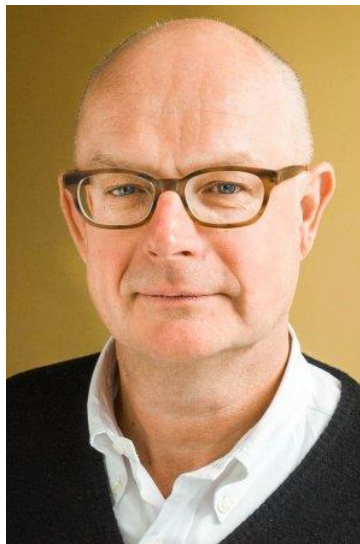




VALE



Stuart Thompson

It is with great sadness LPA acknowledges the passing of Broadway and West End theatre producer Stuart Thompson on Thursday 17 August in New York.

Nominated for twenty and winner of six Tony Awards, Stuart produced or was general manager of over seventy West End and Broadway productions including *The Book of Mormon*, *Proof*, *Carnage*, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime*, *The Presentand* and *Six Degrees of Separation*. Stuart was also one of the lead producers of Tina Fey's upcoming *Mean Girls* musical that will make its world premiere in Washington, D.C. this year.

Stuart was born in Sydney in 1955 and raised in Adelaide, studying theatre at Flinders University. He worked in administration at Sydney Theatre Company before moving to New York in the early 80's and had his first Broadway credit in 1989 with Aaron Sorkin's *A Few Good Men*.

"In this very small community, Stuart was always a huge figure", said *The Book of Mormon* producers Scott Rudin and Anne Garefino. "He was a wonderful partner, a beloved colleague, and a profoundly loyal friend. Stuart will be missed by all lucky to have known him and worked side by side with him for years".

Brett Sheehy, Artistic Director of the Melbourne Theatre Company, said "Since Stuart left for New York in the 1980s he's been an invaluable friend and colleague to many, many Australian theatre makers. As the New York representative for all of our State theatre companies over these past decades he has negotiated and navigated the presentation of scores of American plays onto Australian stages. As he became more and more successful, first managing Broadway productions and then, famously, producing them, he continued to be our representative and champion - an Aussie ex-pat on the ground in New York, beautifully nurturing our relationships with a host of playwrights, agents and producers. For most of us he was our first stop when we hit the US, giving us enough news, advice and mentoring to sustain us until our next visit and more. He was also a textbook case of a truly fine human being, and one of the many lessons we can take from his remarkable life is that you can be kind and generous and sweet and funny and good, truly good, and still be one of the greatest theatre producers of our time. The theatre landscapes of America, Australia and Britain are so much the poorer for our losing him. You're irreplaceable Stuart, and we'll miss you always."

In 2011, Stuart was presented with the Robert Whitehead Award for outstanding achievement in commercial theatre producing. He was on the Board of Directors of the Broadway League and Broadway Cares/Equity Fights Aids.

LPA would like to extend our sincerest condolences to Stuart's husband Joe Baker and family, friends and colleagues.



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