

2003



51<sup>st</sup>  
SEASON

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

PROMPTS

No. 3.  
June, 2003

36 Turnham Ave  
Rosanna 3084

General Enquiries  
Phone 9455 3039  
Fax 9457 2078

Bookings and  
Subscriptions  
9457 4117

NEW ADDRESS:-  
Online: -  
<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~htc/>

## THIS OLD MAN COMES ROLLING HOME

by dorothy hewett  
directed by gayle poor

9<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> july 2003

Wednesday to Saturday at 8.15pm

Matinee Sunday July 20<sup>th</sup>, at 3pm

**BOOKINGS 9457 4117**

Subscribers requiring to alter their  
chosen night or reserve their booking are asked to call  
BEFORE Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2003  
(10 DAYS BEFORE THE START OF THE SEASON)

The Company is delighted to present this work by Australian playwright, Dorothy Hewett. This Old Man Comes Rolling Home is based on Hewett's experiences in the 1950's when she lived and worked in Redfern in Sydney. The values, languages, folklore and poetry of the people living in that time and place are reflected in the characters and dialogue of the play and celebrates the resilience of the human spirit in the face of adversity.

Heidelberg is delighted to welcome in her first directorial role with the Company, Gayle Poor. Gayle has had a long association with HTC, working on many productions over the years and more recently was an adjudicator for our In House Awards.

Gayle has directed a number of shows around Melbourne, particularly with the Eltham Little Theatre.

**This Old Man** has a large cast and HTC is pleased to welcome back to its stage, Cheryl Ballantine, Venetia Macken, Judi Appleby and Andrea Bernard. Welcome too to newcomers to HTC; Carmel Behan, Wilma Pontefract, Diane Deeming, Rhiannon Leach, Alexandra Griffin, Douglas McManus, Simon Fenn and Anthony Clendinen. And a number of HTC members who are on stage for the first time, but have previously worked behind the scenes for the Company; Simon Dixon, Luke Dixon and David Hunt.

Behind the scenes, Maureen McInerney is Production Co-ordinator as well as arranging Costumes, Karlene Walsh is Assistant Director, Set Design is by Dennis Payne and Dennis is also leading the set building team.

A year before her death Hewett expressed regret that none of her earlier works had been revived. HTC has granted her wish. Don't miss it!

*every*

**OPENING  
NIGHT**

at HTC is a

***great night!***

(just ask anyone who's been.)

**Stay on after the show and  
mingle in the foyer,  
meet the actors and crew,  
enjoy a light supper,**

**all with the compliments of the  
Company.**

**A great night to choose for your  
social club or charity group  
fundraiser.**

**Group bookings for 10 or more is \$12  
per ticket on ANY Wednesday night in  
the Season  
(that's \$5 off the normal single price).**

For more details – contact June on 9457 4117

Heidelberg Theatre Company  
proudly announces auditions for

## The Rise and Fall of Little Voice

by Jim Cartwright  
Directed by Chris Baldock

for the role of

*Little Voice* - ONLY

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> July at 2pm & Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm**  
at the Theatre

Looking for a versatile actress in her 20s who can mimic both the singing style and voices of the likes of Shirley Bassey, Judy Garland, Marilyn Munroe and Marlene Deitrich. A tour de force for the right actress.

Please prepare two contrasting songs showing these voices. Please make sure sheet music is in the right key as transposing will not happen on the day.

Please note that the other roles will be auditioned in September.

To book an audition time and for all enquiries please call the Director on 9898 9353.

## WHAT'S THE GOSS?

### HTC YOUTH

The name Simon Dixon has been associated with technical support on HTC productions for the past few years. As well in 2003 he joined the Committee and has also this year launched HTC Youth, with the goal of providing a venue for youth in the area to continue their interest and involvement with Theatre once they leave school.

The Group is targeting youth in the 18 – 22 range and are set to present their first production at the Theatre on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June.

So come along and support this enthusiastic and talented group and if you want to know more about HTC Youth, give Simon a call at the Theatre on **9455 3039**.

### Vale

It is with sadness that we report that Mrs Estelle Crooks, Life Member of the Company, passed away recently.

Mrs Crooks was a great supporter of HTC and her Group Bookings for our opening nights that benefited her 'Blind Babies' are legendary, beginning as they did in the Company's earliest years and continuing until just a few years ago.

This wonderful lady is remembered with great affection by the Company.

### WHO, WHAT, WHERE...

A speedy recovery and a 'come back quickly we miss you', to Pat Keegan, Lois Connor, Alice Bugge and Dennis Pain.

Chris and Margreta Boek recently sang in 1975 by Irine Vela, a popularist opera, as members of Canto Coro, an amateur 50-people choir.

Both Ron and Oleh (*Nat and Midge*) travelled long distances each night to be in **Rappaport**, Oleh from Altona and Ron coming up from Geelong, now that is commitment!

And during the show, Rhonda, our FOH Co-ordinator, was taken for a tree, by a possum, who had lost its way, came racing into the foyer and ran up under her skirts! If you were in the audience that night the mystery of the muffled scream from out front is now solved!

During the Banyule Winter Festival, the Theatre is being 'taken over' by the **Rememba This Theatre Company**. Season 30-31 July & 1-2 Aug. For more details check out the Banyule Winter Festival Program.

### ATTENTION SUBSCRIBERS

Can't use your tickets for the next show?

Pass them on to friends and give them an enjoyable night out and help spread the word about HTC.

### HTC's NEW WEBSITE

We now have a new website. <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~htc/>. Catchy isn't it? Remember to replace HTC's old site in your Favourites.

And one of the first 'hits' on the site was from Louise Luccarini - "Blast from the past, 6 May 2003.

Hello out there, I'm sitting at my Paris office desk having a nostalgic wander on the Internet. Delighted to find the website. I'll turn up to see something one of these days if decrepit old age doesn't set in, as opposed to old age, that is. Love to Wendy, and Wayne and anybody else who was there. I'm seeing some amazing stuff in Paris, learning a lot, been here over two years. Louise."

a gentle reminder....

Has YOUR membership

**EXPIRED !!**



To rejoin HTC call: **9457 4117**

# AUDITION NOTICE

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June at 5pm and  
Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> July at 7.30pm  
at the Theatre**

**The Imaginary Invalid**  
by Moliere  
directed by Joan Moriarty

**Season: 10<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> September, Matinee 21<sup>st</sup> September**

## CAST

<b>Monsieur Argan</b>	45 – 60 years. Leading role. Believes himself to be an invalid and in need of constant medical assistance.
<b>Toinette</b>	25 – 40 years. The maid – clever, cheeky and devious. A large and difficult role.
<b>Angelica</b>	18 – 25 years. Argan’s elder daughter. Sweet, charming and determined.
<b>Béline</b>	35 – 50 years. Argan’s new wife. Hypocritical – exaggerated – emotional.
<b>Monsieur Bonnefoy</b>	35 – 60 years. Smaller role but pivotal – serious - a man of his time.
<b>Cleanté</b>	20 – 30 years. In love with Angelica. Young, handsome – earnest.
<b>Dr Diaforus</b>	40 – 65 years. Argon’s surgeon – self important, grand and a know all.
<b>Dr Thomas Diaforus</b>	24 – 35 years. His son. A really awkward suitor to Angelica. Almost endearing as he is so pathetic.
<b>Louise</b> ability	12 – 18 years. Argan’s younger daughter. Sweet, clever, with the ability to overact.
<b>Monsieur Béralde</b>	40 – 60 years. Argan’s brother. The sweet voice of reason – pleasant and charming.
<b>The Apothecary</b>	35 – 60 years. A small role.
<b>Dr Purgon</b>	30 – 60 years. Behaves like an angry wasp. Another doctor attendant on Monsieur Argan.

(If necessary, it is possible that the roles of *Bonnefoy*, *Diaforus* and *Thomas Diaforus* can double up with *Béralde*, *The Apothecary* and *Dr Purgon*.)

**Familiarity with the late 17<sup>th</sup> Century performance style is necessary.**

For more information call  
**Joan Moriarty – 9459 3495**

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## WANTED

**PROPS AND STAGE FURNITURE** for

**this old man comes rolling home** - An old large sofa, Genoa style or similar, in bad repair. A pram from the 1950's.  
**The Imaginary Invalid** – Interesting medicine bottles that look as if they may be antique.

If you can help with either, or both items, please call Joan at the Theatre on **9455 3039**

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# REVIEW

## ***I'M Not Rappaport***

by by Herb Gardner

directed by Wendy Drowley

Reviewed by Nicky McFarlane

1<sup>st</sup> May, 2003 for 3CR's

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

**The audience gets a good look at the set, designed by the Director and Ted Drowley, before the show starts: a corner of Central Park, New York, two park benches, one with a broken slat, autumn leaves scattered on the ground, concrete steps with an iron railing leading up to a road running across backstage, under the road a gloomy, dank tunnel, bedraggled ferns and palms in the corners. My companion said it is exactly how she remembers it twenty years ago.**

*I'm Not Rappaport* is part of a running gag, the fall guy's response to every question from the comic. There was a film in 1996, and presumably a play before that which featured Central Park in its "desolate and unwelcoming" time before it was spruced up.

On the benches sit *Nat* and *Midge*, elderly citizens rugged up against the cold. The play is about identity, the sense of self, but also about the dynamics of family love, of growing old, of survival, of friendship.

*Nat* is a compulsive story teller, an inventor of multiple personae, a meddler, a do-gooder whose plans always go awry, a Communist and Union man, a big bear of a man as played by Ron Bingham, who lives this part with huge enthusiasm and energy, relishing each twist and turn as he tries to solve *Midge's* problems and those of *Laurie*, a young artist who says little but is seen throughout the first act drawing on the road above the park. *Midge*, a coloured man, spends most of the time fending off *Nat's* flights of fancy and trying not to get involved. *Midge's* job as janitor and his residence is under threat, and *Danforth*, the apartment's manager, is bailed up by *Nat* pretending to be a member of the Board and threatening him with dire consequences if *Midge's* tenure is not secured. *Midge's* way of coping is to rouse at him and finally to cut himself off completely by going to sleep. Oleh Kowalyk is a joy in this part, with his dry humour and his frustration with the unwinnable arguments. The work between the two men and the obvious warmth under the arguing and the contrariness is just delightful.

My only problem was that *Midge's* back street talk was not always clear, but the meaning generally came through as his body language is so good.

Along the way *Nat* gets done over by a young mugger, *Gilley*, played by Chris Girdler. *Gilley* asks for \$5 to escort *Nat* home, and gets nasty when his offer is refused. *Nat* is attacked and *Midge* is knocked down when he tries to help.

In the second act *Nat's* daughter, *Clara*, tracks him down, furious with him for getting hurt, angry that he is avoiding her, hiding from her and constantly getting into trouble. She resents the fact that she was named after a hero of the revolution, a young seamstress who rallied the workers into effective trade unions, and that the stories of those times and her Dad's involvement have been pushed at her all her life. *Nat* points out that she did her share of protesting in her student days, which enrages her even more. Finally she presents him with an ultimatum; either he comes to live with her, goes into Senior Citizens daycare or enters sheltered accommodation. Naturally he turns down every suggestion and makes up an involved and totally fictitious story of going to live with his bastard daughter in Israel. This of course, sends her off in a fine fit. The scene between *Nat* and *Clara*, played by Anne B. Smith is beautiful. So much love shows through the whole time as these two spar and growl and scream at each other. It is most impressive, almost magical, the way this scene is played: lovely performances.

*Laurie*, the artist on the road, turns out to be a druggie and is attacked by her supplier, played by Jim Thomson in a huge hat and high-heeled boots. One of *Nat's* more successful personae see him off in some confusion and *Nat* invites *Laurie* to be his pretend daughter. Needless to say she does not turn up, and in the final scene we learn that *Nat* is now enrolled in the Daycare program, and *Midge's* tenure is safe for a limited time. It is a warm fuzzy story beautifully played by the principals. Lighting, costumes, setting, music and sound are all appropriate and unobtrusive. A most enjoyable production. Thanks to Heidelberg

**HELP!!!**

**WORKING BEES**

for

**THIS OLD MAN COMES**

**ROLLING HOME**

**Saturday**

**28<sup>th</sup> June & 5<sup>th</sup> July**

**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**



## PROMPTS

Heidelberg Theatre Company  
Newsletter  
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*If undelivered return to:*  
P.O. Box 141 ROSANNA 3084

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2003



## THIS OLD MAN COMES ROLLING HOME

by dorothy hewett  
directed by gayle poor

9<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> july 2003

**BOOKINGS**

**9457 4117**

*presents...*

## COMING EVENTS AT HTC

### JUNE

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm  
Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> 10.30am  
Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> 8.00pm

Heidelberg Film Society – East of Eden (1955 U.S.)  
**Working Bee** with Lunch  
*HTC Youth* presents **The Uninvited Guest** by Luke Dixon &  
**Actors Nightmare** by Christopher Durang  
**AUDITION: The Imaginary Invalid** by Moliere

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> 5.00pm

### JULY

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> 7.30pm  
Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> 10.30am  
Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> 8.15pm  
Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> 2.00pm  
Monday 14<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm  
Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm  
Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> 8.15pm

**AUDITION: The Imaginary Invalid** by Moliere  
**Working Bee** with Lunch  
First Night – **This Old Man Comes Rolling Home** by dorothy hewett  
**AUDITION: The Rise and Fall of Little Voice** – (*Little Voice* role only)  
**AUDITION: The Rise and Fall of Little Voice** – (*Little Voice* role only)  
Heidelberg Film Society – Stagecoach (1939 U.S.)  
Final Night – **This Old Man Comes Rolling Home** by dorothy hewett

### AUGUST

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm

Heidelberg Film Society – Innocence (2000 Aust.)