

A NEW SHOW BY HENSBY & BECKETT
A FINE LINE



DIRECTED BY GADEN SOUSA

the
maybe
pile

11-15 OCTOBER
FRINGE HUB

MELBOURNE
FRINGE



The cast and crew of **A FINE LINE** acknowledge that tonight we gather on stolen land.

This is land of the Wurundjeri and Woi Wurrung people of the Eastern Kulin Nation.

The play you're about to see was written, developed, and rehearsed here. We pay our respects to their elders past and present, and extend that respect to all first persons people here today.

First Nations communities have been singing songs and sharing stories on this country since time immemorial, and as story tellers we owe a special debt to their ancient and ongoing custodianship of this land and its song lines.

We stand in solidarity with the ongoing struggle for First Nations justice across the continent and the globe.

This was, is and always will be Aboriginal Land.

**VOTE
"YES"
PLEASE**



SYNOPSIS

Harry Styles is Lola's boyfriend. He's also her husband, collaborator, farm hand and soulmate. From tour outfits to romantic getaways, Lola has planned every part of their relationship. And Harry gives her all of his love, gives her something to dream about...

Exploring limerence, obsession & manifestation culture, **A FINE LINE** is a new dramedy by **Hensby & Beckett**.

Bring your posters, your feather boas, and your elaborate romantic fantasies...





THE TEAM

Written and Performed by Lily Hensby & Lotte Beckett

Director Gaden Sousa

Producer Madison Bean

Graphic Design +Marketing Ben Andrews
(The Maybe Pile)

Lola Lily Hensby

Harry Styles Lotte Beckett



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

A FINE LINE is the type of show I'd yell at my friends to go and see, even if I wasn't involved. Partly this is because *Hensby & Beckett* are dynamite performers who bring something exciting, wild and deeply personal to every rehearsal and performance.

They make you feel that you are in good hands as an audience. But *Hensby & Beckett* aren't just good performers, they're also good writers, generous writers (talented lot, save some for the rest of us, please).

A FINE LINE is generous storytelling, generous theatre making at its finest. It offers the audience countless moments of strange surrealist pining that could only be pulled off in theatre.

As you travel with Lola, your empathy for her grows. And in that empathy for Lola, in understanding why she needs Harry Styles to look at her tonight, you gain empathy for yourself.

For all the times you've gotten completely wrapped up in the fiction of someone else and lost all sight of who you are. It is my hope that **A FINE LINE** makes people giggle, clap, and cheer but also that it lets them hug their former selves for when they too were crazy enough to write someone's name down 333 times in a book.

GADEN SOUSA - DIRECTOR





HENSBY & BECKETT

A FINE LINE began as the combination of Lily's crush on a boy, and Lotte's obsession with Harry Styles. In both cases, we had projected the perfect idea of someone onto them and imagined our futures together, without ever discussing this with them. Then TikTok got involved, where self-proclaimed 'witches' told us that with enough angel numbers, manifesting and signs from the universe, we could make our crush ours, forever. We listened to them – no longer just in love, but in limerence: an intense longing for another person even when they don't reciprocate.

Of course, our manifesting techniques failed. And they left our brains in a weird, scary place of insecurity, heartbreak and embarrassment. These relationship 'hacks' are dangerous and eerily common – they made us lose ourselves while in pursuit of something that didn't exist. Our crushes have ignored us to this day, but now we get to unpack all that on stage, which is very cool.

This is the silliest, most ridiculous and possibly saddest show we've made together, and we really like it. We hope you laugh and have fun, and maybe hold your friends a little tighter when they say they've got a crush on someone. Their life won't get better because of some guy. They're already great as they are.

LILY HENSBY & LOTTE BECKETT





LILY HENSBY

IS

LOLA

Lily (she/they) is a comedic actor, published playwright and theatre-maker. She is a graduate of The University of Wollongong's Bachelor of Performance and Bachelor of Creative Arts Honors degrees.

For **Hensby & Beckett**, she wrote and directed *Last Time* at the Motley Bauhaus, co-wrote and performed *We're New Here* at MICF, and is co-writing and performing **A FINE LINE**.

She has made work with re:group, UOW, Shopfront Arts Co Op, Carlew SA, ATYP, PACT, Merrigong Theatre Company and 107 Projects. She is best known for writing *Last Time*, *Pretty Fly for a Dead Guy* and *Stalls*, and for performing at The Improv Conspiracy.

Lily brings the gritty awkward humour that life likes to throw at you after something horrendous happens. Using a type of camp dramaturgy within her work, she throws the audience around with her quick wit and disgusting honesty.

@lalahenz





LOTTE BECKETT IS HARRY STYLES

Lotte (she/her) is an actor, theatre-maker and Harry Styles addict. She is a graduate of 16th Street Actors Studio and Melbourne University (Bachelor of Arts: Creative Writing, Theatre).

Under **Hensby & Beckett**, she performed and produced the return season of Last Time at the Motley Bauhaus, co-wrote, performed and produced We're New Here at MICF, and is co-writing and performing ***A FINE LINE***.

For the stage, she has made work with ATYP, Griffin Theatre Company, UOM and La Mama, and has performed with Fever103 Theatre and Midsumma Festival. She also co-wrote, produced and performed ***CLUB NITE*** (2022) at Miscellania, which received a feature in The Age.

Lotte approaches creative work with humour, intuition and a strong aesthetic sensibility. She's interested in messy and true stories that stick in the back of your brain. She's been told she's intellectual and classy, but she prefers silly and collaborative.

@lottebeckett





GADEN SOUSA DIRECTOR

Gaden Sousa is an award-winning writer, director and producer from rural New South Wales. In 2022 he directed *A Few Things That Happened on the Way to Now* for Melbourne and Sydney Fringe Festival.

For Melbourne University's Sitzprobe 2021 program Gaden co-wrote and directed *Icarus and the Falling Birds* which one Best New Work from Union House Theatre. Gaden's VCA graduating short film *Dream Again* has played internationally and won Best Screenplay and Best Director at Red Sands Film Festival. In 2023, Gaden completed his forthcoming film *Friendly Fire* and co-produced Karen Liebau McPherson's short film *Boxes*. Gaden works across film and theatre to tell character-driven, emotional & magical stories.

@gadensalad



MADISON BEAN PRODUCER

Madison is a Melbourne based theatre maker, producer, and recovered One Directioner.

Originally from Sheffield in the North of England, she has worked on a wide range of productions in the UK and Australia over the last 10 years.

Her recent work in Melbourne includes producing sold out runs of *The Iliad* for Stork Theatre, *Default Setting* for the Marco Polo Project, and *Snatches* for RMIT Performing Arts.

Fascinated by the collective emotional journey we experience as audience members, she is drawn to stories that stay with us long after we leave the venue and show us aspects of ourselves we sometimes are too scared to face.

[@baddymeant](#)



SPECIAL THANKS

Melbourne Fringe Staff

Katy Newell

James Etika

Sam Mostyn + Simeon Beckett

Zac Hanyn at Chalice Hall

Bridie Pamment



THE MAYBE PILE

We're out here telling stories. The *how* is always up for discussion.

The Maybe Pile is a theatre company based in Naarm (Melbourne) with a slew of incredible new Australian works in our wake and a bunch more on the horizon.

Their recent shows include two sold-out runs of Emmanuelle Mattana's debut play *Trophy Boys* at La Mama in Dec '22, and *fortyfivedownstairs* in Feb '23, as well as Julia Grace's new show *Donor*.

@themaybepileau

www.themaybepile.com.au



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pile