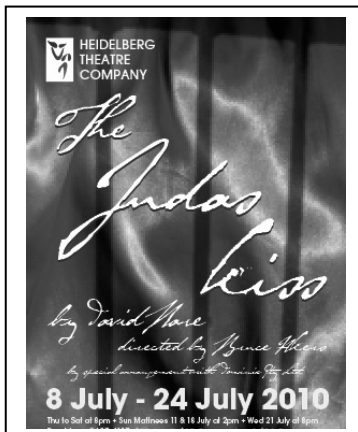


PROMPTS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE HEIDELBERG THEATRE COMPANY



The Judas Kiss

by David Hare directed by Bruce Akers

by special arrangement with Dominic Pty Ltd

8th – 24th July, 2010

Evenings at 8.00pm

Matinees: Sundays 11th & 18th July at 2pm

This play contains adult themes, nudity and smoking.

Subscribers requiring to alter their chosen night or reserve their booking are asked to call BEFORE Monday 28th June, 2010.



Tim Constantine (above) & Angelo De Cata (right) at work.



Oscar Wilde's relationship with Lord Alfred Douglas has inspired contemporary writers for decades. In this heartbreaking account of love tested to destruction, playwright David Hare presents his powerful interpretation of what may have happened behind closed doors between Wilde and Douglas. **The Judas Kiss** lays bare the drama of two critical moments in Wilde's last years: the day he decides to stay in England and face imprisonment and a night after his release, two years later, when the lover for whom he risked and lost everything betrays him.

We welcome back as the director of **The Judas Kiss**, HTC stalwart Bruce Akers. This is the eighth play Bruce has directed, all at Heidelberg, the most recent being **Angels in America** in 2008. Others have included **Side Man**; **A Streetcar Named Desire**; **A Perfect Ganesh** and **Sylvia**. Since **Angels in America** Bruce has concentrated on acting in such productions as **Cloudstreet** and **Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead** with a side trip to Malvern Theatre for **The Elephant Man**.

Bruce has gathered together an exceptional cast for this demanding play. Faces well known to regular HTC audiences are Chris Baldock (**Side Man** - VDL Award Best Actor Drama but known to HTC audiences for directing the very successful productions of **The Grapes of Wrath** and last year's **Cloudstreet**); Tim Constantine (**Angels in America**; **Cloudstreet** and **Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead** - VDL Award Best Actor Comedy) and Angelo De Cata (**Cat on a Hot Tin Roof** and **Angels in America**).

Newcomers to the Heidelberg stage are Simon Papson, Elise Moorhouse, Andrew McNess and Giovanni Piccolo. We wish them well and hope that they enjoy the experience of working at Heidelberg.

This is a huge production and the quality of participants is further reflected in the "behind the scenes" personnel. This list is growing by the day.

Wendy Drowley is Production Co-ordinator; Brett Turner and Adrian Valenta share the duties of Stage Manager with assistance from the cast. The Set Realisation has been undertaken by Chris McLean and Owen Evans based on the original design by the director. The Set Building team is headed by Owen

Ctd on page 2

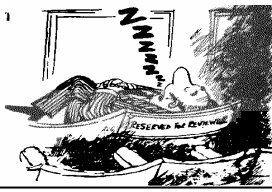
What's going on at HTC? The last issue of *Prompts* announced we would be able to book on line and now I've heard a whisper this isn't going to happen for **The Judas Kiss**.

That's right. On line ticketing has been postponed, there are some administrative details to sort out. But watch this space, it's on track for **Oh, What A Lovely War!**

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Email htc@htc.org.au
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BOOKINGS & SUBSCRIPTIONS 9457 4117



REVIEW

Levene (George Werther) left, chews the fat with *Roma* (Liam McIntyre) in a scene from **Glengarry Glen Ross**.



Glengarry Glen Ross by David Mamet
Directed by Paul King
Reviewed by in VDL's Theatrecraft by Phyll
Freeman on the 25th April, 2010.

Over twenty years ago I first saw this play and came away stunned by the constant obscenities flying around the stage, quite forgetting what the story was about. I approached Heidelberg's present production with some curiosity and yes, all those same words occurred but I am older and more 'street-wise' now, so the storyline stayed with me. It tells of the cut-throat machinations of property selling, American-wise in 1984. Even allowing for David Mamet's over-the-top style, the story still packs a wallop and it is still relevant in today's frantic real estate market.

The all-male cast gave us a high-octane vocal delivery in American accents which were not so broad that we have trouble deciphering them, but just the same this play needs a lot of focus from its audience because of the constant interjections by each character in their haste to top each other's speech. Because of the script requirements, pace was a roller coaster.

The first act consisted of duo performers in a Chicago Chinese restaurant, setting the scene for further conflict and/or selling techniques required. George Werther as *Shelley Levene*, an aging real estate salesman was brilliant as he wheedled and whined his way to gaining better 'leads' to sell properties. Jim Thomson as *John Williamson*, is the office 'bean counter' who hands these out to the top salesmen. He maintained a stony exterior, which counter-balanced the other character's self-abasement. *Levene*, an aging real estate salesman was brilliant as he wheedled and whined his way to gaining better 'leads' to sell properties. Jim Thomson as *John Williamson*, is the office 'bean counter' who hands these out to the top salesmen. He maintained a stony exterior, which counter-balanced the other character's self-abasement.

The second duo showed the manipulative cunning of one, *Dave Moss* (Adrian Carr), as he forces a naïve *George Aaronow* (Tony Costa) into removing valuable 'leads' from

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Evans ably assisted by Chris McLean, Paddy Moriarty, Dennis Pain, Des Harris, Neville Wilkie and Doug McNaughton. Set Décor and Properties is being handled by the versatile Bronwyn Parker. Deryk Hartwick and Callum Robertson are the Lighting Designers with George Bissett handling Sound. Wendy Drowley and Lois Connor (Gold VDL Award for Costuming for **Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead**) are costuming the play. Struan McGregor is operating the Lights and Ainslie Kerr is operating the Sound.

All in all, **The Judas Kiss** a huge operation, and we hope that you will enjoy the production.

the real estate office where they both worked – Dave as a salesman and George as a clerk. The torrent of dialogue was overwhelming for poor George and the contrast was excellent.

Lastly we had a change of pace with the hot-shot young salesman, *Rich Roma* (Liam McIntyre), eloquently charming the gullible would-be client *James Lingk* (Drew Mason) into buying property (sight unseen), in Florida. Liam's sparkling vibes showed he was a top successful salesman.

The second act, set in the real estate office, was after the burglary had taken place and *Police Detective Baylen* (John Jenkins), interviews each individual. The older salesman, Shelley, arrives showing his delight at gaining a valuable sale, only for everything to go 'pear-shape'. The top salesman, Richard, has trouble with his Florida sale, much to his chagrin and Drew Mason as his client, gains our sympathy. One is left with the strong impression that this game is not for the faint-hearted.

Turning to the set, the first act showed two dining booths in a Chinese restaurant, individually lit, and the second act was the real estate office after the burglary. This was nicely chaotic with broken windows and crooked Venetian blinds. The dressing of the cast was suitable for the ear as was the incidental music. Paul King is to be commended for his well-chosen and directed cast. This production is up to Heidelberg's excellent standards, with fine ensemble acting.

Congratulations to all concerned – a worthy contender in the VDL Awards.

Help with PUBLICITY

Want to join the great team of volunteers at HTC?

Our Publicity Team is seeking assistance with its computer based activities.

So if, when you hear the word "**mouse**" you immediately think, "**wireless**" and not "**mousetrap**," then you're the person they're looking for!

Don't hesitate,

send an email to htc@htc.org.au or call the Theatre on 9455 3039, leave your details and one of our Publicity Team will get back to you.

Would you like to be in the Wardrobe Crew for
Oh, What A Lovely War!

Help is needed –

A great opportunity to delve into the wonders and mysteries of HTC's wardrobe.

Phone Wendy at the Theatre - 9455 3039.

AUDITION NOTICE

Heidelberg Theatre Company AUDITIONS for the 2010 production of

OH, WHAT A LOVELY WAR!

written by Joan Littlewood and Theatre Workshop

directed by John Keogh

AUDITION DATES

Saturday 26 June from 4.00pm &

Sunday 27 June from 7.00pm

Audition venue: Heidelberg Theatre Company

36 Turnham Avenue Rosanna - Melway 32 A1

Season 16th September – 2nd October, 2010

Weeknights & Saturdays at 8:00pm, Sundays at 2:00pm

About the play

This was possibly the first anti-war play to receive wide acclaim by critics and audience alike. First performed in 1962, "Oh, What a Lovely War!" conveys its message using sketches, song, humour and newspaper clippings, in an almost vaudevillian style. Its real heroes are revealed to be the 'cannon fodder' of The Great War, not the officer class.

CHARACTERS

This is very much an ensemble piece. Everyone will be playing a variety of roles such as soldiers of various nationalities, politicians, nurses, suffragettes, factory workers, high society ladies, business men of different nationalities, Music Hall entertainers, singers and dancers. The scenes follow in quick succession.

Various accents will be required: English regional, Scottish, Irish, American, French, German, Russian.

WE WANT

Actors who are OK to sing and dance a bit.

Singers who are OK to act and dance a bit.

Dancers who are OK to act and sing a bit.

Nothing too sophisticated. Enjoyment guaranteed.

Rehearsals will commence early July on Tuesdays, Thursdays commencing at 7:30
and Sunday afternoons commencing at 1:00pm
(times and dates are subject to negotiation)

For further information please contact the
Director, **John Keogh.**

Home - **98276903** Mobile - **040 1745 483**

Email - jfk@netspace.net.au

Banyule Winter Festival - HTC presents:-

htc capers 2010

on **SATURDAY AUGUST 28th @ 8pm**

at **Heidelberg Theatre Company**

Turnham Ave. Rosanna

A whacky night of theatrical mayhem and musical madness!!!
(and whatever else happens on the night).

NEVER FEAR!

The usual suspects will appear and new stars will venture out no doubt!!!
See our stellar set builders and other talented techies tread the boards.

MAYBE....

there's a sketch lurking in you a song you're dying to deliver
an ode you can offer. Are you a super nova waiting in the wings?????

YOU...

could be flying by the seat of your pants

ON THE HTC STAGE!!!

includes a light supper and the jovial company of htc members and friends
Drinks on sale at the bar..... **All this for a mere \$5 contribution!!!!!!**

GOT AN IDEA FOR A CAPER?????

Contact Anne Smith via absmith44@hotmail.com,
Marg Hassall and George Bissett via margaret.hassall@gmail.com
or phone Marg and George on **9386 9313**

(and remember ... capers go well with lots of things)

WHO, WHAT, WHERE

A treasure trove of material for the HTC archives was recently given to the Company by the family of Joyce Whitefield. Joyce was a founding and Life Member of HTC.

Amongst the papers were old copies of *Prompts* from the '60s. In those days, if a play contained adult themes, coarse language, nudity or frequent profanity, the 'warning' on it said it was, "A play for grown ups." How simple – and sensible.

JUNE

Tuesday 22nd 7.30pm
Saturday 26th 10.30am
Saturday 26th 4.00pm
Sunday 27th 7.00pm

Heidelberg Film Society – The Dish
Working Bee with Lunch
AUDITION – Oh! What A Lovely War
AUDITION – Oh! What A Lovely War

JULY

Saturday 3rd 10.30am
Thursday 8th 8.00pm
Saturday 24th 8.00pm
Tuesday 27th 7.30pm

Working Bee with Lunch
FIRST NIGHT – The Judas Kiss
FINAL NIGHT – The Judas Kiss
Heidelberg Film Society – Strictly Ballroom

AUGUST

Saturday 28th 8.00pm

htc capers 2010
HTC's Winter in Banyule Extravaganza

HELP!!!

needed at the

WORKING BEES for

The Judas Kiss

Saturdays

26th June & 3rd July

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