



Seaborn Broughton & Walford Foundation Newsletter

925 Botany Rd Rosebery NSW 2018 Phone - 9955 5444 Email – office@sbwfoundation.com

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

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Nan's Letter Space

At a recent Board Meeting of the Seaborn, Broughton & Walford Foundation, Peter Lowry OAM was elected as the new Chairman of our Foundation.

Peter is a Foundation Director of 15 years standing, having first been appointed Chairman of the Friends of the Independent Theatre and Chairman of the Independent Theatre Restoration Committee by Dr. Seaborn. Peter's background is in law, planning, property, marketing, conflict resolution and heritage and he has held managerial positions in both the private and public sectors. He has a keen interest in Australia's heritage and the performing arts has served on a number of Boards including the National Trust, the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust, the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority, Pacific Opera and the Ensemble Theatre. As Chairman of the SBW Foundation, Peter is now representing the Foundation on the Board of NIDA.

Many of you will know Peter from his work establishing the Friends of the Independent Theatre and organizing community volunteers for the Foundation's prize-winning Independent Theatre restoration project. He and his wife Carolyn have been devoted and active supporters of our Foundation since 1992. Here is Peter's message to the Friends of the Foundation.

Message from the Chairman:

Dear Friends,

Dr. Rodney Seaborn's support of the performing arts through the Seaborn, Broughton & Walford Foundation, stands as a generous and impressive legacy. It is a legacy that the Foundation's Board, Staff, and Friends, through their past and continuing participation and contribution, can proudly share. I consider it a privilege to have been given the opportunity to lead the Foundation and will strive to uphold Dr. Seaborn's vision of assisting the performing arts in Australia.

Dr. Seaborn was an enthusiastic supporter of established actors and theatres but was also eager to encourage young, talented performers and to support smaller performing arts companies that provided them with practical training and work. He assisted promising local playwrights to develop their scripts, strove to ensure theatrical records were safely archived for future research and initiated a close, productive relationship with NIDA.

I look forward to exploring ways to support these objectives and to helping the Foundation grow. I hope to meet as many of you as possible at forthcoming functions and to listen to your views on preferred events and how we can continue to build a Foundation of which we can all be proud.

Dr. Seaborn had a great love of theatre and, as many of you will remember, had a wonderful memory for past performances and productions. He delighted in attending SBW Foundation theatre parties, often with a congenial group meal beforehand, so that Friends could join him as members of an appreciative audience in a complete theatre experience. In the early days, his much-loved cousin, Nan Syngé, generously assisted as social secretary and this page bears her name as a tribute to her memory.

Nan's work is continued by our Secretary, Carol Martin, who has organized our functions, correspondence and Newsletters so efficiently for many years. On behalf of you all, I would like to thank Carol for helping maintain a tradition that is so important to our support of theatre in Sydney. I encourage you to carefully study this Newsletter, invite friends and book for the many interesting and enjoyable functions Carol has arranged for us.

I would like to acknowledge the valuable contribution of former Chairman, Gary Simpson AM, who recently retired after approximately 25 years on the SBW Board.

Dr. Seaborn consulted Gaz in his negotiations with the Griffin Theatre prior to the purchase of the Stables Theatre and Gaz assisted Rodney in relation to grant applications. Gaz was appointed as Trustee of the Rodney Seaborn Playwrights Award and I am grateful that he has offered to remain in this important position.

Many of you will have read of the recent passing of the fine actor, director poet and playwright Don Reid. Don was discovered by Doris Fitton while acting in an amateur production in Singleton. At her invitation he trained with Miss Fitton and John Alden at the Independent. He later joined Hayes Gordon, became a founding member of the Ensemble Company and established himself as a distinguished professional actor on stage, TV, film and radio. He was greatly respected and still winning accolades at the age of 80. He received a Glugs Lifetime Achievement Award and, in 2012, the best actor award at Tropfest. Returning to the Independent recently, Don gave a memorable performance in the play 'On Golden Pond' produced by the Actors' Forum. One of Don's special plays, 'Codgers', proved to be an immensely popular success and won the Rodney Seaborn Playwrights' Award in 2006. Don was described as 'a man's man', warm-hearted and strong, with a wonderful rich voice. Some of his performances were captured on film, others are engraved in our memories. We send our deepest sympathy to his beloved Fiona and family.

I look forward to keeping you informed about interesting developments in Sydney theatre and the SBW Foundation's progress in assisting the performing arts.

Thank you for your ongoing support,

Peter Lowry OAM
Chairman

THE HAM FUNERAL

by Patrick White

New Theatre 542 King Street Newtown

In a dingy English boarding house, a naïve young poet is inexorably drawn into the strange world of the basement-dwelling landlord and his wife, the splendidly grotesque Mr and Mrs Lusty. When Mr. Lusty dies, his widow announces there will be 'a ham funeral' in his honour, and the young man finds himself drawn into a desperate sexual game, with comically tragic consequences.

Written in 1948 by Australia's Nobel Laureate of Literature Patrick White, **The Ham Funeral** is loosely based on the true story that informed William Dobell's painting *The Dead Landlord* and on White's own recollections of the seedy world of London boarding-houses.

Playing until - Saturday 25 May 2013

Wednesday – Saturday- 7.30pm

Sunday - 5pm

Tickets - \$30.00

Bookings – Carol Martin – 9955 5444



The Actors' Forum Presents A Professionally Performed Reading of

NINETY

by Joanna Murray-Smith

Director Malcolm Frawley

**Independent Theatre 269 Miller Street
North Sydney**

A ninety minute exploration of marriage and the frailty of relationships - themes that are treated with delicacy. The mixture of nostalgia, deep emotion and humour makes for a compelling theatre experience. Joanna Murray-Smith is one of Australia's most prolific and successful playwrights and the Actors' Forum delight in bringing you this important work.

Sunday – 5 May 2013 – 2pm

Admission - \$20.00 Concessions -\$15.00

Tickets on sale at door from 1pm

No Prior Bookings



THE YOUNG IDEA

by Noel Coward

Genesian Theatre 420 Kent Street Sydney

This fun early work is not often seen and shows why Coward became the genius he did.

Written when he was only 21 the play features the precocious children Sholto and Gerda who are trying to rescue their father George from a sterile second marriage to Cicely and reunite him with their arty, Italian Riviera based Mother.

Sunday – 26 May 2013 – 4.30pm

Tickets- \$26.00

Bookings – Carol Martin- 9955 5444



ENRON

by Lucie Prebble

Australian Premiere

New Theatre 542 King Street Newtown

One of the most infamous scandals in financial history is transformed into a theatrical epic, charting the notorious rise and fall of the American energy giant Enron and its founding partners Ken Lay and Jeffrey Skilling.

From the heady early days to its spectacular demise when the various schemes devised to disguise the company's massive debts unraveled, Enron takes us inside the bubble before it burst, to show the rarefied and arcane world of financial trading – the buzz, the glamour, the highs – and the breathtaking hubris of those who concocted the fantasy and spin the hype.

Thursday 6 June to Saturday 29 June 2013

Wednesday to Saturday – 7.30pm

Sunday – 5pm

Tickets - \$30.00

Bookings – Carol Martin – 9955 5444



Discounts are available to SBW Friends at-

THE COSTUME SHOP

19/198-222 Young Street

Waterloo NSW

Phone – 9318 2511

Website- thecostumeshop.com.au



The Actors' Forum Presents A Professionally
Performed Reading of
THE INNOCENTS
by William Archibald
Directed by Les Asmusen
Independent Theatre 269 Miller Street
North Sydney

We are back in Victorian times in a remote country mansion. A new governess believes that evil spirits are possessing and corrupting the children in her charge (the 'innocents' of the title). Are the ghosts real, or just figments of her fevered imagination? A chilling tale for mid-winter, adapted from Henry James' classic ghost story *The Turn of the Screw*.

Sunday – 30 June 2013 – 2pm
Admission - \$20.00 Concessions - \$15.00

Tickets on sale at door from 1pm
No prior bookings



TOP GIRLS

by Caryl Churchill
New Theatre 542 King Street Newtown

Marlene is out to celebrate her big promotion at work, beating a man to the position of Managing Director. She earned it. It's a just reward for years of service and hard grind at the Top Girls Employment Agency. She escaped her working – class past. She's made it!

But tensions with her resolutely un-ambitious and pragmatic sister Joyce, and the consequences of a desperate choice made 16 years' ago, threaten to open up old wounds and destroy the life for which she has sacrificed so much.

This bold and ingenious work offers one of the theatre's most honest portraits of what it means to be a woman in a male-dominated world.

Thursday 11 July to Saturday 3 August 2013
Wednesday to Saturday – 7.30pm
Sunday- 5pm

Tickets - \$30.00

Bookings- Carol Martin – 9955 5444



DANGEROUS CORNER

by J. B. Priestley
Genesisian Theatre 420 Kent Street Sydney

At their stylish country retreat, Freda and Robert Caplan host a dinner party for their colleagues and friends, all executives at a transatlantic publishing company. Young, beautiful, and successful, they have the world at their feet. Then a cigarette box and an ill-considered remark spark off a relentless series of revelations and other, more dangerous secrets are painfully exposed. As the truth spills out about a suicide of Robert's clever, reckless brother, and the private lives start to crumble, the cost of professional and social success becomes frighteningly plain.

Part whodunit, part thriller and this famous 'time play will have you on the edge of your seat!

Sunday 14 July 2013 – 4.30pm

Tickets - \$26.00

Bookings – Carol Martin – 9955 5444



THE GLASS MENAGERIE

by Tennessee Williams
Directed by Mark Kilmurry
Ensemble Theatre 78 McDougall St Kirribilli

Amanda Wingfield wants what any mother would – a stable career for her wayward son Tom and a suitor for her fragile daughter. Her romantic sensibilities are captured by the idea that Tom's friend might be the ideal gentleman caller. But is he simply too good to be true? Widely regarded as one of Tennessee Williams' most powerful and haunting plays, *The Glass Menagerie* is a poignant reflection on the glories of times past, with echoes of loneliness, fragility and innocent hope.

Friday – 19 July 2013 – 11am

Tickets - \$ 49.00

Bookings – Carol Martin - 9955 5444



HOT SHOE SHUFFLE

The Anniversary Tour
Lyric Theatre The Star

Cast includes – David Atkins, Jaz Flowers and
Bobby Fox

Hot Shoe Shuffle was the first critically successful homegrown Australian musical to gain both local and international success. It was the 1st Australian musical to ever play a West End season. The shows many awards include an Olivier Award – best choreography, Aria Award, 2 Green Room Awards and an Advance Australia Award.

The show tells the story of the Seven Tap Brothers who stand to inherit their father's fortune on condition they can reproduce his legendary song and dance act, the *Hot Shoe Shuffle*.

But the catch is they must include their long-lost sister April, into the act. The only problem is she has two left feet. *Hot Shoe Shuffle* is a homage to the great Hollywood dance musicals of the 40's. With great songs and music from the Big Band Era and brilliant dancing, it's a joyous celebration that is guaranteed to have you on your feet.

Sunday – 21 July 2013- 3pm

Tickets - \$94.00

Bookings – Carol Martin – 9955 5444



C.S. Lewis meets Freud

FRUED'S LAST SESSION

Theatre Royal King Street Sydney

Cast includes- Henri Szeps and Douglas Hansell

This award-winning play centres on legendary psychoanalyst Dr Sigmund Freud, who invites a young, little-known professor, C.S. Lewis to his home in London. Lewis expecting to be called on the carpet for satirising Freud in a recent book, soon realises Freud has much more significant agenda.

On the day England enters World War 11, Freud and Lewis clash over the existence of God, love, sex and the meaning of life guarantees a riveting, tension filled encounter on life's most important questions. Only two weeks before Freud chooses to take his own.

Sunday – 25 August 2013 – 3pm

Tickets - \$85.00

Bookings – Carol Martin – 9955 5444



MURDER ON THE NILE

by Agatha Christie

Genesian Theatre 420 Kent St Sydney

Hold on to your panama hats! Agatha Christie's work has it all; more red herrings than you can poke a pistol at, jilted lovers and death everywhere you look. It's meant to be serious, of course, but it is still all great fun.

The Genesian Theatre is renowned for performing great murder mystery plays with sold out performances throughout their seasons.

Join us on the date below and bring your friends.

Sunday – 1 September 2013 – 4.30pm

Tickets- \$26.00

Bookings – Carol Martin – 9955 5444



SEMINAR

by Theresa Rebeck

Ensemble Theatre 76 McDougall St Kirribilli

Cast includes Matthew Zeremes

Calling all writers! You think you have talent? Think you can take rejection and ride out the highs and lows? Once you've met Leonard, you'll have to think again.

Four aspiring young novelists embark upon a private writing course with Leonard, an abrasive but once-respected literary figure, hoping that some of his greatness will rub off on them. In a headlong rush of wit and verbosity, innocence collides with experience in this provocative, sparkling new comedy.

Tuesday – 3 September 2013- 11am

Tickets - \$49.00

Bookings – Carol Martin 9955 5444



Do remember you can read our Newsletter on line at any time at – www.sbwfoundation.com
There you can also see Newsletter updates and join our Facebook.

