



## About *Darwin*

### Synopsis

Darwin was bombed mid morning on the 19<sup>th</sup> February 1942. It stands as the only time Australian soil has been attacked by a foreign power. If the Japanese fleet had not been called away to focus on the American threat this day would commemorate the start of the Japanese invasion.

The play tries to stick to the events of the day as closely as possible. From the direction and different waves of the air attack to the aftermath and the subsequent exodus from Darwin.

Many names have not been changed. Dallas Scott was a pilot. He was captured by the Japanese in Ambon and was given a traditional Samurai execution, an honor bestowed on brave enemies.

Many of the stories from the time come from a book by Ron Brown titled *Darwin Dilemmas*. Ron was a policeman stationed in Darwin during the bombings. Ron recounts many exceptional stories of the time, Ms Corthine and the untimely San-Man, being just one. He also writes, the frustration still evident in his tone, of the time he tried to borrow shovels from the locker to build a trench beside the barracks.

There is far more history than will fit here or indeed in the play. And like all good history true stories are always the strangest and the best.

### Music

For your free download of the original music from Darwin please go to the link below.

“Given You”

Written by Joshua Wilkinson

Performed by Jolie Chatfield, Zinia Chan, Jon South, Matt

Seddon

<https://soundcloud.com/joshwilkinson/given-you>

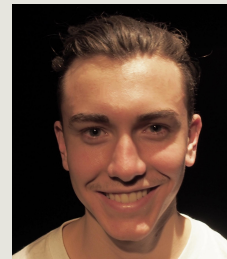


## Cast & Crew



### Julia Thorpe – Lucy Scott

A 2012 Hillbrook graduate, Julia made her debut with the company in *48 Shades of Brown* and continues acting at Queensland Actor’s Playhouse. She is currently studying Architecture at UQ and describes herself as the love child of Olivia Newton-John and Hugh Jackman. Julia loves working with the Basement Arts crew and has been honoured to bring Josh’s work to life.



### Jordan Mulvey – Marshall

A returning member of Basement Arts, Jordan’s first production with the company was *A Million Tiny Plays*. He co-directed and starred as Dan in Basement Art’s third production, *48 Shades of Brown*. Jordan completed his studies at Hillbrook in 2012 and is also currently studying a Fine Arts degree in Creative and Professional Writing at QUT.



### John Williams – Captain McNab

John is the co-founder of Basement Arts and a Drama teacher at Hillbrook Anglican School. Last year he co-directed Basement Arts’ productions of *The Year Nick McGowan Came to Stay*, *A Million Tiny Plays* and *48 Shades of Brown*. *Darwin* is John’s acting debut for the company.



### Sue-Ellen Taylor – Betty Scott

Sue-Ellen is making her debut for Basement Arts. Having performed in *Cosi*, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* and directed *Little Shop of Horrors*, she’s excited about getting back on the stage. Sue-Ellen continues as a Drama teacher at Hillbrook and is currently directing a play for this year’s Drama Festival.



## Cast & Crew



### Joshua Wilkinson – Dallas Scott

A 2010 Hillbrook graduate, Joshua is making his debut for Basement Arts, in both acting and directing his own play. Josh is graduating from an Arts Degree at QUT after which he will go to Japan to seek career guidance from an ancient wise Samurai. Josh is so happy to be working with Basement Arts now and forever. Amen.



### Tim Abbott – Tom

Tim returns to the stage after debuting in Basement Arts' production of '48 Shades of Brown'. Tim continues to lead in the company both on and off stage where his talents in film editing is providing the company with engaging material and merging the lines between stage and screen. When not madly filming, Tim is studying to become a paramedic.



### Ben Trigger – Fred

A foundation member of BA, his previous involvement include productions *The Year Nick McGowan Came to Stay*, *A Million Tiny Plays*, *48 Shades of Brown* and *Young Frankenstein*. Ben is also Artistic Director of *BA: Dance* and *BA: Theatresports*. He is currently directing Basement Dances for this year's Drama Festival.



### Tom Wilcox – Ted Pines

A 2012 Hillbrook graduate and foundation member of BA, Tom continues his dramatic studies with an internship at Brisbane Arts Theatre. He has previously starred in *The Year Nick McGowan Came to Stay* and *A Million Tiny Plays* and is excited to be involved in his third production with the company.



## Director's Notes

*Darwin* is an experiment. Can it be done? Being the theory, and Why not? Being the method. Ah if only all science was that simple...we would all be geniuses. Maybe we are!! If only we could find the time.

A malicious being conspired a series of events to bring this play to life. The first was an incredible production of *Metamorphosis* in London. The second was an equally incredible Spanish dinner party where I met Martin, who told me about speakers and how you can arrange them in a way that will bring smiles to faces. The third was Basement Arts and their kind acceptance of my cruel, harsh dictatorship.

I am joking when I say that, but I actually am not. From the start of this whole thing I have specifically tried to make as many of the decisions as possible. Control freak I hear you say... Maybe. But I really just wanted to see what I could do. A control experiment. You should try it. It's very scary, like Tom we all just want a captain. But I guarantee if you take a note from Lucy's book and do exactly what you want to do the experiment won't fail? How can it, its science!!



Joshua Wilkinson  
Writer, Director, Producer and  
Sound Designer