



**L A M A M A A N D
R E A C T I O N T H E A T R E
A R E P R O U D T O P R E S E N T**

T O B Y



"God put you here to embody all that's vile in the hearts of men."

Toby is a social outcast living in a dark and disturbing land. Robbed by his best friend, hounded by the authorities, and branded a 'gypsy,' he traverses a difficult path, unearthing more about virtue and honesty than he anticipated.

An ensemble work with an inspired cast of six characters, Director Louise Howlett said, "**TOBY** has been totally re-envisioned in light of the Covid pandemic. It inspired us to create a show we couldn't have imagined before it hit and has, ironically, added to the production. We're now using double projection and layered scrims to create a striking hybrid mix of live, digital, and shadow theatre, accompanied by a stunning soundtrack."

"As a theatre company increasingly working at the intersection of performance and digital technology, we really wanted to enhance the wonder of live performance and the element of surprise, which is what makes theatre such a vibrant art form."

"The story itself is an emotional and occasionally darkly humorous ride. The supernatural elements act as a reminder that we're all merely specks in a large universe and anything could change at any time, which is something else that living and working during a global pandemic has taught us."

TOBY, by award-winning writer Abe Pogos, examines the underlying, insidious ways that power structures are formed and how toxic corruption can erode a culture from the inside.

First performed at La Mama in 2004 and published in 2005, **TOBY** is a classic tale that refocuses and sharpens our thoughts about what it is to be 'the other' in a heartless world. A black comic fable set in 19th century Europe, the play has enormous resonance with the global realities of today, but still allows the audience enough distance to laugh grimly at the skewed politics of Toby's village.

"...utterly brilliant" – **AU Review**

Written by: **Abe Pogos**

Directed by: **Louise Howlett**

Produced by: **ReAction Theatre**

Performed by: **Alex Tomisich, Sam Stopforth, Pat McAuliffe, Meg McKibbin, Iris Gaillard and Adam May**

Set Design by: **Jacob Sandom**

Lighting designer: **Shane Grant**

Sound designer: **Sidney Millar**

Costume designer: **Jeremy Pryles**

Stage Manager: **Steph Young**

Image Credit: **Darren Gill**

SEASON 9 - 14 March, 2021

TIMES Tues 6.30pm (preview); Wed 6.30pm; Thu & Fri 7.30pm; Sat 8pm; Sun 1pm & 5pm

LENGTH Approx. 90 minutes

VENUE La Mama Courthouse, 349 Drummond St, Carlton

TICKETS \$30 Adult | \$20 Concession

BOOKINGS 03 9347 6948 or www.lamama.com.au

