Good evening families, friends, industry professionals and QUT staff. My name is Maddison and I am one of the fourteen Technical Production graduating students of 2017. Thank you all for coming here tonight to our graduating showcase, Standing By 2017.

The past three years here at QUT have been a rollercoaster ride of challenges, opportunities, making mistakes, learning, tears and excitement. From day one of first year to this very evening, we as a cohort have been working closely together and only ever progressing from strength to strength to reach where we are this very moment.

Looking back at first year, our cohort were informed that we were the first cohort to be going through the new Technical Production course structure. It was made clear to us that we would be the new generation of future Production Artists emerging into the Production Arts industry. Over the past three years, we recognised the collaborative nature of our cohort as well as our unique approaches to what we do. For our showcase this year, we were encouraged to use a new approach to our showcase in reflection of our unique cohort. From this, we as a collective cohort came together as a production team and decided to express collaboration and process by conceptualising, designing, managing and running the production you are attending and being part of this evening.

On behalf of the graduates of 2017, I would like to thank everyone who has supported us and been involved in our learning and growth over the past three years. Thank you to our families, friends and loved ones, for your immense support and guidance through exciting and tough times. Thank you for your understanding and words of wisdom when uni has been busy and stressful and we disappear for weeks to months at a time. Thank you to all of our secondment partners and supervisors for allowing us to work with you, extend our learning and gain new forms of experiences. Thank you to the first and second year Technical Production students, it has been an absolute pleasure working with you all while sharing our knowledge with each other. To the volunteers who came on board and helped us with this showcase over the past two weeks – we could not have done this without you. Thank you to our mentors and the teaching staff at QUT. Thank you to Scott, Lillith, the rest of the Z9 ELC staff and to all of the duty technicians across Z9 and QUT Precincts. We thank Glenn Hughes and Helen Jacobs, Rosa Hirakata and Warrick Phillips. A huge thank you to Tom Edmiston for being the Production Coordinator on all of our productions at Gardens Theatre and The Loft. I’d like to give a special thank you to The Loft for providing us with countless challenges we have overcome and will never forget. Our lecturers, Ben Hughes and Tessa Rixon, thank you for teaching us lighting, stage management, scenography and that essays and wine go very well together. And finally, thank you to the incredible Carly O’Neill and Tony Brumpton. Your never ending dedication and hard work over the past three years has been beyond valuable and shaped us to be the proud graduating new generation of Production Artists that we are this very evening. You all receive sevens from us. Let’s give all of these wonderful people a round of applause.
Standing By 2017
Third Year Address

I speak for my whole cohort when I say that I am incredibly proud of my achievements over the past three years and where I am this evening. Thank you again to all who have made our future careers and this evening possible. Now, let’s take a look at what we have been up to in our final year of Technical Production.