



GRIFFIN THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS

# IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG WITH THAT LADY?

BY DEBRA OSWALD  
31 MARCH - 7 APRIL

Image: Alex Vaughan

## Debra Oswald wants to talk.

As a lapsed playwright, creator of the *Offspring* TV series, former Junior Champion Hypochondriac and floundering novelist, what should her next move be? And what motivates people to write or create more 'stuff' anyway? Shame? Fear of death? The hope of more sexual offers?

For now, Debra plans to seize control of the Griffin stage: the exact location she fell in love with theatre, aged 11, and the place her plays *Mr Bailey's Minder* and *The Peach Season* came to life.

In a funny and excruciatingly honest one-woman show, Debra tells stories about her neurotic childhood, clumsy romantic history, and the anxieties and joys of the writer's life—all in the hope that the audience can help her work out what comes next.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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## BIOGRAPHIES



### Debra Oswald Writer and Performer

Debra Oswald is a two-time winner of the NSW Premier's Literary Award and the creator of the TV series *Offspring*. Her stage plays include *Gary's House*, *Mr*

*Bailey's Minder*, *The Peach Season*, *Dogs*, *Sweet Road*, *House on Fire*, *Skate*, and *Stories in the Dark*. Her television credits include *Police Rescue*, *Palace of Dreams*, *Sweet and Sour* and *Bananas in Pyjamas*. Debra has written three Aussie Bite books, six children's novels and two novels for grown-ups, *Useful* and *The Whole Bright Year*.



### Lee Lewis Director

Lee is the Artistic Director of Queensland Theatre and one of Australia's leading directors. For Griffin she has directed: *The Bleeding Tree* (Best Director at the 2016

Helpmann Awards), *Family Values*, *First Love is the Revolution*, *Splinter*, *Prima Facie*, *The Almighty Sometimes*, *Kill Climate Deniers*, *Eight Gigabytes of Hardcore Pornography*, *The Homosexuals or 'Faggots'*, *Rice*, *Masquerade* (co-directed with Sam Strong), *Gloria*, *Emerald City*, *A Rabbit for Kim Jong-il*, *The Serpent's Table* (co-directed with Darren Yap), *Replay*, *Silent Disco*, *Smurf In Wonderland*, *The Bull*, *The Moon and the Coronet of Stars*, *The Call*, *A Hoax*, *The Nightwatchman*. Other directing credits include: for Griffin and Bell Shakespeare: *The Literati*, *The Misanthrope*; for Bell Shakespeare: *The School for Wives*, *Twelfth Night*; for Belvoir: *That Face*, *This Heaven*, *Half and Half*, *A Number*, *7 Blowjob*s, *Ladybird*; for Hayes Theatre Company: *Darlinghurst Nights*; for Melbourne Theatre Company: *Gloria*, *Hay Fever* and David Williamson's *Rupert*, which toured to Washington DC as part of the World Stages International Arts Festival and to Sydney's Theatre Royal in 2014; for Sydney Theatre Company: *Mary Stuart*, *Honour*, *Love-Lies-Bleeding*, *ZEBRA!*; for Darwin Festival: *Highway of Lost Hearts*.



### Ben Brockman Lighting Designer

Ben is an award-winning lighting designer who works both nationally and internationally. Lighting Design credits include: for Griffin: *Family Values*,

*Diving for Pearls*, *Replay*, *Splinter*, 2016 and 2018 Season Launches; for Apocalypse Theatre Company and Redline Productions at the Old Fitz: *Angels in America Parts I & II*, *Metamorphoses*; for Bantom: *Chamber Pot Opera* (Adelaide, Edinburgh and Sydney Fringe Festivals); for Darlinghurst Theatre Company: *Broken*, *Detroit*, *The Motherfucker with the Hat*, *Tinder Box*, *Torch Song Trilogy*; for Ensemble Theatre: *Baby Doll*, *The Big Dry*, *Neville's Island*, *The Plant*, *Tribes*; for Hayes Theatre Co: *Razorhurst*; for KXT bAKEHOUSE: *Dresden*, *Jatinga*, *The Laden Table*, *Straight*, *Visiting Hours*; for Legs on the Wall: *Cat's Cradle*, *The Raft* (Development); for Mad March Hare Theatre Company: *Belleville*, *Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo*, *Dark Vanilla Jungle*, *Eurydice*, *Shivered*, *You Got Older*; for National Theatre of Parramatta: *Girl in the Machine*, *The Girl/The Woman*; for Shaun Parker & Company: *King*; for Squabbalogue: *Good Omens The Musical*, *Grey Gardens The Musical*, *Herringbone*, *Mystery Musical*, *Man of La Mancha*; for Spark Youth Theatre: *Political Children*; and for Unhappen: *Animal/People*, *Awkward Conversations with Animals I Have Fucked*, *Cough*, *Mr. Kolpert*. Ben's portfolio and upcoming productions can be found at [benbrockman.com](http://benbrockman.com).



### Dana Spence Sound Designer

Dana is an emerging Sydney-based sound designer. Her sound design credits include: for Griffin: The Lysicrates Prize 2020

(*Deoxyribo-Whatever Acid*, *The Party*, *No Need to Hide a Light When it Shines Like Hers*); The Lysicrates Prize 2019 (*Appropriate*, *Leviathan*, *Tell Me You Love Me*); The Martin Lysicrates Prize 2018 (*Jake Cameron's Meet N Greet*, *The Meme and The Moon*, *Farewell Mr. Nippy*); The Lysicrates Prize 2018 (*Starfish*, *Galilee*, *The Hollow Queen*); for bAKEHOUSE: *Coram Boy*; for Ensemble Theatre: *A View from The Bridge* (Associate Sound Designer); for Old 505 Theatre: *I (Love) You*; for New Theatre: *Little Miss Sunshine: The Musical*; and for NIDA: *27 Wagons Full of Cotton*, *Eurydice & Orpheus* and *Request Programme*.