anne, Alison, Jacky, Margo, Liz, Megan, Michelle, Bruce, Kate and Trish.



Adtrans

Cast Biographies

Anton Sgrillo (Jem) began Northlink drama workshops with No Strings Attached in 2005. He has been part of Connect and the Awakenings Festival in Horsham. Anton worked with Alison Currie as part of 2009 Duet project and most recently in Mixed Doubles 2012.

Anton's favourite pastime is listening to music, especially the Beatles.



Jacqui Phillips (Sylvia) I have 37 professional years in the business and 61 since I first trod the boards as a rabbit and a flame in my grandfather's pantomime, "Robin of the Greenwood", directed by my mother. I was 6! Despite the fact that Australia is now a third world country as far as Government patronage of the arts, my performing career has been rich. I never have been, but 'R' has.

Thanks especially to Don Dunstan. Without you, it would never have happened. There were 2 years of halcyon days in "Lighthouse", Jim Sharman's flagship company, 3 years with the original Maggie T.I.E. Company, playing the original Irene

in "Home And Away" and Pirate Jenny in "The Threepenny Opera" twice, (Sydney Theatre Company and Wagga Wagga). I created and performed "I Love You Tookey" about Australia's first recorded female Jazz Singer, and bussed around the world as half of the duo Tin Can Alley. I have performed my own story at the Festival Theatre, and being Macbeth and the awful Mrs. Oribbage in 'Red Dog'. Now I'm working on my friend Pat Rix's play for her wonderful company, Tutti Arts.

You wouldn't be dead for quids, would yer!?

Tamara Lee (Jockie) After graduating from the Centre for the Performing Arts, Tamara Lee spent some time touring interstate and regional SA with Splash Theatre Company. Over the years she had the privilege of working with Geoff Crowhurst on several productions including 'The Truce' and 'Don's Party'. Tamara has worked in Fringes with Chopt Logic Theatre Company, Holden Street Theatres, Junglebean and SULIS Theatre Company from the UK. In 2008 she first performed the one-woman play 'A Solitary Choice', directed by Michael Allen, which went on to tour the Edinburgh Fringe, Seymour Centre in Sydney, Theatre Works in Melbourne and the Kansas City Fringe in the US. In the five-point-one Adelaide Premier of 'That Face' she played Martha for which she won the Adelaide Critics Choice Award. She was in Flying Penguins' 2013 production 'The Dark Room' for the State Theatre Company's Umbrella initiative. Her film and TV credits include 'Look Both Ways', 'Closed for Winter', 'The Marriage of Figaro' and 'McLeod's Daughters'; as well as enjoying taking part in various short films such as; 'Aunt Joan's Friendly Grotto', 'One Mans Treasure', 'The Luck of the Irish' and 'Things Have Changed'. She is honoured to be working with Tutti Arts on 'Eye Music'.



Roy Stewart (Joel) has been part of the Tutti Performing Arts Ensemble since 2008. Roy's passions are comedy and drama and his acting credits include Rapper 1 in *Ten Ways to Love* - 2010, a Villager in *The Shouting Fence* - 2009 and Keeper of the Sevenfold Seal of the Sun in *The Magic Flute* - 2011. Roy has recently been part of the creative development of the *Square project: Parallel Lives* with Tutti's performing Arts Ensemble and is thrilled to be playing the role of Joel in *Eye Music*.

Brenton John Shaw (Passum) is a performer. Personal highlights include; Theatre: *Baal*, *Hitler's Daughter*, Musicals: *Let It Be*, *Oliver*, *10 Ways to Love*, Operas: *My Life, My Love, The Shouting Fence, The Magic Flute*, and Cabarets: *Everybody Does Love Songs*. He is a graduate of UniSA with a Bachelor of Media Arts - Performing Arts, and is currently studying an Arts Honours in musical theatre composition. He has been a member of Tutti since the age of eight, and is deeply humbled for the opportunity to take part in making the life of the remarkable man that was Jean.



Cast Biographies

Kathryn Hall (Wendy) has been a member of No Strings Attached Theatre of Disability workshop programs since 2008. She has performed at several of The Awakenings Festivals and Connect, and has 2 years' experience in the comedy workshop program "Cracking Up" run by the Mental Health Coalition. She has also been a part of No String's 18 month training program "Preparing The Garden" This is Kathryn's first performance with Tutti Arts.



Alistair Brasted (Jem's inner voice) joined Tutti in 2003 and sang a lead role in Tutti's 2003 Come Out production *Singing of Angels*. Since then Ali has performed as a soloist in many Tutti concerts and music-theatre productions including *Circles* 2004.

Between the Worlds 2005 Adelaide and Awakenings Festival Horsham productions, *The Shouting Fence* - 2009, *ONE* - 2010 and *The Magic Flute* - 2011. Recent concerts include *Rites of Passage* 2012 and *Saltwater Songs* 2013. Ali is a member of the Restless adult ensemble. He has studied singing with Peter Hopkins and performed with the State Opera Chorus for SOSA's 2004 production of *Wagner's Ring Cycle* and in their 2010 production of Verdi's *Aida*. Ali's favourite pastime is

Elliot Galvin has been caring for Anton since 2012 at his CARA supported accommodation and Eye Music is his first involvement with Anton's aspiring theatre career. His hobbies include basketball, travel and pushing Anton on the wheelchair swing.

Creative Team Biographies

Pat Rix began writing in the mid 80's co-writing several award winning - *Windows*, *Decibels* and *Wild Girl* which premiered at the Adelaide Fringe Festivals, Melbourne's Next Wave Festival and toured Australia. *Square Pegs*, *Freeway* and *Wild Rice* for Junction Theatre followed. *Wild Rice* had three productions, most recently by Yellow Earth Theatre, East London for Typhoon6 in 2012. In the 90's Pat co-wrote and composed *Mad Wicked Folly* and *Allegro* for Mainstreet Theatre and contributed to Vitalstatistix hit touring show, *Titbits*. In 2000 she wrote *Is That All There Is?* for Performing Lines and the Paralympic Arts Festival. Retitled as *Bananas* this show enjoyed a production by Vitalstatistix followed by sellout season in Vancouver for Canada's 2001 KickART Festival. Since 2001 Pat has concentrated on developing original work with and for Tutti including the award winning *My Life, My Love* with State Theatre Company (2002 Adelaide Festival), *Singing of Angels* (Come Out 2003), *Melrose Under the Big Top* (2003) and *Circles* (2004). Pat was also librettist for *Towards White Skies* composed by Natalie Williams and premiered by Tutti, the Big Country Choir and Adelaide Symphony Orchestra for the 2003 Bundaleer Forest Festival. Other highlights include productions of *Between the Worlds* (writer/composer) and the award winning *Northern Lights Southern Cross* (lyricist/composer) at Mixed Blood Theatre and The Guthrie Theatre, Minneapolis in 2007 and 2009 respectively. Pat has a strong commitment to social justice and ensuring the talents of artists with learning disability are developed and recognised.

Edwin Kemp Attrill is a theatre director and producer. He is the former Artistic Director of the University of Adelaide Theatre Guild (2011-2012) and the founder and inaugural Artistic Director of ActNow Theatre for Social Change (2007-2010). Highlights include as a director of *Nineteen Eighty Four* (Urban Myth, 2008), *The Revolution Starts Here* (ActNow Theatre, 2009) *Expect Respect!* (Legal Services Commission of South Australia, 2010-2012) *An Enemy of the People* (ActNow Theatre, 2010), *Angone* (University of Adelaide Theatre Guild, 2012), *The Merchant of Venice* (Theatre Guild 2012), as assistant director on *Skip Millers Hit Songs* (Berk Productions, 2011) and as an actor in the Indian tour of *The Pirates Ship* (Urban Myth, 2009). As a community arts practitioner, Edwin has worked extensively with people with disabilities, prisoners, refugees and migrants. He holds a diploma in Theatre Arts through Victoria University. In 2013, Edwin received the Professional Leadership Award in the 2013 Channel 9 Young Achiever Awards.

Creative Team Biographies

Julian Jaensch has been performing in theatre and dance since he was 14 years old. He was a member of Newmet Youth Dance and graduated from the Centre for Performing Arts in 1999. He has worked as an actor for Lightning Strike, Chopted Logic, Bakehouse Theatre Company, Budgie Lung, Empty Space Theatre Company and Beating Heart Theatre for the 2014 Adelaide Fringe Festival. Julian choreographed 'Centrelink the Musical' for the 2008 Adelaide and 2009 Melbourne Fringe Festivals. He began working with AAA, a social group with a performance focus at Autism SA in 2006 and turned it into a theatre company, launching Company @ in 2009 as Artistic Director. Julian has written and directed all of Company @'s productions, the most recent being History of Autism for the 2014 Fringe Festival. Julian is dedicated to building the company and using it as a vehicle for perceptual and social change for people on the Autism Spectrum.



Alies Sluiter is a composer for feature films (*The Lookalike*, *Summer Coda*), documentaries, television (CNN, BBC, ABC, SBS and Foxtel), music, theatre and dance productions. She is also a multi-instrumentalist who has performed in over 50 countries. Alies has worked with a diverse range of artists including composers Nitin Sawhney and Phillip Smeopore, musicians Aref Durvesh and Ray Chen, singers Faheem Mazhar, Netsav Chanderdere, Hugh Jackman and Natalie Imbruglia, choreographers Akram Khan, Lin Hwai-min and Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, ballerina Sylvie Guillen, sculptor Antony Gormley and The Shaolin Monks of China. In 2005, British producer Nitin Sawhney invited Alies to perform in *After Shock UK* and *Zero Degrees* (Helpmann Award, 2007 and nominations for the Olivier Award, Critics Circle Award and Time Out Award). She went on to Musically Direct *The Mahabharata* (a collaboration with Olivier Award winning writer Stephen Clark), compose for Akram Khan's *Lost Shadows*, musically direct *Netsav's* European and Asian tours (2007-2008) and compose and produce the critically acclaimed *Picture Box Orchestra Album* (2012). Alies is currently composing for the US feature film *Sugar Mountain* and recording her second album (Mushroom Music Publishing/BMC Chrysalis) after performances at festivals including WOMAdelaide, Bellinger, Glastonbury and the Nannup Music Festival.



Nic Mollison has been working as a freelance stage lighting & projection designer for over 15 years, working with many of South Australia's theatre, dance & youth arts companies on local, national & international productions. Nic has designed lighting & video projections for concerts, festivals, nightclubs & visual art installations. Nic has worked previously with Tutti on *The Shouting Fence* and *The Magic Flute* both at the State Opera Studio.

Some of Nic's other design credits include video design for *Superheroes* by Stone Castro, *Brink* production, acclaimed production of *When the Rain Stops Falling* & the Ruby Award winning production *Man! If you are Jesus* for State Theatre Company of South Australia. Lighting & video designs for *Involuntary* and *Pomero Road* with One Point 618, *Escape*, *Sewer*, *Wanderlust* & *Breathe* by Leigh Warren & Dancers, *Min-min*, *Soaring*, *Crossing Paths* & *Of The Future* for Kulture Youth Performing Arts, *Sonic Landscapes* for The Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, *Maestro*, *Waiting for Godot* & *Lion Pig Lion* for The State Theatre Company Of South Australia & *On Egg, Sc...* *I Killed a Few People*, *Norway Today* & *Dugfall* with ThemaGen. Nic has lectured in lighting at the Adelaide Centre of the Arts & UniSA Magill.



Manda Webber is a Producer and Production Designer for Theatre and Events. She designed set and costumes for *As you Like It* and *Richard III* (dir. Terence Crawford), *Wintertown* and *Window World* (dir. Paulo Castro), *Little Shop of Horrors* (dir. Paul Peters), *One for the Ugly Girls* (dir. Adriane Bonaccorso) and *No More Shall We For* and *The Web* (dir. Yasmin Gurreebu), and *The Luke* (dir. Edwin Kemp). Manda is also a Producer and Production Designer for film and television. Her award winning short *A Tale of Obsession* screened at prestigious festivals across Australia, made its international debut in London and aired nationally on SBS television. Recently she coproduced Soul Play's *Macbeth*, and designed the No Strings Attached and Paulo Castro creative development, *Angels*. In 2013, Manda won the Beridgu and Adelaide Bank Award, and most recently the award for Best Production Design at the 2014 South Australian Screen Awards.



Cast and Crew

Cast

Jem
Sylvia
Jackie
Joel
Possum
Wendy
Jem's inner voice
Jem's support worker

Anton Sagrillo
Jacqy Phillips
Tamara Lee
Roy Stewart
Brenton Shaw
Kathryn Hall
Alistair Brasted
Elliot Galvin

Film Sequence Crew

Director Edwin Kemp Attrill
Director of Photography Nic Mollison
Camera Juha Vanhakartano
Composer Alies Sluiter
Sound Alies Sluiter
Lighting Nic Mollison
Gaffer Peter Zaika
Grip Julian Jaensch

Film Sequence Actors

Girls in car
Pastor Bob
Boy in the fridge

Isabel Vanhakartano
Alexandra Lopes
Juha Vanhakartano
Timothy White

Production Team

Project Manager Rachel Fisher
Production Manager Juha Vanhakartano
Stage Manager Daniel Van Nek
Sound Engineer Nigel Sweeting
Set Construction Manda Webber
Brook O'Connor

Creative Team

Writer
Director
Assistant Director
Composer/Musical Director
Lighting and Projection Design
Designer
Assistant to Nic Mollison
Guitars
Bass
Violin and Piano

Pat Rix
Edwin Kemp Attrill
Julian Jaensch
Alies Sluiter
Nic Mollison
Manda Webber
James Kurtze
Cliff Stoddart
Tom Leach
Alies Sluiter

Lighting Technician/
AV Operator
Front of House Manager
Marketing and PR
Marketing, PR and Program
Flyer and poster design
Social Media support

Peter Zaika
Ceri Homer
Linda Jacobssen
Rebecca Jeffries
Pavlos Soteriou
Phi Theodoros

Disability Access

Auslan Interpretation Amber Veneer
Pip Cody
Audio Description Eliza Lovell

To find out more about Tutti Arts please head to our website www.tutti.org.au or find us on facebook www.facebook.com/TuttiInc

If you would like to speak to us, to make a donation or to find out ways you can become involved please ring Rebecca Jeffries on 8422 6511