

**Children of the Poor**

**Globe Theatre: September 21-27, 2001**

Enclosed with this Newsletter are some flyers for our next production, *Children of the Poor*. Please note that this production differs in several ways from our 'usual' productions. Its season is shorter (just 7 days, including Monday) and its admission prices are lower (\$6 for members, \$8 for non-members). The reasons for this are detailed below.

The Globe Theatre was given a grant from Creative Communities NZ/Dunedin City to put on a production in 2001 that was additional to our scheduled programme.

This additional production was to have THREE special features:

1. a strong connection with Dunedin,
2. directed by an emerging director
3. financially accessible to as many people as possible.

1. We have chosen to stage the play, *Children of the Poor*, which was written by Mervyn Thompson and based on John A Lee's book of the same name. Lee was a Dunedin-elected MP in the first Labour Government of 1936. His book, which was written in 1934, is a semi-fictional account of his childhood in turn of the century Dunedin, a childhood that was bleak and cruel, from which he eventually emerged whole and strong – but many others did not. Thompson managed to turn this uncompromising material into a play that is moving and also funny, full of music (hymns of many denominations, music hall and children's playground songs) and fast-paced ensemble action.

2. Our director is Kylie Morgaine Thomas, who directed one of the plays for last year's Dunedin Festival of the Arts but who has not otherwise directed a full-length play for public performance.

3. Our seat prices have been reduced from \$15 to \$8 for all members of the general public and from \$10 to \$6 for Globe Theatre members.

**So... we hope to see you all in the Globe sometime between the 21<sup>st</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>**

**"An evening with Jo Randerson (and friends) "**

**October 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>, 8pm**

We are delighted to be able to invite you to a special event; the performance of TWO plays written by the current Burns Fellow, Jo Randerson.

The plays are “ *Banging Cymbal, Clanging Gong*” and “*Cows*”.

The first is a piece for a solo actor and will be performed by Jo Randerson herself. (Earlier in the year, she performed the same piece for Lunchtime Theatre, in the University’s Allan Hall). The second was the winning play in this year’s Neville Cup competition between the University of Otago’s Selwyn and Knox Colleges, and will be performed by students of Selwyn College.

*Banging Cymbal, Clanging Gong* is a strong, dramatic piece of theatre, intense and memorable. *Cows*, by contrast, is an ensemble work (for two and four-legged performers), that is rich in characterisation and full of humour.

The performances will take place on Friday and Saturday, **October 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>**, starting at **8pm**. The plays are quite short, 35-45minutes each, and will be separated by a refreshment break. Since they are being performed so close to the first Sunday of the month, they will *replace* the Members’ Afternoon that had been planned for October.

Admission will be just **\$5** for Globe Theatre members.

We are very pleased indeed to have this opportunity to bring the 2001 Burns Fellow into the Globe since this continues a very long and venerable tradition that started with James K Baxter.

**Members’ Afternoon: November, 2001**

**Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, 4pm**

This will be another of our popular variety entertainments, designed to give as many of our members as possible the opportunity to get up and strut their stuff. Sometime soon you will be approached and asked if and what you might like to perform. This is your opportunity to try out something new, either on your own or with others. You choose! The entertainment will be coordinated by Geoff Lambourne (4690267) and Brian Beresford (4780248)