

jBah | JAVENBAH
THEATRE



PICNIC AT HANGING ROCK

From the novel by

Joan Lindsay

Adapted by

Tom Wright

*AUDITION
PACK*

*An Amateur Production By Arrangement with
ORIGIN Theatrical, on behalf of Nick Hern Books*

ABOUT THE PLAY

For a group of Australian schoolgirls, a Valentine's Day excursion ends in a horrific disappearance. What happened to the three seniors and their mathematics teacher on top of the formidable peaks of Hanging Rock? Based on the Joan Lindsay runaway bestseller, this contemporary adaptation of the classic explores the myth of the rock told from the schoolgirls of today. What happened on that fateful day? Who is responsible?

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

Tom Wright is an Australian theatre writer, mostly known for his adaptations and translations. He was born and educated in Melbourne. He was a member of Barrie Kosky's Gilgul Theatre in the 1990s and was Associate Director of Sydney Theatre Company. 2004–2012.



His plays and adaptations include: *The Real & Imagined History of the Elephant Man*, *A Journal of the Plague Year*, *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, *Ubu*, *This Is a True Story*, *Lorilei*, *Babes in the Wood*, *Tense Dave*, *The Odyssey*, *The Lost Echo*, *Criminology* (with Lally Katz), *Tales from the Vienna Woods*, *The Women of Troy*, *The War of the Roses*, *The Duel*, *Baal*, *Optimism*, *Oresteia*, *On the Misconception of Oedipus*, *The Histrionic* and *Black Diggers*.

CREATIVE TEAM

Director — Hunter Wall

Stage Manager — Stephanie Starre

SCHEDULE

Performance Season: School Preview Performance - Monday 10th of June
Normal Performance Season - 15th - 29th of June

A draft rehearsal schedule is viewable at the bottom of this audition pack.

AUDITIONS

Audition Date: Saturday 9th of March 2024 from 10am

Location: Javeenbah Theatre - *Cnr of Stevens St & Ferry St, Nerang*

You must fill out the registration form in order to attend the auditions. This form is available on the Javeenbah website at <https://javeenbah.org.au/auditions/>. Please fill out the registration form by **Friday 8th of March, by 2pm**.

There will be **both a group call and individual audition slots** on the day.

The group call will be from 10am onwards and the individual auditions will be later in the day. Individual time slots will be provided to you by email once you have completed the registration form. For the group call, **please wear comfortable clothing and bring a water bottle** as we will be doing activities such as ensemble work, movement exercises and workshopping of scenes. **For the individual auditions, you will be required to prepare one of the monologues from the selected audition material which is provided below.** Please choose a monologue that best showcases your acting abilities and pay close attention to the use of language in each. Use of an Australian accent is preferable. You may be asked to cold read scenes in your individual auditions.

PICNIC AT HANGING ROCK AUDITION MONOLOGUES

OPTION 1

AMBER

Australia is a thin layer of scum
Floating on a vast volcanic lake.
It is true that for the last few blinks of an eye
this crust has held sure
The boiling magma below is forgotten
Or ignored
A truth we pretend we do not know
But quietude is highly unusual in this country
The normal state of affairs is emanations,
eruptions,
Puncturing the veneer, spreading ash, pumice,
and rock in liquid form.
In a geological sense, we sleep on a sea
of flame
And all through our land, there are portals.
Gateways to eternal fire.
The doors of Hell.
This is Australia.

OPTION 2

ELIZABETH This land is for the dead
More theirs than ours –
Stones slide under her feet
With every step
Higher
Harder
Heart pounding
Here a precipice
A spider large black
Sprawled on a stone
Always afraid of spiders
Recoils
There
Inside the rock
She sees Sara
One eye
Staring
A mask of rotting flesh
The old woman's hat falls off
And she sprints
To the edge
To the vast darkness
Sprints
Into the abyss
As we all should

OPTION 3

AMBER

I am alone on Hanging Rock
I can slit the basalt
As a hot knife in butter.
There are small jewels sparkling in ancient
stone.
The wind blows among pipes that penetrate
deep into the dark belly of this earth
Darkness has been sorted all day
Hanging Rock pressing
Against the empty sky
Empty of stars
I think I have moved
Strange, cannot tell which is up
And which is the bedrock.
The air moves through everything,
And time, it is either still
Or it is so turbulent that past, present, future,
They are all disorder
And I am as much here with you now in your
complacent world
As I am in some antediluvian time
When this stone was all liquid
And stars were yet to be born.

OPTION 4

ELIZABETH A school is a world
Of course.
It is a universe
And the forces that compel space
And time
Are here
In these classrooms
In the minds of these girls.
May I speak frankly?
I do not know
What is inside them
These creatures
And I do not know what is inside you
Yes I am speaking of you
I do not understand you
Something happened to us
Our people
Our folk
When we came here
We could not hear and did not understand
The things that already had names
But we named things that had not been named
Many things
That had no name

CAST

The cast in this particular adaption of 'Picnic at Hanging Rock' consists of five female-presenting actors who tell the story through multiple roles. This provides a great challenge for an ensemble of strong and dynamic actors who will have to represent several different characterisations often in the same scene.

All ages are welcome to apply, however, the playing age for all cast members will be between 16-25.

Please note that due to the content of this play we will only be accepting auditionees that are 16 years or older.

*In the spirit of diversity and inclusion,
actors of all identities and backgrounds
are encouraged to audition.*

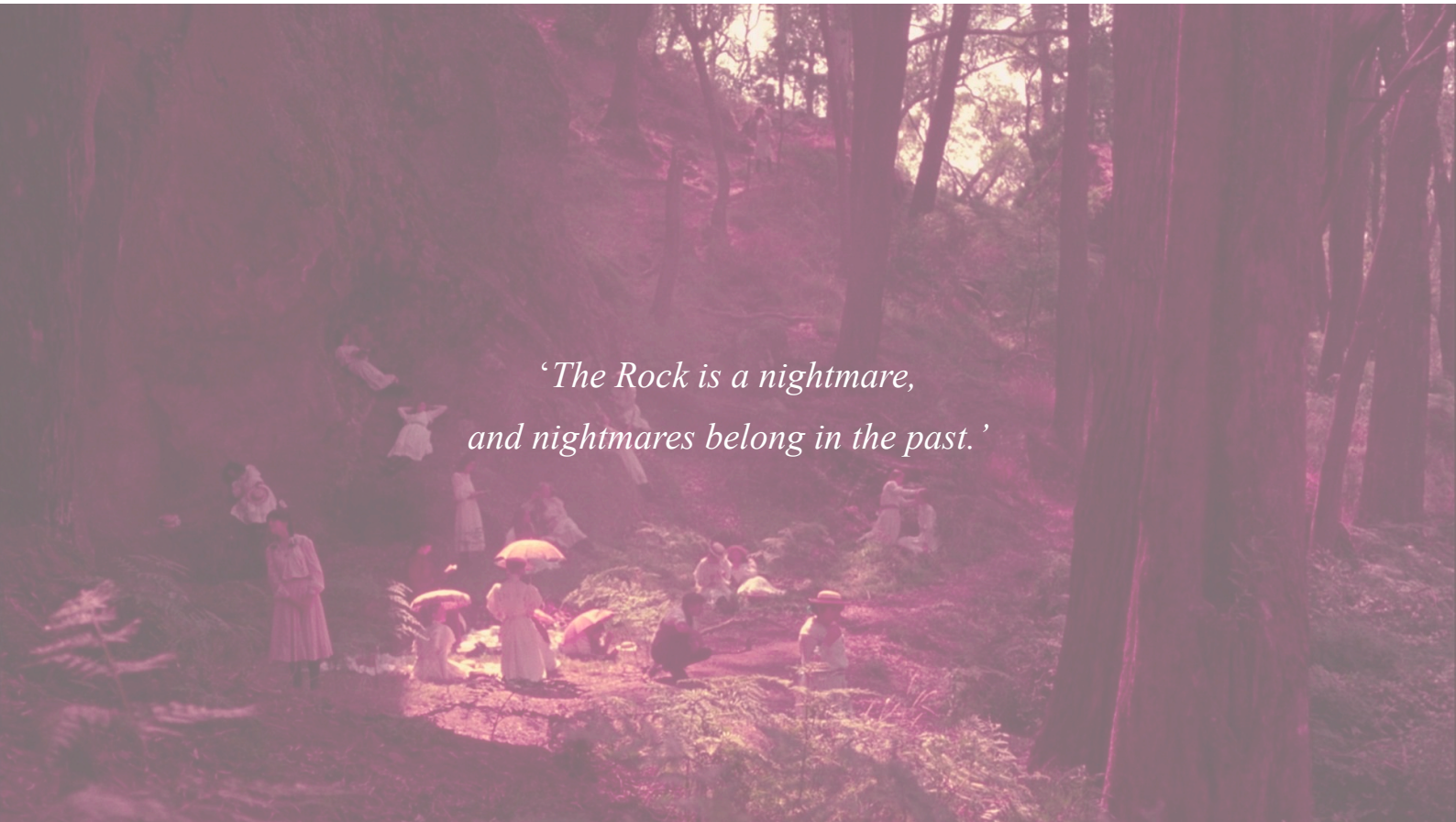
CONTENT WARNINGS

This production involves mature themes of child abuse, horror and suicide - and will also include loud pressure sound effects and intense/strobe lighting. If these content warnings are of any concern, please email us and we will be happy to provide more information regarding these warnings and their prevalence within the production.

Picnic at Hanging Rock is a prolific work in the Australian Literature canon that is culturally relevant to all audiences, and this adaptation provides exposure to a visceral, contemporary form of an indomitable classic.

Theatre - at its core - should make you challenge, feel and remember.

The story of Hanging Rock has left the realm of fiction and has entered into historical fact; be part of retelling and remembering the formidable myth that has been engrained in Australia's conscious mind for decades.



*'The Rock is a nightmare,
and nightmares belong in the past.'*

PICNIC AT HANGING ROCK

DRAFT SCHEDULE - 6/2/24

DATE	TIME	CALL	SPACE	WHAT
Sat 16/3	6:00PM – LATE	ALL CAST	TBC	Cast and Creatives Meet & Greet/Read Through
Mon 18/3	7:00PM – 10:00PM	ALL CAST	SOPHIE'S SPACE	Conversation/Conventions/Characterisation - Workshop
Wed 20/3	7:00PM – 10:00PM	ALL CAST	SOPHIE'S SPACE	Scene 1 Blocking - Part 1
Sat 23/3	7:00PM – 10:00PM	ALL CAST	SOPHIE'S SPACE	Scene 1 Blocking - Part 2
Mon 25/3	7:00PM – 10:00PM	Nikki, Amber, Harriet, Elizabeth	SOPHIE'S SPACE	Scene 3 Blocking
Wed 27/3	7:00PM – 10:00PM	Nikki, Arielle, Harriet	SOPHIE'S SPACE	Scene 4 Blocking
Sat 30/3	–	–	–	<i>EASTER OFF</i>
Mon 1/4	7:00PM – 8:00PM 8:00PM – 10:00PM	Elizabeth, Nikki + ALL	SOPHIE'S SPACE	Scene 11 Blocking
Wed 3/4	7:00PM – 10:00PM	Elizabeth	SOPHIE'S SPACE	Elizabeth - Monologue Work
Sat 6/4	10:00AM – 12:00PM 1:00PM – 4:00PM	ALL CAST	SOPHIE'S SPACE	SCENE 1 Recap SCENE 14 Blocking
Mon 8/4	7:00PM – 10:00PM	Arielle, Harriet, Nikki	SOPHIE'S SPACE	Monologue Work
Wed 10/4	7:00PM – 8:00PM 8:00PM – 10:00PM	Elizabeth, Arielle, + Harriet	SOPHIE'S SPACE	Scene 2 Blocking Scene 5 Blocking
Sat 13/4	7:00PM – 10:00PM	Amber	SOPHIE'S SPACE	Amber - Monologue Work
Mon 15/4	7:00PM – 10:00PM	ALL CAST	SOPHIE'S SPACE	Scene 6 Blocking
Wed 17/4	7:00PM – 8:00PM 8:00PM – 10:00PM	Harriet, Arielle, Elizabeth, + Nikki	SOPHIE'S SPACE	Scene 7 Blocking
Sat 20/4	10:00AM – 4:00PM	ALL CAST	SOPHIE'S SPACE	Blocking Recap
Mon 22/4	9:00AM – 3:00PM	ALL CAST	THEATRE	BUMP IN
Mon 22/4	7:00PM – 10:00PM	Amber, Harriet, Arielle	SOPHIE'S SPACE	Scene 8 and Scene 13 Blocking

DATE	TIME	CALL	SPACE	WHAT
Wed 24/4	7:00PM — 10:00PM	Elizabeth, Arielle	SOPHIE'S SPACE	Scene 9 and Scene 12 Blocking
Sat 27/4	10:00AM — 11:00AM 11:00AM — 1:00PM 2:00PM — 6:00PM	Amber, Nikki ALL CAST	SOPHIE'S SPACE	Scene 10 Blocking Blocking Finish Blocking Recap
Mon 29/4	7:00PM — 10:00PM	ALL CAST	THEATRE	Stumble Through First Half of Show + Polish
Wed 1/5	7:00PM — 10:00PM	ALL CAST	THEATRE	Stumble Through Second Half of Show + Polish
Sat 4/5	10:00AM — 12:00PM 1:00PM — 4:00PM	ALL CAST	THEATRE	Stumble Through Run Full Blocking Polish
Mon 6/5	7:00PM — 10:00PM	ALL CAST	THEATRE	Costume Parade
Wed 8/5	7:00PM — 10:00PM	ALL CAST	THEATRE	Run Start/Stop + Fixes — OFF BOOK
Sat 11/5	9:00AM — 2:00PM	LX ONLY	THEATRE	LX Plot
Mon 13/5	7:00PM — 10:00PM	ALL CAST	THEATRE	Tech Step Through - Sound
Wed 15/5	7:00PM — 10:00PM	ALL CAST	THEATRE	Tech Step Through - Lighting
Sat 18/5	10:00AM — 12:00PM 1:00PM — 3:00PM	ALL CAST + CREW	THEATRE	Tech Run - Start/Stop Full Dress Stumble Run
Mon 20/5	6:30PM — 10:00PM	ALL CAST	THEATRE	Final Fix Ups + Polish
Wed 22/5	6:30PM — 10:00PM	ALL CAST + CREW	THEATRE	Full Dress Run
Sat 25/5	10:00AM — 12:00PM 12:30PM — 3:00PM	ALL CAST + CREW	THEATRE	Dress Run Full Dress Run + Production Shots and Headshots
Mon 27/5	6:00PM — 10:00PM	ALL CAST + CREW	THEATRE	Full Dress Run
Wed 29/5	6:00PM — 10:00PM	ALL CAST + CREW	THEATRE	Full Dress Run
Sat 1/6	10:00AM — 2:00PM	ALL CAST + CREW	THEATRE	Full Dress Run
Mon 3/6	6:30PM — 10:00PM	ALL CAST + CREW	THEATRE	TBC Rehearsal
Wed 5/6	6:00PM — 10:00PM	ALL CAST + CREW	THEATRE	Full Show Run
Sat 8/6	10:00AM — 2:00PM	ALL CAST + CREW	THEATRE	Full Show Run
Mon 10/6	6:00PM — 10:00PM	FULL COMPANY	THEATRE	School Performance + Cast Q&A
Wed 12/6	6:00PM — 10:00PM	FULL COMPANY	THEATRE	Final Show Run
Sat 15/6	6:00PM — 10:00PM	FULL COMPANY	THEATRE	OPENING NIGHT
Sun 16/6	12:30PM — 4:00PM	FULL COMPANY	THEATRE	SHOW #2 - Matinee Performance
Fri 21/6	6:00PM — 10:00PM	FULL COMPANY	THEATRE	SHOW #3
Sat 22/6	6:00PM — 10:00PM	FULL COMPANY	THEATRE	SHOW #4
Sun 23/6	12:30PM — 4:00PM	FULL COMPANY	THEATRE	SHOW #5 - Matinee Performance
Fri 28/6	6:00PM — 10:00PM	FULL COMPANY	THEATRE	SHOW #6
Sat 29/6	6:00PM — 10:00PM	FULL COMPANY	THEATRE	CLOSING NIGHT
Sun 30/6	9:00AM — 3:00PM	FULL COMPANY	THEATRE	BUMP OUT + Cast Picnic