

# L'Amante Anglaise OR The Lovers of Viorne

## Marketing Tagline

Classic psychological thriller from one of France's most renowned authors.

## Synopsis

A brutal murder is committed in a small town in France. The dismembered corpse is dropped from a railway viaduct onto passing trains below... All except the head. Based upon a true event, *L'amante anglaise* is a beautifully poignant and emotionally powerful portrait of lost passion and an extraordinary inner life.

This modern classic psychological thriller from celebrated French author, Marguerite Duras, takes you right inside the heart and mind of the perpetrator and is a fascinating and compelling true crime story.

Pierre (Rob Meldrum) and Claire Lannes (Jillian Murray -2015 Green Room winner, Best Female Performer, Independent Theatre) are ordinary human beings leading everyday lives until catastrophe occurs. Over the course of the drama, they effortlessly reveal the beauty and brutality of their inner selves, and create a painstaking portrait of lost passion. Performed exquisitely and directed by Laurence Strangio, *L'Amante Anglaise* is a rare and unmissable work of theatre.

It is a rare distinction for any production to have three consecutive seasons in Melbourne, but *L'amante anglaise* proved so popular that its first two seasons at La Mama sold out. After its first season at 45Downstairs sold out in 2016, it will see a return season there in February 2017.

## Short Review. *Provide one critical review or quote from audience/colleague/industry/media*

"*L'amante anglaise* is a thrilling psychological drama, beautifully served by superb performances. I have rarely been as impressed by performance as I was by this production."

Mary Lou Jelbard, Artistic Director / co-founder, 45 Downstairs

**Written By:**\* Marguerite Duras

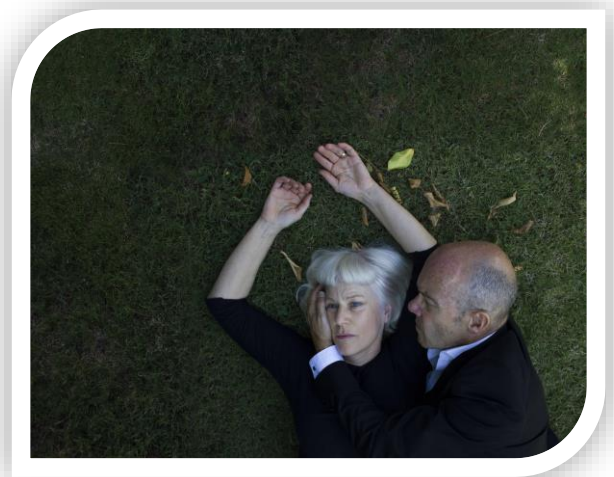
**Directed By:**\* Laurence Strangio

**Performers:** Rob Meldrum, Jillian Murray

**Creative Team\*** *List the cast/artist names and roles*

Director: Laurence Strangio

Cast: Rob Meldrum and Jillian Murray



Duration of show in minutes\* 100 minutes

Is there an interval?\* No

### Performance and Touring History

La Mama 2014, return season 2015,  
fortyfivedownstairs, 2016, return season 2017

No. of People in Touring Party\* 3

### Touring Personnel\*

Give details of the cast, crew and creatives who will deliver this show

Name	Role	Confirmed Touring?
Rob Meldrum	Performer	TBA
Jillian Murray	Performer	TBA
TBA	Stage Manager	TBA

### Marketing & Community Engagement

#### Key Audience and Marketing Notes

- This is a production that will appeal to adult arts and theatre lovers, and will have particular appeal for audiences aged 40+ and 65+.
- The play will also appeal to fans of true crime dramas and murder mysteries in the vein of Agatha Christie, Truman Capote (In Cold Blood) or Edgar Allen Poe.
- The play will appeal to lovers of (especially French) literature and cinema and fans of Marguerite Duras.

#### Marketing Selling Points\*

- This is an edge of your seat drama that will be both gripping and highly moving for your audience.
- The production has proved to be a hit with audiences, and has already had three successful sold out seasons in Melbourne, and in February 2017 is about to have its fourth season due to popular demand for the work.
- The work has had rave reviews by critics and audiences alike: "an engrossing theatrical experience with assured acting and direction. Duras should be delighted." Herald Sun"
- The other major selling point is the outstanding performances. Jillian Murray won the 2015 Green Room Award for Outstanding Female Performer (independent). Both performances are absolutely riveting and are two of Victoria's most experienced senior actors working at the peak of their craft. "Jillian Murray... and Robert Meldrum are equally superb in this compelling two-hander." The Blurb
- Marguerite Duras who is best known as the Academy award nominated screenwriter of Hiroshima mon amour (directed by Alain Resnais). Many of her novels and stage plays have been adapted to the screen, including most famously The Lover (adapted for the screen by Claude Berri), as well as The Sea Wall (adapted for the screen by Rene Clement) and India Song (which she directed the film adaptation of herself in 1975). In 1983 she was awarded the Grand Prix du Théâtre de l'Académie Française. Where possible venues could consider screenings of any or all of the above works in the lead up to the performance.
- A high quality video trailer will be made available for presenters for online and social media promotion.

## Community Engagement Activities

Can you offer workshops, educator kits, master classes etc? Who are they for?

Q&A's and forums available.

Rob Meldrum is a highly experience teacher (VCA, National Theatre Drama School).

Workshops for adults and upper secondary students may be made available as part of a touring itinerary.

## Technical Information

Technical Rating\* C

**Technical Links** *Provide a link to your production's technical specs etc.*

**Theatre Formats** Proscenium Arch, Black Box, Thrust, Flat Floor, Hall

**Bump-in Time\*** 4 hours (*to set up at a pre-rigged venue* )

**Bump-out Time\*** 2 hours

### In-Brief Lighting Requirements

**List dimmers, desk, lantern, stock and gels, specify control position**

Critical Stages will design lighting specifically for touring, incorporating generic fixtures, multiple coloured washes and specials, based on touring venues' standard stock. An ETC Ion Lighting Desk (or similar) will tour with the production.

### In-Brief Audio Requirements\*

**List microphones, effects, mixing desk and inputs**

Standard PA. Critical Stages will design sound requirements for touring based on venues' standard stock and set-up. We will provide a laptop with Qlab and audio interface to operate the sound.

### In-Brief Staging Requirements\*

**Describe your set and construction. How does it sit on stage? Is a fly system required? Any technical warnings? Do you require an orchestra pit? Piano? Smoke/strobe machine etc?**

Simple set consisting of 2 chairs in an empty space.

### Stage Dimensions\*

Variable – performance can work in multiple performance configurations.

**Venue Crewing Requirements LIGHTING\*** Does your production require additional lighting crew to be supplied by the venue? Yes

Number of venue lighting crew hours required 10

**Venue Crewing Requirements SOUND\*** Does your production require additional sound crew to be supplied by the venue? No

Number of venue sound crew hours required 0

**Venue Crewing Requirements STAGE\*** Does your production require additional stage crew to be supplied by the venue? No

Number of venue stage crew hours required 0

**Total Crew Hours\*** 22

**Crew Notes** In addition to the above, the venue will need to supply a Lighting Operator for all Rehearsal & Performance Calls, as detailed in the Production Schedule (required for 2 hrs per Call)

Lighting Crew notes:

BUMP IN Pre-rig requested prior to company arrival to permit quick bump-in, including patch,

flash and colour. Assist with lighting check, focus and plot during bump-in. 2 crew x 4 hours

BUMP OUT Assist de-rig of producer's equipment 1 x 2 hours

Sound Crew notes:

BUMP IN Audio pre-rig required prior to company arrival in venue to ensure smooth.

BUMP OUT Not required

Staging Crew notes:

BUMP IN n/a

BUMP OUT n/a

### Transport Notes

**What vehicles are required for this tour?** The production can tour in a station wagon

### Industry Referees

Name of Referee: Mary Lou Jelbert

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