



# Seaborn Broughton & Walford Foundation Newsletter

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For bookings please call Carol Martin -on 9955 5444 Monday to Thursday - 10am - 4pm

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## Chairman's Letter (incorporating Nan's Letter Space)

Dear Friends

Welcome to the Spring edition of our Seaborn, Broughton & Walford Newsletter.

The English poet Christina Rossetti described spring as the season 'when life alive in everything'. Certainly, in Sydney, the weather is warmer, the gardens are blossoming and our performing arts companies are unveiling exciting plans for their 2016 seasons.

Among the frontrunners have been the Ensemble Theatre, Kirribilli, Australia's longest, continuously-running professional theatre company. The Ensemble's 2016 season will comprise plays chosen solely by the Ensemble Theatre's Artistic Director, Mark Kilmurry as Sandra Bates prepares for her retirement after 30 years of dedicated and outstanding work at the helm.

David Williamson has described Sandra as a 'remarkable woman' whose 'philosophy of theatre is disarmingly simple. Program contemporary plays from Australia, America and elsewhere that have something to say to contemporary society. program plays that tell a strong story'.

We heartily concur with David's accolade to Sandra and her amazing, long-standing contribution to Sydney theatre. At the Ensemble Launch, Mark announced an exciting new co-production with the Australian Theatre for Young People'. Mark also praised Sandra's incredible job of building the Ensemble Theatre' over 30 years and thanked her for 'her trust, mentoring.....knowledge.....and for her blessing' as she handed over the reins. While stressing how much Sandra would be missed, Mark revealed the good news that she will still play an important part in the new season, directing the return of one of the Ensemble's favourite hits, *Six Dance lessons in Six Weeks* by Richard Alfieri, to be performed at The Concourse, Chatswood from February 26, 2016 and starring the original, very popular and talented cast members: Nancye Hayes and Todd McKenney.

Mark also announced two new awards, in recognition of Sandra Bates's outstanding contribution to theatre.

**ENSEMBLE THEATRE NEW WRITING COMMISSION**, kindly supported by David Williamson and the Australian Writer's Guild and

**THE SANDRA BATES DIRECTOR'S AWARDS**, sponsored by our **SEABORN BROUGHTON & WALFORD FOUNDATION**. This award will provide two recipients with the opportunity to work as an Assistant Director on two of Ensemble Theatre's mainstage productions in 2016.

We also look forward to arranging future theatre parties to this important 'little' theatre that aims 'to produce live theatre of the highest quality that entertains, educates, enlightens and challenges' believing 'that theatre can, and should be a civilizing influence in society.'

Other performing arts groups whose subscription brochures are circulating now include Opera Australia, the SSO, Musica Viva (their Coffee Concerts at the Independent Theatre to be held on Wednesday mornings 2016) the STC, the Bell Shakespeare Co, & the Griffin Theatre Company whose secure home is our SBW Stables Theatre. In our last Newsletter we saluted the distinguished actor director John Bell AO as he prepared to leave Bell Shakespeare. A great believer in working collaboratively, John will follow a different path of freelance acting and directing.

Coincidentally, Griffin's artistic director Lee Lewis has just announced, as 'a special event' in their 2016 season, a collaboration between Bell Shakespeare and Griffin. The collaborative production is a new adaptation by Justin Fleming of Moliere's satirical comedy *Les Femmes Savantes*. (The Learned Ladies). Written in 1672 but updated to 21<sup>st</sup> century Sydney, the play satirises academic pretension, and will star actress playwright Kate Mulvaney, whose own critically-acclaimed play *Masquerade*, adapted from the children's book by Kit Williams, was presented as a successful collaboration between Griffin and South Australia Theatre Company at this year's Sydney Festival.

I am really looking forward to seeing you all at the Christmas Party at the Union Club on December 17<sup>th</sup>. We will meet at 5.30pm for complimentary drinks in the Library for the annual presentation of the Rodney Seaborn Playwrights' Award. Please stay and join us for dinner afterwards. Further details are in the invitation contained in this Newsletter. But I urge you to book with Carol soon as we are expecting this event to be fully subscribed.

I would also like to express our thanks and best wishes to Bill Winspear AM who has been a committed and hard-working member of our Board until recently, and who has now taken on the role as Chief Glug of Sydney's oldest theatre appreciation group, the Glugs. Our Foundation supports the Glugs, and their annual awards. Bill succeeded the former Chief Glug the ever-young octogenarian Lee Young who was a popular veteran of the British variety scene throughout the 1940s-1960's and famously described himself as a senior 'tap-dancing actor/singer'. Bill will be working closely with the very-dedicated Glugs co-ordinator Beverley Davies OAM.

On behalf of the Board and Staff I wish you all a very Merry Christmas. May I also extend our warmest thanks to all those of you who have made donations, whether large or small, to the Seaborn, Broughton & Walford Foundation this year. Your generosity has enabled us to continue assisting the performing arts and creating opportunities for talented Australians, in all branches of theatre, to continue developing their skills. The recent Sandra Bates Awards are just one of these many initiatives.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

**Peter Lowry OAM**

## **EXPONIDA 2015**

**The National Institute of Dramatic Art  
215 Anzac Parade Kensington NSW**

NIDA invite you to explore the world of props, costumes, audio-visual work, rendering and model boxes in their annual exhibition that celebrates the work of their graduating students.

Get behind the scenes look at achievements of 2015's graduating Costume, Design for Performance, Technical Theatre and Stage Management, Properties and Objects and Staging students as well as Master of Fine Arts students in Directing and Writing for Performance.

**Dates – 14 October to 18 November 2015**

**Times: 9am to 5pm Daily**

**Cost – Entry if free**

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**Opera & Arts Support Group Inc**

### **GALA RECITAL**

**Waverley College Performing Arts Centre  
131 Birrell Street Waverley**

Cheryl Barker AO has agreed to head a spectacular cast for an evening of wonderful music.

Dominica Matthews, Catherine Bouchier, Thomas Strong and Tabatha McFadyen, are some of the stars who will be under the direction of Maestro Simon Kenway.

Compered by Melvyn Morrow

The Waverley College of performing Arts Centre is a beautiful, air conditioned comfortable theatre with raked numbered seating and a huge stage.

The large foyer will allow you to mingle while enjoying the customary finger food and drinks both before and after the concert.

Street parking is available in Birrell Street.

This will be a special evening of glorious music and the OASG would be delighted to welcome SBW Friends to this function.

**Friday 16 October 2015**

**7pm for 7.30pm**

**Entrée - \$90.00**

Including savouries and drinks on arrival and supper afterwards with the artists

Bookings – Carol Martin – 9955 5444

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

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**NIDA Student Productions  
NIDA 215 Anzac Parade Kensington**

## **STRANGER I AM**

**Devised and Directed by Craig Illott  
Original score by iOTA and Caitlin Park**

*Stranger I Am* is a newly devised piece of theatre. Combining modern theatre techniques and breath-taking aerial antics, this exciting and electric production centres around a young woman on a journey of discovery after losing her mother and her will to live.

**Friday – 23 October 2015 – 8pm**

**Tickets - \$21.00**

**Suitable for adult audiences**

**The audience will be standing for this production.**

## **CAPRICORNIA**

**by Louis Nowra**

Set in 1930's Northern Territory, Louis Nowra's *Capricornia* is a sweeping tragedy that explores the complexity of racial tensions through the narrative of one family and the tight knit community in which they live. This is a story of love, deception and cultural identity played out through bold visual imagery on a harsh and barbaric landscape at the top end of Australia.

**Saturday 24 October 2015 – 7.45pm**

**Tickets - \$21.00**

**Suitable for adult audiences**

**Bookings – Carol Martin – 99555444**

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## **THE THREE SISTERS**

**by Anton Chekov**

**Genesian Theatre 420 Kent Street Sydney**

First performed at the Moscow Arts Theatre in 1901, Chekov's *Three Sisters* probes the lives and dreams of Olga, Masha and Irina, former Muscovites now living in a provincial town from which they long to escape.

Don't miss this landmark of modern drama in which Chekov masterfully interweaves character and theme resulting in a beautiful and deeply moving theatrical experience.

**Sunday – 25 October 2015-4.30pm**

**Tickets - \$28.00**

**Bookings – Carol Martin – 9955 5444**

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**THE REAL THING**

by Tom Stoppard

New Theatre 542 King Street Newtown

Cast includes- Jordon Cortazzo, Peter Evers, Charlotte Hazzard, Ainslie McGlynn, Christopher Tomkinson, Emily Weare, Benjamin Winckle,

Henry, a successful playwright, has fallen deeply in love with Annie, a vivacious actress, and they have left their respective spouses to embark on a new life together.

But Henry is riven by doubts – is what he feels ‘the real thing’ or merely an illusion? While Annie taking up a political cause of a soldier arrested for an anti-war protest and pursued by a young co-star, is starting to feel the pressures of fidelity.

In this brilliant exploration of commitment – to spouses, lovers, children, causes, ideas – Stoppard brings together head and heart, life and art in exhilarating style.

Playing to 7 November 2015

Thurs to Sat – 7.30pm Sun – 5pm

Tickets - \$30.00

Bookings- Carol Martin – 9955 5444



**DINKUM ASSORTED**

Book, Lyrics and Music by Linda Aronson

New Theatre 542 King Street Newtown

During the winter of 1942, with the world at war and a nation facing invasion from the Japanese, in the remote North Queensland town of Warrabadanga the fifteen female workers at the Dinkum Biscuit Factory are battling to keep the biscuits baking.

This poignant, uproariously funny human comedy about a group of women striving for personal and professional freedom against the backdrop of a changing world serves up a slice of Australian social history with laughter, tears, songs, tap dancing – and Rita the regimental goat!

Playing from Thursday 19 November to Saturday 19 December 2015

Thurs to Sat – 7.30pm Sun – 5pm

Tickets - \$30.00

Bookings – Carol Martin – 9955 5444



**CATS**

Acclaimed West End revival of Andrew Lloyd Webber’s record-breaking musical Cats comes to Australia for a strictly limited season.

Capitol Theatre Campbell Street Haymarket

The 2015 Olivier Award-nominated hit revival, was reworked for the recent West End season, by the original creative team, received rave reviews and extended its season due to overwhelming demand. Australia’s very own Delta Goodrem will play the coveted role of Grizabella and will sing Memory, one of the most well-known songs of all time. Since its world premiere, Cats has been presented in over 30 countries, has been translated into 15 languages and has been seen by more 73 million people worldwide.

Sunday – 29 November 2015- 1pm

Tickets - \$109.00

Bookings – Carol Martin - 99555444



Sydney Opera House Ladies Committee is pleased to invite the Friends of the SBW Foundation to their Christmas Lunch

**CHRISTMAS WITH AMELIA**

at the Castlereagh Boutique Hotel  
169 Castlereagh Street Sydney

Amelia Farrugia Soprano

One of Australia’s favourite star sopranos, Amelia Farrugia has performed with many of the State Opera Companies, after beginning as a young artist with Opera Australia.

Amelia has performed in recital in Hong Kong, Malta, Florence, New York, and Musica Viva’s Huntingdon Estate Music Festival. She also performed in the presence of HRH Crown Princess Mary and HRH Crown Prince Frederik of Denmark.

Thursday – 3 December 2015

11.30am for 12 noon

Tickets - \$85.00

Bookings – Carol Martin 99555



SBW Subscriptions make a great Christmas Gift still only \$11 a year or \$77 for Life.

Ring Carol Martin today to join up a relative or a friend.

9955 5444



Opera and Arts Support Group Inc

**CHRISTMAS CABARET & MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA**

William Wilkins Gallery 35 Bridge St Sydney

Produced and Directed by Tyran Parke.

Musical Director Luke Byrne.

Dinner and show starring Australia's leading musical and cabaret stars

Friday – 4 December 2015- 6.30pm for 7pm

Entrée price TBA

Bookings – Carol Martin – 9955 5444

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Opera Australia and Barking Gecko Theatre Company present

**THE RABBITS**

Roslyn Packer Theatre Walsh Bay

John Marsden and Shaun Tan's haunting picture book captivated a generation of children and adults, with its bold pictures and deeply moving story of progress, displacement and cultural clash.

Gabriela Tylesova's sets and costumes realize Tan's pictures in all of their mystic wonder. Butterfly-voiced opera and pop singer Kate Miller-Heidke wrote the beautiful score and performs in the production alongside a talented cast of opera singers and contemporary music performers.

A four-time Helpmann Award winning production *The Rabbits* is brought to life as a new work of operatic theatre for adults and children alike.

Saturday 16 January 2016 – 2pm

Tickets - \$87.00

Bookings – Carol Martin – 9955 5444

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**THE PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY**

by Oscar Wilde

Genesian Theatre 420 Kent Street Sydney

Oscar Wilde's dazzling morality tale *The Picture of Dorian Gray* completes the Genesian 2015 season, telling of a man who never ages while his portrait turns decrepit. All the wit and brilliance of Wilde in a tale that created a huge controversy on its initial publication and, fittingly, has never aged!

Sunday – 14 February 2016– 4.30pm

Tickets - \$28.00

Bookings – Carol Martin – 9955 5444

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**ADVANCE NOTICE**

**GHOST**

The Musical

Theatre Royal King Street Sydney

Starring – Rob Mills

After successful international seasons including London's West End and Broadway – GHOST The Musical is coming to Australia!

Based on the Oscar Winning Film of the same name and directed by Tony Award Winner Matthew Warchus (*Matilda The Musical*); Ghost The Musical is the iconic love story of Sam and Molly. Featuring an original score by Dave Stewart (Eurythmics) and Glen Ballard as well as the Righteous brothers classic 'Unchained melody', Ghost The Musical is everything you love about film and more.

Full Cast to be announced.

Sunday – 3 April 2016 – 3pm

Tickets - \$104.00

Bookings- Carol Martin – 9955 5444

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**FIDDLER ON THE ROOF**

Starring – ANTHONY WARLOW

Capitol Theatre Campbell St

Haymarket Sydney

Fiddler on the Roof follows the heart-warming journey of a family that has its traditional life turned upside down as the modern world starts to impact on life in their idyllic village. Fiddler of the Roof's humour, passion and warmth has touched audiences all over the world with its celebration of life, love and family. Its celebrated score features songs loved the world over such as *If I Were A Rich Man*, which has to be one of the most recognized songs from any musical and *Matchmaker*, a monster hit for Barbra Streisand.

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2016 – 3pm

Tickets - \$104-90

Bookings – Carol Martin 9955 5444

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We wish all our SBW Friends a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

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