

The Globe Theatre
104 London St, Dunedin
(03) 4773274 www.globetheatre.org.nz

NEWSLETTER: November 2008

Summer of the Seventeenth Doll

by Ray Lawler, Directed by Brian Beresford

December 4-13, 2008

Times: 8pm every day except Sunday (2pm)

PRICES: \$15 general public; \$12 seniors, students, other unwaged people
\$10 Globe members, parties of 10 or more people

Opening night special: \$8 all general public, \$6 Globe members

BOOKINGS: Phone (03) 4773274, www.globetheatre.org.nz or door sales

*"Oh yes, that's what they remind me of, she says, two eagles flyin' down out of the sun
and coming south every year for the mating season."*

This classic Australian drama may have been written 50 years ago but its themes are timeless, the complexities of relationships between men and women, between parents and children. The drama, set in a Melbourne suburb in 1953, portrays the unwinding fortunes of two sugar-cane cutters, Barney and Roo, who have traveled south to spend their annual five-month layoff in the house shared by Roo's longtime girlfriend, Olive, and her mother, Emma. Although Roo and Olive remain sweethearts after 17 years, Barney, a hard-drinking womanizer who boasts of his illegitimate children, has just been forsaken by his longtime companion. Olive, desperate to continue the tradition anyway, has recruited a widowed friend, Pearl to serve as a replacement.

Festooned about the dingy living room are the dolls that Roo has brought to Olive every summer for the last 17 years. The gaudy toys symbolize both the longevity and flimsiness of their attachment. By turns sweet, funny, irritating and moving, this is a play that will linger in the memory long after the Christmas tinsel has faded.

Members' End of Year Celebration

This will be held on Sunday December 7th immediately after the end of that day's performance, i.e., at about 4.30pm. All members are welcome to stay after the performance or just to come along to the celebration. Members' guests are of course welcome to stay or come as well to help us unwind at the end of this busy year.

(Yes, we know, it is a little odd to have an end of year function before the last night of the final production for the year but we have hired out the Theatre to Carol Krueger for *her* final production for the year –see below- and she will move in as *Summer of the Seventeenth Doll* moves out and we felt it might be too late for many of you by the time her production ends.)

Productions 2009

We are still finalising details but so far we hope to stage the world premiere of Renee's latest play, which will be directed by Louise Petherbridge - and are thrilled that Renee and Louise have chosen the Globe as the venue for the premiere. More details later when these are finalised.

We will once again be workshopping a new play by an upcoming Dunedin playwright, our set designer/creator extraordinaire, Andy Cook and, all going well, hope to stage a full production of this later in the year. David Corballis has once again agreed to direct a production for us, probably around the middle of the year and almost certainly something old, large cast and hugely entertaining. We are still negotiating with other possible directors about titles and dates and will give you more information next month, in our final newsletter for the year.

Building and grounds

Thank you to Tess Molteno and her helpers for undertaking a major tidy of the garden, one that has freed the Globe street sign from the encroaching bushes and cleared the pathways from overhanging roses and other attractive but too-rampant bushes. We are always very grateful for such assistance because, although we do employ a professional gardener for just 1 hour a week, this is not really enough at this time of the year, especially.

We have still not heard whether our recent applications for DCC funding support have been successful but in the meantime continue to purchase what we need on a regular basis from our own box office funds and to make applications for grants for major activities from other bodies. Currently we are considering how we might best build a rail on the rather dangerous, left hand side of the pathway leading up to the foyer entrance and are also in the process of obtaining quotations from several businesses for a major rewiring of the garden so that that both street signs and all pathways might be more safely and securely illuminated (and as vandal-proof as possible!)

Finally...

“Was Minnie Dean that Bad?”

Written and directed by Carol Krueger,
December 16-20th at the Globe Theatre