

Sydney Theatre Company Presents

Black is the New White

By Nakkiah Lui

**28 Feb -10 Mar 2018. Opening Night: Thursday 1st March at 7.30pm.
Roslyn Packer Theatre.**

STC's smash hit romantic comedy *Black is the New White* by Nakkiah Lui returns to the STC stage in 2018 as part of a national tour which will include Brisbane, Wollongong, Parramatta and Canberra.

All the characters you fell in love with are back - this time on the main stage of the Roslyn Packer Theatre. At the centre is Charlotte Gibson, a lawyer with a brilliant career ahead of her. As her father Ray says, she could be the next female Aboriginal version of Waleed Aly. But she has other ideas. First of all, it's Christmas. Second of all, she's in love.

The thing is, her fiancé, Francis Smith, is not what her family expected – he's unemployed, he's an experimental classical composer... and he's white! Inviting him and his conservative parents to Christmas is a bold move that has all sorts of unintended consequences.

Secrets are revealed, prejudices outed and old rivalries get sorted through. With a toe-tapping soundtrack and an array of brilliant, eccentric, loveable characters, this is a great night in the theatre and a thoroughly beguiling, very Australian story.

Miranda Tapsell will join the cast as Charlotte's sister Rose for the Brisbane, Sydney and Wollongong seasons, with Nakkiah Lui stepping into the role for Parramatta and Canberra.

Directed by STC's former Richard Wherrett Fellow Paige Rattray (now Queensland Theatre's Associate Artistic Director), the cast also includes Tony Briggs, Luke Carroll, Geoff Morrell and Shari Sebbens, with set and costumes by former Resident Designer Renée Mulder.

SYDNEY THEATRE COMPANY
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Black is the New White was commissioned by Sydney Theatre Company from writer Nakkiah Lui in 2015. Nakkiah is a writer/actor and Gamillaroi/Torres Strait Islander woman. She is a cowriter/star of *Black Comedy* ABC. She has been an artist in residence at Griffin Theatre Company and was playwright in residence at Belvoir Theatre. Nakkiah's previous works include; *This Heaven* Playwright, Belvoir 2013 and Finborough Theatre 2015, *Blak Cabaret* Playwright, Sydney Festival/Malthouse Theatre Company 2015, *Kill the Messenger* Actor/Playwright, Belvoir 2015, *Blaque Showgirls*, Malthouse Theatre Company 2016.

Nakkiah is a young leader in the Australian Aboriginal community and has contributed to *The Guardian*, *BuzzFeed* and *Junkee*. She has appeared on *Q&A* and *The Drum* on ABC and is a regular guest and presenter on ABC Local Radio in Sydney. Nakkiah co-hosts the *BuzzFeed* podcast series, *Pretty For An Aboriginal*, with Miranda Tapsell. Most recently Nakkiah has appeared as a regular guest on *Screen Time* on ABC and her new six-part comedy series, *Kiki & Kitty*, premiered on ABC Comedy in December.

Director Paige Rattray. **Designer** Renée Mulder. **Lighting Designer** Ben Hughes. **Composer & Sound Designer:** Steve Toulmin

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Cast: Tony Briggs, Luke Carroll, Vanessa Downing, Nakkiah Lui, Geoff Morrell, Melodie Reynolds-Diarra, Shari Sebbens, Tom Stokes, Miranda Tapsell, Anthony Taufa

For more information: Angelina Grien (02 9250 1703
agrien@sydneytheatre.com.au) or Katherine Stevenson (02 9250 1705
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Pricing and ticket information:

2018 Season Tickets (packs of 6 - 14 plays) on sale now Save at least 20% on full price single tickets, access the best available seats and get a lot of exclusive benefits all year.

Single ticket prices: Saturday evening \$108. Adult \$103. Seniors cardholder \$93. Concession \$82. Under 30 \$81. Preview \$81. Group bookings (10+ people) \$87

<https://www.sydneytheatre.com.au/whats-on/productions/2018/black-is-the-new-white-2018>

Insight events:

Night with the Actors: Mon 5 Mar post-show

Matinee Club: Wed 7 Mar 12pm

Tour Dates:

Brisbane 1 – 17 Feb

Playhouse, QPAC

<https://www.qpac.com.au/>

Wollongong 21 – 24 Feb

Merrigong Theatre Company, IMB Theatre
Illawarra Performing Arts Centre

<http://merrigong.com.au/>

Parramatta 21-24 Mar

Riverside Theatre

<https://riversideparramatta.com.au/>

Canberra 28 – 31 Mar

The Playhouse, Canberra Theatre Centre

<https://canberratheatrecentre.com.au/>

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