

## FRIENDS OF THE GLOBE THEATRE INC

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### GLOBE THEATRE: NEWSLETTER: September 2010

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**OCTOBER AT THE GLOBE:** *“Shall we gather at the river”* has its world première as part of the Otago Festival of the Arts. It is written by Renée and directed by Louise Petherbridge.

**FRIDAY Oct 8<sup>th</sup> to SUNDAY Oct 17<sup>th</sup> 2010**

No performance Monday Oct 11<sup>th</sup>

7.30pm start all performances (except **Sundays at 2pm**)

**Bookings:** at the Regent Ticketdirect  
or the Globe Theatre

**Tickets:** \$18/ \$15 (concessionary)

**Globe Bookings:** open on Friday Oct 1st: phone 477 3274 or [www.globetheatre.org.nz](http://www.globetheatre.org.nz)

NB: no Eftpos

***(Important notice: Globe members should not book tickets through the Regent. The Members’ normal concession rate of \$12 applies, and only to bookings made directly with the Globe via phone or website, or through door sales. Please note, for this production, there are no opening night specials.)***

New Zealand’s iconic playwrights, Renée, has written a play about the bonds that hold families together, even when the core family as in this case consists of two step-sisters, Rusa and Grace, who have been estranged for 20 years. They had shared a father and mother and a childhood filled with music but had gone their separate ways after a crisis that led one to overseas travel and a hostage situation and the other to more localised but equally isolating travel. They come

together on this day, their shared birthday and finally discover that love, in all its forms, really is the strongest bond of all.

The Globe Theatre is immensely proud that Renée, who spent several years at the Globe as artistic director in the 1980s, has chosen this theatre to stage the premiere of her new play and to have it directed by another of New Zealand's theatrical icons, Louise Petherbridge.

There are many great events being staged during the Otago Festival of the Arts but we hope that you will all ensure that the Globe's production of *Shall we gather at the river* is one of these!

### **GETTING INVOLVED**

Here's a way that YOU can get involved in the Globe Theatre's productions, and more immediately in *Shall we gather at the river*. Help to make us **more visible!** How? By helping to put up a poster and pass on a couple of flyers in your workplace, local shop, staff-room or wherever it is permissible. Just call into Art Zone (Hanover Street) where the posters and flyers will soon be available and ask Andy for a poster and a few flyers. If every member took one poster and displayed it ... then we could increase the potential number of "bums on seats" thus helping us to meet our considerable expenses. More about that later in the newsletter.

### **FINAL PRODUCTION AT THE GLOBE FOR 2010: December 2<sup>nd</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> 2010**

***"The Real Inspector Hound"*** by Tom Stoppard, directed by Lynne Keen

The play is cast, the read-through complete, the rehearsals are about to begin of Stoppard's gem of a play (within a play, within a play...) which has been entertaining audiences since its first production in 1968. Stoppard cheekily wrote this play at the time when Agatha Christie's "The Mousetrap" was successfully (and still is!) running in London. In fact, the play's heavily-veiled title, and its action, gave away the jealously guarded surprise ending of "The Mousetrap". However, the producers of "The Mousetrap" at the time felt restrained from protesting as it would only draw attention to this fact, resulting in a loss of audience (and presumably, income).

Stoppard, using the ludicrous juxtaposition of fantasy and reality, has crafted a comedy masterpiece. Its language is rich in word play and laced with irony. Stoppard cunningly parodies the professional dog-eat-dog-world of theatre critics (of which he was one) with the theatrical genre of the murder mystery weekend. A theatrical treat to be anticipated!

### **PROGRAMME FOR PRODUCTIONS FOR 2011**

Choices and decisions are in the planning stages at the moment. We would welcome suggestions from members regarding possible plays, offers to direct, ideas for Members' events... this is YOUR theatre, please feel free to tell us what you would like to see or do.

### **50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS: February 26 - 28, 2011**

Have you pencilled in these dates? For registration and final programme details – watch this space! (The initial programme was outlined in the last newsletter.)

### **CONSERVATION SURVEYOR'S VISITS**

Every room in the house, every part of the theatre, every aspect of the exterior (especially the roof) has been measured, photographed and detailed notes written by the Conservation Surveyor during his recent visits. His observations confirmed what we knew already about the condition of the buildings but they also *graphically* underlined the problems and the need for action to be taken to continue operating as we do. We await the Structural Engineer's visit and his reports. Their combined reports will enable a Quantity Surveyor to assess the cost of restoration, conservation and maintenance of the fabric of the Globe Theatre and house.

The time is fast coming in our 50<sup>th</sup> year for making difficult decisions about the future of the Globe, and the enormous costs anticipated in its preservation – these decisions are daunting, whichever way you look at them. Fundraising is just the beginning.

We also face increasing costs in maintaining what we already have – rates, power, water, let alone the production costs of staging plays! Print advertising and the required payment of royalties do not come cheaply. So, we're going to need YOUR help. As a member of the Friends, please support our productions because our box office returns are the main source of income to cover all these costs.

### **SPRING CLEANING**

The calendar tells us it is spring even if it contradicts the evidence! It is time to review your contact details and your preferences for involvement in the Globe Theatre.

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