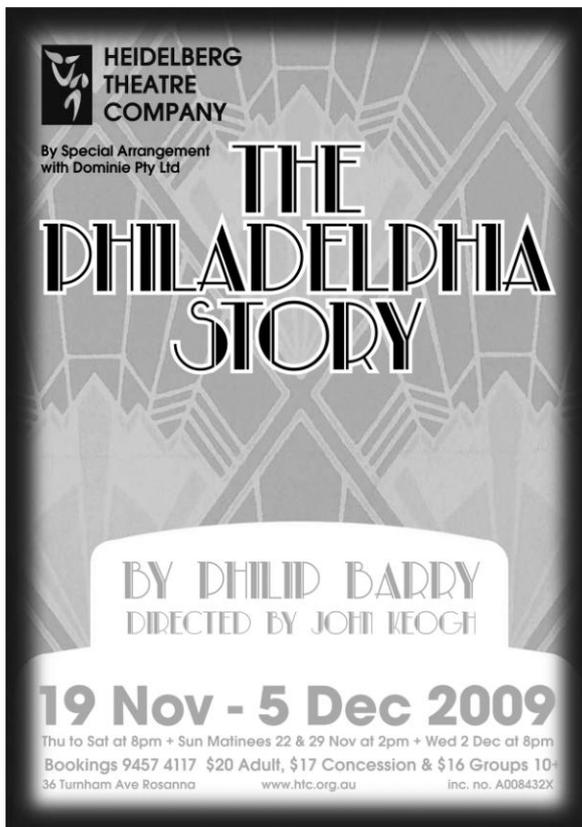




PROMPTS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE HEIDELBERG THEATRE COMPANY



The Philadelphia Story

by **Philip King**
directed by John Keogh

19th Nov – 5th Dec 2009

Evenings at 8.00pm

Matinees at 2pm

- Sundays 22nd & 29th Nov

Subscribers requiring to alter their chosen night or reserve their booking are asked to call BEFORE Wednesday, **4th November**, 2009.

Production Team:

Director
Assistant to the Director
Production Coordinator
Stage Manager
Assistant Stage Manager
Set Design
Décor and Props
Set Construction Coordinator
Set Construction

John Keogh
David Hunt
Joan Moriarty
Lena Minto
Terri Scott
John Shelbourne
Bronwyn Parker
Owen Evans
Paddy Moriarty, Dennis Pain,
Doug McNaughton, Des Harris,
Neville Wilkie and HTC members.
Wendy Drowley and Lois Connor
Noctaria Kalogerakis
Campbell Black, Callum Robinson
Sam Booth
Steve Hillman
Patricia Tyler
Lena Minto
James Hutson
Chris McLean
June Cherrey, Leanne Cole
Patricia Tyler, Debra Shaw
and HTC members.

Costumes
Rehearsal Prompt
Lighting Design
Lighting Operator
Sound Operator
Photography
Publicity
Poster Design
Programme
Ticket Secretary
Front of House

The Philadelphia Story began life as a play by Philip King in 1939. A year later Katharine Hepburn, Cary Grant and James Stewart starred in the film version, and in 1956, the musical, *High Society*, starring Grace Kelly, Bing Crosby and Frank Sinatra was a huge hit.

Set in the luxurious house of the Lords', the plot surrounds the soon to be re-married Tracy Lord, her ex-husband Dexter, would be husband George and a journalist Mike.

John Keogh is directing – his last effort at HTC was the charming *Born Yesterday*. He has engaged a talented team and cast – some newcomers and some old timers from HTC. John Shelbourne has designed the handsome set and Bronwyn Parker is undertaking décor and props. Owen Evans heads the set building team, Lena Minto is Stage Manager and Terri Scott is the assistant stage manager. Campbell Black and Callum Robinson are designing Lighting.

The cast is huge – Aimee Sanderson plays Tracy Lord, Bruce Carboon, Dexter, and Xavier Ryan is Mike, and, with the remaining ten characters, all are working hard to produce a delightful evening of theatre.

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BOOKINGS & SUBSCRIPTIONS 9457 4117



Review

Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead,
by Tom Stoppard, Directed by Chris McLean
Reviewed by Diana Burleigh, 27 Sept, 2009
for 3CR's **CURTAIN UP** Sundays at One (855 AM)

Tom Stoppard's *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead* is the play that brought him international acclaim while still in his twenties.

He has of course gone on to become one of the most important playwrights using the English language and certainly one of the greatest living dramatists.

My favourites of his are more recent, *Night and Day*, *The Real Thing* and his very best, *Arcadia*. I have seen *R & G* before but a long time ago and I must confess that I had thought of it as an apprentice play which was a bit too long.

Well, I was wrong. It is witty, bizarre and thought provoking. *R & G* obviously has a relationship with *Hamlet*, Shakespeare's longest masterpiece. Hamlet's play revolves around himself and all others were there to facilitate his journey.

Ros & Guil are summoned to befriend and spy on Hamlet and ultimately are sent with him to England with letters ordering his execution. Hamlet however escapes after having changed the letter to make his hapless colleagues the ones to be killed.

The expendability of the title characters is demonstrated by the fact that Olivier cut them completely from his film.

As Stoppard says every exit is an entry somewhere else. So where do they go, do they have an independent life? Well of course as fictional characters they don't.

But Stoppard puts them on the stage and let's them try to find out on their own. An absurd notion? Yes of course, the dramatist was schooled in the Absurdist tradition.

In this play the two protagonists are caught up in events over which they have no understanding or control. Most of the time they are just waiting for something to happen, like the two tramps in the Godot play and with just as much futility.

The play is a very funny one. I was with a friend who had never been exposed to Hamlet and who enjoyed herself even though she was aware there was much she was missing. If you are able to reference Shakespeare's play it will be much more satisfying and amusing.

There are three stand out performances in Heidelberg's production. The eponymous Rosencrantz and Guildenstern, played by Tim Constantine and John Jenkins, and Barry Lockett as the Player.

The performers of the title roles are not distinguished from each other in the play, so it is as well that the two performers were so equally excellent as I don't know which was which even though I did try to find out.

Barry Lockett gives a magnificent performance as an archetypal old style actor. He could be channelling Henry Irving. Bruce Akers provided a lovely cameo as Polonius and there were two young impressive actors, one is David Paul and the other will have to be identified by members of the company, I can't work it out from the cast list. It is good to see such striking new talent.

I also enjoyed James Antonas as Hamlet. He could easily convince in the original play. The rest of the cast gave good support.



The Players – Ros and Guil

The play is deliberately theatrical, it even acknowledges the presence of the audience and it is important for this to be confirmed in the style of production.

In this production it is, as exemplified by the manner of playing and such things as the set, designed by Leanne Cole, which looked like a collection of children's play blocks.

The on-stage musician, Paul Karafillis, also composed the background music which adds much to the ambiance of the production. I was also most impressed with George Bissett's sound effects. The off-stage fight with the pirate ship is a great moment.

Chris McLean's direction amplifies the text, adds a number of very clever bits of business and moves the play along with aplomb.

In conclusion, this is a first class production of a great play, wonderfully presented and a very worthwhile evening in the theatre. If only we could see more of this quality.

HTC has two types of Assistive Listening Devices

1. Induction Loop System.

Permanently installed for Rows A - F Seats 1-10.
This can be accessed by switching on the T switch on your hearing aid.

2. F.M. System Phonic Ear (no hearing aid needed)

Patrons will need to wear a headphone to access the sound. A limited number of headphones will be available at the Theatre for

Matinee performances only.

Please reserve them when booking tickets.

The FM System is being trialed with assistance from the Banyule City Council.
Further information is available at the Ticket Box.

**HELP NEEDED WITH TICKETS
BE PART OF THE TEAM
Contact June - 9457 4117**

AUDITION NOTICE

Heidelberg Theatre Company's
production of

**Disclosure
by Helen Collins**

**Audition times: 7.00pm Sunday 22 November &
7.00pm Monday 23 November, 2009**

(Please let the director know which night you prefer.)

**at Heidelberg Theatre Company
36 Turnham Ave, Rosanna. Vic 3084.
Melways Ref. 32 A1
Company web site: www.htc.org.au**

SEASON: 16 Feb – 6 March 2010

Director: Maureen McInerney

Enquiries: 0409 655 603

Characters:

Anne Carson The wealthy wife of a surgeon - mid 40s.
Gina Sturrock A detective inspector with the homicide squad - late 30s to 40s.
Glenda Harley A therapist - late 30s to 40s. Overweight.
Susan Riley Glenda's friend - late 30s to 40s.
Holly Briscoe An undercover Police Officer.
Toni Richards A detective constable with the homicide squad (small role).

These roles require mature, very experienced actresses – they are large and emotionally demanding.

Synopsis:

Written by a local Australian playwright and set in inner suburban Melbourne, this is an intriguing drama involving five seemingly unrelated women from different walks of life. As their personal histories unfold, we discover they connect in a fascinating underbelly of lies, deceit and murder. The question is not "who did it?" but how and why it happened?

This play was premiered at "La Mama" Theatre in 2006 and subsequently made into a film.

Other Information: Rehearsal times will be confirmed once casting is complete – there will be 3 rehearsals per week.

Copies of the script will not be available until a week before auditions – please contact the director to arrange access to a copy.

HTC Youth

Alice in Wonderland

To close out the 2009 season, HTC Youth are proud to present *Alice in Wonderland*, as adapted by Charlotte Chorpenning. Michelle Wittrup, a longtime stage presence with the Youth, is taking on the role of director for the first time.

The show promises to be fun and exciting for all ages, with a great blend of familiar faces such as Jessica Cole as the White Rabbit and Tim Camilleri as Tweedledee, as well as a showcase of wonderful new talent, with Olivia Sharpe taking on the role of Alice herself.

Young children are especially encouraged to come along and enjoy this lively production, full of wonders and surprises!

DATES:

The production will be showing on December 11th and 12th, and then from December 16th through to December 19th, with extra matinee performances on the 12th and 19th.

Evenings: 8pm. Matinees: 2pm.

All tickets are \$10.

A great way to settle into the holiday spirit!



JOB VACANT

Want a sea-change? Wrong ad!

We need someone to manage our member data-base; to enter data, to convey cash to the Company's coffers, and to send out membership cards. Limited space requires a summary of this wonderful position:

Salary - nil. Perks - nil.

Pretty girls, hunky guys
(or vice-versa) - nil.

Computer skills - must be able to turn it on.

Travel - unlimited between home and the theatre at your expense.

Dental plan - teeth not required.

If you really think you can cope, send your CV, two referees and a box top from one of our products. Bribes welcome!

November

Saturday 7 th	10.30am	Working Bee with Lunch
Saturday 14 th	10.30am	Working Bee with Lunch
Thursday 19 th	8.00pm	OPENING NIGHT – <i>The Philadelphia Story</i>
Sunday 22 nd	7.00pm	AUDITION: <i>Disclosure</i> , by Helen Collins
Monday 23 rd	7.00pm	AUDITION: <i>Disclosure</i> , by Helen Collins
Tues 10 th Nov	7.30pm	Heidelberg Film Society – <i>Annie Get Your Gun</i>

December

Saturday 5 th	8.00pm	FINAL NIGHT – <i>The Philadelphia Story</i>
Sunday 13 th	3.00pm	AGM and AWARDS – at the theatre
11 th – 19 th Dec		HTC Youth – <i>Alice In Wonderland</i>

HELP!!!

needed at the

WORKING BEES

for

The Philadelphia Story

Saturdays

7th & 14th November

from 10.30am

lunch is provided

So do come along, it's a great experience and a fun time too!

Working Bees not your style?

How about assisting
backstage or FOH

Like to know more? – call the Theatre
on 9455 3039