

# heartbeat.

**this is a performance**

about creativity, passion and why we make art.



**12-16 FEBRUARY 2023**  
**7PM at MOANA HALL**  
**FRINGE WORLD 2023**

## production details

**LEAD PLAYWRIGHT**

emmett aster

**DEVISORS/PERFORMERS**

rachel abelha

brindy donovan

robbie fieldwick

nashy mz

emmett rose

george burton

**DIRECTOR (MUSIC)**

jessika kaitlan

**DIRECTOR (VISUALS AND DESIGN)**

**PRODUCER**

emmett rose

**ASSISTANT PRODUCER**

teaghan lowry

**STAGE MANAGER**

ella thompson

**SET & COSTUME DESIGNER**

jessica canakis

**SONGWRITER**

emmett rose

**SOUND DESIGNER**

brindy donovan

**DESIGNER & MARKETING MANAGER**

brindy donovan

**AUSLAN INTERPRETER-IN-TRAINING**

sommer hester

(with mentorship by adrian chia)

## sponsors and support

*heartbeat.* was made possible with the support of Regional Arts WA through their Next Level Regional Grant. thank you also to Mark Storen from Whiskey & Boots, for his mentorship of Emmett Aster.

if you would like to **financially support the show**, and future productions by perhaps. you can make a donation at [perhapstheatre.com/support](http://perhapstheatre.com/support).

## acknowledgement of country

we meet on Binjareb Nyungar country to share stories and build connections as has been done here for at least fifty-thousand years before us. it is in this spirit of connecting with and learning from each other that we acknowledge and pay our respects to elders past, present and emerging.

# about perhaps. a theatre company



'perhaps. a theatre company', created by emmett rose, is a semi-professional theatre company blurring the lines that separate theatre from other art forms to tell human stories and explore the feelings that, perhaps, we've all felt.

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/perhapsatheatrecompany

## about 'heartbeat.'

'heartbeat.' tells the real stories of those attempting to create a career in the arts long after everybody else has grown up.

blending theatre, spoken word, music and verbatim elements, this debut show from 'perhaps, a theatre company.' follows five west australian artists as they desperately try to find meaning in their role as a performer. 'heartbeat.' explores the power of art in a world that favours the monotonous, returning both the audience and the performers to the magic of childhood and the thing that connects us all: the all-consuming, undeniable desire to create.

*you've felt it too, right?*

## artist interviews

are you a west australian artist interested in sharing your experiences of being an artist? perhaps. is collating a digital program that explores the experiences of artists in western australia. this may extend to a long-term collection of artist answers on our website. your name and general artistic practice will be attached to this. please fill out the form at [perhapstheatre.com/artist-interview](http://perhapstheatre.com/artist-interview).

## cast and crew



### **emmett aster**

**lead playwright**  
**devisor/performer**  
**producer**  
**songwriter**

twenty year old emmett rose is an emerging mandurah/binjareb based multidisciplinary creative and the lead artist behind 'heartbeat.', also working behind the scenes on the project as the producer and playwright.

emmett has been working freelance in the arts since they were fourteen, pursuing music and songwriting, photography, theatre, and poetry in order to live out their passion for storytelling. a playwright and published poet, emmett's writing credits include his debut play, 'potluck at nine' (riptide youth theatre company 2020, all the ways theatre company 2022) and publications in pulch magazine ('learning to love') and damsel magazine ('125,000 calories'). last year, emmett was working as the co-director of all the ways theatre company, developing his artistic practice as a producer and multi-modal theatre maker. now the artistic director of 'perhaps.', emmett seeks to share underrepresented and human stories through authentic works that blur the lines of theatre.



### **rachel abelha**

**devisor/performer**

rachel is twenty two, and is an emerging multi-disciplinary artist based in boorloo/perth. recently graduating from curtin university with a degree in theatre and writing, she has a broad range of experience in acting, devising, writing, and directing. most recently, she has written and directed her own original work, 'lost and found', which premiered at the hayman theatre last year. rachel's performer credits include 'rest' (2019) 'body rights' (2020), 'metamorphosis' (2020), and

'rats tales' (2021). she has also been cast in several upcoming short films slated for festival release. rachel is looking forward to seeing how she can combine her interests in upcoming work, which she can't wait to share with people.

## cast and crew



### **brindy donovan**

**devisor/performer**

**sound designer**

**designer and marketing manager**

twenty-two year old brindy is a multi-disciplinary creative with skills and experience across visual art, music, design, photography, and theatre. complementary to their creative practice, they have recently graduated with a degree in philosophy, anthropology and sociology, motivated by a curiosity about our different ways of thinking and living in the world. brindy has exhibited paintings in several exhibitions over the years, including AGWA's 'perspectives' (2018), the city of stirling art awards (2021) where they received the 'young artist highly commended' award, and most recently at the UWA school of design's 'summer exhibition 2022' (2022). in 'heartbeat.', brindy is also taking on the roles of marketing manager and sound designer. this will be their first involvement in theatre in several years, to which they bring new ideas, stories, and musings about art and being an artist.



### **robbie fieldwick**

**devisor/performer**

whether it is on the stage, behind the scenes, or behind the dm screen, twenty one year old robbie's propensity for storytelling has shaped his career and adult life. with a unique style, robbie found his niche in the theatre scene by bringing contemporary physical theatre practices to the forefront of his performance. regularly returning to events such as fringe world and summer nights, robbie has had the pleasure of working with many different theatre makers, around perth and beyond, as both cast and crew. robbie's performing and devising credits include 'cardboard kingdom' and 'homebrand' with riptide youth theatre company, and 'deviator' 'resist' and 'tiny revolutions' with pvi collective. robbie also worked as the movement director for 'all the ways to tell you' with all the ways theatre company. recently, robbie took up the amazing opportunity to work with wright & grainger in their edinburgh fringe festival performance of 'the gods, the gods, the gods'.

## cast and crew



### **nashy mz**

#### **devisor/performer**

nashy moved from her home country (singapore) to australia when she was twelve, and began her performance career by pursuing a b.a in theatre and drama studies at murdoch university. now a twenty seven year old singaporean-malay muslim woman, nashy is passionate about smashing harmful stereotypes about characters of her faith and actively challenges the status quo with her vibrant take on contemporary stage and screen roles. nashy's stage credits

include 'decisions & consequences' (2018), love and information (2019), and bruised (2021). her screen credits include cherubhead (sarah legg, west mirror media), and love me lex (sanja katich). when not acting, nashy coaches artistic gymnastics to rowdy children, writes story ideas, and hangs out with her friends, all of whom are foodies and gaming enthusiasts.



### **george burton**

#### **director (music)**

a perth (boorloo) / mandurah (binjareb) based artist and curator, eighteen year old george has spent the last few years combining their work in the music field with their love for theatre. george's credits in this area include 'homebrand' (sound-designer, 2020), 'eva dubiviour and the bloody truth' (live musician, 2021), and 'all the ways to tell you' (live musician, 2021). they made their directorial debut in june last year and have since spent their time pursuing their passion

in this area, including current work on upcoming feature film 'sweet rhythm'. george loves to see how art can change the way that people think and feel, believing it to be one of the most important parts of our world's culture.

## cast and crew



### **jessika kaitlin**

#### **director (visuals and designs)**

after years of performing in local theatre, twenty two year old jessika makes their directorial debut in “heartbeat”. jess has dedicated their whole life to the arts, expressing themselves through various art practices from a young age. this includes visual art, for which they earned a place in the casm (contemporary art space mandurah) youth residency mentorship program. jess’s theatre credits include eclipse (playwrite, 2020), eva dubivoir and the quest for the bloody truth (assistant director, 2021), and all the ways to tell you (stage manager, 2021). jess has an immense passion for connecting to others through the beauty of art. they are excited by the opportunity to create a sense of belonging for fellow artists who can emphasise with ‘heartbeat’ whilst simultaneously presenting art in a light that non-artists may have never considered before.



### **teaghan lowry**

#### **assistant producer**

twenty two year old teaghan has been immersed in the arts for a little over thirteen years now. growing up, she trained in theatre at a variety of local drama schools in the area and developed a great passion for acting. teaghan has worked with a variety of different companies over the years, including riptide youth performance company, pvi collective, slingsby, and australian theatre for young people. over this time, teaghan developed a love for producing, as they love supporting the ideas of others and allowing them to come to fruition. she began to pursue this wherever possible, including co-coordinating ‘bard enters the bush’, a series of shakespeare-based theatre productions. teaghan also began chameleon theatre factory, a theatre training company for children aged 6-16, and spent two years working as the artistic associate for riptide youth performance company. teaghan is also heavily involved in visual arts, and has been a freelance graphic designer since 2017.

## cast and crew



### **ella thompson** stage manager

ella is twenty two and currently a stage management student at waapa, working towards completing a bachelor of performing arts in technical services and live production. she has been involved in regional theatre for the last eight years, including performing onstage and working backstage with stray cats theatre company. this year, ella was one of the stage managers for stray cats' production of 'the lion, the witch and the wardrobe', and worked as an assistant stage manager for their production of 'anything goes' last year. ella has also been involved with riptide youth performance company since 2019, and last year she stage managed 'eclipse', 'potluck at nine', and 'the last news show on earth' as part of the company's production 'tide tales 2.0.'



### **jessica canakis** set and costume designer

twenty one year old jessica is a graduand with a bachelor's degree in creative media, having written and performed for both stage and screen. recently jessica featured as the production designer for a short film titled 'i hate kevin', and is currently taking on the role of producer in 'sweet rhythm', which will be the first independent movie-musical to be produced in wa. last year, jessica performed in her very first fringe festival, and is excited to return to stage theatre in the role of set and costume designer.



## cast and crew



### **sommer hester**

#### **auslan interpreter-in-training**

twenty one year old sommer is the student auslan interpreter for heartbeat. adoring and connecting deeply to all things expressive such as dance, music and visual arts (and of course auslan), sommer threw herself into many theatre productions with stray cats ever since 2021, from charlie and the chocolate factory (2021) to legally blonde (2022) performing ensemble characters. as for auslan, sommer's first exposure was in primary school and ever

since then, sat in the back of their mind until 2020, where the pursuit of studying to become an auslan interpreter began. this journey has led sommer to currently completing diploma of interpreting - the highest auslan qualification which will be completed in march of 2023. assisting along the very much behind-the-scenes theatre interpreting process is mentor adrian chia. both have been on onboard to provide auslan accessibility for heartbeat.