



Simon Collins

## Another Toast

Tanya MacNaughton

Anna Lindstedt was still in her final year of performance studies at Curtin University when she joined the cast of WA playwright Liz Newell's 2017 production *Toast* at The Blue Room Theatre — a factor that proved surprisingly helpful for her role as adopted youngest sister Sydney.

"It was an interesting combination of playing a character who didn't feel like they belonged in the family and then being someone who just felt so much less experienced and intimidated by all the other women in the rehearsal room," emerging actor, writer and director Lindstedt recalls.

"I was just like, 'Oh my gosh, I have to really do a good job in this room, otherwise it's just going to be so apparent that I'm the weak link here'. I really did have such an amazing experience on that season but looking back, I was a bit afraid the whole time."

The funny, frank story of three sisters — Candice, Alex and Sydney — grappling with the sudden loss of their mother, and selling their childhood home, is back with the original cast and core creative team through a partnership with Black Swan State Theatre Company of WA and the Blue Room Theatre. Lindstedt describes *Toast* as a universal and

personal expression of grief, family and loss, and the 26-year-old believes audiences will see themselves reflected in the characters, situations or relationships.

"The characters are so likeable, interesting and multidimensional that as an actor, it's kind of your dream to work on a play where you get to be someone who is not only going through grief but all of the characters have four or five other things going on that they're kind of wrestling and juggling," she says.

"I think I was so excited to work on a play where adoption and queerness are really big parts of my character's journey."

"I hope audiences can share with us the special qualities of family, the ones we are born with and the ones that we choose."

Directed by Emily McLean, who was also one of Lindstedt's university teachers in 2017, this new season has undergone some tweaks to add more depth to the relationships as the production moves to the larger venue of Studio Underground.

What has not changed is Lindstedt's admiration of everyone involved, including cast-mates Amy Mathews, Alison van Reeken and Sam Nerida.

"I'm still just in awe of everyone around me, especially now we've stepped on to a bigger stage and the opportunity to work with Black Swan as well," she says.



"I'm still just in awe of everyone around me."

Actor Anna Lindstedt in *Toast*. Picture: Francis Andrijich

"I have five years of experience working in the industry now, and because I have had the chance to write, direct and create my own work, I'm much more used to being in creative rooms, having a voice and being confident in my own opinions. I'm more experienced at analysing text, acting, and I definitely feel more confident just being in the room."

"I think the sense of family in

the creative team and returning to this room just feels so special, and I really do feel like an integral part of the team," Lindstedt adds.

"It's humbling to get to return to this play that I got to work on at such a formative part of my creative career. I get to check in and see where I'm at again."

**Toast is at Studio Underground until May 15.**

# Arts Directory

### Art Courses



**TAP INTO YOUR CREATIVITY**  
Courses for all levels  
Book online now for Term 2  
Beginner 4 week & 8 week courses  
Visit our website for details.  
[www.melvillearts.com.au](http://www.melvillearts.com.au)  
P: 9330 2800

### Exhibitions

**GALLERY EAST**  
Presents  
Mostly Modern Japanese Prints



Christopher Crouch new paintings



David Jay Reed: New Prints



Stewart Scambler: Ceramic Forms



Mossenson Gallery,  
115 Hay Street, Subiaco  
2nd - 15th May  
Mon-Sat 11am-5pm & Sun 2-5pm  
Gallery East, 0405 698 799  
[www.galleryeast.com.au](http://www.galleryeast.com.au)

### Exhibitions



1982—2022



IAN R. HILL  
Travels through the Top End  
1 - 29 May, 2022

50 James Road, Middle Swan  
Wed - Sun 10:00am to 5:00pm  
Tel: 9274 3996  
[www.gomboc-gallery.com.au](http://www.gomboc-gallery.com.au)

### Exhibitions



Mel Brigg  
until May 15th



53 Glyde St, Mosman Park 6012  
Tues-Thur 10am-4pm Fri 10am-3pm  
Sat 11am-3pm Sun 2pm-4.30pm  
[www.gallowsgallery.com](http://www.gallowsgallery.com)

### Perth Studio Potters

present an exhibition of new works



**OPENING 6pm Friday 6 May**  
**Burt Street Gallery**  
1 Burt Street, Cottesloe  
OPEN 10am - 4pm  
each Saturday up to 25 June

**LINTON & KAY GALLERIES**

<b>SUBIACO</b> 299 RAILWAY RD, SUBIACO PH 08 9388 3300 Open Mon-Sun 10-4	<b>WEST PERTH</b> 13 OLD ABERDEEN PL, WEST PERTH Open Mon- Sat 10-4	<b>MANDOON ESTATE GALLERY</b> 10 HARRIS RD, CAVERSHAM Open Fri-Sun 10-4
---	--	--

View all exhibitions online [www.lintonandkay.com.au](http://www.lintonandkay.com.au)  
All enquiries to [info@lintonandkay.com.au](mailto:info@lintonandkay.com.au)

**JUNIPER GALLERIES**

**JG**

HOLIDAY now showing  
30 contemporary WA artists

Open Weekends 10 - 5  
Weekdays by Appointment  
41a Dalry Road, Darlington

For info on **MOTHER'S DAY**  
morning teas call 0481 062 614  
[www.juniperartgalleries.com](http://www.juniperartgalleries.com)

arts directory

To advertise in this section  
please call 13 22 80  
or email  
[advert@thewest.com.au](mailto:advert@thewest.com.au)

The West Australian

**ART PRIZE.**  
CITY OF KALGOORIE-BOULDER  
[ckb.wa.gov.au/artprize](http://ckb.wa.gov.au/artprize)

**OPEN THEME**  
unleash your creativity  
Art Prize welcomes entry of all art mediums.  
\$36,000 in Prize Money.  
Registrations close  
**30 June 2022**

## arts directory

To advertise in this section please call 13 22 80 or email [advert@thewest.com.au](mailto:advert@thewest.com.au)