

**English National Opera** and **The Met (NYC)** co-production in High Definition **Dr Atomic** opened in movie theatres down-under in Australia this week, what did we think of this opera and could it possibly ever be a bomb? Our audience (of only four patrons) quickly expanded to around forty in Melbourne-Australia's Carlton Cinema Nova on an ominous ( for summer) wet cold day 22 Nov 2008.



Three hours with an interval of only 15 minutes couldn't marr our experience with this gem by acclaimed composer **John (Nixon in China) Adams**. With a set design to literally blow you away by **Julian Crouch** (pun intended) we were launched into the emotionally difficult world of **J Robert Gerald Finley** & **Kitty Oppenheimer Sasha Cooke**, as they played with the future. A future which proved to be dark and uneasy for the genius later to become dissident peace-nik Oppenheimer. We expected a spectacular, bit could not anticipate the beauty of Finley's aria of **"Darkness** at the end of **act one**.

**Act two** opened with Kitty Oppenheimer musing upon their lives together as “their “metaphorical” Native American Indian housekeeper **Pasqualita Meredith Arwady** tried desperately to clean away the mess clouding up their worlds horizon. The launch of the bomb was plagued from the beginning, shrouded in rumour, curse-talk-superstitious gossip, as the atomic physicists wagged cash on the effects of, and bet casually on the success of their world-saving bomb.



Sasha Cooke	Kitty Oppenheimer
Meredith Arwady	Pasqualita
Gerald Finley	J Robert Oppenheimer
Richard Paul Fink	Edward Teller
Thomas Glenn	Robert Wilson
Eric Owens	Gen Leslie Groves
Erle Patriarco	Frank Hubbard
Roger Honeywell	Capt James Nolan

Conductor [Alan Gilbert](#)  
Producer [Penny Woolcock](#)  
Set Design [Julian Crouch](#)  
Costumes [Catherine Zuber](#)  
Choreographer [Andrew Dawson](#)  
Lighting [Brian MacDevitt](#)  
Sound [Mark Grey](#)  
Video [Leo Warner & Mark Grimmer- Fifty Nine Productions Ltd](#)  
Links <http://www.themetinaustralia.info>

