

**Canberra Repertory Society**



in association with



**The Southern Cross Club Woden**

present the

*Festival* OF ONE ACT PLAYS

6 to 8 June 2003

## **Welcome**

Canberra Repertory Society welcomes you to the Festival of One Act Plays for 2003.

The festival is now in it's fourth year and has proven to be a very popular event on the theatrical calendar of amateur theatre companies in the ACT and NSW.

The Festival would not be the success it has become without the continued support of the Canberra Southern Cross Club. The Club's generous sponsorship continues to make the event possible. Our thanks to Lynda Wade who has made liaising with the Club a pleasure.

Canberra Repertory Society welcomed the opportunity to take on the challenge of convening the Festival so capably established by the Southern Cross Players. We would also like to acknowledge the ever present support of June Griffiths and the Southern Cross Players.

Mal Houston  
President  
Canberra Repertory Society

## **Southern Cross Club Directors Message**

The Board of Directors of the Southern Cross Club extends a warm welcome to the performers and spectators at the 2003 Festival, especially those visitors from interstate. We wish all performers well. Unfortunately not all will win a prize, but all participants are winners through the experience they gain by participating in this event.

We thank Canberra Repertory Society for organising this year's festival.

Adrian Caddy  
Vice President  
Canberra Southern Cross Club

## **The Adjudicators**

### **Anthony Turner**

Anthony Turner is head of Theatre Studies at the Australian National University. He is an academic, a director and an actor and has worked extensively as an actor on stage and in film and television. His most recent role was that of Shannon in Papermoon's production of Tennessee Williams' *The Night of the Iguana* at the ANU Arts Centre. He trained at the Central School of Speech and Drama in London and has taught in Drama Schools and colleges throughout Europe. He is a recipient of the Italian Cultural Commission bronze medal for excellence for his production of *A Midsummer Nights Dream* in Como, Italy. He teaches acting, directing for the stage and directing for the camera; as well as theatre history and voice for the actor.

### **Cathie Clelland**

Cathie has been involved in most areas of theatre production in Sydney, Port Moresby, Newcastle and, since 1989, in Canberra and currently lectures in Theatre Studies. She is interested in all types of theatre, but especially loves Shakespeare, "fringe" theatre, musicals and opera. In Canberra she has worked with most amateur and pro-am groups, mainly as a director and/or designer. She has received a number of Canberra Area Theatre nominations and has been involved in several Canberra Critics Circle and CAT Award winning productions. She directed last year's *Music Hall*, which won the CAT Best Cabaret category. Her two personal CAT Awards have been for Best Costume Designer (*Music Hall* 1998) and for Best Director (*Hot Mikado* 2000). Her most recent projects have been as director/designer of *Sensationally Sondheim* and *The Sound of Music* and as designer of *The Night of the Iguana*.

**Play 1****Rhinoceros Hides  
Comedy by Ken Cotterill**

In the aftermath of a nuclear war there are only four survivors – three politicians and a voter. What's the first thing to do? Have an election of course!

**Flywheel Theatre, Canberra****Cast:**

Doolan	Kim Wilson
Mary-Anne	Janine O'Dwyer
Lucas	Garry Robinson
Charlie	Cheryl Browne

Director	Diane Hesse
Stage Manager	Diane Hesse

**Play 2****Sweet Caroline Sweet  
Comedy/Dram by Tony Edwards**

Unsuccessful, middle-aged Edward, turned down for promotion at work, writes to a Lonely Hearts column on his landlady's advice. When attractive Caroline Sweet turns up on his doorstep he is sure his luck has changed. But for better or worse?

**Yamba Players, Canberra****Cast:**

Caroline	Vivianne Orr
Edward	Carl Law
Mrs Yates	Felicity Bridge
Mrs Gillis	Rosemary Synnott

Director	June Griffiths
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**Play 3****The Devil, The Writer & The Angry Ghost  
Comedy by Jack Booth**

Ellis has severe writer's block. Having killed off Lord Upstanding on the first page of his new book he misguidedly appeals for help. The Devil duly obliges and conjures up the dead man's ghost. Angrily the ghost demands answers regarding his unexpected demise and Ellis, threatened with public exposure of his unprofessional ineptness, seeks to provide them.

**Phoenix Players, Canberra****Cast:**

Ellis Anderson	Darren Cullerne
Lord Upstanding	John Maddock
Amelia	Glynnis Moran
Lucy	Sarah Tremble
Felicity	Caroline Hogan
Inspector Lived	Jack Spahir

Director	Nick Leon
Stage Manager	Paul Tremble

**Play 4****The Invitation  
Comedy by Bruce Vincent**

Conman Jack Smirks and his offsider, Nifty, can no longer make a living out of selling Buckingham Palace and the Sydney Harbour Bridge. Soon they'll have to "go straight" and retire on Social Security benefits. But not before attempting one final, mighty, scam.

**VW Players, Canberra****Cast:**

Nifty/Oswald	Brad Thompson
Dame Maggie Fox	Paul Mullins
Lady Beatrice	Katharine Linde
Duchess Argyle	Lynne Harwood
Jack Smirks/ Lord Geoffrey Hawkes	Bruce Vincent
Lucky Lucy/ Countess Samantha	Salli Willings

Director	Bruce Vincent
Production	Judith Carter

**Play 5****IMPROMPTU  
Drama by Tad Mosel**

In all Tad Mosel's works the characters gradually reveal their dreams and frustrations through small but significant intimate glimpses that make us more understanding of ourselves. In this tradition, "Impromptu" is a provocative treatment of a popular theme. How much truth and how much illusion does a person need to live a balanced life?

**Plaster Cast, Canberra****Cast:**

Tony	Jack Helmore
Ernest	Hugh Stevenson
Lora	Rachel Tyson
Winifred	Nina Stevenson

Director	Nina Stevenson
Stage Manager	Carl Law
Costume Coord, prompt and crew	Nola Helmore

**Play 6****Hungry for Love and Hamburgers  
Drama by Rachel Purnell**

Imagine being stuck with the one person you truly hate - your partner! As a couple desperately fathom their thoughts about why they ever started dating in the first place the ski lift they are travelling on breaks down. Stuck. Together. Helpless. This play explores the beauty of dysfunctional relationships, the stupidity of eating disorders and most of all the danger of women's mood swings!

**Purnell Productions, Fairlight****Cast:**

Ken	Andrew Musgrove
Olivia	Rachel Purnell

Director	Rachel Purnell
Sound	Fraser Gordon

**Play 7****The Chronicles Of Jane, Book 7  
Comedy by Alan Haehnel**

Jane is a teenager of such prowess that, at last count, over thirty-seven thousand people in eighteen different countries wanted to be her. She assembles her friends and followers so that she can retell the story of one of the greatest challenges in her heroic career.

**North Sydney Girls High, North Sydney****Cast:**

Jane	Rose Vallentine
Norman	Tom Mesker
Mrs Sniperly	Sarah Davies
Nymphs of Slumber	Benita Dewit, Shannon Mckinn, Katie Bissell
Computer	Xin Yi Lim
Suzy	Sally Henderson
Cecelia	Lani Sommer
Time	Tara Sena-Becker
Procrastination	Tim Hicks
Ensemble	Daisy Prowse, Alice Crowley, Chantelle Blake, Deepa Gupta, Naomi Jarrett, Tahnee Nicholson, Alana Garton, Sarah Davies, Benita Dewit, Xin Yi Lim, Sally Henderson, Lani Sommer, Tara Sena-Becker, Tim Hicks, Shannon McKinn & Katie Bissell
Director	Samantha Neaves
Set/Costumes	The Cast

**Play 8****Sandcastles on the Beach  
Drama by John McColl**

Marge and Butter are awaiting a visit from their son Weston and Trish, his wife of five months. When the visitors arrive there are shocks in store for everyone.

**Wyong Drama Group, Wyong****Cast:**

Marge	Pam Campbell
Butter	Bob Farmer
Weston	Shaun Martin
Trish	Darlene Cole
Director	Pam Campbell

**Play 9****Patio  
Drama by Jack Heifner**

In a small Texas town where lives are as dry as the landscape, Pearl is throwing a party for her older sister, a hairdresser, who is leaving to make it in the city. As they bustle about the patio their conversation reveals their differing dreams, aspirations and the emptiness that has pervaded both their lives. It is about endings, saying "goodbye".

**Starpact, Maroubra****Cast:**

Jewel	Whitney Harris
Pearl	Louise Kelly

Director	Rachel Cliffe
Crew	Frances Gates Malcolm Purves

**Play 10****A Merry Regiment Of Women  
Comedy by Rae Shirley**

Six of Shakespeare's great women and three of his extraordinary men combine to produce a mad and merry tribute to the greatest writer of them all!

**Stage Artz, Sydney****Cast:**

Juliet's Nurse	Shannon McKinn
Juliet	Elizabeth Webby
Desdemona	Sevasti James
Lady Macbeth	Katharine Morgan
Cleopatra	Vara Arnold
Kate The Shrew	Lyndal Reed
Henry V	Nathan Glynn
Romeo	Dominic Polito
Petruchio	Chris Jackson

Director	Samantha Neaves
Stage Managers	Katie Bissell & Tim Hicks

**Play 11****Between Mouthfuls  
Comedy by Alan Ayckbourn**

Two couples have come for dinner in a restaurant. As they order their respective meals and talk, the audience is only aware of those parts of their conversation that come within earshot of the waiter. The conversations become intertwined, as have been the characters, through employment and an illicit affair. A case of What the Waiter Heard.

**Nimbin Players, Nimbin**

Waiter	Len Martin
Donald Pearce	Brian Moynihan
Emma Pearce	Jan Martin
Polly Chalmers	Maryse Hill
Martin Chalmers	John Inglis
Director	Deborah Wild
Sound	Deborah Wild
Lighting	Bob Tissott
Stage Manager	Bob Edwards

**Play 12****Five Kinds of Silence  
Drama by Shelagh Stephenson**

A conspiracy of silence surrounds a family where the man is terrorising his wife and both his daughters. It is a confronting and chilling portrayal of a family in which tyrannical control has become the driving force and the ties that bind that family. Instead of love, it is abuse that holds them together.

**Wild Oats, Oberon**

Cast:	
Billy	Rick Plummer
Mary	Eva Korchma
Susan	Meg Low
Janet	Rosalie Manhood
Policeman	Wayne Barker
Police Inspector	Fran Charge
Lawyer 2	Col Roberts
Psychiatrist	Ian Gordon
Lawyer 1	Barbara Webb
Photographer	Wayne Barker
Director	Di Manson
Crew	Margaret Grad, Richard Manson, Tim Charge

**Play 13****Imaginations of Your Figment  
Drama by Rachel Purnell**

As a person is philosophising and searching to find meaning they drink themselves into a non-existing land; not earth, not the afterlife, not reality and not illusion. This non-existence is ruled by figments of the imagination, where creativity rules and nothing makes sense in order to be perfectly logical. Here the character begins to discover the seven important facts that explain the meaning of life, the point of it all and most of all, who, what and why a person is.

**Purnell Productions, Fairlight**

## Cast:

Sense	Jane Meakins
Human	Jamie Morris
Non	Rachel Purnell
Director	Rachell Purnell

**Play 14****Morning Coffee  
Comedy by Frederick Stroppel**

Some couples argue, others fight - it's what makes for a happy relationship. At least that is what David thinks. In the absence of real communication, however, can this union last?

**MADS, Gulgong**

## Cast:

Katie	Kathryn Maloney
David	Scott Etherington
Director	David Warner

**Play 15****Swimming Into the Sun  
Drama by Craig Bush**

Everyone is good at something - they have their own 'special talent'. But what happens when everyone, your parents, your friends, expect so much from your gift?

**St Kieran's Youth Theatre, Balgowlah**

## Cast:

Andrea	Amy McMahon
Heidi	Bianca Di Mento
Kylie	Katherine Lunny
Natalie	Anna Graffitti
Rachel	Daniella Natoli
Rebecca	Jesimina Barbaro
Roxanne	Claire Bracken
Sasha	Erin O'Sullivan
Tamsin	Sylvanna Natoli
Tatyana	Kate McPherson

Director Jennifer Willison

Designer Jennifer Willison  
Crew Lionel Willison

**Play 16****The Saliva Milkshake  
Drama by Howard Brenton**

Martin, a bright young scientist returns home to find an old acquaintance Joan has broken into his London flat. Sometimes terrorism isn't 'out there' - part of the outside world. Sometimes it breaks into your home and irrevocably changes your life.

**Newcastle Repertory Club Inc, Newcastle**

## Cast:

Martin	Philip McGrath
Joan/Guest 2	Barbara-Rose Townsend
Guest 1/Rafferty	Graham Wilson
Johnny/Sir Robert	Noel Grivas

Director David Berkholz

**Play 17****The Girl Who Was Asked To Turn Blue  
Drama by Ev Miller**

Tracey, unexpectedly, finds herself in a blue world. She is told she must turn blue in order to fit into this society. This is a story concerning conformity and individuality.

**Brigidine Youth Theatre, Balgowlah****Cast:**

Tracey Logan	Madeleine Gough
Number 1	Cassie Collin
411	Kate Kennet
919	Hayley Pretorius
817	Jessica Grant
764	Lucy Eccles
320	Elise Osborne
200	Rachel Hanson
21	Caitlin Johnson
Strange Girl	Anna Tait

Director Jennifer Willison

Design Jennifer Willison  
 Make-up Design Hayley Pearce  
 Crew Lionel Willison

**Play 18****DAY TRIPPERS  
Comedy by Jean McConnell**

Day Trippers is a comedy and one of a series of one-act plays set by the seaside and collectively known as Deckchairs. Beryl and Doris are visiting the seaside on their annual works picnic. They get more than they bargained for when they relax in what they believe is a secluded part of the beach.

**Henry Lawson Theatre, Penrith****Cast:**

Beryl	Leanne Caton
Doris	Joanna Sparrow
The Busker	Mike Raymond

Director John Bell

Crew Mike Rochfort  
 John Bell

## PROGRAM

### **Friday Night: Session commencing 6pm**

1. *Rhinoceros Hides*, Flywheel Theatre
2. *Sweet Caroline Sweet*, Yamba Players
3. *The Devil, The Writer  
and the Angry Ghost*, Phoenix Players

### **Saturday Morning: Session commencing 10am**

4. *The Invitation*, VW Players (O)
5. *Impromptu*, Plaster Cast
6. *Hungry for Love and Hamburgers*, Purnell Productions (O)

### **Saturday Afternoon: Session commencing 2pm**

7. *The Chronicles of Jane: Book 7*, North Sydney Girls High (Y)
8. *Sandcastle on the Beach*, Wyong Drama Group
9. *Patio*, Starpact

### **Saturday Evening: Session commencing 7pm**

10. *A Merry Regiment of Women*, Stage Artz (Y)
11. *Between Mouthfuls*, Nimbin Players
12. *Five Kinds of Silence*, Wild Oats Oberon

**Sunday Morning: Session commencing 10 am**

13. *Imaginations of Your Figment*, Purnell Productions (O)
14. *Morning Coffee*, Gulgong MADS
15. *Swimming into the Sun*, St Kieran's Youth Theatre (Y) (O)

**Sunday Afternoon: Session commencing 2pm**

16. *The Saliva Milkshake*, Newcastle Repertory
17. *The Girl Who Was Asked to Turn Blue*, Brigidine Youth Theatre (Y)
18. *Day Trippers*, Henry Lawson Theatre

**7pm Awards Presentation in "Top of The Cross" auditorium**

**8pm Celebration Party (ticket holders only)**

WARNING: Some plays may contain subject matter or language which may offend some audiences.

**(Y) Youth Play                      (O) Original Script**

### **Repertory's Festival Organisers**

Veronica Dzelde	Convenor
Morgan Curtis	Stage Manager
Rachel Tyson	Front of House

The festival organisers would like to thank the following for their assistance:

Aujke Robertson  
Carl Law  
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