



LA MAMA EXPLORATIONS PRESENTS
WE HAVE COMPANY

CLEARER MINDS BUILD STRONGER FUTURES

3-5 July 2026

La Mama Courthouse, 349 Drummond Street, Carlton, VIC

SYNOPSIS

The CERA Project.

Control. Emotion. Response. Action.

What if better quality of life wasn't just a hope, but a guarantee?

CorTech's research and experimentation in behavioural engineering redefines what it means to feel, and aims to unlock true human potential.

Anxiety, distraction and emotional imbalance are not weaknesses, but signals. Signals that can be corrected.

Clearer minds build stronger futures. For you. For your family. For society.

In 1997 in Regional Victoria, the morning after their 10 year high school reunion, a tight-knit group of former classmates are gathered in the living room of Charlotte and Claude's 'home'. Trapped together in a house they thought they knew, the group must navigate the emotional fallout of their shared past, unaware of how much of the present is being manipulated.

Please be advised that this production of *We Have Company* contains flashing lights, loud sounds, coarse language, discussions around miscarriage, alcohol and drug use, homophobia, and depictions of mental health struggles.

ABOUT

This production of *We Have Company* is the third iteration of the show. Conceptualised by Millie Breen, Jess Demasi, Emma Kruihoff, Mahni Lowe, Daisy Paxton-White, Lily Straker and Dylan Talbot, *We Have Company* was first performed in May 2025 as part of Deakin University's third year theatre work-in-progress production: *Fault Lines*. It was then developed to be performed again in October 2025 as part of Deakin University's Theatre Graduate Festival: *Pendulum* where it received the La Mama X Deakin Springboard Award 2025.

Two intersecting ideas drove the work: surveillance, and the human condition. The show was created as an interrogation of surveillance in an era of algorithmic influence, technology and control. Behaviours, beliefs and emotions are more than ever shaped by technology, benefitting the powerful few in a neoliberal society. *We Have Company* interrogates how influence operates and the inescapability of surveillance in a digital world. It forces the questions: what is it that makes us human? How do our emotions shape our actions? How do we grapple with grief, shame, love, insecurity, and doubt? *We Have Company* explores the idea of large private corporations creating technology as a means to establish a 'better' world all the while hoarding their wealth and disguising surveillance as a tool to help humans.

In the spirit of La Mama Explorations, this show is still a work-in-progress. We would appreciate receiving any feedback you may have via this link:

[We Have Company | Feedback Form](#)

[@_wehavecompany](#)

PRODUCTION CREDITS

Director

Emma Kruithoff

Producer

Mahni Lowe

Writers

Emma Kruithoff

Jess Demasi

Daisy Paxton-White

Performers

Millie Breen

Dylan Talbot

Mahni Lowe

Daisy Paxton-White

Emma Kruithoff

Lily Straker

Jess Demasi

Set Design

Jess Demasi

Mahni Lowe

Technical Design

Dylan Talbot

Daisy Paxton-White

Sound Design

Ruben Jaworski

Stage Management

Shannon Nguyen

Technical Operation

Ruben Jaworski

Shannon Nguyen

Wardrobe, Hair and Makeup

Lily Straker

Marketing Management

Millie Breen

Photography

Darren Gill (Hero Image)

Charlise Lowe (Promotional)

Ruiqi Fu (Production)

Voice of Jackson Phillips

Harrison Vavra

Voice of Myer Employee

Kimberly Potts

THANK YOU

We would like to extend our appreciation to the people that have supported us and made this show possible:

Myf Powell, Kimberly Potts, Georgie Wolfe, Dora Abraham, Merophie Carr, Olivia Fisher, Shane Grant, Miles O'Neil and Dylan Walter.



Millie Breen
Lara

she/her

Millie is an emerging artist who recently graduated with a BA in Performing Arts from Deakin University, specialising in theatre devising, performance, and contemporary dance.

During her studies, Millie had the opportunity to study abroad at the University of Roehampton in London, where she trained in contemporary dance technique and contact improvisation under the instruction of Clarisse Roud and Lewis Wilkins.

Most recently, Millie performed in the short film *Cloud Chamber* with Geelong based dance company, Blink Dance Theatre. The film explores the connection between women and the earth and is due to be released in August.

[@millmillmill](#)



Dylan Talbot Claude

he/him

Dylan is an up and coming performer and lighting designer, having studied a Bachelor of Creative Arts at Deakin University. He currently works as a Theatre Technician at Deakin University.

Dylan has participated in a range of work including; Performer and Lighting Designer for *Love and Information* (Harry Haynes, Deakin University), Lighting Designer for *Noble Fucking Gentlemen* (Melbourne International Comedy Festival), Technical Internship at Deakin University.

Dylan is looking forward to his work as an Assistant Lighting Designer/Intern for *Marginalia* (Pummel Squad) at fortyfivedownstairs later this month.

@ dylantalbot



Mahni Lowe
Charlotte

she/her

Mahni Lowe is a recent creative arts graduate of Deakin University, and an emerging contemporary dancer whose practice extends into theatre making. Her dance background includes dancing with both Mata Dance Company and VOU Dance Company in Fiji.

Mahni's most notable projects include, recently seconding with The New Zealand Dance Company during their new works development program: *ĀHUA*, choreographing and performing in *three to tether* (Pulse Collective) – with successful performance seasons in both Melbourne and Suva, Fiji, her portrayal of 'Ashlee' in *Dance Nation* (Bron Batten, Deakin University), and competing at Hip Hop International Regional and World Championships (Mata Dance Company) in both Auckland, New Zealand and Phoenix, Arizona, USA.

Mahni is also the Co-Founder of Pulse Collective, a new contemporary dance collective based in Melbourne, and is currently working on some exciting projects with them.

[@mahnilowe](#)



Daisy Paxton-White Mads

she/her

Daisy Paxton-White is a first year acting student at the Victorian College of the Arts, with a background in theatre-making and technical design. She has been engaged in theatre from a young age, and her training includes St Martin's Youth Theatre, Deakin University, and DCO Acting Studio.

Her previous experience includes *Roaring* (Thesbian Theatre) at Chapel off Chapel, *Femme Fatale* (BuST Co.), *Dance Nation* (Bron Batten, Deakin University), *Ki Ki* (BuST Co.), and *Bad Taste* at the Motley Bauhaus.

Daisy is also a passionate lighting designer and technical operator, having worked on independent shows and across Melbourne Fringe Festival and Melbourne International Comedy Festival, including *Who is a Dog Rose?* (Dog Rose Theatre Co.) and *Honey, I'm Home* (Altered Visions Collective).

[@dasiy_p.w](#)



Emma Kruithoff

Rylee

she/her

Emma Kruithoff is currently completing a postgraduate degree in teaching at Deakin University with methods in drama and sociology. As both an emerging artist and future secondary school teacher, she has recently been assisting with Frankston High School's production of *Mary Poppins*.

Other acting projects include Emma's performance in *Love and Information* (Deakin University) directed by 16th Street's associate artistic director, Harry Haynes. With a few major projects under her belt, this marks the beginning of Emma's creative endeavours outside of university, having the chance to expand into areas of writing and directing.

[@emmakruithoff](#)



Lily Straker Jennifer

she/her

Lily Straker is a Melbourne-based performer and emerging theatre artist currently completing a Bachelor of Arts (Performing Arts) at Deakin University. Her practice spans across acting, movement, dance, and stage management, with a strong interest in collaborative and contemporary performance.

Lily's recent performance credits include *Dance Nation* (Deakin University) under the direction of Bron Batten, in which she portrayed 'Zuzu', and *im]palpable* (Deakin University), a contemporary dance work choreographed by Luigi Vescio. She has also worked behind the scenes as Assistant Stage Manager on Melbourne Shakespeare Company's *Romeo and Juliet*, and in 2025 completed a professional stage management internship with the Michael Cassel Group on *Beetlejuice the Musical*, gaining experience in rehearsal management, backstage coordination, and large-scale commercial theatre.

[@lilystrakerr](#)



Jess Demasi Gemma

she/her

Jessica Demasi is a passionate performer who recently completed a Bachelor of Creative Arts at Deakin University. She has been performing on the stage since the age of four, making her professional acting debut as Hetty Green in VCAA's Top Acts at the Malthouse Theatre.

Since then, Jessica has continued to develop her ensemble practice with *Roaring* (Thesbian Theatre) at Chapel Off Chapel, *Dance Nation* (Bron Batten, Deakin University), *SPARK* (Frenzy Theatre Co) at Theatre Works, *Ki Ki* (BuST Co.), and, most recently, Peridot Theatre's *The Cottage*.

We Have Company marks Jessica's first professionally staged devised production. She is thrilled to be collaborating with such a talented creative team and is excited to share this work with audiences.

[@jessdemasi](#)



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Box Office is open 1 hour before show time.

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La Mama Theatre is on the traditional lands of the peoples of the Kulin nation, and we give our respect to the Elders and to all First Nations people past, present and future. We acknowledge all events take place on stolen lands and that sovereignty was never ceded.