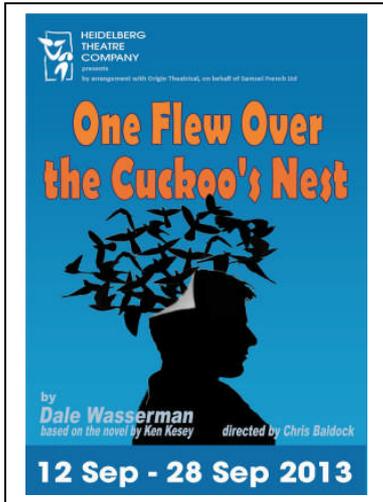




One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest

PROMPTS

61st Year
No. 4 August, 2013



A much celebrated and awarded modern classic.

by Dale Wasserman directed by Chris Baldock
based on the novel by Ken Kesey

12th – 28th September, 2013

Evenings at 8.00pm

Matinees: Sundays 15th & 22nd Sept. at 2pm

Subscribers requiring to alter their chosen night or reserve their booking are asked to call BEFORE Wednesday, 28th August, 2013.

Boisterous, hilariously devilish and ultimately shattering, **One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest** is the unforgettable and much-loved story of a mental hospital and its inhabitants. When a brash new inmate arrives, the rigid program of the ward, headed by the tyrannical *Nurse Ratched*, is thrown into chaos.

In a world where sanity means conformity and following the rules is the only way to survive, **One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest** is a powerful exploration of both the beauty and the danger of being an original.

With over 60 auditionees and some difficult decisions, Director Chris Baldock (**Cloudstreet, The Grapes of Wrath, Under Milk Wood** and *Oscar Wilde* in **The Judas Kiss**) has assembled a stunning cast

for this special play, with a mixture of wellknown and new talent.

The staff of the hospital are Paula MacDonald, Bruce Akers, Clare Hayes, Christian Dell'Olio, Ben Douthwaite and David Small. The patients are Tim Constantine, Paul Schmidt, Adrian Carr, Rick Barry, Tony Costa, James Plunkett, Paul Kennedy and Rhys Purdey. Adding to the mix are good time girls Catherine Jardine and Fiona Heart.

Production Coordinator Bruce Akers has put together a great crew for this show with Owen Evans leading our trusty set construction team: Doug, Paddy, Des, Neville, Mal and Ian, building George Tranter's stunning set design. Maureen McInerny is heading up the costumes with Deryk Hardwick 's talents once again giving us a beautiful lighting design. Melanie Belcher is back as the trusty Stage Manager and Chris Baldock will be designing the sound himself.

A much-celebrated and awarded modern classic, **Cuckoo's Nest** will thrill, move and entertain in an unmissable theatrical event. It's booking fast so don't delay in securing your seats.

REHEARSAL SHOTS: below left: Kidding around – Paul Kennedy –Mancini, Tony Costa – Cheswick, James Plunket – BillyBibbit, Adrian Carr – Harding.

below right: Paula MacDonald – Nurse Ratched, James Plunkett – Billy Bibbit, Adrian Carr – Harding, Tim Constantine – McMurphy.



left: Paul Schmidt - Chief Bomden, Christian Dell'Olio - William



right: Clare Hayes – Nurse Finn, Paul Schmidt – Chief Bromden



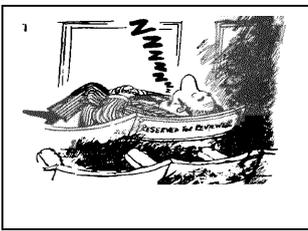
BOOKINGS – Online at www.htc.org.au or call 9457 4117

36 Turnham Avenue, Rosanna
P.O Box 141, Rosanna VIC 3084

Enquiries 9455 3039
Email htc@htc.org.au

web: htc.org.au
Inc. No. A008432X

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Review

Blithe Spirit by Noel Coward

Directed by Wendy Drowley. Reviewed on July 13, 2013 by Graeme McCoubrie of Theatrecraft published by the Victorian Drama League.

Noel Coward wrote **Blithe Spirit** during World War II when the Luftwaffe was constantly bombing London. He was serious about entertaining his countrymen during the dark time of blackouts, food shortages and family disruption. Despite initial criticism from the clergy and critics, **Blithe Spirit** was later seen as the perfect escapist comedy.

Coward was a prolific playwright, actor and composer and is considered to be the most recognized writer of English comedy since Oscar Wilde. **Blithe Spirit** is one of Coward's many works in this genre and it loses nothing in its wit, considering it is a farce about death.

Spirits, séance's and death form the crux of the comedy in which a happily married novelist is unhinged by the ghost of his first wife and then by the death and ghost of his second wife.

Heidelberg captured the era and the mood with great distinction with a superb set: the living room of the Condomine household in Kent 1941, designed by Wendy Drowley and dressed meticulously with an eye for detail by Bronwyn Parker. Special effects with collapsing set pieces worked very well; I note from the programme that they are the work of Bruce Moorhouse.

From the start the farce is kept in proper rhythm and tempo with the maid *Edith* (Madeleine McKinlay) habitually sprinting as a result of her time in the Navy, which is of great annoyance to *Ruth Condomine*, (Jeanne Snider), the novelist's second wife.

In order to get some background information for his next novel *Charles Condomine* (Tim Murphy) invites *Madame Arcati*, (Cate Dowling Trask) an eccentric medium, for a séance to communicate with the other world. To witness the events he also invites *Dr. Bradman* (Ian McMaster) and *Mrs Bradman* (Jessica Battersby); their presence helps develop the plot and at times provides a diversion, particularly with *Mrs. Bradman's* many well-executed comical lines.

The result of the séance is that *Charles's* first wife *Elvira* (Clare Hayes) appears, ethereal and beautiful, and can only be seen by him. This is where confusion and jealousy abounds, with his second wife *Ruth* falling apart with frustration and later dying in a car accident set up by ghostly *Elvira*. So we later have two spirits that haunt and taunt *Charles* to the very end.

Tim Murphy plays the upper-middle-class overwrought husband *Charles* with apparent ease and flowing delivery, while we saw two very different wives. Clare Hayes's *Elvira*, in her ethereal and often sultry movements and see-through attire, created the perfect atmosphere. The unseen *Elvira* wafting about had Jeanne Snider's *Ruth*, reserved and proper earlier in the play,



The cast and crew of *Blithe Spirit* by Noel Coward



The set for *Blithe Spirit* by Noel Coward

becoming overwrought, with several hysterical outbursts in a well-measured performance. With the three acts there were some lengthy scene breaks to allow costume changes and, while a slight distraction, mention must be made of the many engaging and well chosen period costumes by Diane Brennan. Other technical aspects such as staging, lighting and sound all complemented the play and the work of production coordinator Jim Thomson.

Director Wendy Drowley had the cast working well with great timing in delivery, creating a performance both convincing and utterly entertaining.

ANNOUNCING AUDITIONS FOR

THE HTC YOUTH END OF YEAR PRODUCTION

Play to be announced

Large cast required.

When: Sunday 22nd September from 6pm

Where: Heidelberg Theatre Company,
36 Turnham Ave, Rosanna, 3084

To keep up with details of the production check out our website: www.htc.org.au or Heidelberg Theatre Company's Facebook page.

Auditions by Appointment.

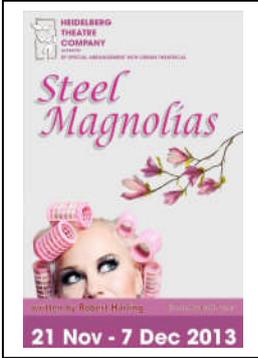
For more information or to make an appointment contact the Director,

Christian Dell'Olio

on 0435 015215 or email:

christian.dellolio@gmail.com.

Play Season: Wednesday 18th to
Saturday 21st December, 2013.



AUDITION NOTICE

Heidelberg Theatre Company's production of

Steel Magnolias

by **Robert Harling**

Directed by **Brett Turner**

Auditions will be held at the Theatre

36 Turnham Avenue Rosanna (Melway ref: 32 A1)

**Sunday 15th & Monday 16th September
from 7.00pm**

Play Season: 21st November – 7th December, 2013

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

**The play is set in the fictional town of Chinquapin, Louisiana, USA
in 1985**

Cast

TRUVY JONES

Late 40s owner of the hair salon/beauty shop where the action takes place.
Dispenses advice, big hearted.

Annelle Dupuy-Desoto;

20s hair salon assistant. Quiet girl at first but comes out of her shell later.

Clairee Belcher;

60s widow of former mayor. Grande Dame. Loves winding Ouiser up but full of love and concern for all.

Shelby Eatenton-Latcherie;

20s prettiest girl in town. Headstrong.

M'Lynn Eatenton;

Early 50s Shelby's mother, socially prominent career woman, strong willed but worries about her daughter's health.

Ouiser Boudreaux;

mid 60s wealthy curmudgeon, acerbic but lovable.

Southern USA accents will be required for all characters.

**For further enquiries or questions please email the director,
Brett Turner, at bturnsta63@gmail.com**

Where did you get those frocks, where did you get those FROCKS?

The costumes for Blithe Spirit received a lot of interest and comment, so our Director, Wendy Drowley, has put together some notes on how the Company sourced those gorgeous 1930s numbers.

RUTH'S GOWNS – The **Dark Green Beaded Gown**, a beautiful George Gross design, purchased in 2011 from a Salvo's Op Shop. It was sleeveless, so circular lace sleeves were added to make it more 1930s style. The **Khaki Green Morning Dress**, stored in our wardrobe for many years, possibly donated. The only alteration was Velcro down the front for the quick change. Her **Black and Purple Afternoon Dress**, again purchased from the Salvos. This quite modern design fits in perfectly for the 1930s. The **Black and Gold Evening Dress** with cowl neck at back. Donated many years ago and kept waiting in our wardrobe for the perfect play, and this was it. **Grey Ghost Dress**, made to match the previous dress.

ELVIRA'S Negligee Set was comprised of another recent purchase from the Salvos, a beautiful silk draped evening gown, dyed ghost grey and worn as a negligee together with a long negligee coat made to match.

MADAM ARCATI – The long **Grey Gown** was Cate's own. Her **Evening Coat** was made from new multi coloured lace. The **Tweed Suit** was made for **See How They Run** in 1999 and worn by Cate in that play. Her large **Crazy Patchwork Handbag** was made by Vicki Ashton from exotic pieces of material from Wardrobe.

MRS BRADMAN – The **Evening Gown** was a tan lace dress with green embroidery layered over a brown lace dress with pink underslip to gain the length needed for the 1930s. Both stored in Wardrobe for many years. The **Patterned White and Tan Layered Gown** worn with authentic **Fur Cape** and 1930s **Shoes and Bag**. All from Wardrobe.

EDITH Her **Black Dress** was purchased from the National Trust Vintage Sale earlier this year. The **aprons, etc**, from Wardrobe.

CHARLES AND DR BRADMAN both wore **Vintage Evening Suits** and **Casual Clothes** from HTC's Wardrobe.

All the alterations and new gowns for the show were made by Diane Brennan.

All donations of clothing gratefully received.

(I don't know where I'll put them though!!)



THE CUCKOO NEEDS TO FEATHER ITS NEST!

Can you help with supplying the following items for the set of **One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest** please?

Furniture: Grey metal fold up chairs, we need up to 8 of these!

2 1960's vintage vinyl covered easy chairs.

1 1960's vintage fold up card table.

Props: 1 1960's vintage **electric razor with cord** – doesn't have to be in working order.

Board Games from the 1960's – Scrabble, Drafts, etc – all with obvious signs of wear from lots of use.

If you have any of these treasures that we can borrow for rehearsal and the run of the show, please call Bruce on 0432 984781

AUGUST

Saturday 31ST 10.00am **Working Bee** with Lunch

SEPTEMBER

Saturday 7th 10.00am **Working Bee** with Lunch

Sunday 15th 7.00pm **Audition** – Steel Magnolias

Monday 16th 7.30pm **Audition** – Steel Magnolias

Thursday 12th 8.00pm **OPENING NIGHT** –

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest

Saturday 28th 8.00pm **FINAL NIGHT** –

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest

HELP needed at WORKING BEES

for **One Flew Over
the Cuckoo's
Nest**

**Saturdays -
August 31st &
September 7th
from 10.00am**

lunch is provided

So come along, it's a great
experience and a fun time too!
Working Bees not your style?
How about assisting backstage or
front of house.

Like to know more – call the Theatre
on **9455 3039**