

## Thank You...

John Jacobs, Adam Ibbetson, Elnaz Sheshgelani, Lia Vandersant, Jody Seidel, Clare Larman, Clare Mandes, Sam Steel, Fleur Rubens La Mama Mob, The Butterfly Club, Troynar Tribe, Friends & Lovers of Krows Bar Kabaret.



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La Mama Theatre is on traditional land of the people of the Kulin Nation. We give our respect to the Elders of these traditional lands and to all First Nations people past, present and future. We acknowledge all events take place on stolen lands and that sovereignty was never ceded.

We are grateful to all our philanthropic partners and donors, advocates, volunteers, audiences, artists and our entire community as we work towards the La Mama rebuild. Thank you!

La Mama is financially assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council – its arts funding and advisory body, Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund - an Australian Government initiative, the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria, and the City of Melbourne through the *Arts and Creative Partnerships Program*.



LA MAMA & ELLA FILAR'S  
KROW'S BAR KABARET PRESENT

# MRS ROBINSON

## A SOAP CABARET

as a part of Melbourne International Comedy Festival 2021



A p r i l 1 3 - 1 8 , 2 0 2 1

# MRS ROBINSON

## A SOAP CABARET

Written & Directed by **Ella Filar**

Performed by **Casey Nicholls-Bull, Ruth Katerelos, Chris Molyneux, Bruce Langdon, Tom Costigan, Ella Filar (keyboard), Martin Zakharov (Sax), Sally Banks (Violin), Roni Linser (Jembe)**

Set design: **Ella Filar**

Lighting design: **Jason Crick**

Artwork: **Tamar Dolev**

Sound design: **John Jenkin**

Stage manager: **Tatiana Bistrin**

Photography credit: **Daren Gill**

**Life is NOT a Cabaret old chum  
So you don't have to come**

"...all the songs and the music are world class with that smoky, jagged, disturbing Weimar feel"

– **Stagewhispers**

"off-kilter time signatures of Weimar Kabaret... unusual lilt... there is plenty of sharp political commentary and clever wordplay to be had within Filar's lyrics" – **Aussie Theatre**

## MRS ROBINSON SONGBOOK

### H A P P I N E S S

*Dearly departed, yours in  
perpetuity*

*Are passing me by, They're  
passing me by,*

*The Queen of Ambiguity  
With just a hint of masculinity  
Is passing me by, She is passing  
me by*

*Happiness, happiness*

*Happiness, happiness*

*It's not Amazing Techno Dream  
Boat*

*To float and flaunt to impress  
It's not thick, thermal underwear  
To cover body parts you bare  
And wear inside out.*

*Happiness, happiness*

*Happiness, happiness*

*Happiness is not a winning  
Number we all hope to guess  
It's not a Watershed you dread  
But had to have and glad you had  
To rise from the dead*

*A debt collector*

*With the dirty deal detector  
Is passing me by, She is passing  
me by*

*Bi-spectacled speculator*

*With vibrating calculator  
Is passing me by, He is passing  
me by*

*Happiness, happiness*

*Happiness, happiness  
Happiness is not a crouching  
beast*

*Under your wedding dress  
It's not a rare collector's item  
To seek and hide and stick inside  
Your blushing bride.*

*Happiness, happiness*

*Happiness, happiness*

*It's not an egg you've owned and  
spawned*

*And pawned and long to  
repossess*

*It's not a diamond in the sky  
To pocket like a shooting star  
It's much more. Or less*

### S U M M E R M O T H S

*Summer Moths of plague  
proportion*

*Emigrate across the ocean  
Blocking out the midday sun  
All that sweaty petting done  
Scrappy fragments of the past  
Snapshots of the fading lust  
Made of stuff you can't get  
enough off*

*Us troubadours 'call love HOT  
LOVE*

*I remember wearing my heart out,  
Dying for love and living for lust,  
Weeping within and doing*

without,  
Ashes to ashes and dust to  
sacramental dust.

I remember your weight inside  
me  
Bearing the brunt of my foreign  
affair,  
I remember the warmth in your  
belly  
Smuggling our secret under the  
fake Russian fur.

I remember the quick beat of you  
heart  
That opened and shut faster than  
the speed of light,  
I remember holding a candle that  
burned at both ends  
Right through the hot summer  
night.

Mother don't blow out that  
candle  
Daughter don't grow up so fast,  
Death is a lover my body can't  
handle,  
We're burying his body not his  
testicular past

### **CAN'T SAVE THE SPIDER FROM THE WEB**

Saved Aunt Amelia from  
necrophilia  
You saved me from flogging a  
very dead horse

A horse is a horse of course and  
you can't flog a dead horse  
But of course I am very coarse, I  
even swallowed a horse!  
The Human kind is not too  
refined  
You sow a heap of shit a heap of  
shit you shall reap  
Ignore that fundamental flaw, it's  
all in your mind and it shows  
Why rock that old proverbial boat  
When you can jump the  
proverbial old ship!

I saved my blow fly from the  
spider  
I saved the spider from fate  
worse than death  
The woman who swallowed it,  
was really full of shit  
You made me swallow a lie, now  
surely I will die  
The Mother Nature is not too  
kind  
When fish goes belly up she  
does not weep  
The fundamental flaw is in the  
divine design and it shows  
Can't save the spider from the  
web  
r creepy crawly from being a  
creep

I saved this fella from playing  
Othello

I saved Othello from playing  
dead  
The star crossed lover's scene is  
more toxic than Morten  
Most everybody dies all  
dropping dead like flies  
Romantic fiction is a deadly  
addiction  
A heroine on ice might even die  
twice  
The cheating heart will always  
dare fatal attraction anal affair  
Can't save the lover from the  
cross  
Or the cross from the love it must  
bear.

Saved Cousin Rodney from  
melancholia  
You saved my brain cells from the  
vapours of weed  
When in its evil grip Your mind  
would flip and slip  
Down existential spiral of  
transcendental trip  
The rank and file is in denial  
It talks of tools of trade but the  
tools of the tradies are cheap  
Reptilian user friendly brain  
Spits microchips when  
unrestrained  
You can't undo a rusty screw  
But you can screw and undo a  
trusty sheep

### **T A - B O O !**

Stranger Danger  
And Danger Stranger than a  
Relative Stranger  
Might come and snuggle up  
against you  
On that Midnight Train  
At Coitus Junction  
No longer a stranger to  
dysfunction  
Diminished Mind and Body  
function  
You will do it all over again!

Love and Lust  
Like footprints in the City's distant  
past  
Will blind you up with the dirty  
dust  
Of fine Familial Lies  
Taboo to you  
Might be Taboo to me to screw  
you too  
And leave you dangling high and  
dry  
Strangled with Familial Ties

Well was it you or was it me who  
said "I love my Family" ?  
And was it me or was it you who  
said "Taboo or not Taboo"  
And was it thee or was it he who  
said "To be or Not To Be  
Taboo is quite my cup of tea so  
let us root our Family Tree!"

## THE CARAVAN OF LOVE

Right on at midnight, upon the  
stair, I saw a man who wasn't there  
I lost my head, had an affair with  
that man that wasn't there  
That was only yesterday, he  
wasn't there again today

Oh how I wish, oh how I wish that  
he would go away.

I tore the strips off the horizon  
and pulled the plug on seven seas,  
Then dredged the sediment of  
sentiment

That might be might be there but  
never is.

Maybe it was there yesterday,  
and wasn't there again today  
'Cause I wished, oh how I wished  
that it would go away.

There was no message upon my  
phone,

I looked again and it was gone,  
The fibrillations that's how they  
start

With the sudden change of heart,  
I felt the tremor yesterday, not  
feeling much at all today,

Why did I wish, why did I wish,  
that it would go away.

Like figments of imagination not  
to be captured with naked eye,  
The caravan of endless love hot  
on your trail will pass you by,

It brushed right past you  
yesterday, it might be passing by  
today

Just do not wish, oh do not wish  
for it to fade away

CHORUS: Wish for less, wish  
for more x 2

Be careful what you're wishing  
for x 2

## I N D E N I A L

You were courting a country affair  
All up front and nothing to wear  
All aflutter to grin and bare My  
inner sanctum camembert.

You were boarding a spaced out  
trip,

Tripping on board of a spaced  
out ship

Check in a bunch of bare  
essentials

Checking out my bare credentials

Check out The Angle of That  
Dangle, Oh what a familial  
tangle!

You're in Denial, Denial, Delete  
that Family File!

You were beating about the bush  
Flies buzz, buzz buzzing round  
your toosh

Not quite a damsel in distress  
A naked truth in search of dress  
You were running around the  
beach

Not wearing a single stich  
Was letting it all hang out

Hey Dingle Dangle, Dingle Dangle

Check out The Angle of That  
Dangle, Oh what a familial tangle  
You're in Denial, Denial, Delete  
that Family File!

I never knew you were so  
enchanting,  
I never knew you were so exciting  
I never knew, never knew, never  
knew I love you like I do.

I didn't know you were so  
enhancing  
I didn't know you were so  
entrancing  
I didn't know, didn't know,  
Didn't know you really love me so.

## TURNING THE CORNER

I am turning the corner of the  
one way street  
The Uphills, the Downhills the  
alley cats on heat  
I am holding my breath as I am  
dragging my feet dreading  
What might be coming down  
towards me  
At a thunderbolt speed!

Could be a falling star that shot  
to prominence  
Despite the gravity and the  
crippling lack of confidence  
Could be a fire truck, could be a  
flying fuck

Could be a stress ball, a cannon  
ball, a screw ball, a curved ball

OH NO NOT A CURVED BALL!!!

CHORUS:

When life throws you a curved ball  
Be grateful it's not a hand  
grenade

You know the drill... Now you  
can now beat your own drum  
Life is not a Cabaret So you  
don't have to come old chum!

I am climbing the walls of my  
private hell  
I am getting high I am coming  
down inside my habit proof shell  
I am holding my breath for you  
can never tell who might be  
Coming to screw me at my Five  
Stars Balls Break Hotel!

Could be His Highly Holly  
Eminence Gyration his corporate  
body of evidence  
Could be a rooting rat disguised  
as suffragette  
Could be a kamikaze warm fuzzy  
wuzzy  
Could be a curved ball disguised  
as warm fuzzy wuzzy  
WTF NOT ANOTHER CURVED  
BALL!!!

CHORUS

**BRUCE LANGDON** has participated in Ella's compellingly quirky and addictively tuneful productions for more than a decade now. He is delighted to kick the normal out of "Covid Normal" as he revisits the gender-fluid, evangelistic bowling entity that is the eponymous role.

**RUTH KATERELOS** is an actor, singer, writer, producer, film-maker and psychologist who doesn't have much free time. She has two teenagers, loves cats and Buffy the Vampire Slayer, and is grateful to be treading the boards again after lock-down, and 2020. Ruth has thoroughly enjoyed performing in this mad-cap romp that is Mrs Robinson that gives her a one in a lifetime opportunity to play a lusty mother with a healthy appetite for nudity and a devious twinkle in her eye for her daughter's boyfriend.

**CHRIS MOLYNEUX** has been performing, writing, directing and designing for Melbourne independent theatre for the past 25 years. His associations with La Mama include a two year tenure as Groundsman and 18 years with the Lloyd Jones Ensemble. He first worked with Ella Filar in 2008 and has enjoyed an intermittent working relationship since. In MRS.ROBINSON

**Chris takes on a persona of Cousin Rodney** the kind of elderly relative it's best to avoid at family events.

**CASEY NICHOLS-BULLS** is an artist, musician, and nanny. In terms of music, has a solo project called Casey Jones and is a writer, singer and bass player in 'Blood Moon'. She's previously been in bands such as 'Dirty Rocket' and 'Rabbit Legs', among other endeavors. Her main focus at the moment is her artistic practice, working largely in relational and community based projects, and she also studies sociology and art history part-time. In MRS.ROBINSON:A SOAP CABARET Casey struts her stuff as punk daughter Amy who accidentally finds sexual adventure in relatively (pardon the pun) all the wrong places.

**TOM COSTIGAN** is excited to be performing with Krows Bar Kabaret for the first time. Graduating from Federation University with a Bachelor of Acting for Stage and Screen, Tom has performed in a number of projects including *Our Country's Good* directed by Beng Oh and *Much Ado About Nothing* with Sevenfold Theatre Company, where he played the charming Claudio. Tom's love of authors has also helped him find a passion for

writing. He is currently working collaboratively on a play inspired by one of Tom's favorite playwrights, Tennessee Williams. Tom still holds onto his childhood dream of becoming a dog; but until that day comes, he continues working creatively and finding artistic inspiration through everyday life. In MRS.ROBINSON: A SOAP CABARET Tom plays the sPUNKY boyfriend Harry who launches on a trajectory of sexual discovery.

**MARTIN ZAKHAROV** has been a professional musician since 1973. He has worked in film, CD, live TV, theatre and radio productions. He has performed with numerous artists in Australia, Europe and North America and Asia including: Powderfinger, the Four Tops, the Temptations, Harry Belafonte, James Morrison, Vince Jones, Russell Morris, John Farnham, Paul Grabowsky, Rebecca Barnard, Vika and Linda Bull, Relax with Max, the Wolfgang Lindner Orchestra (Austrian National TV house band) and the Konstanz Stadttheater (Germany). He currently works with Alariya, The Sounds of Silent, Eamonn Conor, Ella Filar's Krows Bar Kabaret, Club 54 band and the Hofbrauhaus Melbourne house band amongst others.

**JOHN JENKIN** is an artist and a sound designer. His sound design has featured in film, theatre and apps and his art has been shown and performed at venues and by organizations including: West Space, Liquid Architecture and Make It Up Club.

**RONI LINSE**R is a former lecturer in Political Science at the University of Melbourne and has an MA in Educational Technology from the Open University in Israel. He has published numerous articles and book chapters in academic journals on eLearning and role play simulations. He is the co-creator of both the Fablusi and SimPlay online platforms for educational role play simulations used by universities around the world. He was a member of various bands like the Blue Sheiks and Obliqua that played Melbourne and Sth Gippsland pubs and festivals. Since its formation, Roni has been a member of Krows Bar Cabaret.

**SALLY BANKS** is a violinist, string teacher and Music Therapist, living in the Yarra Valley. After working as an orchestral violinist, playing for the Australian Opera and Ballet she studied to become a Music Therapist and works with people living with dementia. She enjoys playing chamber music, and over the last twenty years she has organized and performs in Asylum Seeker Benefit Concerts in Kensington, Melbourne.