

VCASS | THEATRE ARTS | 2021

presents

Almost, MAINE

by John Cariani



21 - 22 JUNE @ 4PM

Southbank Theatre, Lawler Theatre

140 Southbank Boulevard, Southbank Victoria



**SOUTHBANK
THEATRE**



Victorian College of the Arts
SECONDARY SCHOOL



Education
and Training

Almost, MAINE

by John Cariani



Chris Button
HEAD OF THEATRE ARTS

*'...the sentimental person
thinks things will last; the
romantic has a desperate
confidence that they won't.'*

F. Scott Fitzgerald

John Cariani drew on this idea in an interview in 2014 saying *Almost, Maine*, was '...a play for romantics – not sentimentalists'. It is a work that offers no guarantees, promises no 'happily ever afters', no neat solutions. Yet the play does deal in promise – the potential of what might be.

Cariani's creations from the fictional 'almost' town of Almost are not quaint eccentrics, or hicks or rednecks. They are not fools - although they can be disarmingly innocent at times. They are not quirky. They are ordinary people -who feel pain and joy, hope and despair, loss and redemption - in situations that are often odd, occasionally extraordinary. Sometimes extraordinary things happen in Almost. It's a place where magic can happen.

The Theatre Arts Company 2021 began their encounter with Cariani's work in January of this year. They have explored the production possibilities of a play that calls for a 'big sky', 'northern lights', 'cold' and a sense of permanence interlaced with the ethereal. The company have been challenged as actors by a realism immersed in a script that champions the spoken word over action, but leaves room for moments of practical magic.











Almost,
MAINE
THE CAST



Zuzanna Wiech
as Marci



Rad Valance
as Phil



Lucy Stubbs
as Rhonda



Molly Simpson
as Marci



Eryn Saunders
as Glory



Grace Roseburch
as Marvalyn



Seb Poole
as Pete / Steve



**Ashton
O'Donovan**
as East



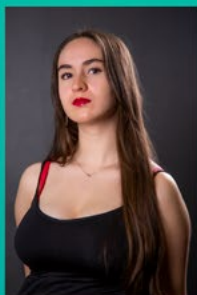
Alex Mulcahy
as Lendall



Heidi Milne
as Gayle



Jem Melzer
as Deena / Waitress



**Milana
Markovic-Matovic**
as Shelley



Jack Linke
as Steve / Pete



Desiree Katakis
as Sandrine / Ginette



Loz Hawkins
as Daniel



Jess Harding
as Ginette / Sandrine



James Dikranian
as Jimmy



Janita Barber
as Hope



Rex Balfe
as Dave



VICTORIAN COLLEGE OF THE ARTS SECONDARY SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL

Hilary Bland

ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

Donatella Mannolini & Michael Sargeant

HEAD OF THEATRE ARTS

Christopher Button

THEATRE ARTS ADMINISTRATION

Jenny Purcell

DIRECTOR

Christopher Button

SCRIPT

Students & the Creatives

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Daniel Holden

COVER IMAGE

Jack Linke & Jessica Harding

PROMOTIONAL DESIGN

& PHOTOGRAPHY

Dylan Breninger

Ticket information available @

www.vcass.vic.edu.au

SAVE THE DATE

- **DANCE | Continuum**
5, 6 & 7 August
- **MUSIC | Major Performance Season**
15 September @ Melbourne Recital Centre

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