



# METAMORPHOSIS

ADAPTED BY STEVEN BERKOFF

THE STREET PRESENTS

# METAMORPHOSIS

ADAPTED BY STEVEN BERKOFF  
FROM THE FRANZ KAFKA NOVELLA

17—31 August 2019  
The Street Theatre, Canberra



“Yes, I know I’m covered in  
grime and muck – and you all  
detest me” — Gregor

## PRODUCTION CREDITS

Cast (in order of appearance)

RUTH PIELOOR *Mrs Samsa*  
CHRISTOPHER SAMUEL CARROLL  
*Mr Samsa*  
STEFANIE LEKKAS *Greta*  
DYLAN VAN DEN BERG *Gregor*  
PJ WILLIAMS Chief Clerk

## CREATIVE TEAM

WRITER  
Steven Berkoff  
DIRECTOR  
Adam Broinowski  
STAGE & COSTUME DESIGN  
Imogen Keen  
SOUND DESIGN  
Kimmo Vennonen  
LIGHTING DESIGN  
Andrew Meadows

## PRODUCTION TEAM

STAGE MANAGER  
Lydia Kelly  
LIGHTING OPERATOR  
William Malam  
SOUND OPERATOR  
Lydia Kelly  
MAKE-UP ASSISTANT  
Varara Naumova\*  
SET BUILD  
Imogen Keen  
Luke Laffan  
Anthony Theobald  
STAGE TECHNICIANS  
Anthony Arblaster  
William Malam  
PUBLICITY  
Su Hodge  
SOCIAL MEDIA  
Jessica Conway  
PRODUCTION PHOTOGRAPHY  
Shelly Higgs  
VIDEOGRAPHY  
Craig Alexander  
MARKETING ARTWORK  
DAMS

\*ON SECONDMENT FROM CMA TRAINING GROUP

## SYNOPSIS

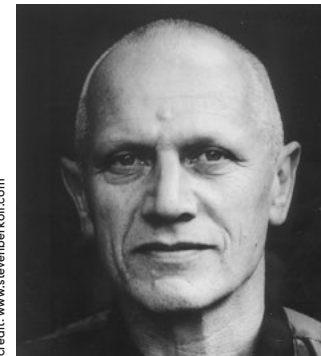
Gregor Samsa is a young man with a bright future. He has served as a soldier, he works hard and is unfalteringly polite. He plans to support his sister’s violin education and keeps his mother and father in the comfort they have become accustomed to in their retirement. Until one day, Gregor oversleeps his morning alarm and discovers he has become a gigantic insect....

The action of *Metamorphosis* takes place inside the Samsa apartment in a modern de-industrialised landscape spanning the 20th – 21st century.

Scene 1 THE SAMSA FAMILY  
Scene 2 GREGOR IN THE MORNING AND A VISIT FROM THE CHIEF CLERK  
Scene 3 FEEDING GREGOR  
Scene 4 FAMILY DILEMMAS AND REMINISCES  
Scene 5 GREGOR’S DREAMS  
Scene 6 OPTIMISM AND THE LODGERS  
Scene 7 MOVING ON

## ABOUT THE WRITER

[Steven Berkoff](#)  
Writer



credit: www.stevenberkoff.com


Writer, theatre director and actor Steven Berkoff was born in 1937, East London. Educated at the Raines Foundation Grammar School, he trained to be an actor at the Webber Douglas Academy in London, and later in Paris at the École Internationale de Théâtre de Jacques Lecoq. In 1968, after working in repertory theatre, he founded the London Theatre Group, working with a group of actors to perform an adaptation of Franz Kafka’s story *In The Penal*

*Colony*. Berkoff has adapted a number of other classic works for the stage, including Kafka’s *Metamorphosis* and *The Trial*, Poe’s *The Fall of the House of Usher* and Strindberg’s *Miss Julie*. He is also the author of many original plays, including *East*, *Decadence*, *Greek*, and *West*.

He is the author of several works of non-fiction, including a volume of autobiography, *Free Association* (1996), and a book of short stories, *Graft: Tales of an Actor* (1998). He also wrote the text for a book of photographs, *The Theatre of Steven Berkoff* (1992). He has written two books of non-fiction, *My Life in Food* (2007) and *Richard II in New York* (2008), which gives an insight into his directing of Shakespeare in the US. His latest play *Harvey* (2019) deals with the story of Harvey Weinstein.

THEATRE—MUSIC—COMEDY

THE STREET

 If you’d like to print this program, set your printer to print at 100% A4 Landscape for best results.

The Street’s licence to present Steven Berkoff’s adaption is granted by Rosica Colin Limited, London.



**Ruth Pieloor**  
Mrs. Samsa

Ruth trained in acting in Sydney (BA Theatre Nepean), and proudly calls herself a Canberra actor. Previous performances at The Street Theatre include professional productions: *Under Sedation*; *The Very Sad Fish Lady*; *Homefront*; and improvised works with ImproACT (*Crescendo*, *Displaced*, *Imperson8*, *North Vs South* and multiple *Improvention* Festival performances. Other performances include: *X-Voice Idol* (B&C Company) for Canberra Unscripted; *Bridesquad* and her solo work *Proppets* (Chrysalis Theatre). Awarded Best Actress 2016 *Short and Sweet* Sydney Gala Finals, and Best Actress in Canberra Short and Sweet for her one-woman puppet play *Baby Blues*. Ruth is a resident writer with The Street's HIVE program, and an artsACT grant recipient for development of her new play *Under My Bed* in partnership with Canberra Youth Theatre and Ainslie and Gorman Arts Centre. Ruth is a proud MEAA Actors Equity member and a Clown Doctor at Canberra Hospital for the Humour



**Christopher Samuel Carroll**  
Mr. Samsa

Christopher Samuel Carroll is an Irish theatre-artist, trained at The Samuel Beckett Centre, Trinity College Dublin, and Ecole Internationale de Théâtre Jacques Lecoq, Paris. As artistic director of Bare Witness Theatre Company, he creates physical theatre in ensembles and as a solo performer. Described as “the master of the solo performance”, Christopher has built a reputation as a daring and skilled creator of original one-man shows. *Icarus*, written and performed by Christopher and produced by The Street Theatre in 2019, received the 2019 Dance and Physical Theatre Award at Fringe World in Perth. His Butoh adaptation of *Paradise Lost* was shortlisted for the Best Theatre award at Fringe World 2017. Other recent highlights include *The War of the Worlds* and *Tourmaline* (The Street Theatre), playing Malvolio in *Twelfth Night* (Shakespeare by the Lakes), and *Howie the Rookie* (Smith's Alternative).



**Stefanie Lekkas**  
Greta

Born and raised in Melbourne, Stefanie trained with Victorian Youth Theatre and performed in their productions including *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *The Killing Game*. She worked in Greek theatre in Melbourne, and was a part of Cornell University's Skits-O-Phrenics sketch comedy group in New York. Stefanie's move to Canberra saw her undergo further training with Canberra Youth Theatre, with subsequent performances including the award-winning *SKIN*, *Antigone*, and *poem every day*. Other theatre credits include: Belinda/Flavia in the British farce *Noises Off* (Canberra Repertory Theatre); *I Love Lucy* and *Dreamland* (Short and Sweet); and playing Angela, a 1970s parliamentary hairdresser in *We, The People* (Old Parliament House). Stefanie is thrilled to be making her Street Theatre debut with *Metamorphosis*.



**Dylan Van Den Berg**  
Gregor Samsa

Dylan Van Den Berg is a Palawa writer/actor living on Ngunnawal land. His writing for performance includes; *Milk* (First Seen, 2019), *The Camel* (Blacklist Theatre Co.), *why am i a fish?* (University of New England), and *Blue: a misery play* (First Seen, 2017). This year, he was selected to participate in Playwriting Australia's masterclass with Patricia Cornelius. As an actor, Dylan has worked with Jigsaw Theatre Company, Gearstick Theatre, and has appeared at The Street in several new works: *In Loco Parentis* by Helen Machalias; *Where I End and You Begin* by Cathy Petocz; and a number of rehearsed readings. Dylan graduated from the ANU with a Bachelor of Arts (Drama) and trained in improvisation at the State University of New York and Upright Citizens Brigade. He is currently completing an MA (UNE) with a focus on Indigenous dramaturgies.

## Adam Broinowski Director

Adam Broinowski is an academic, writer and theatre maker. Adam has worked as a director, performer and writer with Australian and international artists and theatre companies since 1994, including as a member of Tokyo-based Gekidan Kaitaisha while a researcher at the University of Tokyo in the 2000s. He teaches in Interdisciplinary Humanities with a focus on Japanese and Asian Studies, Performance and Historical Studies, and critical International Relations. He earned a PhD in modern Japanese history and cultural studies (performance, film) from the University of Melbourne. He published a monograph *Cultural Responses to Occupation in Japan: The Performing Body during and after the Cold War* (Bloomsbury Academic, 2016) and recently completed an Australian Research Council DECRA fellowship entitled 'Contaminated Life: 'Hibakusha' in Japan in the Nuclear Age' at the School of Culture, History and Language at the ANU. Adam is also the co-founder of performance company Social Repair Service with dancer and choreographer Emma Strapps.

## Imogen Keen Set and Costume Designer

Imogen is an award-winning set and costume designer for professional theatre production. She has enjoyed a long collaboration with The Street Theatre, including design for: *A Doll's House, Part 2*; *Venus in Fur*; *Diary of a Madman*; *The Weight of Light*; *Boys Will Be Boys*; *Under Sedation*; *Constellations*; *Cold Light*; *The Faithful Servant*; *The Chain Bridge*; *MP*; *Where I End & You Begin*; *The Give & Take*; *To Silence*; *Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris*; *Lawrie and Shirley*; *Albert Herring*; *Dido and Aeneas*. Imogen has received Canberra Critics Circle Awards for Theatre Design (2018, 2011, 2009) and an MEAA Peer Acknowledgement Award (2011). She has worked on a wide variety of theatre, film, music and cross-disciplinary productions for numerous theatre companies. Imogen graduated from the ANU School of Art in 1993.

## Kimmo Vennonen Sound Designer

Kimmo Vennonen is a sound designer and audio producer and has run music mastering studio *KV Productions* in Canberra since 1997. In 2010 Kimmo won the MEAA Green Room Award for creative and innovative sound design and in 1991 his work on *Collaborations* with Jim Denley won the prestigious Prix Italia for the ABC. He studied immersive sound in a geodesic dome, becoming an ANU Visiting Fellow in the late nineties. Designs for The Street include: *Icarus*; *Revolt. She Said. Revolt Again*; *Cold Light*; *The Chain Bridge*; *Where I End and You Begin*; *Bartleby*; *All This Living and The Faithful Servant*. Other work includes *The Slip Lane* (AITC); *Ghosts in the Scheme* (bigHart); *Collapse*, *Verbatim*, *Antigone* (Canberra Youth Theatre); *Blue Roof*, *The Lost Thing* and *Pearl vs the World* (Jigsaw Theatre). He collaborated with Denise Higgins and Gary Smith on *Vox Nautica* (ANCA); *The Barbed Maze* (CCAS); and *Anthology* (Morris & Buining) at Westlake.

## Andrew Meadows Lighting Designer

Andrew moved to Canberra in 2019 to begin work with The Street after a prolific career in Queensland where he worked on many productions for companies including; Expressions Dance, Queensland Theatre Company, OperaQ, La Boite, QLD Conservatorium of Music and Queensland Ballet.

Lighting Designer credits include: *Absurd Person Singular*; *God is a DJ* and *The Cherry Orchard* (Queensland Theatre Company); *BAAL* (Queensland University of Technology); *Summer of the 17th Doll*, *Post Office Rose* (La Boite); *The Big Three*, *Dance Bait*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, *St Frances* (Queensland Ballet); *The Creation*, *The Food of Love*, *Dirty Apple*, *Banjo*, *Ruddigore* (Opera Queensland); *The Mikado* (New Zealand Opera). He was Head of Lighting Systems on *The Lion King* in Johannesburg, Head of Systems (Singapore), lighting operator in Taipei (Disney Productions). He also worked as Head of Lighting for the 2018 Auckland Arts Festival.

## Lydia Kelly Stage Manager

Lydia graduated from UWS with a Bachelor of Performance, Theory and Practice (Theatremaking) in 2006. Lydia's experience in theatre is extensive, covering Stage and Production Management, Set Construction, Lighting and Sound Design and Operation. Lydia's credits include: *A Doll's House, Part 2* (The Street Theatre); *Short + Sweet Festival Sydney* (Head Stage and Production Manager, 2008–11, 2018–19) and *Hollywood* (2017–19); *Sharp Short Theatre* (Parramatta City Council, 2010–2018); *Company* (Depot Theatre Inc.); *Mum, Me and the IED* (Collaborations Theatre Group); *Ball Game* (Darlinghurst Theatre, Sauna Productions and Inc. Studios); *Pulp* (Impro Australia).

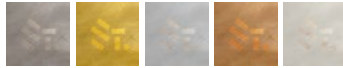
# THE STREET

PRODUCING FOR THE ACT  
[THESTREET.ORG.AU](http://THESTREET.ORG.AU)

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This project would not have been possible without the support of the ACT government and the Street Supporters, ensuring this work was produced and opportunities created for Canberra artists to bring excellence to the stage.

Supported by



Warehouse Circus – with special thank you to Nathan Anderson  
Dr Russell Smith and the ANU English literature undergraduate students for their enthusiastic participation in discussion  
All of the actors who gave their time in auditioning  
ACT trams

The Street Theatre acknowledges the Ngunnawal peoples, the First Peoples of Country on which The Street Theatre stands, and we pay our respects to their ancestors and Elders, and to our shared future.

## DONORS

Donors whose annual gifts help The Street enrich Canberra's cultural life supporting creative independence and more opportunities to expand our work as a producing house bringing Canberra stories to the stage.

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## ABOUT THE STREET

The Street is Canberra's leading creative producer dedicated to contemporary performance, and presenting bold work from other places. Inspired by our geography, history and people, we champion creative process alongside finished work; rich dialogue with our community, and in our city of ideas, inquisitive artists who have something to say about the world.

Over 26 years, the company has established itself as an essential part of Canberra's cultural and imaginative life. Our home is The Street Theatre in City West, where cast, creatives, artists, and audiences meet in our three performance spaces and café. We are dedicated to bringing distinctive and diverse Australian stories to the stage, with many of the finest and much loved creative talent in the region and beyond on our stages. Original works developed and produced have included: *Epitaph*, *Icarus*, *The Weight of Light*, *Tourmaline*, *Cold Light*, *The Iliad Out Loud*, *Pigman's Lament*, *The Faithful Servant*, *The Chain Bridge*, *From a Black Sky*, *M.P.*, *Bartleby*, *Where I End & You Begin*, *How to be (or not to be) Lower*, *In Loco Parentis*, *Johnny Castellano is Mine*, *The Jade Harp*, and *Underage House Party Play*.

Through our development programs, The Street promotes the creation of high quality original performance work contributing towards a body of stage work encouraging debate on the social, economic, cultural and political relationships central to the reality of lives of Canberrans.

## THE STREET — STAFF

### ARTISTIC DIRECTOR/CEO

Caroline Stacey

### PRODUCER

Dean Ellis

### TECHNICAL COORDINATOR

Andrew Meadows

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Daniel Berthon

### PUBLICITY

Su Hodge

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Logan Craswell, Pierce Craswell, Georgia Forster, Christiane Nowak

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Susan Blain, Mark Craswell, Kirsty Easdale, Beverley Hart, Jamie Hladky, Henry Kazar

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The Street is managed by The Stagemaster Inc., a not-for-profit organisation. The Street is supported by the ACT government through artsACT and is an ACT Government arts facility.



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