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L-ewwel musical adattat mill-kitba ta' Trevor Zahra

# SEMPRIMA





"Trid tara ġnien mgħarraq?"
staqsieni n-nannu lejla waħda.
U bla ma qagħad jistenna
t-tweġiba tiegħi, komplieli.
"Għada nieħdok f'post li żgur
qatt ma rajt bħalu.
Imma rridu nbakkru!"

The Kettle Club, with the support of Malta Arts Council, are currently working on their first ever original musical in Maltese. Adapting Trevor Zahra's very own Sempreviva, the final project is set to be an audio-theatrical production, performed by a cast of no more than 5 multidisciplinary performers. The performers will not only perform on show night but will also be the main creative team behind the script, lyrics

and music. This project serves to develop, teach and give guidance to prospecting musical theatre producers and performers alike.

Musical arrangement led by The New Victorians, script workshops led by Lon Kirkop, and direction by Francesca Scerri. Sempreviva: The Musical will be the first book by Trevor Zahra ever adapted to a musical.

#### THE CREATIVE TEAM

# Francesca Scerri

Artistic Director

An actor, child entertainer, a musical theatre performer, event organiser and creative. Francesca has been working in the arts and performance sector for the past 15 years, debuting her theatrical skills within the tourism sector.

She is frequently found immersed within the event industry. Her performing skills come mostly from a musical theatre background, performing twice a week at the only 5-year running musical on the Maltese islands, going by the name of *Knights Spectacular 1565*, as the lead role of Melita. She later went on to specialise in cabaret performances during events as well as prominent roles on local television. A busy schedule, however, did not hold her back from fulfilling her passion for script writing and producing for young audiences. Her latest brain child: a pop-up club i.e. a community for musical theatre enthusiasts by the name of *The Kettle Club*, where she writes, produces and directs musical theatre shows with a twist, providing various opportunities to new and upcoming artists. Francesca also held the position of production manager and floor manager while also contributing creatively for TVM's *Serataron*. She is currently working on arthaus's latest project, *Chicago - the Musical*, as the lead role of Velma Kelly.

## Sarah Micallef Muscat

Assistant Director

After working in operations, taking care of schedules and organizing logistics for programs like Xarabank, Hadd Għalik, local televised football, and Tough Luck, among others, Sarah proceeded to working in journalism and handling PR for events such as L-Istrina, Maratona Dar tal-Providenza and Maratona Missio. Sarah went on to become Take Two's production manager for Min Imissu?! and has contributed to the project not only as a production manager but also as floor manager during program recordings and as a video editor. She has directed features and adverts for Take Two, one of which being the music video for Min Imissu?!'s 2020 program theme song. Sarah was leading Take Two's social media, covering both company and projects, one of which has grown with an audience of over 50K reach. Additionally, Sarah was leading Take Two's rebranding, by designing an entire new website. She went on to be the floor manager for the National New Year's Eve Celebrations 2021 held at St Elmo's and broadcasted to all stations. She was also creatively contributing for The Kettle Club's shows, both for For the Love of Music and Musical Mondays, as a musical theatre advisor and presenter. Sarah has also written a short film that is currently in production.

## THE CREATIVE TEAM (continued)

# **The New Victorians**

Musical Directors

The New Victorians are an award-winning sister-duo who make music and theatre. Since 2015, they've released two full length studio albums and multiple EPs, featuring hit singles like *Min Jaf, Keep Me In Love* and *Lie Liar* amongst others. They've opened for multi-platinum artist Anastacia on her Evolution Tour and for the BBC Concert Orchestra, amongst others, and have topped local airplay charts for multiple consecutive weeks.

The sisters also have a keen interest in the dramaturgical potential of live sound manipulation and electronic music in theatre. The New Victorians' original audio-theatrical productions—VII (Sette), MARA, Rave & Behave, TINGO and Publico—have played at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, the Vault Festival London, Eden Court Theatre Inverness, Żigużajg International Children's Festival, and as part of the Valletta 2018 European Capital of Culture Programme. Each production features live original music by the duo, challenging the potential of pop music in theatre. Their latest audio-theatrical project, II-Fidwa Tal-Bdiewa, a Teatru Malta commission, premiered in November 2022 to a sold out run.

Recently, the duo also performed and produced two runs of their *Christmas Chapel Hop*: a sold-out tour of performances in different chapels around Malta throughout the festive season in 2020/21, where they performed reimagined local hymns and carols whilst celebrating our local heritage. The New Victorians were awarded Artist of The Year by the Arts Council Malta in 2019.

# Lon Kirkop

Script Writer

Lon Kirkop hu awtur, kompożitur u artist viżiv ta' wieħed u tletin sena. Gradwa b' baċellerat bl-unuri fil-Fine Arts fl-2017 mill-MCAST u b'Masters fil-Printmaking ġewwa Cambridge School of Arts fir-Renju Unit fl-2022. Tul dawn l-aħħar snin, esebixxa x-xogħol viżiv tiegħu kemm ġewwa Malta kif ukoll fi bliet Ewropej oħra. F'ħafna mix-xogħol artistiku tiegħu, Lon jesplora dixxiplini differenti, fosthom l-arti viżiva tal-printmaking, il-lingwa Maltija, il-mużika, kif ukoll l-arti performattiva. Fl-2020 rebaħ il-Konkors ta' Kitba letteratura għaż-Żgħażagħ organizzat mill-Kunsill Nazzjonali tal-Ktieb u l-Aġenzija Żgħażagħ bir-rumanz Mitt Elf Isem Ieħor: HappyVeganGirlJules li aktar tard ġie ppublikat minn Merlin Publishers. Fl-2022 ippubblika t-tieni ktieb tiegħu, ukoll ma' Merlin Publishers, bl-isem ta' Fil-Ħajja li Jmiss u Drammi Oħra tat-Triq. Lon Kirkop jagħmel parti mit-trio artistiku The Peculiars li jesebixxu x-xogħolijiet artistiċi tagħhom minn żmien għal żmien. Fl-2022 Lon kiteb il-kliem u l-mużika tal-kanzunetta Fil-Kexxun li rebħet is-46 edizzjoni tal-festival L-Għanja tal-Poplu. Fl-istess sena Lon kiteb il-kliem tal-kanzunetta Fittixni, interpretata minn Victoria li kienet finalista f'Mużika Mużika: Konkors Kanzunetta Maltija.

#### **ABOUT THE ROLE**

This programme is planned to take place over a 16-month period. Performers will have multiple workshops on Conceptualisation, Script Writing, Character Development, Song Writing, and Music Production. These workshops will each be 4-6 hours long, and through these workshops the performers will devise and develop the musical, Sempreviva.

Work will start in April 2023 with 2 workshops a month up until November 2023. From January 2024 until April 2024, the performers will have music production workshops with the New Victorians once a week, and then start with rehearsals May 2024 until June 2024.

For this reason, we are looking for **collaborative** and **creative** professional actors who:

- are confident singers;
- work well in a team;
- speak Maltese; and
- have some previous writing experience.

Any previous experience in musical theatre or devised work will be considered an asset.

#### WORKSHOPS, REHEARSALS AND SHOW DATES\*

## Workshops:

April—November 2023 (twice a month)

### **Music Production Workshops:**

January—April 2024 (once a week)

#### Rehearsals:

April-June 2024

### **Performance Dates:**

28th, 29th and 30th June 2024

Workshops will most likely take place on Fridays, Saturday afternoons or Sunday mornings. Rehearsals will take place in the evenings on weekdays and mornings on weekends.

\*All dates and times will be confirmed once the cast is set.

## Remuneration:

€3,000.00 (excl. VAT)

All applicants must have a valid VAT registered number. All relevant taxation and social security contributions will be the sole responsibility of the selected service provider.

## **HOW TO APPLY**

- 1. Please prepare an audition video showcasing:
- a monologue of your choice in English or Maltese that is not longer than 1 minute;
- a 1-minute song of your choice, preferably from a musical.
- 2. In your own words, prepare a 100-word story or description of anything. Keep it short.

If you are interested, please fill in the form in **this link** and upload the requirements as listed here.

# **Deadline:**

Sunday 5th March 2023

Shortlisted applicants will be contacted to attend an in-person workshop on the 25th and the 26th March in the afternoon.

#### Results:

All applicants will be notified no later than the 2nd April 2023.

For any queries or questions, feel free to write to us on hello@kettleclubmalta.com.