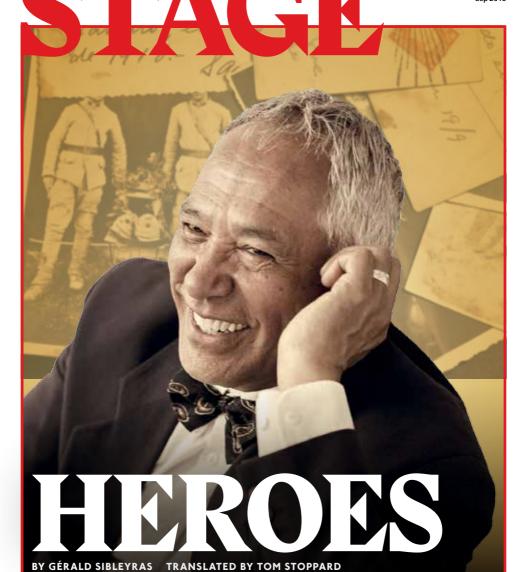
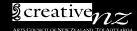
### AUCKLAND THEATRE COMPANY

Vol. 1 No. 9 Sep 2015



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# ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Colin McColl

Welcome to our sixth production for 2015.

Our heroes of the title are all French veterans of World War One, now ostensibly 'prisoners', living out their days in an old soldiers' home run, if we are to believe them, by a tyrannical nun, Sister Madeleine. On the back terrace of the home, they plan their escape. If they can't make it to Indo-China, then at least they reach the poplars at the top of a nearby hill. This gentle, almost whimsical comedy (titled *Le Vent Des Peupliers* in the original French) has at its heart the universal desire in us all to escape from the confines of our lives.

What attracted me to the play was the opportunity to see a trio of our finest 'veteran' actors strut their stuff. Ray Henwood, Ken Blackburn and George Henare have entertained us on stage, on television and film, for six decades. So the opportunity to have them all together in the one play was irresistible. These guys know their stuff – they are masters of subtle comedy and it's a great pleasure to see them relish Tom Stoppard's delicious language.

My heartfelt thanks and respect to the three of them and to director Alison Quigan and her creative team - set designer John Parker, costume designer Gayle Jackson and lighting designer Phillip Dexter - for creating a world that is achingly funny, a little sad, yet subversively anarchic.

Enjoy.

# HEROES

BY GÉRALD SIBLEYRAS TRANSLATED BY TOM STOPPARD

# CAST

Henri – GEORGE HENARE Gustave – RAY HENWOOD Philippe – KEN BLACKBURN

# **CREATIVE**

Director – ALISON QUIGAN
Set Designer – JOHN PARKER
Costume Designer – GAYLE JACKSON
Lighting Designer – PHILLIP DEXTER MSc
Sound Designer – SEAN LYNCH

# **PRODUCTION**

Production Manager – ANDREW MALMO
Company Manager – ELAINE WALSH
Stage Manager – ELIZA JOSEPHSON-RUTTER
Stage Management Cover – YOURA HWANG
Technical Manager – JAMIE JOHNSTONE
Technical Operator – ROCHELLE BOND
Props Master – AMY SNAPE
Set Construction – 2CONSTRUCT

AUCKLAND THEATRE COMPANY WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR HELP WITH THIS PRODUCTION: Circa Theatre, Howick Little Theatre, Unitec, Audio Described Aotearoa Ltd, Nicola Owen, Kevin Keys, NZSL interpretation by Giant Leap Foundation with Daniel Hanks & Charlie Grimsdale, Sue East, Dan Hanks, Chisholm Whitney Family Charitable Trust, and Oticon Foundation (for their support of this season's accessible performance).

Herves is the sixth Auckland Theatre Company mainbill production for 2015 and opened on Sep  $3^{rd}$  at Maidment Theatre. The production is approximately 1 hour 26 minutes with no interval. Please remember to switch off all mobile phones, pagers and watch alarms.





# **DIRECTOR'S NOTE**

Alison Quigan

What makes a hero? In the dictionary it says:

"A hero is a person who is admired for their courage, outstanding achievements, or noble qualities."

Some synonyms for 'hero': a brave man, champion, man of courage, great man, man of the hour, conquering hero, victor, winner, conqueror, lionheart, warrior, a knight.

I could be talking about the characters in this play or the actors playing them. I am referring to both. They are all heroes to me. I have enjoyed discovering the history and strengths of them all and the qualities that make them heroic.

The play's characters are residents in a veterans' home, having served as soldiers in the Great War. Nearing the end of their lives and clearly still affected by the war, they show great courage in conquering the small things in life. As Bette Davies said, "Old age is not for sissies"; these heroes are indeed worthy of the name.

The actors that you will see tonight are true knights of our profession and our country. Since the 1950s each of these actors has surprised, delighted, shocked, and entertained audiences all over New Zealand. With so much experience between them, the trio has been a true delight to direct. Watching them work together at the top of their game has been like watching a daily masterclass. They are the guiding light that many of us follow and watch in awe as they weave their magic.

My thanks to these esteemed actors, who have my admiration always. My thanks also to the design team, led by John Parker, who are a true team, and to our stage managers, Eliza and Youra, who have provided such excellent support.

Thanks to you, the audience; it's great to see you here.

Welcome to Heroes - and enjoy the show.

# **SYNOPSIS**

On the terrace of an old soldiers' home, three World War One veterans wile away the day gossiping about the nurses, reminiscing, and exasperating one another with hare-brained schemes. Gustave suffers from a crippling agoraphobia. Henri is afflicted by a gammy leg. And Philippe periodically passes out because of a piece of shrapnel lodged in his brain. Their querulous and cantankerous camaraderie is tested when Gustave conceives an improbable escape plan that will take them to a distant poplar-lined hill and, perhaps, freedom.



# GÉRALD SIBLEYRAS

Playwright

Acclaimed playwright Gérald Sibleyras was born in 1961 in Paris. His most notable work is *Le Vent des Peupliers* (2003), which has been translated into numerous languages and produced internationally, including seasons in the United Kingdom, Germany, Uruguay, the United States of America, and New Zealand.

The play premiered at the Theatre Montparnasse and received four Molieres nominations, including Meilleur Auteur (Best Author). Tom Stoppard translated the play into English (*Heroes*) in 2005, and it received its London

debut at the Wyndham's Theatre in that year, under the direction of Thea Sharrock. The production won the 2006 Laurence Olivier Award for Best New Comedy.

Sibleyras's other plays have also been well-received. In 2003, the play *Un Petit Jeu Sans Conséquence* (*Consequences*) received five Molieres awards. *L'Inscription* was produced in 2004 in Paris, and later staged in Poland. The 2005 play *Une Heure et Demie de Retard* (*An Hour and a Half Late*) was adapted by Mel Smith and produced in England; it toured for several months. *La Danse de L'Albatros* premiered to acclaim in Paris in 2006.



## SIR TOM STOPPARD

Playwright

Sir Tom Stoppard om CBE FRSL (born Tomáš Straussler, 3 July 1937) is a British playwright, knighted in 1997. He has written prolifically for TV, radio, film and stage, finding prominence with plays such as *Arcadia*, The Coast of Utopia, Every Good Boy Deserves Favour, Professional Foul, The Real Thing, and Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead. He cowrote the screenplays for *Brazil*, The Russia House, and Shakespeare in Love, and has received one Academy Award and four Tony Awards. Themes of human rights, censorship and political freedom pervade his work along with exploration of linguistics and philosophy. Stoppard has

been a key playwright of the National Theatre and is one of the most internationally performed dramatists of his generation.

Born in Czechoslovakia, Stoppard left as a child refugee, fleeing imminent Nazi occupation. He settled with his family in Britain after the war, in 1946, having spent the three years prior (1943–46) in a boarding school in Darjeeling in the Indian Himalayas. After being educated at schools in Nottingham and Yorkshire, Stoppard became a journalist, a drama critic and, in 1960, a playwright.

His most recent play *The Hard Problem* premiered January 2015 at the National Theatre.

# THE 'KNIGHTS' OF NEW ZEALAND THEATRE TAKE A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE...

By Dionne Christian

George Henare (CNZM), Ken Blackburn (ONZM) and Ray Henwood (ONZM): they're known as the Knights of New Zealand theatre and given their respective careers, it is little wonder they have earned such respect.

Launching their careers in the 1950s and 60s, their paths have crossed many times on stage, screen and in radio plays. But, surprisingly, they didn't work together as a trio until 2007 when they were cast as the mischievous old soldiers in Circa Theatre's production of *Heroes*.

They enjoyed the warm-hearted poignancy of the play - its witty one liners and its gentle musings on the trials and tribulations of growing older. Now they're back and playing the same characters

they first breathed life into eight years ago: George is Henri, Ken is Philippe and Ray is Gustave, whose desire to experience one more adventure leads them to plan a daring – some might say foolhardy – escape from their old age rest home.

The actors believe, nearly a decade on, that they relate even more to the characters and their conviction age doesn't dull the spirit. The lines came quickly back; advancing years have not, declares Ray, impacted on their memories,



Circa Theatre's production of Herves (31 March - 15 May 2007), directed by Ross Jolly, photographed by Stephen A'Court.

though knees might be a little creakier. Yes, chuckles George, he now understands why elderly relatives pushed themselves up from the sofa and sometimes used other furniture for support.

Because of this more developed insight, they agree reprising the roles is a chance to explore more deeply the characters and themes which offer an insight into ageing and question the boundaries society frequently places around individual expression and freedoms. As the soldiers sit on the terrace of their care home, they observe migrating birds and trees blowing in the wind and simply want to partake in that freedom but they're told it's against the rules.

Ray sees the humour coming from the friendship the characters have with one another and their differing ideas about what constitutes a daring escape. Gustave wants to revisit his old stomping ground in Indochina; Henri would like to go on a picnic.

So what of their real-life friendships? George and Ray were neighbours in Wellington as Downstage Theatre started; Ken and George appeared in the 1968 production of *The Apple Tree* and, later that same year, Ken and Ray were in *A Delicate Balance*. Ray and Ken starred in *Gliding On* and went on to do radio, theatre and television presentations of the much-loved comedy. George

remembers with great fondness acting alongside Ray in the two-person American play *I'm Not Rappaport*. They've even played, at differing times, some of the same roles; both Ken and George portrayed Willy Loman in *Death of a Salesman*.

Have they ever coveted a role one of the others has been cast in? Ken says most certainly not because they recognise that each brings quite different personality traits to performances and they have never been in competition at auditions.

While they might think it would be intriguing to play a particular role, they enjoy watching one another as audience members or working together to make a production the best it can possibly be. With so much experience and established friendship, Ken believes they can anticipate each other's way of working and adjust accordingly to produce the right results. Ray says this adds to the satisfaction of repeating the play a number of years later.

Being reunited is always a trip down memory lane. Because *Heroes* is about soldiers who fought in WWI and WWI centenary commemorations are now taking place, it means they're reflecting more on their own memories of war. They recall relatives and family friends who fought in WWI always being reluctant to talk about their experiences; George says you

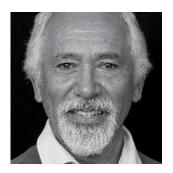
learned not to raise the subject.

The trio has more vivid memories of WWII. Ken and Ray were boys in the United Kingdom and recollect taking refuge in bomb shelters during air raids and the devastation of those. Ken talks about the fear of being evacuated and billeted to someone else's home or farm but he chuckles about stealing apples and storing them in the top of water storage tanks to provide a supply of snacks. Ray remembers when rationing was lifted on sweets, a queue outside the sweet shop and one customer buying an entire jar of lollies! George, safer in New Zealand, wondered how, in the 1950s, some of the cast in the musical Porgy and Bess knew Italian; he realised later they picked it up while on active service at the likes of Cassino, Italy.

While these experiences were gleaned in WWII, they suggest such things help to inform the characters in *Heroes* who were once brave and daring young men who hold tight to those reminiscences.

George, Ken and Ray say working together again allows them to enjoy their own reminiscences, camaraderie and the reassurance that after so many years in the business, they're not past their use-by date yet! Why would they consider retiring from a career when it is the greatest pleasure to spend time with friends doing the work they love? More to the point, why should anyone expect them to?

# **CAST**



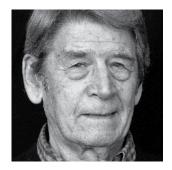
GEORGE HENARE

(Henri)

George has spent 50 years in this vagabond but very rewarding profession. His career began in 1965 with the NZ Opera Company production of *Porgy and Bess*, which led to subsequent operas, graduating from chorus member, to character principal, then into "legit" Theatre. Appearances include performances for the Maori Theatre Trust, Downstage, Mercury, Stetson Productions, Court, Circa and Taki Rua. Across

the ditch, George has had roles with Melbourne Theatre Company, Sydney Ensemble and Company B Belvoir. Theatre work has been interspersed with interspersed with radio drama, television, talking books, documentary narrations, films and hosting awards presentations.

The honours, achievements and awards over the years have been an extremely humbling experience for which George will be eternally grateful.



KEN BLACKBURN

(Philippe)

Ken is well known for an acting career spanning five decades. A familiar face on New Zealand screen and stage, Ken has also worked in the U.K., Australia, Canada and Poland. He has appeared in productions around New Zealand in a wide variety of plays and has also toured with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra as Narrator for *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

An Associate Director at Downstage and Mercury Theatres, his directing credits include *The Rivals, She Stoops To Conquer, Country Wife* and *The Wind In The Willows*.

Ken's many theatre credits include *Death Of A Saleman* and *Othello* for Peach Theatre Company, the Court Theatre's *Four Flat Whites In Italy* and *Who Wants To Be 100* and Circa Theatre productions of *Entertaining Mr Sloane, Waiting For Godot, Milo's Wake, The Cherry Orchard, Democracy,* and *Taking Sides.* 

His awards include Best Actor award (Chapman Tripp Theatre Awards) as Vladimir in *Waiting For Godot* and as Davies in *The Caretaker*. Recent film appearance include *Slow West* and *Sunset Song*.

He is a member of the New Zealand Order of Merit.



### **RAY HENWOOD**

(Gustave)

*Heroes* is Ray's fifth appearance with Auckland Theatre Company, having previously appeared in The Crucible, Who Wants to be 100?. Honour and Spreading Out. Ray is a founding member of Wellington's Circa Theatre. Highlight performances at Circa include Glide Time, Middle Age Spread, Spreading Out, Conversations After a Burial, The Birthday Party, Copenhagen, Playing Burton, The Unexpected Man, A Delicate Balance, Rutherford, Travesties, Waiting for Godot, Skylight, Market Forces, The Master Builder, Angels in America, I Hate Hamlet, No Man's Land, Master Class.

The Price and Time Of My Life. Other highlight performances include Hedda Gabler (Edinburgh Festival), No Good Boyo (New Zealand & Australia) and Ken Hill's Phantom of the Opera (Japan).

Ray's television experience includes Market Forces, William Tell, Enid Blyton, Gliding On, Shortland Street and Atlantis High. Film appearances include Heavenly Creatures, The End of the Golden Weather, Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit. In 2001, Ray won Best Actor at the Chapman Tripp awards for his role in Playing Burton.





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# **CREATIVE TEAM**

# **ALISON QUIGAN**

Director

Alison Quigan's theatrical experience spans 36 years. In that time she has acted in and directed over 100 productions, as well as writing twelve original plays. In the early vears she worked mostly with Theatre Corporate in Auckland, Centrepoint Theatre in Palmerston North, and Court Theatre in Christchurch. Then in 1986 she was appointed the Artistic Director of Centrepoint Theatre, a position she retained for 18 years until 2004. In 2001 Alison was awarded a Queen's Service Medal for Services to the Theatre.

Alison is also well known for her work on *Shortland Street* where she played Yvonne Jeffries from 2004 to 2010.

After leaving *Shortland Street*, she worked as a freelance actor and director in Christchurch,

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Dunedin, Palmerston North and Auckland as well as performing in a touring show that included many of the smaller centres around the country.

She has been Performing Arts Manager at Mangere Arts Centre - Ngā Tohu O Uenuku since 2013. In that time she has co-directed, with the very talented Troy Tu'ua, two successful children's shows - Polly Hood In Mumuland and The Lolly Witch Of Mumuland which were produced by Auckland Theatre Company at Mangere Arts Centre.

Alison's favourite productions have involved working with great people, and creating a real connection between the play, the performers, and the audience. These include *Othello, Macbeth, Taking Off, Mum's Choir* and *The Newbury Hall Dances,* where the cast danced every night with the audience.



JOHN PARKER

Set Designer

John Parker is an awardwinning set designer and is as well-respected in the world of ceramics as he is in set design. He is a member of the International Academy of Ceramics (Geneva). He has a long history of designing for Auckland Theatre Company. His set designs include: A Shortcut To Happiness, Red, Mary Stuart, Stepping Out, The Importance Of Being Earnest, The Wife Who Spoke Japanese In Her Sleep, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, End Of The Rainbow, Sweet Charity, Doubt, Mum's Choir, Taking Off, Equus, Caligula, The Bach, Middle Age Spread, The Rocky Horror Show, Noises Off, Waiting For Godot, Rosencrantz And Guildernstein Are Dead, Into The Woods and The Glass Menagerie.

Other works include Faust, Cavalleria Rusticana, I Pagliacci, The Scene, Creditors, Il Trovatore, True West, The Threepenny Opera, Chess, Romeo And Juliet, Titus Andronicus, Twelfth Night, F.i.l.t.h, Assassins, Waiora, Cat On A Hot Tin Roof, Decadence, On The Razzle, Chicago, The Marriage Of Figaro, Barber Of Seville, Cosi Fan Tutte, Evita and Trash To Fashion.

John has also designed for The Louis Vuitton Ball and The America's Cup Ball, Bendon's Next To Nothing, Bellsouth Pharaohs, Precious Legacy and Peru: Gold and Sacrifice for the Auckland Museum. He was awarded a Waitakere City Millennium Medal for Services to the Community. In 2010 John was made an Arts Laureate by the New Zealand Arts Foundation.



**GAYLE JACKSON** 

Costume Designer

Gayle worked as the Wardrobe Coordinator in Unitec's School of Performing and Screen Arts for 10 years; her role focused on the design and construction of dance costumes. For the last three years she has worked in a variety of roles for various theatre companies.

For Auckland Theatre Company she has worked as wardrobe assistant, wardrobe supervisor and seamstress on A Frigate Bird Sings, Midnight in Moscow, The Heretic, Dominion Road Stories, Niu Sila, Like There's No Tomorrow, Pollyhood in Mumuland, The Man Whose Mother was a Pirate, The Next Big Thing and Rupert.

Gayle has designed costumes for other companies, including Summer Shakespeare's King Lear, Alice, Robin Hood and King Arthur for the Outfit Theatre Company, Titus and Earnest for Fractious Tash and Camino Real for the Actors' Programme.

At NZ Opera she has worked in the Wardrobe Department on *Flying Dutchman*, *La Traviata*, *Don Giovanni*, *La Cenerentola* and *Tosca*.



### PHILLIP DEXTER MSc

Lighting Designer

Phillip's previous lighting designs for Auckland Theatre Company include: Rupert, The Ladykillers, The Good Soul of Szechuan, Other Desert Cities, Lord Of The Flies, A Shortcut To Happiness, In The Next Room (Or The Vibrator Play), Calendar Girls, Mary Stuart, Poor Boy, Le Sud, Equus, The Blonde The Brunette And The Vengeful Redhead, Doubt and Up For Grabs.

He works regularly for all the major theatre companies in New Zealand. Recent productions include: God Of Carnage, Four Flat Whites In Italy, Death and The Maiden (Newmarket Stage), Rock 'N' Roll (Circa Theatre), Don Juan In Soho, Lucky Numbers (Fortune Theatre), Long Day's Journey Into Night, Oliver! (The Court), The Graduate, Dracula, The Goat (Downstage), At The Wake

(Centrepoint Theatre), *Lucia Di Lammermoor* and *Turandot*(NZ Opera).

While based in London, Phillip's international work included designs at Donmar Warehouse, The Globe, Hampstead Theatre, The Royal Opera House - Covent Garden, Opera Conservatory - Royal College of Music.

Phillip is director of Limeburner Design Ltd (www.limeburner.co.nz), which specialises in theatre and architectural lighting design. Training includes a Master of Science in light and lighting from UCL, London. Product design includes lighting instruments for film recently used on the studio components of Avatar and The Lion, The Witch And The Wardrobe.



**SEAN LYNCH** 

Sound Designer

Sean Lynch has been working in NZ professional theatre for over twenty years. He is a musician, actor, lighting and sound designer.

He was a founding member of Electra Theatre Company in Hamilton, and is now currently working in Auckland, where he is enjoying designing for some of New Zealand's top theatre companies.

Previous designs include: Sound: Havoc In The Garden, Flintlock Musket, Yours Truly, I Love You Bro, Tribes, The Pitchfork Disney and The Heretic. Lighting: Happy Days, I Love You Bro, Bard Days Night, Thom Paine, Private Lives, Brel, Speaking in Tongues and Chicago.

2014 designs included Angels In America, Belleville for Silo Theatre, Once On Chunuk Bair and Jesus Christ Superstar for Auckland Theatre Company.

This year he has designed for Silo's acclaimed production of *The Book Of Everything*, Live Live Cinema's *Little Shop Of Horrors* and *Fallout* for Last Tapes Theatre.

# ASB WATERFRONT THEATRE UPDATE









Images from the Auckland Theatre Company staff site tour. Photographer: Wanda Tambrin.

### **The ASB Waterfront Theatre Founders Club**

With the 2015 Reinvention season coming to a close we hope you are starting to get excited about the release of our 2016 Season and with that, a year that will see the opening of the ASB Waterfront Theatre. Next year will mark the completion of a four year project and a true milestone for Auckland Theatre Company. This is a milestone we have only been able to reach with the generous support of our many champions and donors including our Founders Club members.

The ASB Waterfront Theatre Founders Club is an exceptional group of people who have put their hands up in support of our project to create a world class theatre and Auckland Theatre Company's new home in Wynyard

Quarter. But don't just take it from us; meet some of our current Founders Club members and hear what they have to say about their involvement.

"It was a privilege to contribute to the building of a theatre which will be a splendid stage to enjoy the outstandingly professional talents of those who perform under the Auckland Theatre Company banner; the building is now a reality underway and on such a wonderful site"

"We were very happy to support the Waterfront Theatre's Founders Club because of our long association, friendship and high regard for Auckland Theatre Company. It was therefore an easy decision

to support them and the Founders Club. It was also an opportunity for us to support a wonderful addition to Auckland's arts scene." - Peter Macky

More details on becoming a Founders Club member are available over the page. Alternatively please contact Linden Tierney, Development Manager on 09 309 0390 ext. 272 or email linden@atc.co.nz.

#### **Auckland Theatre Company Site Visit**

On Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> August, members of the ATC team were invited on site for a tour of the ASB Waterfront Theatre led by Site Manager Alun Larsen from Hawkins Construction. Artistic Director Colin McColl was amongst the ATC visitors and here's his description of the visit:

"We were first shown the ground level of the theatre including dressing rooms, green room, meeting spaces, the fover and entrance way. Next moving up to the second level, we had our first encounter with the spectacular auditorium. Being able to stand on stage and underneath the seating blocks was an incredible feeling of satisfaction, to finally visualise what we had been working towards for so long. Up on the third floor we really got an idea of the magnitude of this project, with the walls still to come, we had a great view of the surrounding area and were able to witness a piece of the theatre roof being moved into position from the nearby carpark. After seeing the building for ourselves, it's hard to contain the excitement we all share in soon being able to welcome you, the audience, into this beautiful building."

If you have been thinking about getting involved, now is the time to act! As the theatre moves through the stages of construction we still need to raise a further \$1 million for the fit-out of this state-of-theart building. There are a number of ways to get involved including becoming a member of the Founders Club or 'Taking a Seat' in the new theatre. To discuss these options simply get in contact with a member of the Development Team on 309 0390 or visit the website for more information, www.asbwaterfronttheatre.co.nz.

#### THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS OF THE ASB WATERFRONT THEATRE





















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To find out more or for information on how to donate visit

www.asbwaterfronttheatre.co.nz or call 09 309 0390

# JOIN THE NEW THEATRE'S FOUNDERS CLUB

The Founders Club is a group of highly committed people who are passionate about securing this new theatre for Auckland. In recognition of their investment in this visionary project, members are afforded:

- Name recognition in the new theatre in perpetuity
- Invitations to the Gala Opening Night and Champagne Reception
- Invitations to special events

Joining the Founders Club offers you a unique opportunity to be involved with creating this world-class performing arts venue as a legacy for Auckland. The levels of investment for this exclusive membership are as follows:

FOUNDERS CLUB	
RECOGNITION	INVESTMENT
Platinum Member	\$50,000 +
Gold Member	\$25,000 +
Silver Member	\$10,000 +
Bronze Member	\$5,000 +

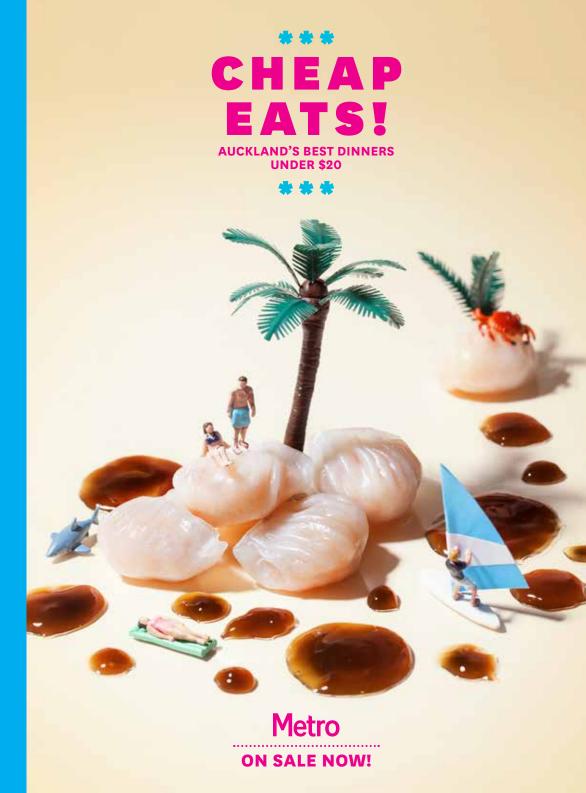


We would be delighted to welcome you into this select group of supporters playing a vital role in ensuring the success of this project. If you are interested, please contact Linden Tierney on 09 309 0390 ext. 272, linden@atc.co.nz.

The Waterfront Theatre Trust is a registered charity and donations are eligible for a tax rebate.

Donations can be paid in instalments over a period of time to assist financial management or to maximise tax effectiveness.

For more information on the project, or to make a donation, please visit www.asbwaterfronttheatre.co.nz



# WHAT'S ON IN THEATRES AROUND THE COUNTRY?



# THE AUDI SEASON OF GUYS AND DOLLS

Based on a story & characters of Damon Runyon Music & Lyrics by Frank Loesser Book by Jo Sterling & Abe Burrows

Q Theatre

#### 29 Oct - 22 Nov

High-rolling gambler, Nathan Detroit, bets his colleague Sky Masterson that he can't date the cute doll, Sarah Brown, but when Sky and Sarah fall for each other the stakes are raised. Gambling with dice and love, will Luck Be a Lady Tonight?

Full of dash, panache and joyous dancing, *Guys and Dolls* is vintage musical entertainment with a heart of gold.

**Auckland Theatre Company** 



### THE EVENTS

By David Greig

**O** Theatre

3 - 26 Sep

In the fallout of one horrific act, Claire, a young priest and choir leader, is forced to question the nature of evil and battle with the idea of forgiveness. It's a journey that will take her to the edge of reason, science, politics and faith.

Silo Theatre | Auckland



### UNHOLY GHOSTS

By Campion Decent
Centrepoint Theatre

### 19 Sep - 17 Oct

A successful producer finds himself a front row seat at a strange new tragicomedy: the undignified death of his parents. There's not much time left for either his ailing mother the actress, still prone to melodramatics, or his father the salesman, still flogging his side of the story. But there's just enough time to open old wounds and have a jolly good go at new ones.

Centrepoint Theatre | Palmerston North



## THE TRAVELLING SQUIRREL

By Robert Lord

Circa One

5 Sep - 2 Oct

United by Love. Divided by a Squirrel.

From Robert Lord, the author of the award-winning and much loved Joyful & Triumphant, comes The Travelling Squirrel, a romp through the fickle nature of the entertainment industry.

Protagonist Bart compares his struggles as a writer to those of Roger the squirrel, a misunderstood painter. Hilarious and packed with larger-than-life characters, this play is a testament to Lord's ability to write brilliant comedy.

Circa Theatre | Wellington



### **MAMIL**

By Greg Cooper

Tonkin & Taylor Main Stage

### **30 Aug- 3 Oct**

Bryan Cook is a property developer who has accumulated a small fortune building leaky homes. When things fall apart, he joins a men's cycling group to relieve stress – and makes a few startling discoveries in various cracks and crevices.

The Court Theatre | Christchurch



### TIME STANDS STILL

By Donald Margulies

Fortune Theatre

### 26 Sep - 17 Oct

Time Stands Still focuses on Sarah and James, a photojournalist and a foreign correspondent, who return to Brooklyn and find themselves trying to find balance and happiness after being scarred – physically and emotionally – while covering conflicts in the Middle East.

Fortune Theatre | Dunedin

For the leading news, reviews and coverage of Auckland Arts and Entertainment, see



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General Manager - Lester McGrath

Associate Director - Lynne Cardy

Associate Director - Michael Adams

Literary Manager - Philippa Campbell

Youth Arts Co-Ordinator - Whetu Silver

Participation Co-Ordinator - Tanya Muagututi'a

Playwright Fellow - Eli Kent

Production Manager - Andrew Malmo

Company Manager - Elaine Walsh

Finance Manager - Kerry Tomlin

Company Administrator - Jan Pitout

Development Manager - Linden Tierney

Development Executive - Alex Little

Partnerships Consultant - Debby Bell

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Harriett Maire, Ellen Boss

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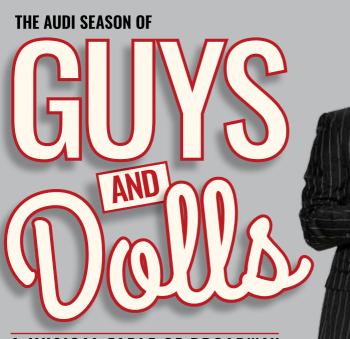
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