

GOD OF CARNAGE

PLAYWRIGHT

Yasmina Reza

TRANSLATOR

Christopher Hampton

**DIRECTOR, SET &
COSTUME DESIGNER**

Jordan Best

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Jacob Aquilina

MUSIC

Will Best

STAGE MANAGER

Brittany Myers

CAST

Jim Adamik

Lainie Hart

Arran McKenna

Jenna Roberts



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Jordan Best

What a joy this play is.

God of Carnage is razor-sharp, brilliantly funny, and completely, uncomfortably familiar. At its heart, it's a comedy about people trying to be civilised—until they just... can't. It's the kind of humour that bubbles up from social awkwardness, from trying too hard to be "grown-up," and from the sheer chaos of people pretending to have it all together. It's no surprise that by the end of the play, the adults are behaving far worse than the children they've gathered to discuss.

The writing is impeccable—tight, biting, and so clever. It doesn't give you a second to breathe, and neither does our incredible cast. Working with this team has been an absolute highlight. Each actor brings their own unique skill, insight, and brilliance to the stage, building characters that are complex, ridiculous, relatable, and painfully funny. It's been a pleasure to watch these roles come to life through their talent, generosity, and guts.

And we are so excited to be bringing God of Carnage to you. This is a show made in Queanbeyan NSW, with regional artists—and we are flipping the traditional touring model on its head by sending our work outwards, rather than inwards. It's a testament to the strength of creative work happening outside the cities, and the incredible support from CreateNSW and Arts on Tour has made it possible.

What makes this play so accessible, so funny, so uncomfortable and real, is that we know these people. We are these people. These awful, flawed, vengeful, vulnerable, and messy people.

We hope you laugh (a lot), cringe (a little), and see yourselves (just a bit) in this brilliantly uncomfortable comedy.

Thanks for having us!





Jim Adamile

Jim has been a stage actor for more than 2 decades. His acting credits include Fox on the Fairway, Much Ado About Nothing, Uncle Vanya, Threepenny Opera, Macbeth, Amadeus, Away, August Osage County, Les Misérables, Assassins, Don't Dress For Dinner, Can't Pay? Won't Pay!, The Miser, Tartuffe, The Imaginary Invalid, Goldilocks and the Three Bears, Alice In Wonderland, King Lear, God of Carnage, The Mousetrap, Oleanna and A Midsummer Night's Dream. Jim was awarded a Canberra Critics Circle Award for his mastery of comic acting, and the 2023 Helen Tsongas award for acting for his performance as Salieri in Amadeus.

Lainie Hart

Lainie trained at 16th Street Actor's Studio and most recently appeared in A Midsummer Night's Dream and Macbeth with Echo Theatre, and in This Rough Magic at The Street Theatre. Other credits include The Children and Three Tall Women (Chaika Theatre), The Importance of Being Earnest (Everyman), and Steel Magnolias (Free Rain). She performed in La Mama's Survival, Bombshells and God of Carnage (Echo), Rosencrantz & Guildenstern are Dead and A Doll's House Part 2 (Canberra Rep), and toured Victoria with Playhouse Creatures. Lainie also contributed to live-streamed works and creative developments with Lakespeare & Co, The Q, and The Street.



Arran McKenna

Arran has been performing for over 30 years, is a founding member of 'Free Rain Theatre Company' and an award-winning comic actor. Some of his recent stage credits include; Speaking in Tongues (Free Rain), The Seagull (Chaika Theatre), Hand to God (Everyman Theatre), Bloody Murder, Noises Off and One Man Two Guvnors (Canberra Rep). Arran is also an art teacher with a degree in Animation and Interactive Media as well as a Dad.

Jenna Roberts

Jenna is an actor, singer and dancer and holds a PhD in environmental Chemistry and Ecotoxicology. Her theatre credits include; Angels in America, Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, Love Song, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Playhouse Creatures, Macbeth, Wait Until Dark and Dr Frankenstein. Her musical theatre credits include; Oklahoma!, Chicago, I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change, Legally Blonde- The Musical, Jesus Christ Superstar, and Ruthless! The Musical.





Jordan Best

Jordan is the Artistic Director and Program Manager of The Q and the Artistic Director of Echo Theatre. Prior to starting at The Q she was the Artistic Director of Centrepiece Theatre (2004-2012), and a co-founder and director of the award-winning Pigeonhole Theatre (2016-2019). Jordan studied acting at The Victorian College of the Arts before beginning her career as a director and producer. Her directing credits include; *The Miser*, *Men, a most curious dream...*, *Tartuffe*, *Wolf Lullaby*, *The Imaginary Invalid*, *Love Song*, and *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* (Centrepiece Theatre), *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (Free Rain), *The Emperor's New Clothes*, *The Three Musketeers*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Alice in Wonderland* and *The Little Mermaid* (Ickle Pickle), *Company* (Everyman Theatre), *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *The Mousetrap* (The Q), *Steel Magnolia's*, *The Crucible*, *Macbeth*, *Wait Until Dark*, and *Dr Frankenstein* (Canberra Rep), *Playhouse Creatures*, *Switzerland* (Pigeonhole Theatre), *Belfast Girls*, *Wolf Lullaby*, *Ruthless! The Musical*, *God of Carnage*, *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, *This Changes Everything*, *Puffs*, *Midsummer Night's Dream* (Echo Theatre) and *Macbeth* (The Q and Lakespeare). Her dramaturgical credits include; *Hot Audio Wallpaper* (writer Stuart Roberts), *...a most curious dream* (writer Adam Hadley), *White Tulips* (writer Heidi Silberman, The Street Theatre), *Let Me Know if you Feel Something* (writer Amber Spooner, The Q), *Legacies* (writer Rachel Pengilly, Ribix Productions), and *The Waltz* (writer David Cole).

Brittany Myers

Brittany Myers graduated with a Bachelor of Communications (Theatre/Media) from Charles Sturt University. She works predominantly as a stage manager, but also has credits as an actor, deviser, choreographer, and costumer. Her recent credits include, as Stage Manager: for Echo Theatre; *God of Carnage Tour* (2025); *Bombshells* (2024); *Ruthless!* (2022); for Canberra Theatre Centre; *Act Up!* (2023, 2024 and 2025); for Free-Rain Theatre Company; *Sweet Charity* (2025); *Boy From Oz* (2024); for The Street Theatre; *Waiting For Godot* (2024), *This Rough Magic* (2023); *In His Words* (2023), *Art* (2022), *20 Minutes with the Devil* (2022), *Milk* (2021); for National Opera; *The Merry Widow* (2024); Heart Strings Theatre Co.; *The Hello Girls Tour* (2023 - 2024); for Echo Youth; *Puffs* (2023), *This Changes Everything* (2022); for National Gallery of Australia; *Victory Over the Sun* (2022). As Deputy Stage Manager; for Free-Rain Theatre Company; *Billy Elliot* (2024). As Assistant Stage Manager: for Soundworks Productions; *Songs for a New World* (2025); *Parade* (2024); for Circus Oz; *Wunderage* (2019)





Jacob Aquilina

Jacob Aquilina is an acclaimed Lighting Designer, leaving his mark on Canberra's vibrant theatre scene since 2015. Renowned for his theatrical lighting, he has a passion for crafting immersive experiences in plays, dance works, and musical theatre productions. His dedication to excellence and innate understanding of lighting dynamics have earned him the Ovation Award for Best Lighting Design in 2022 for School of Rock (Dramatic Productions). Jacob also has a background working in Live Music & Events through his association with Eclipse Lighting & Sound working on large scale events such as Tamworth Country Music Festival and The National Folk Festival. Recent production credits include American Idiot (Queanbeyan Players), Billy Elliot (Free Rain Theatre Company), Next To Normal (Queanbeyan Players), Footloose (Queanbeyan Players), Legacies (Ribix Productions), West Side Story (Dramatic Productions), School of Rock (Dramatic Productions), This Changes Everything (Echo Theatre) and Wolf Lullaby (Echo Theatre). Jacob's creative ingenuity and collaborative spirit elevate every project. Continually pushing artistic boundaries leaving a lasting impact on the industry's vibrant artistic landscape.

William Best

William Best is an actor, DJ, and composer based in Canberra. He has been composing music and sound for stage since 2021. Notable music credits include This Changes Everything (2022), God of Carnage (2022) and Bombshells (2024).





Yasmina Reza

Yasmina Reza is one of the most acclaimed contemporary playwrights, with her works translated into over 35 languages and performed globally — from the Royal Shakespeare Company and London's National Theatre to the Schaubühne Berlin, Vienna's Burgtheater, and Broadway. She has collaborated with renowned directors including Krystian Lupa, Luc Bondy, Jürgen Gosch, and Howard Davies. Reza has twice received top honours in English-speaking theatre: the Laurence Olivier Award (UK) and the Tony Award (USA) for *Art and God of Carnage*. *God of Carnage* premiered in 2007 in Zürich and Berlin, and later in France, directed by Reza herself, with Isabelle Huppert among the cast. The play's London and New York runs featured actors like Ralph Fiennes and James Gandolfini, and it was later adapted into the film *Carnage* by Roman Polanski, earning Reza a César Award for Best Adapted Screenplay. Her other plays include *Conversations after a Burial*, *Winter Crossing*, *The Unexpected Man*, *Life x 3*, and *A Spanish Play*. Reza is also a novelist, with acclaimed titles such as *Desolation*, *Adam Haberberg*, and *Happy are the Happy*, which won *Le Monde's* literary prize. In 2010, she made her film directorial debut with *Chicas*, starring Emmanuelle Seigner.

Christopher Hampton

Christopher Hampton began writing plays while studying French and German at Oxford University. His first play was such a success at the Royal Court Theatre that it transferred to the West End, making him the youngest writer ever to have a play produced there — a record that still stands. Over his prolific career, Hampton has received four Tony Awards, three Olivier Awards, five Evening Standard Awards, and the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award. His screen work has earned him an Academy Award, two BAFTAs, a Writers' Guild of America Award, and accolades at Cannes, Venice, and beyond. His stage works include original plays (*The Philanthropist*, *Tales from Hollywood*, *Appomattox*), adaptations (*Les Liaisons Dangereuses*, *Youth Without God*, *Embers*), musicals (*Sunset Boulevard*, *Stephen Ward*), libretti (with Philip Glass), and translations of works by Chekhov, Ibsen, Molière, Reza, and Zeller. His screenwriting credits include *Dangerous Liaisons*, *Atonement*, *A Dangerous Method*, *The Quiet American*, *Carrington*, and *The Secret Agent*. For television, he adapted *The Ginger Tree*, *The History Man*, *Hôtel du Lac*, and *The Thirteenth Tale* starring Vanessa Redgrave and Olivia Colman. Hampton remains one of the most versatile and celebrated dramatists and screenwriters of his generation.

