



**ERICA MUSCAT
EDWARD THORPE
JOE DEPASQUALE
MYRON ELLUL
DAVID MUSCAT
KATIE GRECH LUPI
SHAZNAY MANGION**

WAIT UNTIL DARK

**BY FREDERICK KNOTT
DIRECTED BY TYRONE GRIMA**

MADC PLAYHOUSE, ST VENERA
22/23/24/29/30 APRIL & 1/6/7/8 MAY 2022 AT 7:30PM



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

I have always been intrigued by the notion of fear. I believe it is the rawest emotion that we can experience as human beings that goes beyond any form of rationality. When we are afraid, we do not allow our brains to sabotage our feelings. We may fight. We may flee. We may freeze. But whatever we do, it is an emotional reaction.

I was equally intrigued by the fact that despite the various successful horror and thriller films, on a local level, fear has not been explored sufficiently in the theatre. And yet, the few times that I have experienced fear in local productions was electrifying and spine tickling, and possibly more effective than on the screen. Therefore, when MADC offered me the opportunity to direct *Wait Until Dark*, I seized the opportunity. Together with a highly talented cast, and a very efficient crew, we generated and experimented with ideas to make this experience engaging. We exploited the intimacy of the theatre to create a piece that immerses the audience on more than one level. I thank them wholeheartedly for being so generous and patient with me, and for going along with all the proposed ideas!

On a totally different note, this play is also the journey of a woman towards her independence. This was an aspect that we also gave importance to, particularly in the light of the recent sad events that have happened in our country. Suzy represents womanhood, and shows the strength that women have in their struggle in a patriarchal society. Her journey is symbolic of the journey of every single woman, and her success is a beacon of hope for better days where sexism and discrimination will be only sad memories of a past that should have never been.



TYRONE GRIMA

Tyrone Grima is a theatre practitioner and lecturer in the Performing Arts at MCAST. He also lectures in Theatre Studies at the University of Malta. Although Tyrone began his adventure in the world of theatre as an actor – he trained at the Drama Unit Theatre Programme from 1994 till 1997 – he shifted to the director's seat by 2004. He has directed a number of plays, but his all-time favourites are *Bariona* (2010); *Children of a Lesser God* (2015); *Antigone* (2018) and *Agnes of God* (2020).

Tyrone is also a playwright and has directed some of the plays he has written, such as *Michel* in 2009, the first LGBT play written in Maltese, and *Zayden*, a one-person performance about homelessness in Malta. Although petrified of electricity (to a shameful level of only having changed a light bulb once in his entire life!), he frequently ventures out of his comfort zone by exploring plays heavily dependent on technology, like *Mill-Kċina ta' Connor* (2020) and *Zoom* (2021).

CAST

Susy Henderson	Erica Muscat
Roat	Edward Thorpe
Mike	Myron Ellul
Croker	Joe Depasquale
Sam Henderson	David Muscat
Gloria (22, 23, 24 April and 8 May)	Katie Grech Lupi
Gloria (29, 30 April and 1, 6 and 7 May)	Shaznay Mangion

CREW

Director	Tyrone Grima
Executive Producer	Paula Fleri-Soler
Stage Manager	Rachel Galea
ASM	Faye Mallia
Set Construction	Rachel Galea, Iona Saillard, Maya Micallef Engerer, Madeleine Abela, Mira Bharwani, Louise Azzopardi
Backstage Crew	Iona Saillard, Maya Micallef Engerer, Jack De Maria Casabene
Props	Louise Azzopardi
Assisted by	Francesca Zerafa
Set Design	Rachel Galea
Costume Design	Nicole Cuschieri
Lighting Design	Gianluca Bianco
Sound Design	Jack de Maria Casabene
Lights operated by	Gianluca Bianco
Sound operated by	Faye Mallia
Photography	Justin Mamo
Publicity	Finesse Group, Martin Azzopardi and Francesca Briffa
Covid Manager	Martin Azzopardi
Covid Safety Team	Martin Azzopardi, Francesca Briffa, Jeremy Borg Grech
Bookings	Jeremy Borg Grech
Front of House	Madeleine Abela
Acknowledgments	MCAST

MADC COMMITTEE

Patron	H.E. The President of Malta Dr George Vella
Chairperson	Martin Azzopardi
Hon. Secretary	Francesca Briffa
Hon. Treasurer	Luca Xerri
Artistic Director	Marylu Coppini
Premises	Rachel Galea
Social Functions	Marco Mallia
Member	Jackie Melillo

Running time is approximately **2hrs 15minutes** and includes a 10 minute comfort break.
Face masks must be worn throughout the performance, except to eat and drink.

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ERICA MUSCAT

Erica is a graduate of East 15 Acting School (UK). Her roles in theatre range from Shakespeare to new works, both locally and abroad. Notable appearances include Juliet in MADC's Romeo and Juliet; Lady Macbeth in Unifaun's Co-Production of Macbeth at Teatru Manoel (Dir. Clive Judd); Bottom in William E.P Davis' A Midsummer Night's Dream, on the London Fringe, and Daniela in the World Premiere of Brad Birch's Game. Other appearances for MADC include NIA in Image of an Unknown Young Woman by Elinor Cook and Black Mountain by Brad Birch and directed by Adrian Buckle. Her work in film and TV runs the gamut from action dramas like USA Network's Queen of the South as well as numerous award-winning shorts and various other intimate character portrayals. She most recently appeared as the lead in Dir. Martin Bonnici's Is-Sriep Regghu Saru Valenuzi and as Maria Abela in Davide Ferrario's Sette Giugno feature drama, opposite Harvey Keitel and Malcolm McDowell.



EDWARD THORPE

After graduating from Rose Bruford drama college in London, Edward went on to gain many years acting experience in the UK having been involved in major national theatre tours and West End dramas. He featured heavily on the UK short-film circuit along with television roles, commercials and voice overs. A prolific murder mystery entertainer, Edward is also a classically trained singer. Edward moved to Malta in 2017 and made his Malta theatrical debut in *The Crucible* at Teatru Manoel in 2018. Since then, Edward has gone on to perform in *The Jew of Malta*, *An Inspector Calls*, *The Tempest*, *The Importance of Being Earnest* and *Breaking The Code*.



MYRON ELLUL

Myron Ellul is a Law graduate and has been acting and writing for a collective 14 years. During this time, Myron has formed part of a number of acting companies including the St James Cavalier Youth Club, Masquerade Teen Company, Teatru Manoel Youth Training (TMYT), Roaring Voices and, of course, MADC - where he won awards for Most Promising Actor and Best Actor. His love for comedy, voice-acting and improvisation was emboldened thanks to mentoring by several prominent figures including Paul Eiding, Polly March, Denise Mulholland, Stephen Oliver and Joseph Zammit. His first passion is Shakespeare - having portrayed iconic characters such as Malvolio and Orsino from *Twelfth Night*, Brutus from *Julius Caesar* and Francis Flute/Thisbe in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Myron also recently collaborated in writing and performing in *In Arden*, a Roaring Voices film. Having loved *Wait Until Dark* since he watched it past his bedtime years ago - Myron is honoured to be playing Mike opposite such a terrific lot!

JOE DEPASQUALE

Joe started taking theatre seriously after a hiatus of twelve years. Despite being cast in a variety of comedic roles in many comedies and pantos, Joe has also played a number of serious roles like Chief Bromden in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* (Masquerade) The Prince of Morocco in *The Merchant of Venice* (MADC), The Constable in *Fiddler on the Roof* (FM Theatre), Pope Sergius and Daniel in *Pope Joan* (Teatru Malta), General Callipine in *The Jew of Malta* (MADC). In the last few years Joe has also started writing his own plays which were put up on *Evenings on Campus*. One of Joe's plays, *Twenty-Two Minutes*, also won the Best Production award in the MADC One-Acts Festival. There is so much more to say but Paula, the producer has only allowed 150 words. However, Joe will keep on writing - after all it's not like she's going to just



DAVID MUSCAT

David Muscat is no stranger to the MADC and has starred in two MADC One-Act Play festivals, the latest of which won him the award for Most Promising Actor. He recently starred in the horror-comedy *Billy's Game: A Saw Parody!*, in which he played six different characters. David possesses four years of improvisational comedy experience under his belt, and he used his improv chops to star in the improvised short film *Crossing Paths*, produced by Nexus Production Group. In addition, David has honed his craft with Stagecoach, Helen O'Grady, and Studio 18. His acting journey has now brought him to MADC's *Wait Until Dark* in the role of Sam Henderson.





KATIE GRECH LUPI

11-year-old Katie has been attending Masquerade School for the Performing Arts since 2014, where she trains in drama, musical theatre, dance and vocals. She also forms part of Masquerade's Junior Company. She has also been attending Dance Project Studios since 2015 where she trains Jazz, Hip Hop and Street Dance. Katie obtained Distinctions in all her Trinity College Acting examinations and is currently studying for her Grade 2 Musical Theatre exam.

She has taken part in various Masquerade and school productions, including The Addams Family, The Lion King, Alice in Wonderland and Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, as well as the Christmas Pantomime Puss in Boots in 2016 and Alice in Wonderland in 2017, and The Twits in 2021. Katie has also featured in a commercial for Žigužajg in 2021.

Katie attends San Anton School and when she's not busy acting or singing, she enjoys the outdoors, watching movies and spending time with her family and friends.



SHAZNAY MANGION

Shaznay Mangion is a vivacious, eleven-year-old girl who has been in the musical scene for the past five years. She has always been fond of singing and has been professionally coached. Shaznay always achieved top results in local and international singing festivals, in the musical theatre genre. She has regularly attended master classes in Italy and auditioned with Italian artists. Last October, she participated at the San Remo Junior World Finals 2021 at the Ariston Theatre, achieving a merited second place, and later ranking highly in two major Italian playlists on Spotify. Shaznay always exhibited a strong sense of creativity, especially in acting. At age six, she filmed videos for her YouTube channel, with her dolls as actors...spontaneous 'masterpieces' fuelled by her imagination! Even with the on-going pandemic, she was cast for Storjakanta tal-Milied in December 2020. Her upcoming role in the MADC theatrical production Wait Until Dark is the next stepping stone in her artistic future.



**THE
MERRY
WIVES
OF
WINDSOR**

*By William
Shakespeare*

DIRECTED BY CHRIS GATT

**16/17/18/19/20/21/22/23/24 JULY 2022
SAN ANTON GARDENS, BALZAN**



THE MADC

**ONE
ACT
PLAY
FESTIVAL**

THE MADC ONE ACT PLAY FESTIVAL 2022
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MADC PLAYHOUSE, ST VENERA.