

YEAR 12 DRAMA PRESENTS

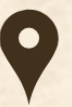
COSÌ


by Louis Nowra

“MAd ACtORs ARE bAd
ENoUGh, bUT MAd MEN...”



WANNEROO SECONDARY COLLEGE
PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE



TICKETS - \$5 

WEDNESDAY 30TH APRIL - 6:30PM

THURSDAY 1ST MAY - 6:30PM



WANNEROO
SECONDARY COLLEGE
Performing Arts

www.trybooking.com/DAPPH

Summary

In a burnt-out old theatre adjoining the grounds of a mental hospital in 1970s Australia, a motley crew is assembling. Corralled by the manic depressive **Roy** – in equal parts endearing and insufferable – and encouraged by social worker **Justin**, the eccentric group of patients is attempting to stage a production of Mozart's opera, *Così fan Tutte*.

Fresh out of university and somewhat adrift, **Lewis** has agreed to direct the amateur production, but between the impossibly elaborate artistic vision of **Roy**, the laborious obsessive compulsion of **Ruth**, the escapist tendencies of pyromaniac **Doug** and the small hurdle that no one can sing, **Lewis** has his work cut out for him.

Against a backdrop of political activism during the Vietnam War, **Lewis** begins to realise what truly matters to him, as he works outside the box to get this unusual production off the ground. The more time he spends with these patients, the more he realises they understand something his friends on the outside don't.

mental health timeline

1971

Change Begins:

- National Mental Health Strategy introduced.
- Shift to community-based care and patient rights.
- Public campaigns to reduce stigma.

"They're normal people who have done normal things, it's just that they think differently."

— Cosi,
Louis Nowra

2025

Life Inside:

- Psychiatric hospitals were the primary form of care.
- Patients were often institutionalised for years.
- Treatments included ECT and strong sedatives.
- Mental illness was heavily stigmatised.

1990's

Today's Landscape

- 1 in 5 Australians live with a mental illness annually.
- Services are community-driven and digitally accessible.
- Youth mental health and suicide prevention are priorities.
- Stigma is lower — but challenges remain.

cast



Lewis
Mitchell Sawmadal



Lucy
Skye Coffey



Nick
Charlie Mills

WEDNESDAY



Nick
Toby Harrison

THURSDAY



Roy
Jasmine Nicholls



Doug
Cameron Walker



Cherry
Isabella Lemmon

WEDNESDAY



Cherry
Charli Bokas

THURSDAY



Julie
Lilian Reid

WEDNESDAY



Julie
Jennifer Cooper

THURSDAY

cast



Henry
Skye Little



Zac
Finn Mitrou



WEDNESDAY

Ruth
Rebecca Van Heek



THURSDAY

Ruth
Yasmin Utting



WEDNESDAY

Justin
Blake Chiricosta



THURSDAY

Justin(e)
Amity Miller



WEDNESDAY

Interviewer
Riley Stephens



THURSDAY

Interviewer
Taj Stokes

What's on next for the Performing Arts?

J.K. ROWLING'S
Harry Potter
AND THE
CURSED CHILD

AUGUST

THE LION
THE WITCH AND THE
WARDROBE

SEPTEMBER

LIONEL BART'S
Oliver!
JR!

NOVEMBER

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