With Thanks to

CIL School Executive: Clayton MacKenzie, Jodie George, Kerry Maccini & Brad West plus Margaret Fewster, Andrei Gostin & Aleksandra Vergulis.

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Special thank you to Tutti visual artist Kimberley Sellers for the Six Swans artwork

Bachelor of Arts (Performing Arts)

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Communication. International Studies and Languages



















The University of South Australia in collaboration with Tutti Arts present the Australian premiere of the one act opera

SIX SWANS

Performed by third year UniSA Media & Performing Arts students and Tutti Arts soloists with the acclaimed Tutti Choir

> 9-13 June 2015 Hartley Playhouse, UniSA Magill Campus

> > Directed by Russell Fewster Score by Richard Chew Adapted by Jehane Markham



Communication, International Studies





SIX SWANS

PRODUCERS

Russell Fewster & Pat Rix

CREATIVE TEAM

Director Russell Fewster
Composer/Musical Director Richard Chew
Conductor Brenton Shaw
Adaptation Jehane Markham
Assistant Director Jack Erickson
Screen Visual Design Joshua Snares & Susan
Sohar
Costume Design Kerri Reid
Costume Assistants Rebecca Langman, Callie
Simpson, Kathryn Charnock & Lei Thung Tan
Make-up Callie Simpson

PRODUCTION TEAM

Production Manager Tayla Stabile
Production Supervisor Ceri Horner
Video Operation Joshua Snares
Sound Operation Stuart Pike & Darren
Richardson
Lighting Consultant Nic Mollison
Lighting Design & Operation Carl Alconaba
Stage Manager Nicole Roach
Technical Support Justin McGuinness & Peter
Nielsen

PUBLICITY & DOCUMENTATION

Publicity Manager Tamara Mascarenhas, Publicity Assistants Nicole Kochanowski & Ly Nguyen Documentation Matthew Phillips



CAST In Order of Appearance

Narrators Aimee Crather and Dayn Charnock, Rebecca Langman & Julia Mayer Old King Brenton Shaw Old Queen Julia Mayer Young Daughter Cathryn Charnock Swan Brothers Ali Bertoldi, Sam Bateman, Marni Greenshields, Sam Hill, Tim Jucius & Callie Simpson Daughter Hannah Nicholson Young King Alistair Brasted Huntsman Jack Erickson & Julia Mayer Queen/Ladies in Waiting Jemma Boyd, Eleni Galanos & Breeana Tully

TUTTI CHOIR

Choir Master Laura Ellis Choral Program Coordinator Sue Morley

Mark Andrew Sam Bateman Jacqueline Boxall Katherine Brake Alistair Brasted Aimee Crathern John Dally Judy Dally Marian Donders Annalise Donders **Andrew Downing** Donna Eerden Laura Ellis Greg Evangelou Kathryn Evans Trish Ferguson Rachel Fisher Rosalie Garland Chris Gliessert Megan Guster Michelle Hall Caroline Hardy Joel Hartgen Marion Harris Trish Hensley Jayne Hewetson Bethany Hewetson

Jane Hewitt Timothy Heywood-Smith Annika Hooper Douglas Jacobssen Julian Jaensch Marie Klaosen Joanna Klaosen Chris Koop Julianne Kuhlmann Pat Luscombe Susan May Jenna May Neil McCallum Sue Morley Sue Nicholls Natalie Papandrea Laura Quinlan Pat Rix **Bronywn Roberts** lackie Saunders Warwick Smith Charlie Taplin Keith Twartz Margo Wilson Joan Walsh

"The best fairytales are too easy for children and too difficult for adults."

Philip Pullman

A Note from The Producers

Six Swans is the first collaboration of its kind and we are thrilled to be working together on this production. Tutti is one of Australia's leading disability arts organisations- working to promote the work of disabled artists to the world, and UniSA is at the forefront of providing flexible, compelling industry-relevant learning experiences for students. Productions of this nature are immensely valuable because they break down barriers, enrich the lives of all participants, and create opportunities for graduating and emerging artists involved. We take this opportunity to acknowledge and congratulate the students, emerging artists, professional artists, community members and production crew whose commitment and passion have made this collaboration possible. We especially that Clayton MacKenzie and the School of Communication, International Studies and Languages for their great support of this brave new initiative.

Russell Fewster & Pat Rix

Director's Statement

When Richard approached me last year with the Swans project and the collaboration with Tutti Arts, I thought what a great idea. Richard's score is many levelled: fast paced and reflective, dynamic and unsettling and ultimately affirming. Tutti bring a wealth of experience and freshness to the project whilst the students have risen to the occasion. The project is thus multi-dimensional comprising live music, mime, song, choir, lighting, video and sound. The story similarly, like all great folk tales works on a number of different levels, warning against hubris, jealousy while praising those that work quietly in the background.

Dr Russell Fewster

Composer's Note

I wrote the community opera Six Swans with renowned poet Jehane Markham as a commission for the UK-based theatre company Wonderful Beast in 2014. The work was produced in the atmospheric setting of Leiston Abbey in Suffolk as the centrepiece of the storytelling festival Storm of Stories, with a company of professional singers and musicians joining forces with local school children, community singers and instrumentalists from Aldeburgh Young Musicians. It's always a thrill to witness a diverse group of people work together to tell a story and make it their own. This new production is no exception, integrating the talents of singers from Tutti Arts and students from UniSA for the first time. Six Swans is a tale of transformation and self sacrifice in the quest for truth. It also reminds us that love is not ultimately about what we say, but what we are prepared to do.

Dr Richard Chew

Tutti's Note

Richard Chew has been part of Tutti since 2009 when Tutti and State Opera presented the Australian Premiere of Shouting Fence, a profoundly moving work set in Syria which premiered in London in 1998. Russell Fewster and I had also been looking for a way to collaborate. When in 2012 Rick became Director of the Tutti Choir, his music proved a fertile common ground to bring Tutti and UniSA's final year performing arts students together for Six Swans. From day one, Six Swans has been a joy for Tutti soloists in principal roles and choir members to work on. Like all enduring fairytales it moves with a dreamlike speed from event to event, and we have all gained tremendously from working with Russell as a very physical theatre director and Richard as composer of this striking and very uplifting score.

All we need is the word 'Once . . . ' and we're off!

Pat Rix, Tutti Artistic Director