

My First and Last Solo Show

By Natalie Rose



Performances: 17 – 19 September 2026 | Campbelltown Arts Centre

Opening Night

Thursday 17 September 2026, 7:30pm

Performances

Friday 18 September 2026, 1:00pm and 7:30pm

Saturday 19 September 2026, 1:00pm and 7:30pm

Acknowledgement

We pay our respects to the Dharawal People who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land, whose deepening connection to culture and customs have cared for this Country for over 60,000 years.

We acknowledge Elders past, present and emerging for their immense spiritual connection to place which was never ceded.

Dharawal Land has always been recognised as a meeting place for people from other Lands, and in this Spirit we respectfully continue this Tradition through the bringing together of our communities through arts and culture.

Always was and Always will be Aboriginal Land.





Image credit: Joshua Morris

Content Warning

While this production explores family, connection and resilience, it also touches on the difficult realities of domestic violence. If these themes feel close to home, please remember that support is available.

The production includes discussions of domestic violence and Alzheimer's disease, haze, strobe, loud sounds, coarse language.

Foreword

Campbelltown Arts Centre is proud to present the world premiere of Natalie Rose's My First and Last Solo Show, co-commissioned with Performing Lines and supported by Shopfront Arts Co-op.

This work may be confronting, but it is generous and hopeful. It speaks to every mother, daughter and human being, reminding us that sharing our stories helps us better understand ourselves, each other and our communities.

These themes feel especially resonant here in Campbelltown, on Dharawal Country, a community made up of many cultures, families and generations. At Campbelltown Arts Centre, we are committed to supporting artists who create from lived experience, tell important stories and spark conversations that help us better understand ourselves, our communities and each other.

Congratulations to Natalie and Mabelle Rose, and to Clare Britton, Clare Grant, James Peter Brown, Tyler Fitzpatrick, Troy Reid, Emma Saunders and the many collaborators who have shaped the work. Special thanks to Jane Schon and Performing Lines, Shopfront Arts Co-op, Creative Australia, Create NSW, UNSW's Esme Timbery Creative Practice Lab, and our dedicated CAC Team particularly Creative Producers Shyamla Eswaran and Anthea Doropoulos.

We are excited that My First and Last Solo Show begins its journey here in Campbelltown, and we're honoured to share it with you.

Mouna Zaylah

Director – Campbelltown Arts Centre

Artist Statement

It feels like a rite of passage that all artists must make a solo show, and back in 2022, I felt it was my time to really start thinking about this. However, I very quickly learnt that I cannot be in a room by myself. My process is embedded in collaboration, so why would I attempt to change this huge part of my theatre-making process now? Not the best idea.

So, I brought in a team of people — some of the best people. I started having conversations with other peers I admired, not just because of the work they make, but because I admired the fact that they are artists and parents and juggle these two things. I then formed this beautiful creative team: a bunch of people who want to make art that is centred around people — a people-focused practice. Yes, the work has rigour, but we all understand that sometimes we need time off, time to deal with family stuff or time to pick up our kid from school.

I always believed that the arts were the perfect place to be a parent. After all, it is a place where we are meant to dream, push boundaries and challenge perceptions. However, the reality is different — there is one schedule we should all fit into: late nights of making, 12–14-hour days, just because that's what we are meant to do. Being a full-time arts worker, having your own artistic practice and being a mother is close to impossible. The sector rarely supports flexible schedules, having children in rehearsal rooms, let alone processes or working anything less than an eight-hour day. We are encouraged to burn the candle at both ends and pump out genius creativity quicker than the gestational period of a child.

I wanted to challenge this idea and develop this show over a long-form creative development — four years! I believe that the very best works take years to make, but I also want to show other parents/mothers in the sector that they can and should push boundaries too. Why not take four years to make a show? Why not bring your snotty kid into the rehearsal room? Why not do all your theatre-making in a car while driving your kid around?

Over the last four years, this work has developed in ways I never imagined. Not only has my daughter grown up into a phenomenal human, performer and almost-adult, but my mum has cognitively declined. The juxtaposition of these two incredibly important women in my life has made me realise how valuable the moments are when we are in sync with our loved ones. We go through life trying to create these memories, memories we will remember forever, but at the end of the day, maybe what we will remember are the mundane moments, like going through the drive-thru at Maccas. And maybe that is beautiful in itself.

This show is for my mum, who can't say what she wants to, and my daughter, who has years to say it all.

Natalie Rose

Creative team

Writer, Creator, Performer

Natalie Rose

Devisor, Performer

Mabelle Rose

Director

Clare Britton

Dramaturg

Clare Grant

Sound Designer

James Peter Brown

Lighting Designer, Production Manager

Tyler Fitzpatrick

Set & Costume Designer

Troy Reid

Movement Director

Emma Saunders

Peer Collaborator

Jodee Mundy, Jenni Medway,

(early-stage developments)

Anne-Louise Sarks,

Victoria Hunt and Victoria Spence

Produced by

Performing Lines



Image credit: Joshua Morris

Natalie Rose

Writer, Creator, Performer

Natalie Rose (she/her) is one third of the performance collective POST, Creative Director/CEO at Shopfront Arts Co-op, and has significantly developed her cultural leadership practice over the past 10 years. Her work has been seen nationally and internationally at Sydney Festival, Belvoir, Sydney Theatre Company, and Cambridge Junction (UK). With POST, Oedipus Schmoedipus toured to Santiago Chile, West Kowloon Cultural Precinct Authority in Hong Kong. POST's work Ich Nibber Dibber was remounted at Sydney Opera House and Malthouse Theatre. In 2026, they are currently in development on a new work The List.

Nat has been involved in Australia's Contemporary Performance scene for the past 25 years and facilitated workshops for Young People and emerging artists with and without disability. She is passionate about collaboration and her devised work with Young People has always placed their voices at the centre of all creation. These ambitious works have been recognised through awards and publications. Nat has a Bachelor of Arts (Theatre-making) from the University of Western Sydney, Nepean and has previously trained at PACT and Urban Theatre Projects as a member of their ensembles. In 2022, was selected by Creative Australia as an Arts Leader recipient, spending time abroad exchanging with artists in Indonesia. In 2024, Nat embarked on a new project Si' Malamalama La'ititi (This little light), with fellow Arts Leader recipients, Grace Vanilau and Bethany Ashley-Ward exploring the intersection between motherhood, community and the arts. She is on the Board of Directors for Voices of Women, a panel assessor for Create NSW's Community Arts and Cultural Development Board and a panel assessor for Creative Australia's Theatre Board. She is privileged to work, play and tell stories on Wangal, Bidjigal and Kameygal Country.

In 2022, Nat began developing My First and Last Solo Show supported by Performing Lines, Create NSW and Creative Australia. This work will be presented in September 2026 at Campbelltown Arts Centre. Well yeah – you're here now watching it!

Mabelle Rose

Devvisor, Performer

Mabelle Rose (she/her) is a young actress and theatre devvisor with over 11 years of performance experience, including three years as a professional actor. She has worked with organisations including Blacktown Arts, Shopfront Arts Co-op, The Arts Unit, Sydney Festival, PACT, Performance Space and Belvoir St Theatre. Her early performances include *The Drawing* (Natalie Rose and Chris Dunstan, 2015) and *The Hungry Games* (Natalie Rose and Chris Dunstan, 2016) by Blacktown and Shopfront Arts. Since 2018, she has appeared in every Shopfront Junior Ensemble production, including *The Pecking Order* (Mark Rodgers and Kevin Ng, 2018), *Mums Tell Dad Jokes Too* (Nicole Pingon and Tasha O'Brien, 2022) and *Tender* (Lana Filies and Lucy Heffernan, 2023). Mabelle helped with the creation of the 2022 Arts Unit State Drama show *Consumerama* by Sue Musgrove. She has also performed in Sydney Festival with *Ten Minute Dance Parties* (2018) and *Nighttime Righttime Liveworks Festival* for POST with Natalie Rose and Zoë Coombs Marr in 2023. Her most recent performances have been *Death of a Junior Salesman* (Shopfront Arts Co-op) and *POV* (re:group performance collective) in 2024 at Belvoir St Theatre, which went on to tour *Rising Festival* (Arts Centre Melbourne), *Riverside/National Theatre of Parramatta*, *Bondi Festival*, and *New Annual Festival* in 2025. In 2026, she performed in *The Censor* as a part of Sydney Festival. And she has been developing *My First and Last Solo Show* for the past four years with her mum.



Image credit: Joshua Morris



Clare Britton

Director

Clare Britton (she/her) is an artist living on Bidjigal Land in Sydney. Clare is interested in how artworks, people and landscapes hold stories. Informed by her time as part of the performance collective My Darling Patricia (2004-14) and visual art collective Magnetic Topographies (2018-current), her work is animated by research and interdisciplinary collaboration and has attracted awards for sculpture, performance, design and research, earning recognition including a Sidney Myer Creative Fellowship and touring and exhibiting in Australia and internationally. Clare holds a Masters of Studio Art (2016) and a Doctor of Philosophy (2020) from Sydney College of the Arts, the University of Sydney and is currently a lecturer and researcher in the School of the Arts and Media, Faculty of Arts, Design and Architecture, UNSW. Clare's work respects the fact that working in Australia means working on Aboriginal Land.



Clare Grant

Dramaturg

Clare Grant (OAM) (she/her) has been a Sydney-based, freelance dramaturg, performer and teacher for several decades. Some projects as dramaturg: Halcyon Days with Annette Tesoriero, Maria White and Halcyon in Monumental (working title), Sydney Festival (2023). Some performance projects: Cries From The Tower-Redux with Barbara Campbell NGA (2021); Samara Hersch's Sex and Death at Adelaide Festival, (2022); The Concert (film with Sydney Opera House) with Angela Goh (2022), and Séance, a public showing of work by a re-grouping of members of The Sydney Front (2022). Clare is Honorary Lecturer in Performance at UNSW (where she lectured in Performance 1998-2015. She published a collection of DVDs on the work of The Sydney Front, of which company she was a founding member 1986-1993 (2011) (Bloomsbury). She has been working beside Nat Rose throughout the extended creative process of My First and Last Solo Show.



James Peter Brown

Sound Designer

James Peter Brown (he/him) is a composer, sound designer and theatre maker known for his evocative and diverse scores. He works across mainstage and experimental theatre, contemporary dance, film, documentary, animation, video games and virtual reality, and usually builds sound alongside a work as it is being devised, so that the score and the performance material grow together. He holds a Bachelor of Visual Arts from Sydney College of the Arts, where he focused on composition and sound design for animation, and a Master of Acoustic Physics from the University of Sydney, where his thesis examined the effects of low frequency sound on the body and mind. He received Sydney Theatre Awards for Best Sound Design of a Mainstage Production in 2023 for *Constellations* and in 2024 for *Stolen*, both at Sydney Theatre Company. His score for the feature film *Birthright* (dir. Zoe Pepper) was nominated for Feature Film Score of the Year at the APRA AMCOS / AGSC Screen Music Awards. He has previously made work with Natalie Rose and POST on *Oedipus Schmoedipus*, *Ich Nibber Dibber* and *Who's the Best?*



Tyler Fitzpatrick

Lighting Designer, Production Manager

Tyler Fitzpatrick (she/her) is a stage/production manager, producer, and lighting designer working on unceded Gadigal land. She was the Production and Operations Manager at Shopfront Arts Co-Op from 2020 to 2025 and worked with the PaperJam Partners from 2021-2023. Her Production Management credits include Griffin: Sistren, Blaque Showgirls, Jailbaby, Pony; Milkcrate: Dust; NToFP: Nothing, A Practical Guide to Self Defence; Campbelltown Arts Centre: The Other Side, Mirage, The Complication of Lyrebirds. Stage Management Credits include: Griffin: SAVIOR, The Lewis Trilogy, Whitefella Yella Tree (Adelaide); CAAP/Sydney Festival: The Bridal Lament; NToFP/La Boite: Yoga Play; GreenDoor: seven methods of killing kylie jenner; Merrigong: As Luck Would Have It, Trash Talk; QuietRiot/Darby James: Little Squirt, VoxStep: Garden of Sound; Wright&Grainger: Orpheus, Eurydice (Adelaide). Assistant Stage Manager credits include: STC/Griffin: Whitefella Yella Tree. Tyler received the 2022 STA for Best Lighting Design (Independent) for Moon Rabbit Rising. With Lily Hayman, she runs Purple Tape Productions, championing female and gender diverse stories. In 2026, they produced Afterglow, Straight Panic and an Adelaide season of The Infinity Mirror.



Troy Reid

Set & Costume Designer

Troy Reid (he/him) is a proud Dharug man, contemporary performance maker, designer and theatre technician. A founding member of performance collective Applespiel, Troy has been making work locally and internationally since 2010. Troy's work is centered around collaboration, practice-led research and participatory engagement, as well as the body as a site of risk. In his spare time, Troy enjoys baking and playing ice hockey and spends too much time playing World of Warcraft, accumulating to at least a full year's worth of play over his life. Troy would like to dedicate his work on this production to his two cats, Roland and Boy Susan.



Emma Saunders

Movement Director

Emma Saunders (she/her) is an award-winning Australian dance artist whose 25-year practice explores the simplicity of dance and complexity of choreography. Her visceral, instinctive work combines humour, everyday movement, text, repetition, abstraction, community and diverse sites. Twice shortlisted for an Australian Dance Award, Emma created large-scale works ENCOUNTER for Sydney Festival, Austinmer Dancing Project and The Bankstown Dancing Project. Her work has been presented at Sydney Opera House, Riverside Theatres, Dance Massive, Melbourne International Arts Festival, Bleach Festival and internationally across Europe and Japan. Emma co-founded acclaimed award winning trio The Fondue Set and established her WE ARE HERE Company, creating Radical Transparency, Infinity Bias and multiple iterations of Encounter. Her practice continues to expand across time and space, communities and collaborations, exploring how dance can transform how we experience ourselves, each other and the world around us. Through projects including Dancing On the Green, Emma uses her intuitive knack of crafting dance to disrupt the everyday, spark joy, connection and belonging.

Performing Lines

Producer

Performing Lines produces provocative contemporary performance by Australia's most audacious independent artists. They curate a portfolio of work that is propelled by pressing questions and new ways of seeing the world. They champion the unconventional, the marginal, the rebellious and the new. Their purpose is to champion risk and to ensure that the breadth and plurality of Australia's creative potential is represented and celebrated. Performing Lines is led by Executive Producer Simon Wellington, and manages teams in Sydney, Perth, Melbourne and Hobart, with a network of producers and presenters around the country and the world.



Artist's thank yous

Thank you to...

Clare Britton, James Brown and Clare Grant who have believed in this work for four years. Thank you to the whole creative team for helping to create a space that was always so held, positive, caring, generous and unbelievably silly.

The Theatre and Performance team at UNSW, especially Mark Mitchell and Daniel Mann.

Shopfront staff for holding the fort while I have been making this show. The many artists, collaborators and funders who have contributed to the work over our long-form four-year development.

To CAC for commissioning and taking a risk on this new work.

To everyone at Performing Lines, especially, Jane, Vanessa, Simon and Alice Hatton (all those years ago). To have your support and belief in this project for such a long time is really overwhelming in the best way possible.

Everyone who has come in to see a run of this work.
Matt Prest for excellent backup.

Daniel Potter and Callan Purcell for your support and always being up for chatting through my ambitiously bonkers ideas.
Paddy Meredith-Keller for unconditionally supporting me and generally putting up with me for so many years.

And most importantly, my favourite person in the World, Mabelle, I know you were getting paid to do this, but I feel like you've actually really enjoyed it or at least you did a very good job at pretending.



Support line numbers

While this production explores family, connection and resilience, it also touches on the difficult realities of domestic violence. If these themes feel close to home, please remember that support is available.

General Support Services

Kids Help Line	1800 551 800
Lifeline Australia	13 11 14
24/7 NSW Mental Health Line	1800 011 511
1800RESPECT	1800 737 732

Support services in Campbelltown

Campbelltown Domestic Violence Committee	1800 656 463
Macarthur Women's Domestic Violence	02 4640 7333
Court Advocacy Service (MWDVCAS)	1300 275 227
Baptist Care supports men locally in	
Campbelltown with a Men's Behaviour Change Program and also provides counselling	02 4627 8444
Neami Campbelltown supports community with issues around mental health	
St Vincent de Paul Society - Vinnies	02 4621 5590
Aboriginal Service - Macarthur Gateway	02 4628 0008
Tharawal Aboriginal Corporation Health Service	02 4628 4837
Benevolent Society	1800 077 760
LGBTIQ 1800RESPECT	1800 737 732
ACON	02 9206 2000

Campbelltown Arts Centre Staff

Director

Business and Engagement Coordinator

Head of Curatorial

Curator, Contemporary Visual Arts

Assistant Curator, Contemporary Visual Arts

Collections and Exhibitions Officer

Creative Producer, Performance

Creative Producer, Performance

Creative Producer, Performance

Creative Producer, Public Art

Creative Programs Assistant

Visitor Experience and Venue Coordinator

Media & Communications Officer

Design & Communications Officer

Project Officer - Arts Centre Relocation Project

Education Officer

Creative Learning and Engagement Officer

Education and Creative Learning Program Assistant

Aboriginal Cultural Program Officer

Production Lead

Venue Technician

Little Orange Studio Coordinator

Little Orange Studio Assistant Facilitator

Arts Administrator

Senior Visitor Experience and Retail Officer

Visitor Experience Officer

Visitor Experience Officers

Mellissa Grierson, Julie Finch, Laura Brunick, Erica Revere, Tim Almonte,
Mariam Chanaoui, Paige Northwood, Eva Hampel

Mouna Zaylah

Bronwyn Papantonio

Adam Porter

Emily Rolfe

Hannah James

Isabelle Morgan

Shyamla Eswaran

Anthea Doropoulos (Secondment)

Brittany Green (Maternity leave)

Timothy George

Anne Cutajar

Cheryl Brunetta

Ellen Formby

Donna Vo

Madilyne Acutt

Celeste Wrona

Julia Quinn

Samantha Relihan

(currently vacant)

Frank Mainoo

Phu Nguyen

David Capra

Julie Finch

Sharon McAndrew

Louise Snowdon

Mellissa Grierson

Campbelltown Arts Centre
1 Art Gallery Rd Campbelltown
Open daily, 10am – 4pm
02 4645 4100
campbelltownartscentre.com.au



My First and Last Solo Show is co-commissioned by Campbelltown Arts Centre and produced by Performing Lines. It has been developed and presented with support from the Australian Government through Creative Australia, its primary arts investment and advisory body, and the NSW Government through Create NSW. This project has also been supported by Shopfront Arts Co-op. Thanks to UNSW's EsmeTimberly Creative Practice Lab.

Campbelltown Arts Centre is a cultural facility of Campbelltown City Council assisted by the NSW Government through Create NSW and receives support from the Neilson Foundation and the Packer Family Foundation.