

# PROMPTS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE HEIDELBERG THEATRE COMPANY



## *The Painkiller*

by Francis Veber directed by Joan Moriarty

**18<sup>th</sup> Nov – 4<sup>th</sup> Dec, 2010**

**Evenings at 8.00pm**

**Matinees: Sundays 21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> Nov at 2pm**

Subscribers requiring to alter their chosen night or reserve their booking are asked to call BEFORE Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November, 2010.

If you were among our audiences for **The Dinner Game**, the show that opened our 2009 Season, then we have a treat in store for you! HTC ends its 2010 Season with another great farce that will have audiences once again falling about with laughter.

We bring you more of the misadventures of *Francois Pignon*, completely devastated, following the breakdown of his marriage. In an hotel room, planning suicide, he becomes involved in the world of *Ralph Milan*, a hit man using the adjoining room as a vantage point from which he will kill a witness about to arrive at the nearby Court de Justice.

**The Pain Killer** or more appropriately “**A Pain in the Ass**” began as a film script in 1973, written by Frances Veber of **The Dinner Game**. It has now been written and translated into an hilarious stage play by Veber.

The cast is mostly well known at HTC.

This terrific comedy brings Laurie Jezard back to play *Pignon*, Bruce Carboon as the hit man, Catherine Ryan Christensen as the estranged wife and John Cheshire as the desperate bell boy. Newcomers are David Creedon as the not so kind psychiatrist and Steven Anastasi as the cop who spends a lot of time unconscious in the wardrobe. All in chaos reigns at a breakneck speed.

Joan Moriarty is directing fresh from **The Dinner Game** and is delighted to welcome Karen Wakeman as Assistant Director. She has again engaged Leanne Cole as Designer, Chris McLean as Production Co-ordinator and Basileia Paras as Stage Manager. Props will be capably handled by Bronwyn Parker and Wardrobe by Di Brennan. Lighting Designer is Craig Pearcey and Sound Designer George Bissett, all very experienced and talented. The set building team headed by Owen Evans will do a capital job as will all those unsung helpers who make these shows happen.

This is a rollicking night of fun. Book early.

### The Committee Is Delighted To Announce the Plays Chosen For The 2011 Season:

Play 1 – **Enchanted April** by Matthew Barber, directed by Maureen McInerney – 17<sup>th</sup> Feb. – 5<sup>th</sup> March.

Play 2 - **The Business of Murder** by Richard Harris, directed by John Jenkins – 21<sup>st</sup> April – 7<sup>th</sup> May.

Play 3 - **The History Boys** by Alan Bennett, directed by Bruce Akers – 7<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> July.

Play 4 - **The 39 Steps** by John Buchan, adapted by Patrick Barlow, directed by Geoff Hickey – 15<sup>th</sup> Sep. – 1<sup>st</sup> Oct.

Play 5 – **Under Milkwood** by Dylan Thomas, directed by Sandy Green – 17<sup>th</sup> Nov. – 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec.

*More information on the plays will feature in the 2011 Playbill. A copy of the Playbill will be included with the final issue of Prompts, coming to you in a couple of weeks from now. Details of Subscription Renewal, New Subscriptions, Gift Subscriptions, Gift Vouchers and Company Membership will be in the Playbill.*

P.O Box 141, Rosanna VIC 3084

Enquiries 9455 3039

Web [www.htc.org.au](http://www.htc.org.au)

Email [htc@htc.org.au](mailto:htc@htc.org.au)

Inc. No. A008432X

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# BOOKINGS & SUBSCRIPTIONS 9457 4117



# Review

HEIDELBERG THEATRE COMPANY presents  
WILLIAMSTOWN LITTLE THEATRE'S production of  
**GLORIOUS!**

by Peter Quilter

Directed by Doug Bennett.

Reviewed by John Gunn on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2010  
for 3CR's **Curtain Up – Sundays at One 855AM.**

*Florence  
hits  
another  
high note  
during  
Glorious!*



Earlier in the year I reviewed this production for its Williamstown season and loved it, the story is about Florence Foster Jenkins a wealthy American Socialite who was hailed as the world's worst singer, however she went on to great fame culminating in a sell out concert at Carnegie Hall in 1944.

It is a very funny yet affectionate look at this lady who believed in her dream and those who supported her. Well, this excellent production has now transferred to Heidelberg Theatre Company and I must say that the beautiful set design by David Dare looks wonderful on the bigger stage, actually on the night reviewed it drew gasps of delight from the audience when the lights came up.

The cast remain the same with one exception in that Lena Minto has now taken over the role of the Spanish speaking role of *Maria*, the maid, and she does it very nicely indeed.

Patricia McCracken in the role of *Florence* is again captivating, giving her all to this demanding role and the remainder of the original cast; Peter Dennis as *Cosme*, her pianist, Robert Harsley as *St Clair Byfield* (part time actor full time boy friend to Florence), Robyne Legge as *Dorothy* the rather scatty friend and Christine McGowen as *Mrs Johnson*, a 'real' music lover, all have all made the switch effortlessly.

To sum up, it is wonderful to see this production once again and what a great thing for both Heidelberg and Williamstown that this production has a chance to be seen by an audience that perhaps would not have the opportunity to see it before, perhaps we will now see more companies exchanging shows which must lesson the work load for companies and their over worked committees.

*Glorious!* has another week to run at Heidelberg, treat yourself and go along it is a very funny, enjoyable production with a knockout performance from the leading lady.

## Letter to HTC Subscribers from our President

October, 2010

The Committee is delighted to announce that together with the financial assistance provided by Banyule City Council, we have managed to generate sufficient funds to undertake the replacement of the theatre auditorium seating. Installation is scheduled for January 2011 which means that we will have new seats in our theatre for the first play of the season.

Another major initiative next year will be the introduction of online bookings for our productions. Online booking fees will be contained in the 2011 ticket prices. You will still be able to choose to book your seats online or continue to book using our booking number. Subscriptions and Memberships bookings will continue to be accepted using the form in the 2011 Playbill.

As a result of rising costs for each production and the ever increasing cost of utilities to maintain and operate the theatre, we have reviewed our ticket prices for the 2011 season. The cost of an adult general admission ticket will be \$25 and concession \$22. Subscription rates will be offered for 5 or 4 plays and group bookings for 10 or more will be \$20 a ticket. Full details will be in Playbill.

We have resisted increasing our ticket prices for three years, so this decision has been taken to ensure that the Heidelberg Theatre Company can continue to maintain and upgrade the theatre's equipment and facilities, whilst ensuring that we can continue to deliver great productions in a modern venue at an affordable ticket price. We hope that the selection of plays in our Playbill will encourage you to subscribe and we look forward to your continued support in 2011.

Regards, John.

(John Gilbert, President, Heidelberg Theatre Company Inc.)

### Like to Purchase a Memento of THE PAINKILLER and get a good night's rest as well?

At the end of the Season, HTC are offering for sale the  
**2 new double bed bases and mattresses**

seen on stage during **The Painkiller**.

The purchase price - \$350 each, but to you,  
just **\$200** each.

Interested: Call Joan at the Theatre on **9455 3039**

### HTC has two types of Assistive Listening Devices.

#### 1. Induction Loop System.

Permanently installed for Rows A - F Seats 1-10.

This can be accessed by switching on the T switch  
on your hearing aid.

#### 2. F.M. System - Phonic Ear (no hearing aid required)

Patrons will need to wear a headphone to access  
the sound. A limited number of headphones will  
be available at the Theatre for

**Matinee performances only.**

**Please reserve them when booking tickets.**

(The FM System is being trialled with assistance  
from the Banyule City Council)

Further information is available at the Ticket Box

# AUDITION NOTICE

Heidelberg Theatre Company AUDITIONS for the 2011 production of

## **Enchanted April**

by **Matthew Barber**

directed by **Maureen McInerney**

## AUDITION DATES

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November - 7pm &**

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> November – 7pm**

Please let the Director know which night you prefer.

at **Heidelberg Theatre Company**

36 Turnham Avenue Rosanna - Melway 32 A1

**Season 17<sup>th</sup> February – 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2011**

Weeknights & Saturdays at 8pm, Sundays at 2pm

Rehearsal times will be confirmed once casting is complete – there will be 3 rehearsals per week.

### **About the play**

Set in the 1920's, **Enchanted April** centers around four English women who rent a castle in a remote Italian village to try to come to grips with their lives and relationships. During their enchanted month in Italy, the ladies fall under the spell of their idyllic, sun-drenched surroundings. They rediscover laughter, learn new truths about themselves and find the romance they long for.

### **CHARACTERS**

**Lotty Wilton**, 30, a Hampstead housewife

**Mellersh Wilton**, 32, her husband, a solicitor

**Rose Arnott**, 38, a Hampstead housewife

**Frederick Arnott**, 45, her husband, a writer

**Caroline Bramble**, 25, a socialite

**Antony Wilding**, 25, an artist

**Mrs Graves**, 70s, a London matron

**Costanza**, 60s, an Italian housekeeper

For further information please contact the  
Director, **Maureen McInerney**.

phone: **0409 655 603**

Anyone interested in auditioning is welcome to contact the director to obtain copies of the script.

**Heidelberg Theatre Company Youth** is proud to announce their upcoming end-of-year production of Frank L. Baum's timeless classic...

# THE WIZARD OF OZ - *The Play*

Adapted by Alfred Bradley

Directed by Elise Dorian.

Performing **8** shows:-

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup>, Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm**  
**Matinees - Saturdays 11<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> of December, 2010 at 12 noon**

It will be an exciting interpretation that moves between the original book and the much-loved 1939 film.

We travel down the Yellow-Brick Road with all the sense of a warm nostalgia remembered from the musical, yet this play version enables audiences to enjoy much more than simply a trip down memory lane.

Interested in helping out the production – love to hear from you, especially if you have theatrical make up skills – just shoot an email to Colleen at [c.jeffery@live.com.au](mailto:c.jeffery@live.com.au)

## Help with PUBLICITY

You don't have to sing, dance or act to join the great team at HTC. Even if you can but you don't want to tell anyone, you may be interested to know that the Company has many more roles to fill off-stage and right now we need help with our Publicity.

So if you have computer and organisational skills, like working with creative, demanding and entertaining people, then you are the person the Company is looking for to help our team.

Interested? Call our President, John Gilbert, on **9457 5634**.

## *HTC Capers - Saturday 28th August*

Many thanks again go to Anne Smith for producing the delightful *HTC Capers* on Saturday 28th August. Again this year the set builders strutted their stuff and it was great to see them displaying their enormous range of talents on stage at Heidelberg.

A variety of items were presented by our Members to an appreciative audience of their peers as well as subscribers and friends of the Company.

Anne again appeared in many guises together with her jazz band. Laurie Jezard, again proved himself to be a charismatic Master of Ceremonies. A great night!

## END 2010 ON A HIGH!

Get together a bunch of mates, fellow members from your interest group or charity, neighbours or people you meet at the gym, the pool or out walking the dog and bring them along to **The Pain Killer** and you could go away with a tidy sum for your Group or favourite Charity.

**It only takes 10 to make a Group Booking at HTC**

Generous concessions apply. Like more details?

Call **June** at the Theatre on **9457 4117**.

## NOVEMBER

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> 10.30am  
Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> 10.30am  
Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> 8.00pm  
Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> 7.00pm  
Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> 7.00pm  
Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> 7.30pm

**Working Bee** with Lunch  
**Working Bee** with Lunch  
**FIRST NIGHT – The Pain Killer**  
**AUDITION – Enchanted April**  
**AUDITION – Enchanted April**  
Heidelberg Film Society –  
*A Fish Called Wanda*

## DECEMBER

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> 8.00pm  
Friday 10<sup>th</sup> – Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>  
Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> 3.00pm

**FINAL NIGHT – The Pain Killer**  
HTC YOUTH *presents*  
**THE WIZARD OF OZ**  
**Annual General Meeting,**  
**In House Awards & Christmas Party**

## *HELP!!!*

needed at the

## **WORKING BEES**

*for*

## **The Pain Killer**

**Saturdays**

**6<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>**

**November**

**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**