

Hobart Repertory Theatre Society
proudly presents

DAVID WILLIAMSON'S

UP
FOR
GRABS

REPERTOIRE

THE HOBART REPERTORY THEATRE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2016

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to report that our new curtain mechanism has been installed. The curtain is now operated by the press of a button! In some ways it was sad to see the old pulley go as it had been a part of the Playhouse Theatre for so long. I was so relieved that the curtain itself didn't fall apart when it came down. The theatre is continually being improved.

I would like to welcome Nick Lahey as a Rep director. This is his first play for Hobart Rep.

Thank you to Nick cast and crew for their dedication to *Up For Grabs*. I look forward to seeing the fruits of their labours.

Liz Lewinski

President



Liz "on duty" in the Box Office during the run of Something's Afoot

We thank our volunteers and supporters.

We could not function without you.

A SLICE OF THEATRE LIFE



You never know who you'll see at The Playhouse during a theatrical run. Top left, well known actor Jeff Michel selling programs. Top right, Hobart Rep Secretary, Tony Webb and below, Heather Chong, a most beloved Sponsor. (We LOVE our Sponsors!)

UP FOR GRABS

A Fast Paced Comedy and Maybe a Hint of Satire

When Simone Allen, an exclusive art dealer, is given the opportunity to sell a Brett Whitely, her behaviour becomes highly questionable as the pressure mounts. Driven by greed and aesthetics, just how far will Williamson's characters go when more than just a beautiful work of art is up for grabs in this sexy comedy of manners? A fast paced show about money, greed, unhappy couples and expensive art.

Written by David Williamson

Directed by Nick Lahey



Up For Grabs - Wed-Sat 8:00pm, Friday 28th October 2016 to Saturday 12th November 2016.

Tickers from Centertainment 6234 5998

UP FOR GRABS

Interview with Director Nick Lahey

What is your experience of/with HRTS?

As a little tacker, I was in many of the Hobart Rep. pantos and cherish the experience of each and every one of them. One of my favourite ones was *Jack and the Bean Stalk*. I thought it was pure magic when the bean stalk actually grew up and out of the trap door every performance thanks to some sneaky fly wire and a hidden pulley system hoisting it up. And to create that magic?...yes - there was a lot of glitter! It was perhaps my early association with HRTS that inspired me to go and study how the magic is made and now I'm thrilled to be finally reconnected and directing for HRTS.

How did you come to choose the play?

When choosing a play to direct for Hobart Rep., I was drawn to one of David Williamson's. Williamson, known for such classics as *Don's Party*, *The Removalist*, *The Club*, *Travelling North* and *Brilliant Lies* - is a gifted Australian playwright, known for his sharp political and social commentary. I have always been keen to interpret one of his works, a play that had a quick pace with characters that were relatable even though stereotypical. I thought the subject matter of contemporary art was perfect for Tasmanian audiences right now - as we have developed a real confidence in hosting and accessing modern and wonderful arts festivals/galleries like Dark MoFo, Ten Days on The Island, Spiegelkint, Festival of Voices and of course MONA and the revamped TMAG. I grabbed *Up For Grabs* immediately!

What has been the biggest challenge with the show?

To stick to the script and go easy on the melodrama! We all know these familiar, funny and deeply flawed characters in *Up For Grabs* and the desire to extend dialogue and action to reveal even more about them has been very tempting during rehearsal.

What can audiences expect?

Something greedy, grubby and great fun! We've been blessed in finding a truly talented cast to bring Williamson's characters to life. The play is set in Sydney where the universal themes of greed, trust, ambition, loyalty, honesty and relationships surge through the play as does the rapid fire dialogue used to deliver much of the story. It also allows the audience in on the story more directly by frequently dropping the "fourth wall" whereby a couple of characters speak directly to the audience, confiding or justifying their words and actions - using the audience as a moral sounding board. And it is the morals of premium art dealer Simone and her clients that come under the spotlight as we trace just how far she goes to sell a top quality Whiteley painting and how far her clients will go to secure it for themselves - whether it be for commercial, status or aesthetic reasons - who knows? Grab a ticket and come and find out!

SEASON 2017 LAUNCH

Your invitations to attend our 2017 Season Launch on Monday 31st October 2016 at the Playhouse Theatre should have arrived by now; if not, please still come as all are welcome to be present to hear about the great season planned for next year.

Our MC for the night is John X and all Directors will be present to talk about their show.

Refreshments will be served from 5.45pm for a 6pm start.

Please let Liz Lewinski know if you are coming (bring a friend!) with RSVP to either president@playhouse.org.au OR text (not ring) **0409 201 433**



The X Factor: John X will be our MC for the launch of the Hobart Rep 2017 Season on Monday 31st October 2016

Recent 'FOUND PROPERTY' in the theatre will be on view at the Launch for collection should it belong to anyone.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS: Renewal and new member packs will be available at the Launch event from the Secretary and subscriptions for 2017 can be handed to Tony on the night.

SEASON TICKET AVAILABILITY: Season tickets will be available from Entertainment from the very next day after the Launch on Tuesday 1st November 2016.

DOGS DAY OUT



Hobart Rep - A major sponsor of 'Dogs Day Out'

This years **DOGS DAY OUT**, conducted with the support of the Clarence Council at Rosny Barn on Sunday 2nd October 2016 with MC, "our Scott Hunt", was an opportunity to promote 'The Hound Of The Baskervilles', our first show in 2017. Hobart Rep provided 20 double pass vouchers for the day, making us a major sponsor of this event.

Scott Hunt - Keeping to Doggy Theme

UP FOR GRABS

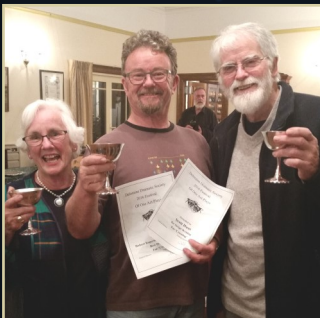
Rehearsal Shots



Up For Grabs Cast List: Lillie Macnamara, Jon Lenthal, Leigh Faulkner, Sarah Phillips, CJ Bowers, Tara Carroll & Astrid Tiefholz

DELORAINE DRAMA FESTIVAL RESULTS

- The John Xintavelonis *Most Promising Actor Award* went to Tara Carroll in 'Murder By Midnight' presented by PLot.
- The Graeme Carry Award for *Best Director* went to Richard Keown for 'The Peace of Angels' presented by Gemco.
- The *Best Female Actor runner up* went to Helen Edwards for 'Crossing' presented by Hobart Repertory Theatre Society.
- The *Best Female Actor* went to Michelle Drinnan for 'The Peace of Angels' presented by Gemco.
- The *Best Male Actor* was shared between Peter Miller for 'Dawn' presented by Square Pegs and Tye Gardner for 'Nightstand' presented by Bad Company Theatre.



**Hobart Rep Show Crossing won best production at the Deloraine Drama Festival this weekend.
Written and directed by Scott Hunt with Helen Edwards and John Peacock.**



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