

ABOUT OUR PATRON
RACHAEL BECK
Star of Stage and Screen

It is with great pleasure we announce that Rachael Beck, one of our ex-students taught by Wendy Kennedy, has kindly accepted our invitation to become Patron of Ballet Australasia Limited.

Rachael Beck is one of Australia's most in-demand performers in musical theatre and television.

Currently much of the award winning actor's time is dedicated to musical theatre, including her most recent role of Beth in the Australia/New Zealand live concert tour of Jeff Wayne's Musical Version of The War of the Worlds and the Sydney Theatre Company production of Summer Rain.

Rachael is widely remembered for her award winning role opposite Hugh Jackman as 'Belle' in Beauty and the Beast, which won an ARIA Award for the Best Soundtrack/ Cast / Show Release in 1996.

Over recent years, Rachael has also worked consistently in Australia's most popular theatre productions, including Eureka, Cabaret, Singing in the Rain (which earned her a prestigious MO Award nomination), and The Sound of Music, Prior to that, Rachael performed in myriad productions including *Call Me Madam* and *Big Hair in America*.

Rachael's other stage credits include her Green Award nominated performance as 'Fantine' in *Les Miserables*, 'Rumpleteaser' in *Cats*, *Secret Bridesmaid's Business* and *Me and My Girl*. She has also appeared with in *A Little Night Music* and *Henry IV*.

In 1992, Rachael performed the role of Judy Garland in her own one-woman show, *Young Judy* written by John Beck.

An impressive list of television credits include *Stingers*, *Mercury*, *The Feds*, *This Man This Woman*, *GP*, *Flying Doctors*, and her popular role as 'Sam' in *Hey Dad* over three years. She has also appeared in the film *Ocean Boulevard*.

In 2005 Rachael worked with Todd McKenney and Tommy Tycho in a series of concerts entitled *Broadway to Hollywood* with Symphony Orchestras around Australia. She also starred as Peg Hartigan in the Sydney Theatre Company's production of *Summer Rain*. In 2006 Rachael performed alongside her husband Ian Stenlake in the Pajama Game – a bright and fast paced Broadway classic, and featured as one of the stars in the prestigious *Show Stoppers* series of concerts at the Sydney Opera House.

In January 2007 Rachael and Ian celebrated the birth of their first child Tahlula

After mentoring Mark Furze and Ernie Dingo on series one and two of It Takes Two respectively, Rachael will return to the third series It Takes Two to guide a new celebrity on a musical journey.

BAL welcomes Rachael's input and experience, and we are grateful for her support in fostering young Australian talent.