

Laura Irish is an award-winning actor, director, producer and immersive experience creator recently relocated to Melbourne, Australia. She is originally from the USA and is also a citizen of New Zealand. Laura trained at the Stella Adler Studio of Acting in NYC, Greenville University, AUT and the Sidney Poitier Film School in Los Angeles. She is the Artistic Director of The Barden Party, an award-winning internationally touring theatre company that started in 2021 taking theatre, Shakespeare, comedy and live music to private backyards during Covid-19. The Barden Party now travels the world performing Shakespeare in private and public venues. Laura is a major Shakespeare enthusiast and has taught Shakespeare performance in New Zealand and the USA and has performed as Lady Macbeth, Lady Macduff, Emilia, Desdemona, Viola, Lady Capulet, Peter Quince, Starveling, Hermia, Snug, Beatrice and others. She has played both Mercutio and Robin Goodfellow (Puck) more than 100 times each. Her adaptation of Romeo & Juliet recently won Best Theatre Week One of the Adelaide Fringe 2024 out of 1300 shows which was directed by herself and her partner, Ollie Howlett. She is also the co-creator and co-director of the critically acclaimed immersive experience performed on a super yacht, Butterfly Smokescreen, in which she also played 1920s Hollywood starlet, Marion Davies. Laura is also an accomplished music video director having won awards in New Zealand for 2 music videos over the past 2 years.

She is currently working on re-producing Butterfly Smokescreen internationally and pitching her limited series Australian western, Redwood, to TV and streaming networks.