

Monday 5 March 2018

## **STC appoints Annette Shun Wah and Heather Mitchell to board**

**Sydney Theatre Company Chairman Ian Narev has announced that the Executive Producer of Contemporary Asian Australian Performance (CAAP) Annette Shun Wah and actor Heather Mitchell have joined STC's board.**

Ian Narev said: "These appointments result from the board's on-going succession planning. Recently that planning has been focused particularly on ensuring that we have a strong artistic representation. We are delighted that artists of Annette's and Heather's calibre and reputation have agreed to join the board. As respected and experienced leaders in our industry, they will add distinctive insight to our board discussions. I would also like to take this opportunity to salute directors Toni Cody and John Connolly who will be leaving the board at the April meeting at the conclusion of their terms. Both have added enormous value over the years by virtue of their energy, commitment, creativity and strategic skills. We will miss them."

Annette Shun Wah's career has spanned roles as freelance actor, writer and broadcaster. She is the Executive Producer for CAAP (formerly Performance 4a) - a professional arts company dedicated to giving voice to the contemporary Asian Australian experience through live performance. Annette was also a member of the Artistic Directorate of the National Theatre of Parramatta from 2015 till June 2017. She has appeared in many Australian film and television projects and was nominated for an AFI Award for her performance in Australia's first foreign language feature film, *Floating Life*. She has presented and produced television programs for the ABC and SBS. Annette is a former contributor to the *Sydney Morning Herald*, and her writing has been published in various anthologies.

Heather Mitchell is one of Australia's most respected actors. She began her professional career with the STC in 1981. She has performed in more than thirty plays with the Company, most recently *Top Girls* and *Cloud Nine*. She has worked with every major theatre company in Australia and has appeared in countless film and television productions. Amongst other awards, she is the recipient of the 2015 Green Room Award and 2014 Helpmann Award for Best Female Supporting Actress in a musical for *Strictly Ballroom*, and the 2011 and 2012 New York City International Film Festival award for Best

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Actress in the film *Afterglow* and *Red Valentine*. Heather is on the Foundation Board at the STC and an Ambassador for the Cancer Survivor Centre at Prince of Wales Hospital and for BreastsurgeANZ.

Annette and Heather join existing directors Ian Narev (Chair), Ann Johnson (Deputy Chair), The Hon Bruce Baird AM, Mark Lazberger, Patrick McIntyre, Gretel Packer, Daniel Petre AO and Kip Williams. Toni Cody and John Connolly will step down at the April board meeting after concluding two terms each as directors.

**#ENDS#**

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