

THE GLOBE THEATRE



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NEWSLETTER December 2013

Our very busy year has (almost) ended. At the time of writing, the Globe had yet to host the Dunedin Theatre Awards 2013 but these too will be over by the time you receive this newsletter. We will now take a brief rest before starting all over again on January 7th with rehearsals for our first 2014 production.

Before we tell you about all of the major productions/events that we are planning for 2014, however, we would just like to thank all those who have made the year so satisfying. This includes all who were involved in our Globe productions, visiting shows and special, fundraising performances, audience members as well as workers. It also includes all individuals and organisations, who have contributed towards our major theatre conservation repair appeal. Last, but never least, it includes all of our Friends of the Globe Theatre.

FUND-RAISING 2013



(The proposed conservation repair is for much more than just the roof so the image above is a little misleading but we think it is cute and eye-catching!)

Briefly, the project will include repair of the theatre roof, damaged wooden wall and floors, and replacement/restoration of the entrance path and fire escape route. At the same time, seismic strengthening of the theatre and additional fire protection will be carried out. The project has been divided into four component parts that necessarily overlap to an extent, with the whole being projected to take six months. We have been told that the total cost of this project will be \$500,000 (but that we should aim for a little more, just in case...)

We have made great progress in the months since May 2013, when the Friends authorised us to begin fundraising, so much so that we have now raised **\$250,000**.

During the last month we have been granted: \$58,485 by the Stout Trust, \$18,353 by the Alexander MacMillan Trust, \$1,000 by the Dunedin Casino Charitable Trust and \$500 by Amity Health. Additionally, a grant of \$2,500 from the DCC Creative Communities Fund towards production costs of *The Middlemarch Singles Ball 2* will enable us to transfer more of our box office takings than usual into the "Roof Fund".

The many individuals who have 'bought' gold or silver seats or gold ghosts (see later) have all been thanked and will be acknowledged (if they wish this) when their plaques are put in place once the building work is completed.

The results of some other funding applications are yet to be received; still other applications are yet to be made. Next year's fundraising activities promise to be as busy (and, we hope, as productive) as this year's has been.

GLOBE THEATRE PRODUCTIONS 2014

The Theatre itself will be very busy next year. The following productions will all be given the usual, 9-performance season:

Journey's End by RC Sherriff

20 February-1 March

This powerful play endures in the tradition of great drama because until wars are at an end, the human race will continue to question what our reaction should be to the cycle of killing and being killed in the name of foreign policy. Sherriff's play creates real characters, some of which deal better than others with the stresses of warfare in the trenches, the close proximity of the enemy and the pointlessness and inevitability of dying.

The Killing of Sister George

by Frank Marcus

27 March-5 April

June Buckeridge works for the BBC playing a loveable character Sister George, a District Nurse in a radio soap opera. But ratings are falling and June is terrified that her character of Sister George is due for the chop.

Although Sister George is described as a comedy, it has darker undertones, complex characters, and questions the motives behind their behaviour.

Find us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Globe-Theatre-Dunedin/185864354769841>

The History Boys by Alan Bennett

29 May-7 June

This sparkling comedy is the story of a group of senior history students in a second rate English grammar school in pursuit of the most glittering of prizes, admission to the universities of Oxford or Cambridge. Terribly unruly but terrifically talented, the boys are preoccupied with study, sport and sex – but not necessarily in that order. They are faced with a headmaster who is only interested in reputation; a new young teacher only interested in results, and old Mr Hector, their general studies teacher, who simply believes in the joyous gift of knowledge and giving his boys their individuality. Blissfully funny and irreverent, but also confronting, shockingly honest and deeply moving, the play explores the anarchy of adolescence, the nature of history, and questions the aims and methods of the modern education system.

A Midsummer Night's Dream by William Shakespeare

24 July-2 August

Monarchs and fairies, runaway lovers and very bad actors, a plot that is familiar to all of us yet almost impossible to summarise; no surprise then that Samuel Pepys described the Dream as “the most insipid, ridiculous play that ever I saw ...” More than three centuries later, however, Shakespeare’s play is still a favourite with audiences everywhere, both in its original form and its very many reinterpretations.

The Choice by Claire Luckham

25 September-4 October

...tells the story of a couple, expecting their first child. They are told, however, that the child will have Down syndrome and must then choose whether to abort or continue the pregnancy. The decision is examined through a writer, who presents a picture of her own warm relationship with her Down syndrome brother, set against the anguish of the couple. The play offers a moving and sometimes humorous debate that presents both sides of the argument. There is no simple answer and the play does not provide one; rather it raises profound questions about the power of giving life and the responsibilities it confers.

The following productions/events will be given shorter seasons. More details about them will be given later:

The Vagina Monologues by Eve Ensler

10-12 April

Lady Susan by Jane Austen and Robert Moss

13-14 June

Raising the Roof, a variety show

8-10 August

PlayFest (A weekend of readings of new New Zealand plays - details to be announced)

18-19 October

Note that, at this stage, we do not know when we might be able to vacate the theatre for its repair work, only that we will relocate temporarily to another venue for the 6 months approximately that have been set aside for this work.

AUDITIONS

The Vagina Monologues. 18/19 January.

All female cast, all ages. Contact director, Helen Fearnley for more details. fearnley.helen@gmail.com

The History Boys February (date tba) 2014.

Contact director, Keith Scott, for details. keithdouglscott@gmail.com

GLOBE GIFTS**

Are you running out of time and ideas? Why not delight your friends and/or family (and help the Globe at the same time)? Why not ...

1/ Gift a seat

For \$50 or \$100 you may ‘purchase’ a seat in the Globe auditorium and have your recipient’s name on either a ‘silver’ or ‘gold’ plaque, respectively.

2/ Gift a theatre ghost

For \$1,000 or \$5,000 you may ‘purchase’ a ‘ghost’ that may be placed in the theatre in a location of your choice, and have your recipient’s name on either a gold or platinum ‘ghost’, respectively.

3/ Sponsor a ... Membership of Friends of the Globe Theatre

See below for details

Purchase gifts by cheque made out to the Friends of the Globe Theatre or by direct debit into the Globe account: 03 0903 0451937 00.

**** Remember to mail or email us your name and address so that we may thank and send you a Gift Certificate. Please also include the name of the chosen recipient, which is to appear on your Gift Certificate.**

MEMBERSHIP

Please see attached form for details - and do let us know which, if any, of the many areas you might be interested in, even if you have been a member for many years. Similarly, if you are a long-term or life member, please let us know if your interests in the various theatre activities have changed.

Membership for 2014 starts on January 1st and continues until December 31st.

FINALLY

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our Friends and other followers.