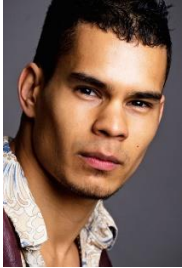




Biographies - Cast



MARK COLES SMITH

plays

KYLE BURTON/ZERO-POINT



Hailing from Broome, Mark has worked across several performing arts' genres, first and foremost as an actor, but also as a writer, producer and sound designer.

This year, Mark won a 2017 Helpmann Award for Best Male Actor in a Play for his work on Leah Purcell's acclaimed adaptation of *The Drover's Wife*. On television, he appeared on *Doctor Doctor* and *Shaun Micallef's Mad as Hell*, and will soon appear in reimagining of *Picnic at Hanging Rock* for Foxtel.

He received a Best Supporting Actor AACTA nomination and a Best Supporting Actor win at the Film Critics' Circle of Australia awards for his work in the feature film *Last Cab to Darwin*, opposite Jacki Weaver and Michael Caton, and was also honoured with a Best Supporting Actor AACTA nomination for the film *Pawno*. Mark's other screen credits include U.S. series *Hunters* for the Syfy Network; *Old School*, opposite Bryan Brown and Sam Neill; *The Gods of Wheat Street*; a lead guest in the hit American comedy *Modern Family*; *Hard Rock Medical*, a co-production between SBS TV and Canada's TV Ontario, the features *Around the Block* and *Beneath Hill 60*; *Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries*; *Blue Heelers*; *Dirt Game*; *The Circuit* and *Please Like Me*.

On top of *The Drover's Wife*, other theatre credits include *Jandamarra* under the direction of Phil Thompson, and *Wulamanayuwi and Seven Pamanuas*, directed by Noel Jordan for the Darwin Festival.

With a gift for storytelling, Mark worked under the guidance of Gary Crew as part of the Indigenous Mentorship Program for the Australian Society of Authors. He has a certificate in Aboriginal Theatre from WAAPA and a Bachelor in Indigenous Studies. In 2007 he won the Yvonne Cohen Award from the VCA Wilin Centre for Indigenous Arts. In 2008 he took out a grant from ScreenWest for the short film *Layoordoo*, which he wrote, co-produced and directed, while also featuring in a supporting role. *Layoordoo* screened at Toronto's ImagiNATIVE Film Festival.

In addition to his acting and writing, in recent years Mark has pursued work in the field of audio production and sound design. He designed the sound for Ilbijerri's *Which Way Home* and he produces across an array of genres, including the debut album of Australian Hip Hop group 'Bare Minimum' and an electronica album under the alias 'Karate Surfing.' He is also a regular voice artist for animation, documentary and audiobooks.

Mark was awarded the Casting Guild of Australia's inaugural Sirius Award for New Talent of the Future.



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Zero-Point EPK October 2018



STEVEN OLIVER
plays
SAMSON



Steven Oliver is a descendant of the Kuku-Yalanji, Waanyi, Gangalidda, Woppaburra, Bundjalung and Biripi (in other words, biggest mob) peoples. He was born in Cloncurry in North West Queensland and grew up in Townsville before moving to Perth to study performing arts.

Steven has worked with numerous theatre companies and arts organisations across Australia and has been an artist in residence at La Boite Theatre Company. He became notorious with ABC's hit sketch show *Black Comedy* as a writer/actor/associate producer. He is also a published playwright and poet with his poetry accumulating over two million views online. A number only overshadowed by his comedic work which collectively has accumulated over ten million views. He currently works full-time at the Brisbane Indigenous Media Association as its Creative Director. Steven is the creator of a soon to be released web series *A Chance Affair*.



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EBONY MCGUIRE
plays
LISA CARTWRIGHT/WING
COMMANDER



Ebony McGuire graduated from the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts with a Certificate IV in Aboriginal Theatre. She played various workshopped roles while at WAAPA.

In 2014 Ebony performed at The Blue Room as Alison, in *What Do They Call Me?* written by Eva Johnson, directed by Eva Mullaley. In October 2014 she was a workshop facilitator in the *Culture 2.0 | Respecting Yourself | Respect Your Culture* workshop program with Yirra Yaakin Theatre Company.

Continuing her relationship with Yirra Yaakin, in 2015 Ebony performed in *Kep Kaatijin* directed by Ian Wilkes and worked with a team of artists in developing the *Shakespeare Sonnets in Noongar* workshop program. In 2015 she was Lizzy in *The Fever and The Fret*, with Yirra Yaakin, written by Jub Clerc, directed by Kyle Morrison.

In 2017 Ebony played various roles for the *Coranderrk National Tour* with Ilbjerri Theatre Company, directed by Eva Mullaley. And most recently, she played the role of Irene Adler/Sally Barak with wit incorporated, in *A Scandal In The Weima*, written by Claire Bowen and Jennifer Piper, and is playing Lou in *Outside In* by Hilary Beaton, also with wit incorporated.

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