

# THE LAST PRINCESS OF LEBANON

By Nadia Milford

## Pitch Deck as of August 2024



### Contact

Nadia Milford

0409 624 460

[milford.nadia@gmail.com](mailto:milford.nadia@gmail.com)



## General Information

### Synopsis From Creator/Performer

‘The Last Princess of Lebanon’ tells the incredible story of my great grandmother, a Lebanese princess, turned migrant, turned successful business woman. The story follows her journey from the palaces of Beiteddine to the humble Queenslander in the small town of Dalby during the 1930s where she eventually opened her own fashion store. Sheathed inside a fun fairytale facade, the story reveals the darker realities of life as a princess during a time where women fought for freedom and autonomy over their bodies. It also sheds light on Australia’s sinister history of assimilation while recognising how far the country has come. Just a few months before her passing, I was born in the same hospital and given her name. So, interwoven is the story of the ‘modern day princess’ too - searching for my great grandmother in the pieces she left behind. Ultimately I uncover what’s left of my great grandmother within me. Stored in my body is her pain, her triumph, her hope. Nadia, the name which we share, means ‘delicate hope’ which underpins the message of the piece. This project is driven by a desire to honour her legacy, explore themes of identity and belonging, and foster greater understanding within Australia.

**Stage of the work:** The initial stages of the work were developed at HOTA Home of the Arts in June 2023 during her ArtKeeper Artist Residency and a second creative residency occurred across HOTA, The Farm and culminated in a [presentation](#) at Studio1 in August 2024.

Technical specifications will be further developed as final stages of the creative development occur, but below is an indication of scope.

## Creative Team

Writer/Performer/Director | **Nadia Milford**

Music/Sound Design | **Samira El Koussa** and **Anna Whitaker**

Set/Costume Design | **Penny Challen**

Dramaturgy | **Aleea Monsour** and previously **Wesley Enoch** and **Belloo Creative** (Caroline Dunphy, Kathryn Kelly, Katherine Lyall-Watson)

Lighting Design | **Briana Clark**

Stage Manager | **Damian Tatum**

Producer | **Maisie Crosdale** and **Nicholas Southey** (Qtouring)

## Touring Party

**x1 Performer** Nadia Milford + **x1 Stage Manager** Damian Tatum

**Freight** | Being designed to fit entire show in a van

## Audience

- Recommended for audiences 14+ given some content warnings and strong themes
- Female centric story appeals to women ages 14- 35
- Older generations 50+ interested in a reflection of Queensland history
- Lebanese/immigrant (1st-3rd generation) + regional communities seeing their stories reflected
- Art enthusiasts interested in the unique dance/theatre blend

**Additional Material:** There is also a [10 minute documentary](#) created as part of the research and development process that can be screened as part of a foyer exhibition alongside historic timelines, archival and family images and other factual materials. I can also provide workshops as well as artist talks aligned to the show.



## Performance Information

**Duration** | 60 mins

**Form** | Theatre, including dance

**Bump in** | *tbc* 5hrs install 9am-4pm with performance 6pm (with pre-rig)

**Bump Out** | *tbc* 2hrs to return to normal

## Staging

Can adjust to fit smaller or larger stages including: Black Box, Thrust, Proscenium Arch, Hall (site lines important so raked seating if flatter flooring)

*tbc* Set consists of three structures archway structures and potentially a back fabric for projection. May require rig points to hang a fabric, and projector (negotiable). See image references below Options A and B. LX currently in conversation, yet to be realised.

This space should have a floor suitable for dancing (ideally a sprung wooden floor covered with Tarkett - optional chalk drawings on this flooring)





## Sound Requirements *tbc*

Venue to supply:

- Adequate PA system for the theatre / venue

Will use QLab to play back music

We will supply:

- Laptop (Mac) with QLab sound fx file
- USB audio interface (stereo left/right outputs – ¼ inch jack not XLR) to be plugged straight into the desk or connected via stereo DI

## Budget

Approximately \$6000 total delivery *Tbc* in accordance with sourced funding and requested scale

See current drafted [Budget Breakdown](#)

## About the artist:

Nadia is a performance artist who uses the intrinsic language of the body to promote empowerment and compassionate perspectives. She pollinates her practice with dance, theatre, film, installation and new technology. With movement as a genesis for her creativity, Nadia's work connects at sensory touch-points. Drawing on a diverse blend of styles and practices, Nadia uses performance as a movement for empowerment and togetherness. She uses play and creative conversation as a vehicle for inviting new understandings of the world. A graduate of QUT's BA Dance Performance (distinction) she has worked with a variety of companies and independent artists on a diverse range of projects. Her dance films have screened in festivals in Germany, India, Bulgaria, New Zealand, Portugal as well as rural and urban Australia. Most recently, her documentary, *A Delicate Hope*, which she made as



part of her ArtKeeper Artist residency at HOTA, was a finalist in the Khayrallah Prize from North Carolina State University.

More information visit her website: [www.nadiamilford.com](http://www.nadiamilford.com)

Images by Georgia Haupt supported by Studio1 Testing Site Program

