

GLOBE THEATRE
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NEWSLETTER: March 2009

GORDON BROUGH

We were saddened to hear last week of the death of this long term Friend of the Globe Theatre – and a long term friend of many of us here at the Globe. Gordon's funeral will be held at 1 pm on Thursday, March 19th at Dignity Funerals Services Chapel, corner of Middleton and Isadore Roads. Gordon wrote in the 25 year celebration of the Globe Theatre of how he had been "dropped into" acting, directing and theatre management at the Globe from the moment in 1974 when he arrived for an audition only to find out the he was 'it'. He closed his 'dropped in it' account with the words that might have summed up his approach to life in general. "For me that's been good – what might I have missed out on if I had not been naïve enough to take a risk now and again and say Yes."

GLOBE PRODUCTIONS 2009

Once again our planned first production, the premiere of Renee's latest play, *The Life Wall*, had to be cancelled because of casting problems. We will, however, be staging this later next year and will ensure that it is given the prominence that it deserves. We have not been completely idle, however, during this quiet period. Another new play, this time by one of our local identities, our stage designer, artist, props procurer and Globe treasurer, Andrew Cook, has been given a workshop/reading, following which we have agreed to stage it as our December production this year.

Before then we will have a sexy Restoration comedy, *The Country Wife*, a black comedy about the lives of four disadvantaged couples, *Me and My Friend*, and another bleak but powerful Pinter, *Betrayal*.

The Country Wife, by William Wycherley, to be directed by David Corballis
Performance dates, June 18-27.

This play, which was first performed in 1675 to much acclaim, was considered later to be so bawdy that it was not performed in its original version until the 1920s. The play has several subplots but mainly focuses on the intrigues of Mr Horner, a man about town who enjoys the favours of many a woman about town, the more safely married the better. One such person is the young, inexperienced married woman, Margery Pinchwife, up from the country to discover the joys of the town, whether her husband approves or not. It is very funny, very naughty and will be a great antidote to the winter's cold.

Me and My Friend, by Gillian Plowman, to be directed by Nigel Ensor
Performance dates August 13 – 22.

This very different play, which has been described as being funny and extremely powerful, tells the story of four individuals (Bunny, Oz, Julia and Robin), all former mental health patients, who have recently been released from a psychiatric hospital into a 'Care in the Community' scheme -- an early-release programme for such patients. They live in two small council flats, somewhere in England, and are trying to get themselves jobs and gradually fit themselves back into society.

Bunny and Oz (two men who are both around 40 years old) conduct fantasy interviews for jobs they will never get, while the two women, Julia and Robin (in their late 20s - early 30s) try to 'make plans' as urged to do by the hospital. The action switches between the everyday and the characters' own psychoses. In a series of interactions and monologues they share with us their hopes and dreams. The four patients meet when Oz throws a party...

Betrayal, by Harold Pinter, to be directed by Andrew Morrison

Performance dates September 24 - October 3

The start and end of a love affair is the nub of many a stage work; it is less common for the affair to start at its end and work back to its beginning, with all the little lies, deceits and other marital betrayals along the way being dissected quite pitilessly – and very 'Englishly.' *Betrayal* is also a comedy in its way but one in which the laughs are uncomfortable and the person laughing is also squirming with what is being said and implied.

A Cup of Tea and a Biscuit, by Andrew Cook, to be directed by Brian Beresford

Conversations in a gallery, watered by tea and fed by sweet biscuits, spiced by... well, this we do need to keep under our hats until later... All we will say is that this is good Christmas fare, sweet but with sharp, slightly sour overtones.

Performance dates December 3-12

AUDITIONS FOR *THE COUNTRY WIFE*

These will be held on Saturday April 18th at the Globe, from 10am. Please contact David Corballis (464 0969; d-p.corballis@xtra.co.nz) for audition details and times. Some auditions can be arranged at other times for those who might not be able to make the Saturday 18th ones.

“OTHER’ PRODUCTIONS AT THE GLOBE IN 2009

The Fringe Festival March 26th – April 5th

The Fringe has hired the Globe for the duration of the Festival and will stage five separate productions in the theatre during this time; two dramas, *Dancing Bird*, *Plummeting Fish* and *Ella and Susn*, two music productions, *Roq Opera* and *Tono*, and one dance theatre production, *Eye of a Dancer*. Full details of dates and times may be found on the Fringe Festival website.

Carol Krueger Children’s Theatre

April 20-25	Robin Hood
July 13-18	The Frog Prince
October 5-10	The Ordinary Fairy

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2009

This will be held on Sunday APRIL 19th at 3pm. A reminder notice will be sent to all members before the meeting but in the meeting please note the attached form for nomination of Committee members. All nominations must be received by April 5th 2009 and must come from a financial (for 2008 or 2009) Globe member.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Membership payments for 2009 are now due; please find attached your individual reminder (if you have not already paid or have an automatic payment organised).