



KAREN JOHNSON MORTIMER

Karen began her professional career at the age of 15 in *Anything Goes* starring Toni Lamond. Most recently she directed *Saturday Night Fever* for the Gordon Frost Organisation starring Marcia Hines. In 2017 Karen enjoyed the great honour of working with Dame Julie Andrews as her Associate Director for the 60th anniversary production of *My Fair Lady*. In the past few years Karen has been the Associate Director for Andrew Lloyd Webbers *The Wizard Of Oz*, *Dirty Dancing* and the Australian tours of *Wicked*. Karen remounted the Korean Language production of *Wicked* in Seoul in 2015. In 2012 she directed *Annie* starring Anthony Warlow and was Associate Director for *Grease –The Arena Spectacular* in 2005. She has directed three annual *Rob Guest Endowment Finalists Concerts* held in both Sydney and Melbourne. Karen completed a Masters Degree at the University of Wollongong in Theatre Research in 2003. She was also one of Artistic Director's for the *World Youth Day Festival* in Sydney in 2008.

As a performer, Karen played *Cassie* in the original Australian production of *A Chorus Line* and appeared in *Company*, *Conquest of Carmen Miranda*, *Dames at Sea*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *No No Nanette*, *Irene* as well as GFO productions *Cabaret* and *Footloose*. Throughout the 80's Karen was a regular solo guest artist on *The Don Lane Show* and *The Mike Walsh Show*.

Karen's choreographic credits include: *Turns* starring Reg Livermore and Nancye Hayes, *Grease-The Mega Musical* (GFO), *Stones In His Pockets* (STC), *Leader of The Pack - The Ellie Greenwich Musical* (Star City), *Anzac Military Tattoo* (Acer Arena), Opening Ceremonies for numerous Bledisloe Cups, Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) Opening Ceremony, Opening Ceremony- Fina World Swimming Championships (Melb 2008), *Helpmann Awards* (2007), *Tin Symphony* (Opening Ceremony – 2000 Sydney Olympics), Gold Medallists Gymnastic Gala- 2000 Sydney Olympics (NBC-USA), *Kelly's Republic* (Sydney Festival), *Oscar's Turn To Sing*, *Wonder Woman* (Reg Livermore), *Sacred Cow* (Reg Livermore), *Norman Gunston Show* (ABC TV) and *Farnham & Byrne* (ABC).

Karen was Resident Director for *Chicago The Musical* in 2009 and returned as Resident Director for the latest 2019-2020 production.