



Seaborn Broughton & Walford Foundation Newsletter

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For bookings please call Carol Martin -on 9697 7654 Monday to Friday - 10am - 4pm

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21st May 2009

Nan's Letter Space

Dear Friend

A new home has been found for the storing of the archives collected for conservation by the SBW Foundation. The whole archive project was particularly dear to the heart of Rodney Seaborn, and because of his welcoming enthusiasm for collecting the history of Australian theatre, archives have come to the care of the SBW Foundation from many sources, making the whole a very important resource for Australians, and as is intended of particular use over time to the students and teachers of NIDA as well as the wide public.

Over recent years the archives have grown larger requiring ever more attention, and gathering interest too by many researchers. The storage of all the material has been in the large industrial storage unit acquired by NIDA at Alexandria, which is also used for storage of collections of costumes built up by NIDA.

Gradually there was some concern over the amount of space available and more needed as the time passed.

Out of the blue, one day earlier this year a building was seen in Botany Road, with a large "auction" notice on it. Judy White our Board Member and Archivist, with Peter Orlovich our Senior Archivist, Carol Martin and Leslie Walford examined the building and became very enthusiastic about it becoming a new more spacious home for our archives, of two stories well built, with hardly any need for changes, excellent spaces and good services, it also has room for the parking of about 8 cars.

Enthusiasm was fired, all Board Members were contacted, and discussions were held with NIDA's chairman Malcolm Long and CEO Lynne Williams.

Quickly we determined a policy believing this building at 925 Botany Rd Rosebery, constructed about thirty years ago, was ideal.

We attended the auction in the city with a firm policy in mind and accompanied by our helpful solicitor Paul Duffy.

The outcome was fortunate for the SBW Foundation, and we won the bidding for slightly below our expected figure.

There was then a welling up of general enthusiasm for the development of this project. Since that time we have been planning the move into Botany Road which will be achieved in the next few months.

The SBW Foundation office will be relocated comfortably in the centre.

The Directors of both the SBW Foundation and NIDA can see the positive sides of this new acquisition, which now belongs to the SBW Foundation portfolio.

NIDA will have more space to use now in their Alexandria storage unit. We will all continue to work together on our goals, and we will encourage continuous NIDA interest in our collections.

When the dust has settled we will make it possible for the SBW 'Friends' to visit what will probably be called the -

Seaborn, Broughton and Walford Foundation Centre and Archives for the Performing Arts.

Sincerely

Leslie Walford
President

SUMMER OF THE SEVENTEENTH DOLL

by Ray Lawler

New Theatre 542 King St Newtown

Summer of the Seventeenth Doll was the first Australian play to be acclaimed overseas, specifically in London's West End in 1957, where it received the Evening Standard's Play of the Year award. *Summer of the Seventeenth Doll* is recognised as both a masterpiece of Australian theatre and as a turning point in our country's cultural history. It was stylistically new and different, with working-class characters, colloquial language and controversial subject matter, which resulted in mixed reactions from audiences. Today, 'The Doll's' is universally beloved and admired. Its iconic place in the Australian theatre canon is unassailable, the themes the issues still relevant 50 years' on.

Thursday-June 4th to Saturday 4th July 2009
Thursday Friday Saturday- 8pm Sunday- 5pm

Tickets - \$25.00

Bookings - Carol Martin - 9697 7654



Blackbird Productions presents STEEL MAGNOLIAS

by Robert Harding

York Theatre Seymour Centre Cnr City Rd &
Cleveland St Chippendale

Cast includes- Ana Maria Belo, Marian Frizelle,
Jennifer Hagan, Debra Lawrance, Geraldine Turner
and Jacki Weaver

The quintessential story of friendship, *Steel Magnolias* serves up a slice of life in Louisiana that's as warm and comforting as a sweet potato pie. In the haven of Truvy's beauty salon, six very different women come together to share their secrets and bare their souls, facing their lives with grace, determination, and perfectly coifed hair. When tragedy strikes, it is in the familiar comfort of Truvy's salon where they seek solace and support that carries them through.

Sunday - 14th June 2009 - 3pm

Tickets - \$65.50

Bookings- Carol Martin - 9697 7654



LET THE SUNSHINE

by David Williamson

Ensemble Theatre 78 McDougall St Kirribilli

This brand new David Williamson, with a trade-mark comedy bite, asks what happens when people of widely different political views are forced to co-exist.

Toby (*William Zappa*), a maker of hard hitting documentaries, flees Sydney in shame when the press finds out he inadvertently used a bogus witness in his latest film. He convinces his reluctant wife Ros (*Georgie Parker*) to travel north with him to Noosa, a haven in Queensland fondly remembered from visits in his youth. Problem is, it has now moved from a simple fishing village to a chic, upmarket, manicured playground of the wealthy and privileged.

Ros meets an old school friend, Natasha (*Kate Raison*), who is married to Ron (*Andrew McFarlane*), a hugely wealthy property developer. The connection between the two couples seems destined to be brief and acrimonious save for one thing. Power lawyer Emma (*Emma Jackson*) the daughter of Natasha, and drop-out musician Rick (*Justin Stewart Cotta*) son of Ros, happen to meet. And then, in typical Williamson fashion, it's on for young and old.

Thursday - 25th June 2009 - 8.15pm

Tickets - \$52.00

Bookings - Carol Martin - 9697 7654



Discounts are available to SBW Friends
for Costume Hire at

THE COSTUME SHOP

19/198-222 Young Street
Waterloo NSW

Phone - 9318 2511

www.thecostumeshop.com.au



SAVAGE RIVER

by Steve Rodgers

SBW Stables Theatre 10 Nimrod St Kings Cross

From a ramshackle hut by the water, Kingsley forages a living with his son, Tiger. Times are tough and money is in short supply, but with good-humour, invention and resilience they make the best of it, bundled together as family.

One night Kingsley brings home a stranger, the beguiling Jude. Seemingly in trouble, disorientated and with moral compass way out of whack, she unwittingly changes three lives overnight.

Jude soon settles into a routine that is far from her own. She seems happy enough to enjoy Tiger and Kingsley's attention, and let history slip by.

A warm, affectionate and moving story of the glimpsing of freedom and the weight of the things that shackle us.

Wednesday - 17th June to Saturday 18th July 2009
Mon to Sat - 7pm Sat/Matinee 2pm

Tickets - \$36.00

Bookings- 9697 7654

Opera & Arts Support Group

invites you to a

GALA RECITAL

Verbrughen Hall, Sydney Conservatorium of Music

Acclaimed Mexican tenor **Jorge Lopez-Yanez** and the incomparable **Teddy Tahu Rhodes**, returning to Sydney to perform the roles of Des Grieux and Lescaut for Opera Australia's production of *Manon Lescaut*, together with **David Corcoran** (Edmondo, *Manon Lescaut*), **Jonathan Alley**, **Rachel Cunningham**, **Regina Daniel**, **Eva Jinhee Kong**, **Penelope Mills**, **Andrew Moran**, **Sian Pendry** and **Adam Player** starring in an opera gala under the musical direction of and accompanied by **Sharolyn Kimmorley**

Enjoy drinks on arrival and supper with the artists after the recital.

Friday 26th June 2009
7pm for 7.30pm

Tickets \$75.00

Bookings - Carol Martin - 9697 7654

(The Opera and Arts Support Group kindly donate 10% of all monies to the SBW Foundation for bookings made by SBW Friends through our Foundation office.)

HAYFEVER

by Noel Coward

Genesian Theatre 420 Kent St Sydney

Hay Fever is a comic play written by Noel Coward in 1924. Best described as a cross between high farce and a comedy of manners, the play is set in an English country house in the 1920's, and deals with the four eccentric members of the Bliss family and their outlandish behaviour when they each invite a guest to spend the weekend. The self-centred behaviour of the hosts finally drives their guests to flee while the Blisses are so engaged in a family row that they do not notice their guests' furtive departure.

With Coward's ever-witty dialogue, *Hay Fever* is sure to please.

Sunday - 5th July 2009 - 4.30pm

Tickets - \$23.50

Bookings - Carol Martin - 9697 7654

Actors' Forum play reading

ARMS AND THE MAN

by George Bernard Shaw

Independent Theatre 269 Miller St North Sydney

In July, the Actors' Forum bids welcome to one of the great constant successes of the English Stage. In this hugely 'pleasant' Shaw play, the author satirises our romantic ideas about war and marriage. Stiff and noble in their frightfully upper-class Balkan home, the Petkoffs await the return of their noble warrior men to plan the marriage of lovelorn Raina to heroic Sergius; but then Bluntschli, a Swiss mercenary who carries chocolates rather than bullets and won't put up with nonsense, takes refuge in Raina's bedroom. A compromising note is left in the pocket of an old housecoat.

The romp proceeds.....

This play replaces the Neil Simon play, *I Ought to be in Pictures*, which was originally scheduled for July.

Sunday - 12 July 2009 - 2pm

Tickets - \$20.00 - Concessions \$15.00

Tickets on sale at door at 1pm

DO CHECK OUR WEBSITE AT

www.sbwfoundation.com

for updates on functions and theatre bookings
between our regular Newsletters

Griffin Independent Australian Premiere

DEALING WITH CLAIR

by Martin Crimp

SBW Stables Theatre 10 Nimrod St Kings Cross

Young real estate agent Clair is selling a property in a booming market.

The owners tell her they'd "Like to behave honourably" but all bets are off when an enigmatic buyer offers cash for the house - and something else altogether for Clair.

This production brings an early gem of the acclaimed Martin Crimp to the Australian stage for the first time. Crimp's merciless satire peels back the layers of moral obfuscation in a fascinating and chilling expose of greed and desire.

Friday 24th July to Saturday 15th August 2009
Monday to Saturday 7pm- Saturday 15th August 2pm

Tickets - \$26.00

Bookings - Carol Martin 99697 7654



STOP PRESS

The Independent Theatre's 70th Birthday

2nd September 2009 marks the 70th anniversary of Doris Fitton opening her Independent Theatre in North Sydney.

To mark this occasion a special afternoon tea is being planned at which stars who illuminated the Independent's past will read extracts from scripts important to them and associated with the Theatre's rich history.

We are expecting an enthusiastic response to this afternoon of nostalgia and celebration of the spoken word.

Places are limited so book early to avoid disappointment.

Tickets \$25.00 - SBW Friends \$20.00
Time - 2pm

Proposed venue The Independent Theatre
269 Miller St North Sydney

Bookings - Carol Martin - 9697 7654



Opera Australia

THE MIKADO

by Gilbert and Sullivan

Opera Theatre Sydney Opera House

The Mikado (1885), which made fun of English bureaucracy, thinly disguised by a Japanese setting. The story focuses on a "cheap tailor," Ko-Ko, who is promoted to the position of Lord High Executioner of the town of Titipu. Koko loves his ward, Yum-Yum, but she loves a musician, who is really the son of the emperor of Japan (the Mikado), and who is in disguise to escape the attentions of the elderly and amorous Katisha. The Mikado has decreed that executions must resume without delay in Titipu.

Join us for this wonderful production that was one of Gilbert and Sullivan's most successful operas.

Wednesday - 28th October - 2009 - 7.30pm

Tickets - Stalls - \$ 94.00

Bookings - Carol Martin - 9697 7654



Some 'Friends' in the past have questioned the discrepancy of the price shown on the tickets for some functions to the price we actually charge. The reason for this is that our Foundation must make a profit on functions to build up our assets to continue benefiting the Performing Arts, but the price we charge 'Friends' is always cheaper than the normal price to the General Public. As well as paying for tickets months ahead the Foundation has to pay handling fees and in many cases 4% credit card fees.

We aim to make 10% for the Foundation on each function but we seldom do, and at the same time SBW 'Friends' get the best tickets at a reduced price.



