

### SPECIAL THANKS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank the **2024 Stray Exec team:** Ophelia, Sophia, Jono, Josh, Kyla, Casey, and Rosa for their work behind the scenes.

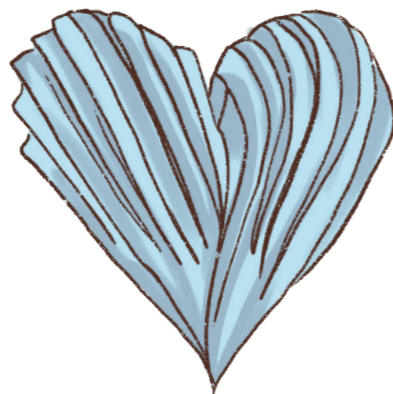
To **Roberta and Geoff** at **Pitt Street Theatre** for their venue and continued support.

To **Dr. Rina Kim**, and **The University of Auckland Drama Faculty** for the use of props, set and facilities.

To **Ashley and Vincelia** from **The University of Auckland Student Groups** for their assistance in booking rehearsal rooms.

To **Neena Contreras** for her amazing work on show graphics.

To **Helen** at the **Glen Eden Playhouse Theatre** for the use of costumes.



YOU ARE INVITED TO

# Stirfried XVI: Sweet Sixteen

*Presented by  
Stray Theatre  
Company*

A SHORT PLAY FESTIVAL



9 - 12 OCTOBER

PITT STREET THEATRE

# Framework

## INGREDIENTS:

Princess ..... Emily Haddon  
 Pirate ..... Hjordis McEvoy  
 Son ..... Hugo Dixon  
 Father ..... Nick Stuart  
 Clown ..... Matthew Whitwell



## DIRECTIONS:

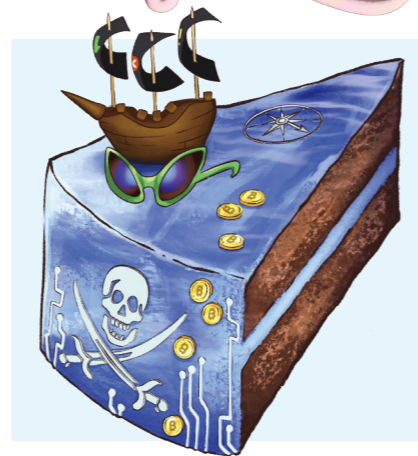
If you had told us a year ago today that we would be co-directing a Stir-Fried show, let alone devising the Framework together; we would have laughed in your face and probably would have insulted each other in the process. But look at us now! We have been so fortunate to devise with an incredible team of dedicated actors who took our somewhat insane concepts to another level; making the show what it is today. A special thank you to the crew who have facilitated our craziness and brought this show to life. Be prepared to see many balloon animals, crazy bitch fights and.. Oh wait, we've just been told by the producers not to give away any more spoilers! We guess you'll just have to wait and see.

- Cuan Pillay and Kyla Blennerhassett (Directors)

# Pirates of the Internet

## INGREDIENTS:

David Jones ..... Mikaela Stroud  
 Hooded Pirate/Bartender ..... Tony Bosch  
 Captain Neckbeard ..... Nat Dolan  
 Ann..... Amber Truman



## DIRECTIONS:

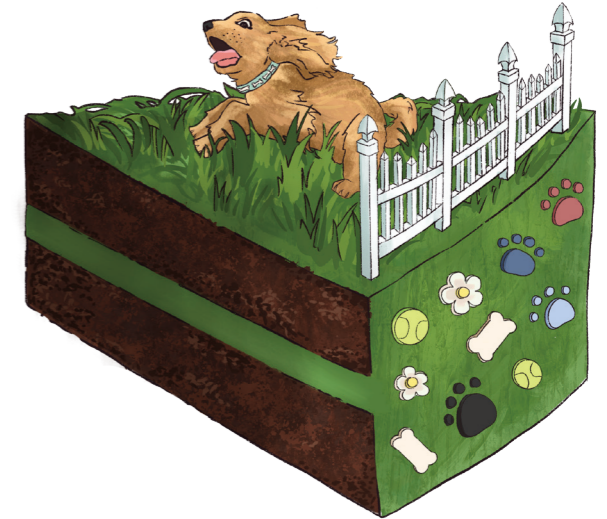
Sunday the Thirteenth of August, 2023, 1pm, NZDT. Oliver Johnston and Josh Liddell-Trotter are enjoying a fine meal at Taco Bell Shortland Street in between rehearsing for two different shows. The two writers scheme on a play they could collaborate on: a satirical fusion of genres and puns. Flash forward to December 31st 2023: talks are in progress, ideas fly, yet the work waits. Their plans sit dormant for many months until given new life and purpose by the prospects of Stir Fried XVI: Sweet Sixteen. Over a year after its Taco-inception, Pirates of the Internet finally sets sail.

Oliver Johnston (Writer/Director) and Josh Liddell-Trotter (Writer)

# Dog Years

## INGREDIENTS:

Ruffles ..... Nat Dolan  
 Poppy ..... Amber Truman  
 Fido ..... Alana Rodrigues-Birch  
 Mum ..... Mikaela Stroud  
 Delia ..... Ruby Allcott

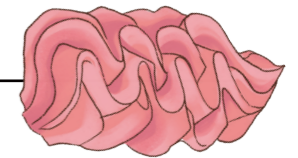


When I submitted 3 plays to Stirfried this year I never thought that the play I wrote in 3 hours about dogs would get in. But I am all the happier for it!

This is my second time writing and directing for Stirfried and it's been such an exciting challenge putting my directorial skills to the test in collaboration with my wonderful cast to make our audience laugh and, if we've done our jobs right, cry just a little.

It's always such a pleasure to work with Stray who facilitate me and my equally eccentric thespians to put our wacky ideas on a stage. Enjoy the paw-formance.

Jack Chen-Sinclair (Writer/Director)



## BAKING TEAM

	Producer <b>Jonathan Lum</b>	Producer <b>Gemma Christall</b>	
Production Manager <b>Felix Thomas</b>	Assistant Stage Manager <b>Eve Galbraith</b>	Costume Designer <b>V Stokes</b>	Props Master <b>Casey Roberts</b>
Marketing Manager <b>Kyla Blennerhassett</b>	Lighting Designer <b>Josh Wang</b>	Hair & Makeup <b>Olivia Ma</b>	Backstage Crew / Set Team <b>Alex Wales</b>
Graphic Designer <b>Neena Contreras</b>	Lighting Operator <b>Luca Luxton-Reilly</b>	Set Designer <b>Raisha Tanmim</b>	Backstage Crew / Set Team <b>Nat Churches</b>
Stage Manager <b>Ben Allen</b>	Sound Designer / Operator <b>Max König</b>	Set and Props Assistant <b>Nina Julian</b>	

# Personality

## INGREDIENTS:

Mr. Nobblethwaite ..... Tony Bosch  
Mr. Perkins ..... Carlos Anguiano  
Mr. Moneymaker ..... Marlowe McAngus

## DIRECTIONS:

As the Director of Personality, I had an absolute blast working with my incredible cast. Diving into slapstick comedy was a new adventure, and I had so much fun experimenting with movements, props, and humor. Huge thanks to the producers, the Stir Fried team, and our amazing cast—Marlowe (our brilliant writer), Carlos, and Tony—for making this an unforgettable journey. I can't wait for everyone to experience Stir Fried XVI: Sweet Sixteen. This show truly has something for everyone—comedy, chaos, and plenty of surprises! Get ready, it's going to be a wild ride!

**Noureen K Valiyamannil (Director)**

The story of how "Personality" was written could fill many books...

Writing a play for Stirfried had begun as a new year's resolution; I decided to take the same attitude to it as I did with university coursework. Accordingly, I knew I still had 7 months before writers' submissions opened, so there was plenty of time to relax; I remained in this frame of my mind up until about 10 hours before they closed. Then, knowing I had only a few hours, I naturally decided to procrastinate. I'd spent several hours taking online personality tests and binge-watching Monty Python sketches on Youtube, when, suddenly, I had an idea.

The rest is history.....

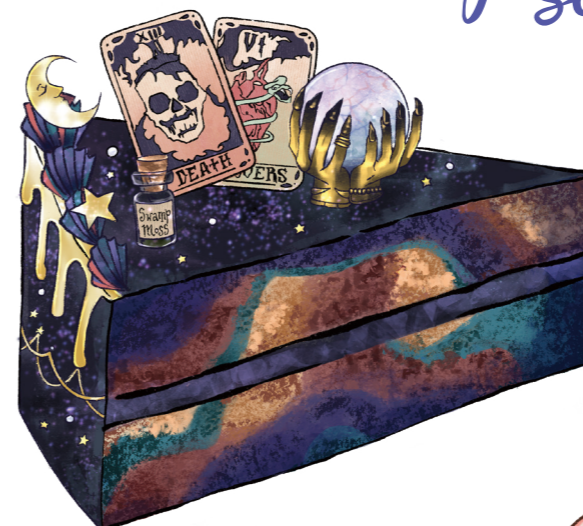
**Marlowe McAngus (Writer)**



# Pseudopseudoscience

## INGREDIENTS:

Fortune Teller ..... Evie Depledge  
Mortal ..... Robert Diez



## DIRECTIONS:

Working on this short play has been so much fun. Despite it being a five-page script, I felt that I had so much to work with from the very start, so a huge thank you to Nathan for writing it! The one thing that I wanted from this was to have the characters be complete opposites of each other. The rehearsals have been so much fun, and I loved working with Robert and Evie. I hope that you, the audience, enjoy it as much as I loved directing it.

**C Fonseca (Director)**

Pseudopseudoscience is a silly little skit about a fortune teller with a spreadsheet. When someone makes a prediction, how much credence should you give it? If they made it using a crystal ball, probably none. If they used a spreadsheet, probably some. What about if they used both? Is it possible to tell someone's fortune in a way that holds up to statistical analysis? Is there any way to predict, with any meaningful accuracy, the method of a stranger's demise?

In fact, there is. But you won't like it.

**Nathan Young (Writer)**



# Celebration

## INGREDIENTS:

Alex ..... Kyla Corrin  
Jess ..... Carlos Anguiano



## DIRECTIONS:

From the first read, I wanted to direct this play. It evoked so many different feelings and thoughts, even made me reconsider my own friendships. I laughed and I cried, I could feel the characters of Celebration becoming alive just from the words on the paper. I'm forever grateful for Stir Fried's wonderful producers for choosing me; for my brilliant actors who put their whole hearts in it; and for Josh, for simultaneously being a heartbreaking and heart soothing writer. So, let us take you into the darkest pits of our souls and let us bring in some light... enjoy this emotional rollercoaster!

**Anastasiia Krzhenitskaia (Director)**

This play was created quite spontaneously, on a sunny afternoon from old ideas, experiences, new inspiration from recent events, and, as always, a healthy dose of deadline pressure. To me, it is ultimately a love letter to friendship, and a reminder to cherish and celebrate the important people in our lives. I am incredibly grateful to Stray for giving me the opportunity to stage this play, but more importantly, for allowing me to make some amazing friends throughout my journey. Thanks also to Emma for her assistance, and Anastasiia, the cast and crew for being amazing. Hope you enjoy the show!

**Josh Wang (Writer)**

## ABOUT STIR FRIED

Stray's annual short play festival Stir Fried is celebrating its 16th year by embracing the spirit of "Sweet Sixteen" - a milestone marked by bold experimentation and creative firsts. Featuring six original short plays connected with a devised through line, this year's festival showcases a diverse range of styles, from slapstick comedy and film noir to heartfelt drama and cyber pirate adventures.

Stir Fried provides a risk-free platform for theatre lovers to experiment. Many of our writers, actors, and crew are stepping into their roles for the first time. We hope to serve you an unique, high-energy mix of stories that surprise, entertain, and leave a lasting impression.

**Jonathan Lum and Gemma Christall (Producers)**

# Atypical Bar Scene



## DIRECTIONS:

As a first-time writer, Atypical Bar Scene was a joy to craft and direct. Thanks to the help of such an eager cast and accommodating production team, Stir Fried XVI can bring you a parodic love letter to the genre of noir; with a frank and disruptive narrator at the helm, he exposes mystery, murder, and puts lives on the line for our unfortunate bar patrons. So please enjoy, and revel in a hilarious sequence of some horribly... horribly narrated events.

**Thomas Julyan (Writer/Director)**

## INGREDIENTS:

The Narrator ..... Eugene Garry  
Alistair ..... Dylan Tucker  
Bertie (Bartender) ..... Ruby Allcott  
Cindy ..... Alex Parkinson  
Kev ..... Tony Bosch  
Jesse ..... Evie Depledge

