



PROMPTS

Heidelberg Theatre Company
Newsletter
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SURFACE
MAIL

POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTRALIA

2003



I'm not Rappaport

by Herb Gardner
directed by Wendy Drowley

April 30th – May 17th 2003

BOOKINGS

9457 4117

COMING EVENTS AT HTC

APRIL

Tuesday 15th 7.30pm Heidelberg Film Society – *Bicycle Thieves*.
Saturday 19th 10.30am Working Bee with Lunch
Saturday 26th 10.30am Working Bee with Lunch
Wednesday 30th 8.15pm First Night – **I'm Not Rappaport** by Herb Gardner

MAY

Sunday 4th 2.00pm AUDITION:
This Old Man Comes Rolling Home by Dorothy Hewett
Monday 5th 7.00pm AUDITION:
This Old Man Comes Rolling Home by Dorothy Hewett
Saturday 8th 8.15pm Final Night – **I'm Not Rappaport** by Herb Gardner
Tuesday 20th 7.30pm Heidelberg Film Society – *Flesh and the Devil* (USA)
Thursday 29th – Saturday 31st 8.15pm – **Not Forgotten & One on One**
directed by Wayne Pearn for Baggage Productions

JUNE

Tuesday 17th 7.30pm Heidelberg Film Society – *East of Eden* (USA).

YOUR 2003 COMMITTEE

Thought you would like to know who are working well 'behind the scenes' this year to make HTC happen:

President: John Gilbert

Members:

Alice Bugge, Anne Smith,
June Cherrey, Simon Dixon,
Wendy Drowley, Dennis Pain,
Amy Joseland, Lena Minto,
Ron Young, Joan Moriarty,
Maureen McInerney

Sub-Committees:

Laurie Jezzard, Marie Mackrell,
Toni Tyers, Rose Capuano,
Julie Hall, Rhonda Chung.

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Review

Bermuda Avenue Triangle

by Renee Taylor & Joseph Bologna

directed by Ron Conroy

Reviewed by John Gunn

20th February, 2003 for 3CR's

"Curtain Up" – Sundays at 1pm – on 855 AM.

Heidelberg Theatre Company have started their year with the long running off-Broadway comedy, "The Bermuda Avenue Triangle" which concerns two widows, one Jewish and one Irish, who move to a shared condominium in a retirement village in Las Vegas following pressure from their respective daughters. There they meet an Irish gambler who for want of another word, sweet talks his way into their home and changes their lives forever. It sounds like all those old jokes about the Irishman, the Jewish man and the Protestant.

Impossible in this day and age for two elderly women to be taken in by a roué? Maybe, but it sure makes for a very funny play that is full of some excellent one liners and a sense of the ridiculous, particularly if you have such an expert cast of actors giving it all their worth and entering into the spirit of the piece, as is the case in this production by Heidelberg.

Director Ron Conroy has a lot of fun with this play and moves it, rightly so, at a smart pace and the actors never become caricatures which is very important in a play such as this and in lesser hands it could happen; characterisation, timing and energy were excellent.

Now to the cast, Roberta Connelly as *Tessa* the Irish widow is wonderful and is equally matched by Diana Burleigh as *Fanny* the Jewish widow and both these actors sustained their characters and accents extremely well - these two women could easily have dropped onto the set of "Golden Girls" and taken up residence.

As the catalyst or as I said previously the roué role of *Johnny* fitted Paul O'Connor like a glove (this Irishman could sell ice to the Eskimos) and he managed a neat bit of footwork in the tango.

Completing this polished cast were Stephen Hutchison as the rather confused and slightly out of step *Rabbi*, Tamasin Tunny as *Angela*, Tessa's down-to-earth daughter and Catherine Christensen as Fanny's daughter *Rita* (a TV actress), boy does this lady ooze glamour.

George Tranter's set design was spacious and well built although I would have liked a little more dressing to the set, it looked a bit sparse; now to the costumes.. in the opening of the play the two widows (resigned to their retirement fate) are un-inspiring and slovenly in their dress sense, however as they meet *Johnny*, the Irish rogue, boy do they smarten up.. out

come the wigs, the colourfully outrageous costumes... they are closely followed in the glamour stakes by *Rita* in her TV type apparel...however this area of costuming is not about one-upmanship but appropriately reflects the characters of these women. Music was very pertinent and well chosen.

To sum up, a very funny play, that tickles the funny bone and allows us to see that old age does not mean that we should be put out to pasture, and to quote a song from the musical "The Boyfriend" 'A fiddle that's old is more in tune'! And there is a lot of fiddling in this play let me tell you. "The Bermuda Avenue Triangle" continues at Heidelberg Theatre Company until the 8/3 (Wed to Sat at 8.15pm with a matinee on Sun 2nd March at 3pm) and you can book on 9547 4117.

We are very fortunate to have our community theatres giving us the chance to see good commercial theatre and on the night viewed the older members of the audience had a great time as did the younger ones.

Warmly recommended, an absolute hoot and very well played.

HTC IS SEEKING A SECRETARY AND A TREASURER

At the AGM at the end of 2002, the positions of Secretary and Treasurer were not filled.

The Company would like to hear from any of its friends who are suitably qualified to act in these honorary Committee positions.

For further information please call Wendy Drowley at the Theatre on **9455 3039**.

HELP!!!

WORKING BEES

for

I'm Not Rappaport

Saturday

19th and 26th April

from 10.30am

Lunch is provided.

*A great chance to begin, resume or continue
YOUR involvement with HTC and have lots of
enjoyment into the bargain!*

or

Working Bees not your style?

How about Backstage on Rappaport ??

Like to know more – call Anne Smith at the

Theatre on **9455 3039**

a gentle reminder....

a **RED STICKER** on the front page of this issue of *PROMPTS* indicates your membership has

EXPIRED !!

For queries call: **9457 4117**



AUDITION NOTICE

Sunday 4th May at 2pm and
Monday 5th May at 7.00pm
at the Theatre

This Old Man Comes Rolling Home

by Dorothy Hewett
directed by Gayle Poor

CAST

Australian accents are required

TOM DOCKERTY	a Redfern boilermaker, 55 – 60, has a kind of wonderful Falstaffian optimism.
LAURIE DOCKERTY	his wife, the former ‘Belle of Bundaberg’, a cane farmer’s beautiful daughter; now lost, alcoholic and fiftyish.
JULIE DOCKERTY	the intelligent, forceful eldest daughter, about 25; shares her father’s strength and her mother’s sensitivity.
LAN DOCKERTY	the second son, about 21; gentle sensitive, naï ve.
EDDIE DOCKERTY	his wife, about 16; practical, strong, earthy.
GEORGE DOCKERTY	the eldest son, about 30; ‘a prize bastard’, car salesman, flashy and cunning.
DON DOCKERTY	the third son, about 18 or 19; a spiv.
FAY	English migrant, about 18 or 19, simple and innocent.
JOYCEE DOCKERTY	the youngest daughter, about 13 or 14; tough and comic – (actor approx. 18 – 20 with physical characteristics of a young adolescent to play the role.)
PET DOCKERTY	mental age about 10, chronological age about 20.
SNOWY BAKER	Julie’s boyfriend, about 28; a tough-gentle man, an ex-con who quotes poetry.
DAISY	
VOILET	3 old women, all sixtyish or more, the Greek chorus of Redfern.
PANSY	
MRS KEELER	Edie’s Ma, middle aged and clothed in a ‘nasty respectability’.
THE OLD MAN	70 to 80, a myth character – Old Father Time, perhaps.
FLOWERSELLER	
POLICEMAN	

For more information call
Gayle Poor – 9857 6818

WHAT'S THE GOSS?

It's a busy time for HTC members out there in Community theatre in Melbourne right now:-

Lena Minto, a new member of the HTC Committee and John Keogh, last seen at HTC in **Pygmalion**, were in Brighton's recent production of **The Cocktail Hour**.

Jim Thompson who last played at HTC in **Breaker**, is over at Essendon in a production of **Cosi**.

Paul King, well known director for HTC is doing it at Malvern for their production of **Arcadia**. In the cast is

another well known face at HTC, Anne Pagram, playing *Lady Croom*.

David Small, another member of the HTC cast of **Breaker**, is busy directing a production of the **Passion Play** for his Church.

Heidelberg Film Society has changed its screening times. Screenings begin at 7.30pm with drinks from 7.00pm. Refreshments will be available at the end of the film, to enjoy while discussing the show and catching up with friends.

Rose is ready to Housesit for you. Call her on **9670 1765** (bus.hrs).

HTC AT BALLANGEICH

Hope you are one of the lucky ones attending the opening of the Macgeorge House on the 6th April.

Banyule Council and Melbourne University organised the event and HTC is again providing and arranging the garments on display in the house. The garments and accessories were donated to the Company by Mrs Macgeorge.

As well this year, actors from HTC will be reading letters written by the Macgeorges' to each other.

2003



51st
SEASON

The Newsletter of
the
Heidelberg
Theatre
Company Inc.
Inc. No. A0008432X

PROMPTS

No. 2.
April, 2003

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Rosanna 3084

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Fax 9457 2078

Bookings and
Subscriptions
9457 4117

Online:
www.htc.org.au

I'm not Rappaport
by Herb Gardner



April 30-May 17
directed by Wendy Dowley

'This play revolves around the unlikely friendship of two elderly men, who despite infirm bodies and failing eyesight aren't ready to give up on life. Together they sit on a bench in New York's Central Park, argue, discuss life and philosophy and reminisce about better days.' – James Berarinella, 1996, critic USA.

And more quotes from the critics: 'A tried and tested mixture of worldly wise, wistful philosophy and wry one-liners.' 'Exhilaratingly funny, achingly sad'. '...a funny touching exploration of old age' – Jack Garner, critic New York.

During the London production in 1986 at the Apollo Theatre, London, Herb Gardner said this about his play: 'It is Life lived in the Third Act. People operating on a deadline - it's the high noon of the life span.' In the London production, Paul Schofield played *Nat* and Warren Mitchell played the part in the MTC production.

The Company is delighted to present this 1986 Tony Award winning play directed by our own Wendy Drowley whose long association with the Company in a variety of roles, both on and off the stage, is well know to our regular patrons.

Back on stage after a long absence is Ron Bingham as *Nat*, last seen at HTC in 1984 in *Jack the Ripper* as the *Sargeant*.

And from our 2002 Season, we welcome Anne Smith who played *Ruth* in *Grace*, David Macrea was *Jim* in *The Weir* and Jim Thomson whose last appearance was as *Corporal Sharp* and *1st Orderly* in *Breaker Morant*.

New faces in the production are Oleh Kowalyk who played in *Hate* at WLT last year and Sarah Oppenheim who has acted with the Melbourne University Ensemble.

Behind the scenes, Anne Smith is Production Co-ordinator, Set Design is by Wendy & Ted Drowley and Ted is leading the set building team, Lois Connor is creating the

I'm not Rappaport

by Herb Gardner

directed by Wendy Drowley

April 30th – 17th May, 2003

Wednesday to Saturday at 8.15pm

Matinee Sunday May 11th, at 3pm

BOOKINGS 9457 4117

Subscribers requiring to alter their chosen night or reserve their booking are asked to call BEFORE Monday, 21st April, 2003

(10 DAYS BEFORE THE START OF THE SEASON)

Costumes, Stelios Karagiannis is designing the Lighting while Sound Design is in the hands of Tim McLaughlan.

A production not to be missed!

**Heidelberg Theatre Company
& Baggage Productions**

present two one-act plays

Not Forgotten

by Bridgette Burton

explores why High School matters so much to Louise Dieve and so little to Rebecca Reed? Why does Louise remember Rebecca with clarity, why doesn't Rebecca remember Louise at all?

&

One on One

by Christina Costigan

the ephemeral nature of memory and identity is explored with crackling dialogue, mind-games and wordplay when two strangers strike up an increasingly bizarre conversation over two very large pieces of cake.

Starring

Bridgette Burton & Christina Costigan

directed by

Wayne Pearn

8.15pm

Thur-Sat 29th, 30th & 31st May

at the Theatre

Tickets: \$10

Bookings open 18th May

9457 4117

**Baggage last performed to great acclaim at HTC
during the 2002 Banyule Winter Festival
GREATLY ENTERTAINING
DON'T MISS IT!!**

Dear Subscribers, If you have chosen not to reserve your seats in advance, please call early to secure your preferred performance date. And if you can't use your tickets, why not pass them on to friends?

Regards June, Ticket Secretary, HTC.