

MARK SALVESTRO

Biography



Mark is a playwright, actor, and independent theatre producer, newly based in Sydney.

He began his writing career in 2011 as a journalist for the independent newspaper *The Monaro Post* in the Snowy Mountains of NSW. He then moved to Sydney to study at the University of Notre Dame where he was awarded first place for first year communications and media.

In 2014, Mark moved to Melbourne to train as an actor at the Howard Fine Acting Studio Australia. Upon graduating, he wrote his debut play *Buried at Sea*, which toured to critical acclaim across Australia, having seasons in Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide, and Cooma and Forbes in regional NSW.

His second show, *The Will To Be*, was awarded 'Best Theatre' at the 2020 Adelaide Fringe Weekly Awards. It has also been staged in Sydney, twice in Melbourne, and in Queanbeyan, Cooma and Merimbula in southeast NSW.

In 2020, Mark first wrote for screen, creating a 'digital one-man show' as part of Midsumma Festival's 'Living in the Queerantime' program.

Most recently, he wrote his first full-length play, *The Queen's City of the South*, which is inspired by the history of Cooma Gaol and its use as a 'gay prison' from 1957-81. This new three-hander premiered at Qtopia Sydney in October 2024.

Mark has been privileged to collaborate and learn from a number of industry mentors, including Nick Atkins, Mark Pritchard, Gary Abrahams, Ryan Whitworth-Jones, Queenie van de Zandt, Phoebe Anne Taylor and Sally McLean.

Learn more: www.marksalvestro.com

Contact

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Resume

EXPERIENCE

THEATRE

The Queen's City of the South <i>Full-length play</i>	Qtopia Sydney - Loading Dock Theatre - premiere	2024
	Canberra Theatre Centre - Creative Development	2023
	Cooma Creative Development - Create NSW	2023
	Canberra Theatre Centre - New Ideas Lab	2022
The Will To Be <i>Solo show</i>	Qtopia Sydney - The Substation	2024
	Queanbeyan Performing Arts Centre	2024
	The Twyford, Merimbula	2024
	Cooma Little Theatre	2021
	La Mama Theatre, Midsumma Festival	2021
	Bakehouse Theatre, Adelaide Fringe	2020
The Butterfly Club, Melbourne Fringe	2019	
Buried at Sea <i>Solo show</i>	Forbes Town Hall, central west NSW	2018
	Tandanya, Adelaide Fringe	2017
	Cooma Little Theatre	2017
	Belleville, Melbourne Fringe	2016
	Brisbane Anywhere Festival	2016
Development Showing, Melbourne	2015	

ONLINE

A Covid Coming Out <i>Digital solo show</i>	Commissioned by Midsumma Festival Living in the Queerantime grant	2020
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NON-FICTION

Marketing and Administration Manager <i>Arts on Tour, Sydney</i>		Oct 2023-current
Journalist, Features Writer & Proof-reader <i>The Monaro Post newspaper, Cooma NSW</i>		2011 & 2021
Theatre Publicist <i>Freelance, Melbourne</i>		2016-2020
Reviewer & Arts Journalist <i>Maggie Journal, Melbourne</i>		2015

TRAINING/EDUCATION

Dramaturgy Coaching Nick Atkins	2022-23
Graduate Certificate in Creative Business Compton School & University of Canberra	2021
Dramaturgy Coaching Mark Pritchard	2019
Dramaturgy Coaching Phoebe Anne Taylor	2019
Dramaturgy Coaching Gary Abrahams	2015 & 2017
Bachelor of Communications & Media (1st Year) University of Notre Dame, Sydney	2012

ACCOLADES

Best Theatre Weekly Award <i>The Will To Be</i> Adelaide Fringe	2020
1ST Prize in First Year Communications & Media University of Notre Dame, Sydney	2012