



# AUCKLAND MUSIC THEATRE

QUARTERLY  
2021  
VOL. 1

## LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Kia ora AMT whānau,

We are very excited to bring you the first AMT newsletter for 2021!

A big thank you to Jo for putting it together, and to all the contributors for your time and effort to make it happen. Our aim is to produce a quarterly newsletter to keep our members updated on what is happening with AMT, but also within our wider community.

2021 has kicked off with a bang, and has been full steam ahead all the way! We began with our yearly family BBQ - it was a wonderful chance to catch up with our AMT family and share a few laughs and stories following the Christmas mayhem.

February saw the staging of *The Laramie Project* - a poignant and emotional play centered around the horrific murder of Matthew Shepard. The Laramie Project cast and crew, directed by Nick Brown and production managed by Charlotte Carroll (her first PM role), navigated through lockdown delays and other challenges to produce a beautiful, heartbreaking performance that our audiences were moved by.

The end of March saw a changing of the guard with a number of the Executive Committee members stepping down to have a well-earned rest. I would like to express my personal thanks on behalf of the current committee to Melissa, Susan, David and particularly Richard, for the time and dedication you have given to the society over a number of years, and especially for keeping the lights on through a challenging 2020.



AMT QUIZ NIGHT!

THE WINNERS



## DATES TO REMEMBER



3rd of July  
That Bloody  
Woman Opening  
Night!

That Bloody  
Woman  
runs  
till July 17th.



The new Executive Committee has hit the ground running - we ran a couple of strategic planning days in April and May to identify the key areas we need to focus on, based on member feedback and our own experiences over the years. From this, we have begun to build our new strategic plan to continue to make AMT the best it can be and to develop on what has already been achieved. This is a work in progress but we are already taking steps to implement it.

One of the key areas we identified to work on is our engagement with our members, and we were thrilled to host our first member event for 2021. The quiz night was a fantastic event, with approximately 50 people attending, including current and non-members.

Congratulations to Big Dick's Team (a reference to our next musical) led by Steve King, who took out the top prize on the night. Thank you to all who attended, and also to our wonderful supporters who donated prizes - Devonport Chocolates, Sky City, Odyssey Sensory Maze, and 14oz Jeans. We look forward to bringing you another member event soon - watch this space!

We are also very excited to share our new logo and website. Both have been ongoing projects for quite some time, and we are extremely grateful to all those who have contributed to their development. We would like to extend a special thank you to *Enny Benzonelli* for his ongoing work on the website, and to *Flip Hirst* and *Dave Clark Design* for donating their time and creativity to our new logo. You can read more about the logo design and meaning further in this newsletter.

Our current focus is now on our next production - *That Bloody Woman*. This show is a wonderful display of the creative talent we are fortunate to have in New Zealand, both onstage and off. Richard, Teesh and Chris have been working hard with our brilliant cast to craft this into a rocking piece of theatre! Our volunteers have been busy in the background getting all the little but very important details together, and we have no doubt this will be a truly rad show, so book your tickets NOW via iTicket. The season runs from 3-17 July and is already selling well so don't miss out!

We will also be supporting local charity *The Aunties* with the option to make a donation when purchasing tickets, and also taking donations for them at the bar. *The Aunties* is based in South Auckland and supports a whānau of women and their families who have escaped domestic violence. They also source and provide access to warm bedding and clothing to a network of social services in South Auckland, raising funds and doing calls for items exclusively on social media. The connection between *That Bloody Woman's* themes of domestic abuse and women's empowerment made this an obvious connection, and we're proud to be able to support them in this way. If you want to find out more about them, visit their website.

We are currently working on our show schedule for the rest of 2021, and look forward to sharing that with you all soon. We are open to suggestions and proposals, so please get in touch.

On a personal note, I would just like to say a very big thank you to our Executive Committee for all the hard work and passion you have put into the first few months of our new team. It does not go unnoticed and I look forward to strengthening AMT's foundation and building on the exciting ideas and plans ahead.

Thank you also to you, our members, for your ongoing support and love for our club. You are the backbone that keeps us going, and we are grateful for the time you donate, the tickets you buy, the encouragement you provide and much more. We want to hear from you about how you would like to engage with the club, shows you want to see, activities you'd like us to do and your feedback on how we could improve. Please get in touch with us via the details at the end of this newsletter - this is your club, so let's work together to make it the best it can be!

So much has happened so far this year, so excuse the long report, but I am so excited to share it all with you! I hope to see you in the upcoming year at any and all of our upcoming events.

See you all at That Bloody Woman!

Lis  
Chairperson- Auckland Music Theatre

## AMT'S NEW LOGO!

The Executive Committee is very excited to share our new logo with you. The logo design has been a project that has been discussed and worked on for a number of years, stemming from the desire to bring the Auckland Music Theatre brand into the 21st century. We need to adapt to the growing focus toward digital-based marketing and communication. Our existing design has served us well in the past, but with the more commonly-used online platforms and smaller print forms used now, it is less effective.

We were very fortunate to have Flip Hirst of Dave Clark Design donate his time and expertise to helping us achieve these goals. Flip's clear passion and love for the club has been evident in the thought he has put into the design process, as well as his clear and concise feedback. Brand and logo design is a very expensive process, and we really did hit the jackpot here.

The design itself represents the arches of our building, but also our three main business areas - shows, wardrobe & props, and venue. The arches are also a nod to the traditional amphitheater and Auckland Music Theatre's reputation - standing as the longest running theatrical society in the Auckland region.



### The Design Elements

- The slight angle of the arches creates not only an interesting design element, but also forms the outline of a doorway in the centre of the arches - evoking a 'welcome, come on in' feeling.
- The single line forming the arches signifies the community connection and the embrace of the AMT family feeling we strive for.
- The asterisk star is a link to the star of our previous logo - the history, stories, memories and love of Auckland Music Theatre - and all those who have come before us, or are yet to be involved. It will also be used to form design elements with our marketing and communication, in simple but effective ways.
- The font provides a clear, easy-to-read name, with the slight curves and nuances accenting our creativity.

We looked at the logo in a variety of colours, and the purple hero colour was chosen for its bold look - we found it really stood out positively from the rest, which is what we want for AMT. This design allows us to easily interchange colours depending on the design elements of the show or communication, as needed.

Thank you to the committee - past and present - and all those who have contributed to this process. A lot of thought, time, effort and love has gone into our new logo and we are very proud of the outcome. We hope you are too.

We would like to extend a big thank you again to Flip and Dave Clark Design for the many hours you have dedicated to this project! You have done a wonderful job and we are truly grateful for all your hard work.



## TIME TO SAY FAREWELL TO...

## AND SAY HELLO TO...



# AUCKLAND MUSIC THEATRE

# READY FOR OUR NEXT SHOW!!

## *That* **BLOODY WOMAN**

by **Luke Di Somma**  
and **Gregory Cooper**



### Cast announcement

Kate Sheppard: Brie Hill

Richard "King Dick" Seddon: Steve King

Jennie Lovell-Smith: Kate Castle

Ada Wells: Kelly Lim Harris

William Lovell-Smith: Blair Annison-Chisholm

Walter Sheppard: Lance Ainofu

Mary Leavitt: Joanna Wood

Supporting roles/Ensemble: Daniel McLean,  
Emily Walker, Lili Taylor,  
Minouk van der Velde, Travis McWalter

By **Luke Di Somma & Gregory Cooper**

by special arrangement with Music Theatre International, Australasia



The creative team are all working hard, supported by our amazing volunteers, to bring you a totally rocking musical!

**Director**  
Richard Neame

**Choreographer**  
Teesh Szabo

**Musical Director**  
Chris Moore

**Assistant Choreographer**  
Tegan Hardy

**Hair & Makeup**  
Nick Hopkins

**Wardrobe**  
Tamsin Robinson

**Sound**  
Sam Mence of Creative Ambiance

**Lighting**  
Andrew Potvin

In arrangement with Music Theatre International, Australasia.  
Get your tickets now from iTICKET,  
our ticketing partner.



Our photos for shows and marketing are taken by the amazing Lyndon Katene.

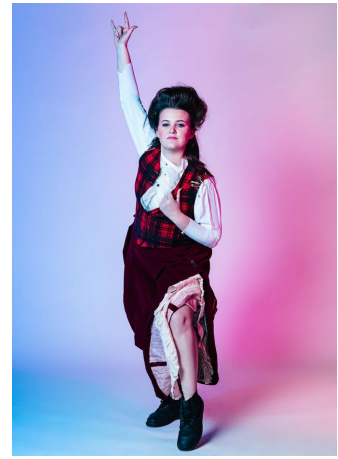
You can contact him for any future ventures of your own using the details below:

[www.lkcreative.co.nz](http://www.lkcreative.co.nz)  
[lyndon@lkcreative.co.nz](mailto:lyndon@lkcreative.co.nz)





## OUR TICKETING PARTNER



## CONTACT US

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Vice-Chairperson - Nick Brown - [vice-chairperson@aucklandmusictheatre.nz](mailto:vice-chairperson@aucklandmusictheatre.nz)

Secretary - Charlotte Carroll - [secretary@aucklandmusictheatre.nz](mailto:secretary@aucklandmusictheatre.nz)

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## OUR COMMITTEE

