

ACTORS IN THE GARDEN



IN THIS
NEWSLETTER

News from In
Theatre

Auditions for The
Golden Age

Goodies from the
Ether to tempt
you.

Like a trip to
Canberra and
Flamenco
Spectacular?

Theatre news
from around the
region

NEXT
MEETING AT
BECKY AND
JAMIE'S 121
EAST ST
WEDNESDAY
13 APRIL
6.30

The bulletin of Theatre Onset inc
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April 2011
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AND THEY'RE STILL TALKING ABOUT THE MONOLOGUES.

An all but sell out season of *The Vagina Monologues* is still the talk of town. Mahamati and her cast are receiving well-deserved congratulations and those who couldn't get in to see the show will know to book early next time.

Thanks to all who helped back stage and on stage with this show, it proved to be a real winner for the company. Our association with the Women's Resource Centre proved to be very successful with many members of the audience making their first visit to a Theatre Onset production and because of the good houses we'll be able to reward them with a hefty donation.

The booking service broke down a little. We've always had the disappointment of people who book and then don't show up. It happened again with this show and was all the more disappointing

As we'd already had to turn people away on Friday and Saturday nights. It's a pity but unless and until we can afford to take credit card bookings I guess it's something we'll always experience.

Once again congratulations all on a great show.

PUT 'EM IN THE DIARY

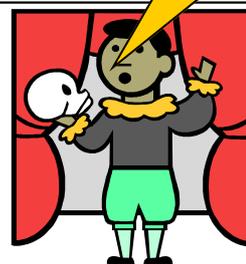
Let There Be Blood In Theatre's next production will play 27 and 28 May and 3, 4 June (Story page two)

The Golden Age opens in The Bega High School Hall on 8 July and plays through until 17 July

Director, Scott Hailstone, has set the weekend of Friday April 15 for Auditions for *The Golden Age*.

This classic Australian play by Louis Nowra offers some great and demanding roles for young, middle aged and older actors. A minimum of ten actors is required if some doubling is used but there are a number of smaller roles available so here is the opportunity to begin an acting career.

Scott is happy to arrange one on one or group auditions and if you can't make any time over the weekend he'll arrange a time to suit. To book an audition call Scott now on 0435061491



HEAR YE ALL !!
AUDITIONS



BLOOD FLOWS

Director David Stocker has much to be pleased about. He has a bright new cast for *Let There be Blood* and he's been joined by Jamie Forbes working as an assistant director.

'I'm particularly pleased with the way young performers who are now in their second season with the company have lifted. We're going to see some fine performances and there are a number of promising young people who'll make their first appearance for the company.'

While he's yet to make a final decision David is hinting at moving from The Thimble to the High School Hall for the show. He thinks that would give anyone who has ideas about production design and lighting more scope and he's particularly interested in hearing from anyone who'd like to be involved with that aspect of the show. Call him on 64926117

More than anything else he says he's enjoying mentoring fresh young talent.

NEED A LITTLE EXCITEMENT IN YOUR LIFE?

Lis Shelly is interested in organising a party to see **Paco Peña** at the Canberra Theatre On Saturday 30 July 2011 with his Flamenco Dance Company. This is a fantastic and exciting company. Tickets are pricey, \$95 full price, but a party of 12 or more would get that down to \$74.

We could share travel and possibly accommodation but we have to book and pay by 15 April It's a show you won't forget,

If you're a starter then give Lis a call on 64957160

GOLDEN AGE OFFERS BIG IDEAS

The Golden Age, Theatre Onset's next scheduled production, is a complex play that tackles some very big questions.

Set in Tasmania just before the outbreak of World War Two it focuses on two family groups, one powerful the other a strange remnant of a group of colonists lured into the bush by gold fever and lost for three generations.

The lost 'tribe' has developed its own culture and language but a small gene pool has led to the development of severe physical and intellectual problems. The tribe is found by two young members of the other family.

The matriarch of the tribe sees their arrival as an opportunity to lead her group back into mainstream civilisation but there are problems. The government, alarmed that the deteriorating physical and mental health of the tribe could be used as a propaganda tool by Nazi Germany, commits the entire group to an asylum for the insane. There, the members are 'studied' as curiosities while their physical health deteriorates until all except the youngest member, a young woman, die.

This young woman is one half of the love story that drives the play. She's loved by a young man, part of the establishment, now being brutalised by the realities of war.

Golden Age offers real challenges for actors, directors and technical staff and is a great project for all of us to get our teeth into.

Director Scott Hailstone has cast his auditioning net as widely as possible and is urging all of us to get involved and promote the show to would-be actors and techs.

Auditions begin April 15.



STAR LIGHT, STAR
BRIGHT I WISH I
MAY I WISH I
MIGHT.....

And all the rest of that. If you have a magic wand handy you could help Scott out with any of the following:

Older style army uniforms.. Trousers, battle dress anything but most important GREAT COATS.

We've written to the local wood turners hoping to interest them in producing a replica service rifle but would you have a facsimile PISTOL?

Other costume includes long johns, draw string pants and a grey wig.

Great long list of props including:

Handcuffs

Camping knapsacks/backpacks x2 (one newer than the other if poss.)

Broken wooden chair (neutral as poss. will be adding to it)

Lrg. washbowl (enamel-type is good)

Sml. compass (not plastic)

Old battered Bible

Silver candelabra

Manual skills test (wooden-shaped-blocks-in-the-holes kinda deal)

Old wrist-watch (can be broken, is for throwing)

Metal wash bucket (silver) w/handle

Camera

Party masks (for N.Y.'s. Eve)

High-backed armchair (leather or similar if poss.)

Cut-throat razor (can be blunt as not used)

Plastic storage bins (for storing props, pref. large)

And for the set:

Any green/brown shade cloth/material . Velcro

Greek-style columns (could be garden decorations, more damaged the better)

GOODIES FROM THE ETHER

Want to read new plays but can't afford the outlay? Here's the perfect answer.

Bushgreen.org is linked to London's Bush Theatre and offers a free download of new plays. It welcomes feedback on the work and is primarily designed as an exchange between writers but, if you want a fresh script.

www.iraseid.com/isaactandclown.html will put you in touch with an old friend who has just started a new venture in physical theatre. Ira Seidenstein has worked with *Cirque de Soleil* and taught at CSU, where I met him and saw his work. If you're interested in really physical theatre he's the man.

theatre.newyorktimes.com will get you to a video link for a new show starring Robin Williams. The Times in review says "Bengal Tiger," which opened Thursday night at the [Richard Rodgers](#) Theatre, asks us to think and feel like adults, absorbing the dark absurdities in Mr. Joseph's microcosmic [vision of the chaos that reigned in Baghdad](#) shortly after the invasion of Iraq. Its quiet urge to attend to the moral problems that beset our world not to mention the existential mysteries man has pondered for centuries stands in stark contrast to the more prevalent invitations blaring from Broadway marquees: to be serenaded by sweet nostalgia or to Facebook-friend our inner teenager.

'AGE' TIME LINES

Auditions> April – Fri 15th

1st Read> Full Cast - Sun 1st May.

Rehearsals> from Mon 2nd May onwards ten weeks including tech week.

Bump-in Sun 3rd July

Tech-week> running Mon 4th Fri 8th, with Full Dress Rehearsal Thurs 7th July,

Performances Fri/Sat nights, Sun matinee) 8th, 9th, 10th & 15th, 16th, 17th July.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE THAT

While *Spider-Man* the musical is proving that money doesn't guarantee success... the show has closed for a re-write... a new musical by the creators of *South Park* suggests the tried and tested will produce results.

The show features a pair of those clean cut young Mormon 'elders' who come knocking on your door in the name of the prophet John Smith. Well, one of them is clean cut the other is a little confused mixing up the Mormon mythology with *The Lord of the Rings*.

Their hope to be sent to Florida to spread the message is dealt a blow when, instead, they find themselves in Uganda. Followers of *South Park* won't be at all surprised by the satirical fun the show's creators have in depicting the efforts of a couple of middle class proselytising white guys in dealing with the problems of an Aids ridden African country.

Described by the New York Times reviewer as 'a good old-fashioned song-and-dance spectacle that happens to include wildly offensive jokes about Aids in Africa and the theological kitsch that is Mormonism,' *The Book Of Mormon* is being hailed as a saviour on Broadway. Oh, and former Broadway icons don't escape either. There are sight gags or laugh lines at the expense of *The Sound of Music*, *Wicked*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *The Music Man* and, of course, *The Lion King*



ON OTHER STAGES

Spectrum at Merimbula continues to meet every second Wednesday to read one act plays and new works.

Pambula's Footprint Theatre is fresh from patrolling the Candelo Folk Festival as the Art Police.

At Cooma they're celebrating the success of *Harvey* and calling auditions for a season of one act plays to open 17 June.

June is also production month for *The Good Doctor*, by Neil Simon. The Nowra Players production will open 4 June.

In Canberra Ickle Pickle Productions is calling auditions for a new play aimed at youth and family audiences. Based on an old Russian fairy tale, *The Fool of the World and The Flying Ship*, the show is by local writer Rachael Hogan.

AND a writing opportunity. Canberra Rep season of *The Logues 2011* is looking for short scripts, 5 to 15 min duration with minimal set and a maximum of two actors for staged readings. Scripts to

-Jonathon_jo@iinet.net.au