



Seaborn Broughton & Walford Foundation Newsletter

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

Volume Number

Issue Number

Date

22

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1ST July 2014

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

Dear Friends

In the last Newsletter I mentioned that the Reginald, the new theatre downstairs at the Seymour Centre, would be opening soon. Our SBW Foundation decided to become a sponsor of the opening show, *Ruthless*, a prize-winning, over-the-top, deliciously wicked send-up of Broadway musicals. On Friday 20th June, we joined Treasurer Bill Winspear, former Board member Gaz Simpson and his wife Joan, our friends Lee Young and Bev Davies from Glugs, and an enthusiastic audience at the energy-fuelled Australian premiere. We were all impressed by the talented all-female cast. They acted, sang and danced their way, with great panache, through the story of an ambitious child actor with a mysterious family tree, who will stop at nothing to secure the main part in her school play. Congratulations to producers Lisa Freshwater and Alistair Thomson and all involved in this show. It was a treat to see Geraldine Turner return to the stage and perform beside a very self-assured Madison Russo who played 8-year old Tina 'I was born to entertain'! Katrina Retallick, Meredith O'Reilly, Margi de Ferranti and Caitlin Berry also shone. There is no doubt we have an abundance of amazing talent in the music theatre scene in this country. It was a immense pleasure for the SBW Foundation to play a role in supporting Theatre Division's first production. *Ruthless* provided an auspicious opening to the Reginald's inaugural season.

Meredith O'Reilly, one of the stars and associate producers of *Ruthless* is appearing with her husband, popular ABC personality, conductor and columnist Guy Noble, at the Bastille Day Brunch on July 14th at the Union Club. We are all invited to this celebration of all things French organised by the Sydney Opera House Ladies Committee. Check the details in this newsletter and book with Carol or Georgie on 9955 5444 for a delicious repast as you enjoy popular French songs made famous by Edith Piaf and Jacques Brel.

Last year, our Public Relations Officer Carolyn Lowry was honoured to be invited to join the Sydney Opera House Ladies Committee, a long established Committee that raises funds to enable underprivileged youngsters and children with disabilities to experience the wonder and magic of performance at the Opera House. As you may remember, Carolyn has spent years researching the life and work of actor-director Dame Doris Fitton, founder of the Independent Theatre. Dame Doris was an original Trustee of the Sydney Opera House and Carolyn feels privileged to be providing another link with our iconic performing arts centre. She is also delighted to pass on the Ladies Committee's invitations to us.

Our Friends greatly enjoyed the recent SOH Ladies' Committee morning tea featuring Peter Cousens, accompanied at the piano by Anne-Maree McDonald. Peter sang a wide range of songs including some beautiful numbers from music theatre. This event in May was a great success and the audience at the Women's Club was thrilled by Peter's performance, his generosity and professionalism. Peter was a good friend of Dr Seaborn and the SBW Foundation's fundraising work supporting the performing arts. Dr Seaborn would have applauded Peter's efforts to provide work for his talented music theatre colleagues by establishing Kookaburra, the National Music Theatre Company in 2006. Although Kookaburra flew into the cruel winds of the GFC, its legacy could well be plethora of vibrant fledgling companies currently providing Sydney with a rich choice of music theatre in a variety of venues.

Actor-director Peter Cousens has recently taken on a new role as film producer. He has been very busy in America producing a film with an important historical theme that has a profound message. Entitled *Freedom*, this is a film for all the family. It has a beautiful musical score and celebrates the triumph of faith and the human spirit over adversity. As you may know Dr Seaborn was always interested in supporting entertainment with positive values. I feel sure he would have enjoyed Peter's new film and suggest you watch for its release in August.

We were delighted by this interesting news from the Ensemble Theatre, the wonderful little theatre on the other side of the Harbour Bridge which the SBW Foundation has supported for many years: on Saturday 14th June, the Ensemble planned a special event after the last performance of David Williamson's new play, *Cruise Control*. The Ensemble Green Room downstairs was renamed the Henri Szeps Green Room. Henri, who portrays an elderly New York dentist Sol Wasserman in the play, trained with Hayes Gordon at the Ensemble. His successful career, began at the Ensemble Theatre 51 years ago. Henri helped us fundraise to restore the Independent Theatre in the 1990's. He has also lent his support to a number of worthy causes, has won numerous awards and was honoured with a medal in the Order of Australia for his service to the arts and the community. Congratulations Henri!

Please read through the wonderful list of shows and concerts that Carol Martin has arranged for our entertainment during the winter months. They range from concerts, music theatre and plays to play readings or a Bastille Day brunch. You may prefer to attend with a group of friends, family members or alone but you will be assured of a warm welcome and excellent entertainment. The ticket allocation is generally limited, so it is advisable to book soon to secure the best seats.

Thank you for your support.
Peter Lowry OAM (Chairman)

BOOK OF DAYS

by Lanford Wilson

New Theatre 542 King Street Newtown

In a parochial Missouri town where life revolves around the cheese factory, the fundamentalist church and the community theatre, book-keeper

Ruth lands the title role in a production of George Bernard Shaw's Saint Joan.

When Walt, the town patriarch, dies in a hunting accident, Ruth's suspicions are aroused, putting her in direct conflict with powerful forces in her community.

A comedy, a tragedy and a murder mystery the play explores questions of morality and redemption.

10 July to 9 August 2014

Thurs to Sat- 7.30pm Sun- 5pm

Tickets - \$30.00

Bookings – Carol Martin- 9955 5444

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Australian Elizabethan Theatre Trust

presents

REFRACTION

with guest concert pianist

WILLIAM CHEN

**Independent Theatre 269 Miller Street
North Sydney**

Refraction will present a concert to celebrate the commencement of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations of the Australian Elizabethan Theatre Trust, at the Independent Theatre North Sydney.

Refraction is a chamber ensemble comprising a mixture of talented young musicians and mature performers with wide experience in Opera, Symphonic and Chamber music. Lead by internationally acclaimed violinist and conductor, **Ronald Thomas**.

Pianist William Chen will travel from Shanghai, where he is currently Professor of Piano at the Shanghai Conservatorium, to perform Mendelssohn's piano sextet- a work requiring virtuosic capability from the pianist.

Ludwig Van Beethoven

Sextet Op. 20 for Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Clarinet, Bassoon and French Horn

Felix Mendelssohn

Sextet Op110 for piano and strings

Saturday – 12 July 2014 – 7.30pm

**Tickets- \$36.00 Adults/\$20.00 Students
Child (under 15)- \$10**

Bookings – Carol Martin – 9955 5444

SHERLOCK HOLMES

The Final Adventure

by Steven Dietz

after William Gillette and Arthur Conan Doyle
Genesian Theatre 420 Kent Street Sydney

Sherlock Holmes is on a case – solving the blackmailing of a famous photographer, falling for the famous opera singer, Irene Adler and tangling with criminal mastermind, Professor Moriarty, all with the help of his faithful companion, Doctor Watson.

Grippingly exciting and culminating in that famous waterfall scene (on stage!!), brush off your deerstalkers, pipes and violins now!!

Sunday – 13 July 2014 – 4.30pm

Tickets - \$28.00

Bookings – Carol Martin – 9955 5444

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Sydney Opera House Ladies Committee

invite you and your friends to a

BASTILLE DAY BRUNCH

at the

**Union Club 25 Bent Street Sydney
(Cnr Elizabeth Street next door to the Sofitel Hotel)
Entertainment**

**Meredith O'Reilly and Guy Noble
Chansons d'Edith Piaf, Jacques Brel & more
Dress "dans le style français" if you dare!!**

Monday – 14 July 2014

10am for 10.30am

Entrée - \$63.00

Bookings – Carol Martin – 9955 5444

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Opera & Arts Support Group Inc

RECITAL

**Prescott Hall- Newington College
200 Stanmore Road, Stanmore**

The Opera & Arts Support Group invites you to a special musical event. Following his triumphant and highly acclaimed performance of the pivotal role of Alberich in Opera Australia's Melbourne *Ring Cycle*, celebrated baritone, Warwick Fyffe, will headline an ensemble of artists for a recital in the magnificently restored Prescott Hall.

Sunday – 27 July 2014 – 2pm for 2.30pm

Entrée \$65.00

Includes savouries and drinks on arrival and refreshments with the artists following the recital.

Bookings – Carol Martin – 9955 5444

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

Griffin Theatre Company

UGLY MUGS

by Peta Brady

SBW Stables Theatre 10 Nimrod Street

Kings Cross

Cast – Peta Brady, Steven Le Marquand, Sara

West and Harry Borland.

Taking its title from the name sex workers use for aggressive clients, Peta Brady's *Ugly Mugs* emerged from a Melbourne shocked by violence against women and interrogates the culture of abuse lurking in the shadows of every Australian city. Daring, provocative and topical, it asks complex questions about vulnerability and responsibility.

Marion Potts returns to Griffin to direct this world premiere co-production with Melbourne's Malthouse Theatre.

Saturday 9 August 2014 – 2pm

Tickets - \$42.00

Bookings – Carol Martin – 9955 5444



WOLF LULLABY

by Hilary Bell

New Theatre 542 King Street Newtown

In a desolate Tasmanian country town, a small child is murdered and suspicion falls on nine-year-old Lizzie. Her mother Angela is faced with the heartbreaking choice between ignoring the suspicion that her daughter is guilty and handing her over to the police.

As investigation progresses, Lizzie is not the only one who is changed forever by the events that unfold. The adults around her, bewildered and full of denial, find their accepted beliefs challenged as the world they think they know disintegrates, exposing a legacy of violence and deceit.

The debut play from the winner of the Patrick White Playwrights' Fellowship for 2013, taps into tensions, conflicts and dynamics of tight-knit communities to explore the disturbing subject of children who kill the fine line between innocence and amorality.

21 August to 13 September 2014

Thursday to Saturday – 7.30pm

Sunday – 5pm

Tickets - \$30.00

Bookings – Carol Martin – 9955 5444

Actors' Forum presents a professionally performed reading of.....

84 CHARING CROSS ROAD

by Helen Hanff Directed by Malcolm Frawley

Adapted for stage by James Roose-Evans

Independent Theatre 269 Miller Street North Sydney

The true story of a hard-up New York writer, who finding she can't satisfy her passion for out-of-print books in her home town, responds to an advertisement and begins a unique correspondence with the manager and staff at a London book shop. She is delighted with the service as they are with her pithily humorous requests. The relationship warms and becomes more poignant over the years which makes her determined to visit them as soon as she can afford it.

Sunday – 24 August 2014 – 2pm

Tickets - \$20.00 Concession \$15.00

Ticket sales at door One Hour before performance

No prior bookings



The Opera and Arts Support Group Inc

VOCAL SCHOLARSHIP FINAL

Paddington Uniting Church

Oxford Street Paddington

A major event in the McDonald's Sydney Eisteddford, this is your opportunity to hear some of our future opera stars. Six finalists selected by adjudicators **Christine Douglas** and **John Bolton Wood AM** will compete for \$16,000 in prize money with a first prize of \$10,000. In recent years many of our finalists have gone on to win significant singing competitions and develop careers with Opera Australia and overseas opera companies.

Friday – 12 September 2014

7pm for 7.30pm

Entrée - \$45.00

Including savouries and drinks on arrival and supper with the finalists.

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)



Discounts are available to SBW Friends at

THE COSTUME SHOP

19/198-222 Young Street

Waterloo NSW

Phone – 9318 2511

Website- thecostumeshop.com.au

Sydney Opera House Ladies Committee

**PRELUDE TO SPRING
HIGH TEA**

Featuring brilliant, prize winning, 32 year old
Ukranian-born pianist, Evgeny Ukhanova in the
Cello Restaurant at the
Castlereagh Boutique Hotel
169-171 Castlereagh Street Sydney

Friday 12 September 2014

10.30am for 11am

Cost - \$68.00

Bookings – Carol Martin – 9955 5444

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**SPIDER'S WEB**

**by Agatha Christie**

Directed by Ylaria Rogers

**Genesian Theatre 420 Kent Street Sydney**

Written for Margaret Lockwood by Christie  
herself this is generally regarded as one of  
Christie's strongest plays.

Clarissa, the young wife of a foreign office  
diplomat, delights in spinning tales of adventure  
to their bored circle of friends. But her amusing  
games become deadly serious when she  
discovers the body of a stranger in her own  
drawing room.

Desperate to dispose of it before her husband  
arrives with a very important person, she quickly  
enlists the help of her guests when a police  
inspector knocks on the front door.

**Sunday 21 September 2014 – 4.30pm**

**Tickets - \$28.00**

Bookings – Carol Martin – 9955 5444

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THE LAST CONFESSION

Play by Roger Crane

Directed by Jonathan Church

Starring – DAVID SUCHET

Theatre Royal King Street Sydney

David Suchet (Agatha Christie's Poirot) will
reprise his role on stage in the conspiracy
thriller, *The Last Confession*.

Set in the corridors of the Vatican at the time of
the sudden and controversial death of Pope
John Paul 1 only 33 days after his election.

The Last Confession is a mystery thriller of
biblical proportions.

The Vatican refuse to conduct an official
investigation into the death of the Pope but the
politically savvy Cardinal Benelli (David Suchet)
who had engineered the election of Pope John
Paul 1 is determined to find the truth.

Sunday – 5th October 2014 – 3pm

A reserve stalls Tickets - \$105.00

Bookings – Carol Martin – 9955 5444

Actors' Forum presents a professionally
performed play reading of

THE MOON IS BLUE

by Hugh F. Herbert

Directed by Stuart Maunder

Independent Theatre 269 Miller St North Sydney

A disarmingly frank young actress meets a
handsome architect on the observation tower of
the Empire State Building, New York. She agrees
to go to his apartment but sets the ground rules
for the evening. Kissing is OK but no more!
The 1951 Otto Preminger film was considered by
the censors of the day in violation of the Motion
Picture Code because of its "light and gay
treatment on the subject of illicit sex and
seduction". Today it remains a charming
romantic comedy.

Sunday – 19 October 2014 – 2pm

Tickets - \$20.00 Concession - \$15.00

**Ticket sales at door One Hour before the
performance**

No prior bookings

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Opera Australia and John Frost present

**THE KING and I**

**by Rodgers and Hammerstein**

**Cast includes- Lisa McCune, Teddy Tahu Rhodes  
Shu-Cheen Yu and Adrian Li Donni.**

**Joan Sutherland Theatre - Sydney Opera House**

A glittering revival of the 1991 John Frost and  
Adelaide Festival Trust production that toured  
Australia before going to Broadway, then a US  
tour and then the London Palladium before a  
tour of the United Kingdom.

Directed and revived by Christopher Renshaw  
this production has been built from scratch  
sparing no expense. Brian Thomson designed the  
sumptuous set, while Roger Kirk created the  
array of stunning dresses.

The production team imported hundreds of  
metres of Thai silks, fabrics, hats and masks  
directly from Bangkok, and decorated the stage  
with more than 21,000 Swarovski crystals.

It's a sumptuous revival of a musical that won  
nearly every award in musical theatre, including  
multiple Tony Awards.

**We have a few stalls seats left for SBW Friends  
on Sunday – 19 October 2014 – 6pm**

**Tickets – A Reserve - \$129.00**

**B Reserve - \$104.00**

**Bookings – Carol Martin – 9955 544**