



Burning News from the Ipswich

The March 2006 newsletter of Ipswich Little Theatre

www.ipswichlittletheatre.com.au

The Nero Conspiracy

I'm not sure whether *The Nero Conspiracy* isn't one of the most naive plays I have ever seen. It's as if Enzo Condello simply decided that he wanted to write a Shakespearean tragedy and then went ahead and did it – blank verse, ornate language and all – blithely unaware of all the reasons why such a project might be impossible in the early 21st century.

Extract from a review by Alison Croggan - www.stateart.com.au

The Nero Conspiracy
Until 2 April
Old Council Chambers, Trades Hall,
Carlton Victoria

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The Crucible

Arthur Miller's *The Crucible* explores the story of teenage girls in Salem who are rumoured witches. This production by second-year acting students deals with elements such as false accusations, manifestations of mass hysteria, and rumour-mongering.

2-6 May 2006 7.30 pm
QUT Gardens Theatre Brisbane

Audition Notice

Honour by Johanna Murray-Smith
7.30pm on Monday 24 April Jean Pratt Building
DIRECTED BY LEE GERCHOW
Season 12 – 29 July 2006

CHARACTERS:

Honor

An attractive, intelligent & articulate woman – 40's/50's

Gus

Her journalist husband with an international reputation – late 40's/60's

Claudia

An attractive and intelligent young journalist – 20's/30's

Sophie

Honor & Gus's daughter – 20's/30's

For details and scripts please call Lee & Ros Gerchow on 3818 1668 / 041 771 3086.

Prepared audition piece not required but familiarity with the play an advantage.

Theatre Activity Night Tuesday 4 April

Prior to the audition there will be a reading of the play *Honour*, so that those interested in auditioning will have a chance to hear how it sounds before auditioning.

Those members and friends who are not interested in being in the play are still very welcome to attend and take part in the play reading as a matter of general interest.

All Theatre Activity Nights begin at approx 7.30 pm and continue till about 9pm.

They are a great opportunity to socialise with other members and friends and learn more about our theatre and plays.

Phone Suzanne on 3281 4748 if you have any questions about the Theatre Activity Night program or phone the Director of *Honour*, Lee Gerchow 3818 1668 to find out more about this particular night.

Selection Committee Report

- Casting for Alan Brown's production of *Sisters*: The two sisters will be played by Debbie Wilson and Leanne Bamford
- Auditions: Casting of *Shakespeare Unleashed*: Not enough women attended to cast both plays, so the decision was made to cast *Lady Macbeth*, the longer of the two plays, and *When Shakespeare's Meet* will be taken off the programme. Although this is disappointing, it does mean that the full length version of *Lady Macbeth* can be staged, and that more monologues and duologues may be staged before the play. All members are encouraged to consider performing a monologue or duologue to celebrate our 60th Birthday. Please contact Relle on H) 3816 0969 or M) 0421502081

The cast list for *Lady Macbeth* is as follows;

<i>Gruach/Lady Macbeth:</i>	Rebecca Nolan
<i>Girl:</i>	Jodie Madsen
<i>Goodwife:</i>	Sarah Noy
<i>Crone:</i>	Michelle Williams
<i>Magg:</i>	Di Johnston or Lauren Turner (To be advised)
<i>Nurse:</i>	Doubled up part (To be advised)
<i>Lady MacDuff:</i>	Doubled up part (To be advised)
<i>Finnleach/Thorfinn/Macbeth:</i>	Kyle Breese
<i>MacRory Gillacomgain:</i>	James Miles
<i>Malcolm:</i>	Barbara Marschke
<i>Duncan:</i>	Tony Erhardt
<i>Beodhe:</i>	Lauren Turner or Di Johnston (To be advised)
<i>Grimm:</i>	Neil Marschke

Properties' Manager's Plea

After attending our Risk Management meeting, Alan would like to suggest that no members help themselves to furniture or any props, but ask for Alan to be present for selection. There is also a request that no one attempts to mend furniture, but puts broken items to one side (with all the broken pieces) tagged for repair, and advise Alan. It is important for all members to remember not to use damaged items of furniture.

Association of Community Theatres (ACT) - representative's report - Jim Orr

The ACT Dinner Dance will be held at Lennon's on 29 April commencing at 7pm with pre-dinner drinks and nibbles. The theme will be Black & White – with silver being the highlight colour. Cost is \$40 per person. It is hoped Ipswich Little Theatre will have a strong presence at the Dinner.

Applications submitted for Act Up Awards for 2005 productions:

Best Poster:	<i>Bedding Roses</i>	Poster designed by Di Johnston and Jim Orr.
Best Program:	<i>Highland Fling</i>	Program designed by Relle Scott
Best Set Design:	<i>The Little Mermaid</i>	Set design & construction by Alan Brown & Brian Brayford

Wise Advice for all Actors

Director Michael Redford's advice to actress Lynn Collins who questioned a direction from him saying that actor Jeremy Irons had told her to do it another way -
 "Listen, dear, the thing you have to learn as a young actress is, if another actor gives you directions, it is surely not for your benefit."

BOOKINGS - Jean Pratt Building- Desley Cronon

If you want to use the Jean Pratt Building at any time at all, for rehearsals or any other reason, you must contact Desley 3288 8754 to make a booking.

S-Troupe - director Di Johnston

Many thanks to parents who have sent along videos and photos from past sows in preparation for our 15th Dinner. Thanks to Annette Dundas for spending the afternoon in the cupboards, digging out costumes - it does take ages to outfit 32, plus changes. Parents/carers are able to make bookings on Saturday 1 April between 4-5pm. Tickets will then be available from the Visitors Information Centre, Queen's Park, from 15 April at \$6 each.

Crossfyre Young Theatricals - director Suzanne Matulich

Some Crossfyre Young Theatricals students will be taking part in the Ipswich Festival parade on 22 April - they need to be at the assembly area by 1pm for a 2pm parade. Channel 7 televise this parade each year which is always fun.

Congratulations to Matt Shield and Josh Nicholls for being chosen for the special filming project to be held in the Ipswich Civic Hall in April.

Smart Arts - Junior Theatre - co-ordinator Liz Boekholt

Well the SmartArts group has reached its limit and the Jean Pratt building is bulging at the seams with children on Saturday mornings.

We're having lots of fun and learning stagecraft and theatre skills at the same time.

On the school holidays **mask workshops** are being run for the children to make a mask to wear when participating in the Ipswich Festival Parade. The workshops will be run on the Tuesday the 11th of April and a second is scheduled for Thursday the 13th of April if numbers are up.

The cost of the workshop will be \$10 and bookings are essential as we are purchasing equipment and masks and need to know how many to buy. Morning tea will be provided in the cost.

If you are interested please e-mail Liz at boekholt@optusnet.com.au or phone on 0413 235 028.

Daytime Theatre Troupe - convenor Kay McAllan

Daytimers are well and truly into rehearsals for Cinderella and am pleased with the outcome thus far.

As Jan Patterson will be away for quite a few weeks, Doug Moses has stepped into the role of Assistant Director and she thanks him most sincerely. It was a bit scary for him at first but is settling into the Daytimer's routine with ease now. Kay McAllan is in charge of costumes and the set is in the very capable hands of Alan Brown, Pauline Brayford and Kelly Warren. Should be a great show, with some very interesting performances.

Librarians - Patti Pratt

Patti 32812427 is looking after the library for 2006. If you want to borrow a script or have any questions, please contact her.

Other News of Interest to All



Shakespeare

Ipswich Little Theatre
60th Birthday celebrations

All members are to keep Saturday 3 June free as that is the date for our official ILT 60th birthday celebrations.

The organising sub-committee is putting together all the details of this fun night.

There will be all sorts of Shakespearian monologues, tableaux etc, a performance of *Lady Macbeth*, and a supper after the play. Official invitations will be sent out shortly to special guests, life members and long standing theatre members and other dignatories.

REMINDER: The next meeting of the sub-committee is **Tuesday 28 March at 7.30 pm.**

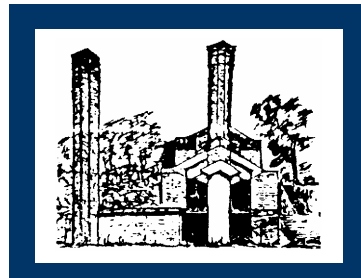
Ipswich One Act Play Festival 2006

Nothing much to report so far but rest assured that your sub-committee is working hard to make sure that this year's festival is going to be one of the best.

If you have contact with any other theatres or drama schools do let them know about our festival in August and encourage them to submit a play. Without entries we have nothing!

REMINDER: The next meeting of the sub-committee is **Sunday 2 April at 3pm.**





Ipswich Little Theatre

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Editor

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 4 April** – Playreading – *Honour*
- 19 April – 6 May** – *Fiascos*
– One Act Play Season
- 24 April** – AUDITION – *Honour*
- 2 May** – Playreading
Deckchairs
- 25 May – 3 June** –
Shakespeare Unleashed
- 3 June** – 60th Birthday
Celebrations at ILT
- 6 June** – Playreading
Lipstick Dreams
- 7 July** – AUDITION
Lipstick Dreams
- 12 – 29 July** – *Honour*

"La Mina di Velluto" The Velvet Landmine

La Mina di Velluto - The Velvet Landmine is an exciting new poetry venture to enrich audiences (and the poets) alike with original renderings & interpretations of classic poetry movements by inviting some of QLD's finest established & emerging writers.

The event will run once a month on the 3rd Sunday from 6-730pm at Bell'Amore On Stanley St Café. All events will be free but you can support the venue by buying a coffee or something to eat!

Ipswich Little Theatre Executive Committee 2006

Name	Position	Phone number
President	Judith Grant	3288 0717
Vice president	Pam Floris	3288 6159
Secretary	Helen Pullar	3281 4437
Treasurer	Pauline Brayford	3294 6730

Groups within ILT - directors 2006

Group	Director	Phone number
Smart Arts Junior Theatre	Liz Boekholt	3282 3407
Crossfyre Young Theatricals	Suzanne Matulich	3281 4748
S-Troupe	Di Johnston	3812 9141
Daytime Theatre Troupe	Kay McAllan	54643965



Drama Award Finalists Announced

Three finalists of the 2006-2007 Queensland Premier's Drama Award have been announced.

Audiences can attend a rehearsed reading of each play at *The Works*, a festival of play readings, this August. Queensland Theatre Company are delighted one of these Queensland stories will feature in their 2007 Season:

The Tram by Antony Funnell, set in Brisbane's Paddington, 1962, at the high point of the Cold War.

String by Michael Riordan tells the story of Percival and Portia, a pair of legendary Australian artists living in Far North Queensland.

The Estimator by David Brown, a story that reveals the connection between a removal estimator, an old lady and her aboriginal granddaughter.

See what makes theatre tick at *The Works*- a week-long festival of professional play readings.

Since 1999, Queensland Theatre Company has presented *The Works* and now in its seventh year, it will once again give everyone the chance to witness theatre being brought to life. Audiences are invited to get involved in the creative buzz by experiencing and interacting with readings of a wide range of classic works, new Queensland plays, and scripts from the most promising overseas playwrights.

Be part of this exciting process. A feast for all theatre lovers!

7 - 12 August 2006

Queensland Theatre Company, Bille Brown Studio
\$5 admission, 2006 Season Ticket Holders free.

Bookings essential by 31 July on 3010 7657.

Next ILT meeting
2006
Tuesday 11 April
7.30 pm

Cr Charlie Pisasale proudly supports Ipswich Little Theatre by printing the Burning News for ILT.
Thanks Charlie!