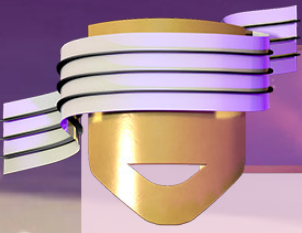




**MUSIC THEATRE  
GUILD OF VICTORIA**

**34th ANNUAL  
AWARD CEREMONY**

DECEMBER 11th



# DIRECTOR'S WELCOME

We are so excited to present to you the 2020/2021 Music Theatre Guild of Victoria's celebration of theatre. The past two years have been a challenge for our community, but when there's a will, there's a way. Though theatres were dark, we found ways to continue to create. iPhones became our audience, zoom screens became our audition room, YouTube became our ticket, foyer and theatre. We learnt if our bathroom or lounge room had the best lighting, and if we could get away with a fancy top and jocks in the recording. We can confirm that you can. Today, we turn the light back on in the theatre, and although we are not all the way there just yet, we welcome you from your home, your watch party, your rehearsal space to our celebration of theatre excellence. Although some aspects of tonight's event will be pre-recorded, they are a live recording done as single takes just as you would have normally seen at past award evenings.

It takes a village to get this show on the road, and 100 names that I could mention, but I would like to say a special thank you to our amazing production team who have worked tirelessly to put together this celebration. Special mention to the following:

Daniel Heskett, the most talented MD, the most wonderful human and the best choice to do life with. You just make putting a show together easy. Thank you for creating a killer band that just happens to be full of excellent humans. It makes it sound better.

Tejana Symons-Heskett, for all her support as assistant for both Dan and I. Always willing to help and be a champion in her role. Remember this thank you when choosing my nursing home.

Jayson Fry, who is a constant example of what a stage manager can look like – kind, caring but somehow always keeping it moving smoothly.

Brett Wingfield, for being an absolute wealth of knowledge and guiding us through the process of what could be a very daunting task.

Damien Calvert for being our tech legend and getting this event to you today. Michael Schoefield, thank you for risking your life posture for the perfect shot. We literally would be nowhere without you both. Chris Anderson, thank you for the graphics perfection people will experience throughout tonight's event.

Our guild ensemble, made up of performers whose shows were cancelled or postponed over the last two years, thank you for coming in and stepping up to the challenge with ease and a stupid amount of talent.

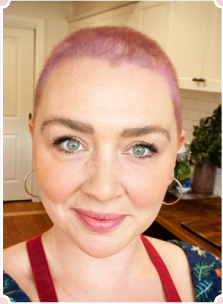
Also thank you to Marcello Lo Ricco and his LSS team, along with Jason Bovaird from Moving Light Productions (and his 4000 coffee cups), for your ongoing support and top shelf expertise.

And thank you to The Music Theatre Guild of Victoria, for giving me/us the opportunity to create again.

We hope that you enjoy tonight's celebration of our theatre community!

Bam xx

## DIRECTOR - SAMANTHA HESKETT



Samantha, known around the traps as Bam, has been loitering the theatre halls, for decades. She is absolutely honoured to have been asked to direct the 2020/2021 Music Theatre Guild Awards, and play one small part in this great big welcome back to the theatre community. Some previous direction credits include Legally Blonde (Altona City Theatre, 2019) Chitty Chitty Bang Bang (2017, Centrestage Geelong), The Producers (2015, Altona City Theatre), Sweet Charity (2013, Williamstown Musical Theatre Company) She is also looking forward to directing Jersey Boys at Altona City Theatre in 2022. Bam

also still enjoys a prance on stage with previous stage credits including Rosie (Mamma Mia, Footlight, 2019) The Bakers Wife (Into The Woods, WAT, 2017) Alice (Addams Family, CenterStage, 2016) Sarah Jane Moore (Assassins, Threes a Crowd, 2016), Gary Coleman (Avenue Q, Parcell Production, 2015, Music Theatre Guild Nomination). And we're back!!

## MUSICAL DIRECTOR - DANIEL HESKETT



This event marks Daniel's second time as Music Director for the Guild Awards, having previously conducted the 2015 awards at Costa Hall, Geelong. Being local to Geelong, Daniel has Musically Directed Chitty Chitty Bang Bang and 42nd St for Centrestage Geelong, earning a Music Theatre Guild nomination for Musical Direction on both shows, and Spamalot for Geelong Lyric Theatre Society. Other Guild nominations for best MD include Kinky Boots, A Chorus Line (CLOC); The Producers, Rent (Altona City Theatre); Sideshow, Chicago (WMTC); Song And Dance (Catchment Players) and for Choreography on WMTC's Eurobeat. Not kidding.

Dan also Directed and MD'd Little Shop Of Horrors for Altona, City Of Angels for WMTC and Avenue Q for Parcell Productions, which earned him a nomination for Best Director and won Best Production for the Entertainment Geelong Awards in 2013.

In 2022, Dan will be returning to Altona City Theatre as MD/Arranger for their Swing On A Star - Disney big band concert, and as Co-MD for Jersey Boys in July, to be directed by his wife, Bam. Dan will also be returning to WMTC as MD for their production of Sweeney Todd in November. Daniel has a standing engagement as the Musical Director for Overnewton Anglican Community College's yearly musical. Daniel's main passion is as a trumpet player, which has taken him around the country in shows, concerts, tours, recording sessions, teaching, commercial work

and currently as part of the horn sections for groups such as the EssTee Big Band, The Funk Buddies, The Run, and The Jack Earle Big Band (find them all on Facebook and Spotify).

Dan also has the privilege of being husband to Bam and father to Tejana, Quinn & Sullivan, and thanks all of them for their unwavering love and support. Dan would also like to thank the entire production team for their expertise, professionalism, and outstanding abilities, in pivoting this year's event online; but most of all, he'd like to thank the incredible work of the supremely talented musicians you'll hear in tonight's broadcast. To produce such high-quality musicianship over the two days of recording this year's performances and underscores, all with at most two read-throughs before we hit record - you're all freaks, in the absolute best of ways. Bravo!



# ORDER OF EVENTS

**Welcome To Country**  
**Overture - Orchestra**  
**Opening Number - We're Back - Guild Performers**  
**President's Welcome**

**Special Awards**  
**Open Excellence**  
**Lighting**  
**Junior Female Performer in a Leading Role**  
**Male in a Leading Role**  
**Junior Choreography**

**Junior Productions 2020 - 2021 A Tribute**  
**How it ends - Big Fish - Fab Nobs Theatre**

**Cameo or Minor Role**  
**Settings**  
**Male in a Supporting Role**  
**Junior Female Performer in a Supporting Role**  
**Choreography**  
**Life Membership**

## **In Memorium**

**Edith Harray Award**  
**Sound**  
**Female in a Supporting Role**  
**Junior Male Performer in a Leading Role**  
**Musical Direction**

**Friend Like Me - Wish Upon A Song - Geelong Lyric Theatre Society**



# ORDER OF EVENTS

Excellence Awards  
Creative Design  
Female in a Leading Role  
Junior Musical Direction

**Quiet Please there's a Lady on Stage - 3rd Wheel - Waterdale Theatre**  
**Bohemian Rhapsody - We Will Rock You - Bendigo Theatre Company**

Edith Harry Award  
Technical Achievement  
Costumes  
Direction Junior Production  
Life Membership

**Life Members Tribute**  
**Popular - Wicked - Warrigal Theatre Company**

Junior Performing in an Production  
Dancer's Award  
Junior Male Performer in a Supporting Role  
Direction

**Say a little prayer for you/ It's raining men - Priscilla Queen of the Desert**  
**- CLOC Musical Theatre**

Ensemble  
Concert/Revue  
Junior Production of the Year  
Production of the Year

**Farewell and acknowledgments/credits**



# ORCHESTRA

**Conductor - Dan Heskett**

**Violin - Prue Jury, Anne Beruldsen & John Clancy**

**Viola - John Clancy**

**Cello - Deb McLeod**

**Bass - Shane Cole-Hayhow**

**Reed - Brad Slater, Daniel Modica & Cara Taber**

**Horn - Jo Ghiocas & Anthony Cardamone**

**Trumpet - Jenter Zilm, David Hirst & Dan Heskett**

**Trombone - Simon Greatwood**

**Guitar- Dave Banen & David Hirst**

**Keyboard - Tony Toppi, Martine Wengrow,**

**Amber Simm & Anthony Cardamone**

**Drums / Perc- Bryn Bowen**

**Percussion- Mal Fawcett & Josh Mulcahy**

**Percussion Hire- David George, Gemma Podbury, Bryn Bowen**

**Additional Keyboard Programming - Tony Toppi**

**Additional Orchestrations and Vocal Arrangements - Daniel Heskett**

**"....And We're Back" Lyrics by Ashley Weidner, Daniel and Samantha Heskett.**

**Rehearsal space - Soundworks, donated by Benjamin Samuel.**



# PRODUCTION CREDITS

**Producer: Brett Wingfield**

**Director: Samantha Heskett**

**Musical Director: Daniel Heskett**

**Directors Assistant: Tejana Symons-Heskett**

**Floor Manager: Jayson Fry**

**Floor Managers Assistant: Tejana Symons-Heskett**

**Videography: Michael Schofield, Damien Calvert, Tejana Symons-Heskett**

**Editing: Daniel Heskett, Samantha Heskett, Michael Schofield, Karl McNamara,  
Tejana Symons-Heskett**

**Live Stream Coordination: Damien Calvert**

**Graphic Design: Chris Anderson**

**Lighting Designer: Jason Bovaird (Moving Light Productions Australia)**

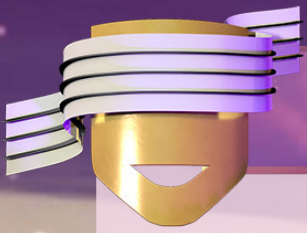
**Lighting Crew: Marcus Byron (Moving Light Productions Australia)**

**Jack Jones (Moving Light Productions Australia)**

**Sound Engineer (Music): Marcello Lo Ricco**

**Sound Engineer (Presentation): Steve Cooke**

**Sound Crew: Jordan Ross, Josh Mattielli, Jake Sipcic, Dave Banen,  
Kevan Aitkins, Rhiannon Gilmore, Jedd Schaeche, Cian Westall, Mark Crick**



# THE GUILD ENSEMBLE

**Tony Burge**

(A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum - Babirra Music Theatre- Postponed)

**Mike Gardiner**

(Hello Dolly - PLOS Musical Productions - Cancelled)

**Will Huang**

(Jersey Boys - CLOC Musical Theatre - Postponed)

**Jonno Sebastian**

(Mamma Mia - WMTC - Postponed)

**Perri Espinoza**

(West Side Story - CentreStage Geelong - Cancelled)

**Ninna Aguirre**

(In The Heights - OCPAC - Postponed)

**Grace Kingsford**

(Scarlet Pimpernel - OSMaD - Postponed; Mamma Mia - Babirra Music Theatre - Postponed)

**Casey Withoos**

(Wish Upon A Star - Altona City Theatre - Postponed)

A list of nominations and past award recipients can be  
found on the MTGV website:

[www.musictheatreguildvic.org](http://www.musictheatreguildvic.org)





# JUDGING PANELS

## OPEN

Ian Nisbet  
Chris Anderson  
Elise Dahl  
Elly Foster  
Nicole Lylak  
Trevor Osburn

With assistance from:

Amanda Stevenson  
Christine Duff  
Deana Jacobs  
Elyse Carmichael  
Liam McWhinney  
Peter Maver  
Mel Gregory  
David Crawshaw  
Sandy Wills

## JUNIOR

Dayna Tinline  
Damian Bernardo  
Ann Hubbard  
Bryce Dunn  
Caroline Leavey  
David Cenzato  
Kathy Lang



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Beaumaris Theatre

Lighting Equipment: Provided by MOVING  
LIGHT PRODUCTIONS AUSTRALIA

Sound Equipment supplied by LSS Productions

Percussion Hire - David George,  
Gemma Podbury, Bryn Bowen

Additional Keyboard Programming -  
Tony Toppi

Additional Orchestrations and Vocal  
Arrangements - Daniel Heskett

"....And We're Back" Lyrics by Ashley  
Weidner, Daniel and Samantha Heskett.

Rehearsal space - Soundworks, donated by  
Benjamin Samuel.

Catering - Leah Osburn