



MAY 2011 THEATRE NEWS

What a truly fantastic line-up of captioned performances we have for you in May! And, what's more, two new Australian venues will now be offering our GoTheatrical!™ theatre captioning!

We warmly welcome Belvoir Street Theatre and the State Theatre Company of South Australia to our list of GoTheatrical!™ captioning venues!

For our subscribers living in Sydney, Belvoir Street Theatre in Surry Hills will be offering a captioned performance of 'The Business' on 18 May at 8pm in the Upstairs Theatre.

For those in Adelaide, 'November' will be captioned on 18 May at 11am at the Dunstan Playhouse, Adelaide Festival Centre.

Enjoy the vast array of shows on offer this month!

You can also find details of all captioned theatre on offer in Australia in 2011 at our website www.theatrecaptioning.com.au.

Please join us on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/theatrecaptioning where we keep you up to date with the latest theatre captioning news from around the world!

Have a great month!

The GoTheatrical!™ team at The Captioning Studio.



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WHAT'S ON IN MAY... CAPTIONED PERFORMANCES

RAINBOW'S END



DATE: Wednesday, 11 May at 1pm
VENUE: Frankston Arts Centre, Victoria

About the Show

Three generations of Koori women, Nan Dear, her feisty daughter Gladys and Dolly, her clever teenage granddaughter live in a shack on a flood prone riverbank on the outskirts of a country town. For Nan, even life on 'the Flats' represents progress of a kind, but Gladys has bigger ambitions for a real house and a real job for Dolly. When Gladys takes on buying the Encyclopedia Britannica from city salesman Errol Fisher to improve Dolly's chances, their lives take an unexpected and challenging turn.

Set against the Queen's visit in the 1950's with music that evokes the period, this tender, funny, play celebrates the transformative power of learning and the fierce optimism of the women as they struggle for community acceptance in conservative, Menzies' era Australia.

Rainbow's End is a genuine 'feel good' night in the theatre. Written with gentle irony and humorous affection by Jane Harrison, the writer of the award winning play 'Stolen' and flawlessly directed by multi award winner Craig Ilott.

Cast: Christine Anu, Lillian Crombie, Chenoa Deemal, Garth Holcombe.

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NOVEMBER



DATE: Wednesday, 18 May at 11am

VENUE: Dunstan Playhouse, Adelaide Festival Centre

About the Show

Set just days before a presidential election November, by Pulitzer Prize-winner David Mamet, proves once and for all there's no lower place than the highest office in the land. Meet President Charles Smith, the most corrupt, inept buffoon ever to sit in the Oval Office. It's the final days of his bid for a second term, but the country is a mess and his poll numbers are "lower than Gandhi's cholesterol". Toss in a lesbian speechwriter longing to marry her sweetheart on national television, a cynical Chief of Staff, Thanksgiving turkeys awaiting pardon, and some shady backroom scheming and you've got a hilarious masterpiece.

A scathingly entertaining take on the state of American politics today and the lengths to which the powerful will go to stay in power in any country, November shows that you don't have to be the sharpest tool in the shed to be the most dangerous weapon in the world.

Director: Adam Cook, Designer, Victoria Lamb, Lighting Designer, Mark Pennington.
Cast includes: Jason Chong, Michael Habib, Barbara Lowing, Garry McDonald, Peter Michell.

Frequent and liberal use of the "f" word. It's David Mamet, after all...

Running time: 1 hr 55 mins (including interval)

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THE BUSINESS



DATE: Wednesday, 18 May at 8pm

VENUE: Upstairs Theatre, Belvoir St Theatre, Surry Hills, NSW

About the Show

You always hurt the ones you love...

"...a rambunctious and riveting production." *The Daily Telegraph*

"...seriously entertaining night of bourgeois bashing. I loved it." *Stagenoise*

This autumn, Belvoir brings you *The Business* – a dark and savagely funny play that proves the old adage: you save your worst behavior for your family.

Van (Sarah Peirse) heads a family that has pulled itself up from humble working-class beginnings to run a large-scale manufacturing business. They live in the lap of luxury in the Australian suburbs, but as the patriarch, Bill, lies dying in the next room the family implodes over his will.

The Business is written by award-winning writer **Jonathan Gavin**, recently seen as Brian in *A Day in the Death of Joe Egg*. Director **Cristabel Sved's** production is set smack bang in the greed and glamour of the 1980s. It's *Sons and Daughters* meets *Shameless*.

Tickets are \$39 - \$59 (including concessions).

Book now www.belvoir.com.au/thebusiness

Or call the Box Office on (02) 9699 3444

www.theatrecaptioning.com.au

NEXT TO NORMAL



DATE: Saturday, 21 May at 4pm

VENUE: The Arts Centre Playhouse, Melbourne

About the Show

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

WINNER OF 3 TONY AWARDS 2009

2010 PULITZER PRIZE FOR DRAMA

'The best musical of the season by a mile' - Rolling Stone

'One of the bravest musicals to hit the mainstream' - The New York Times

'A moving, blisteringly honest, and inordinately powerful new musical' - Washington Post

One of the most talked about new shows on Broadway, *Next to Normal* makes its much anticipated Australian premiere featuring a stellar young cast and a musical score that surges from soul-soaring rock to heart-warming ballads. As this ordinary family try to take care of themselves and each other, *Next to Normal* will move you with its graceful honesty and powerful spirit. Following in the footsteps of hit contemporary musicals *Rent* and *Spring Awakening*, this electrifying production will captivate audiences.

Please note: *Next to Normal* depicts drug use and contains adult themes, some coarse language, strobe lighting and herbal cigarette smoke.

www.theatrecaptioning.com.au

THE DAPTO CHASER



DATE: Saturday, 21 May at 2.30pm

VENUE: IMB Theatre, Wollongong

About the Show

Errol Sinclair is a dog-racing legend and a Dapto racetrack dinosaur. His eldest son Cess is a chip off the old block and dynamite with the dogs. Jimmy, Errol's youngest, has never taken to the track despite working there as driver of the rabbit lure. It seems that the Sinclairs have been and always will be, dog men.

But when a death in the family brings the brothers face to face with grief and a desperate financial problem they need to solve quickly, racing identity Arnold Denny comes snapping at their heels with an offer that's hard to ignore. Suddenly the lure becomes not just a job but an opportunity for them both to finally take a real gamble on life.

A Merrigong Theatre Company commission, *The Dapto Chaser* by award-winning playwright Mary Rachel Brown is a bold comedy filled with all the heartache and humour of family politics. A local story set in the colourful world of dog racing, the play gets under the skin of one of our town's iconic subcultures, pitting blood ties against the lure of the track.

Warning: contains strong language. Recommended for ages 16+

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CATHOLIC SCHOOL GIRLS



DATE: Wednesday, 25 May at both 11am and 8pm
VENUE: Glen Street Theatre, Belrose, NSW

About the Show

In today's world where nuns wear shorts and we embrace the theory of evolution, Catholic School Girls takes us on a humorous and moving journey back to the 60's through the experiences of four young girls.

From the assassination of President Kennedy to the first astronaut on the moon, the pill, protest marches, women's lib and The Twist, the play explores the development of impressionable young minds and the girls' struggle to reconcile their religious teachings with the constantly changing world around them.

Four highly acclaimed actresses, Lucinda Armour, Helen O'Connor, Kim Lewis and Rhonda Doyle play eight characters: students and nuns, navigating their way through life over eight years, with hilarious outcomes and some very tender moments which we can all relate to today.

Casey Kurttis' delightful play premiered off Broadway in 1982 to rave reviews. Following this success, the play toured Australia to sell-out seasons across the country and now it's back.

Running Time: 1 hour 55 minutes, including interval.

Cast: Lucinda Armour, Helen O'Connor, Kim Lewis, Rhonda Doyle

www.theatrecaptioning.com.au

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING



DATE: Saturday, 28 May at 2pm

VENUE: Canberra Theatre Playhouse

(captions on plasmas AND handheld devices)

About the Show

Experience Shakespeare's most loved romantic comedy. With its unique charm and quick wit, Bell Shakespeare's production of *Much Ado About Nothing* takes place in Sicily in the 1950s against a backdrop of iron rules of behavior, family pride, vendettas and the notion of male honour.

Claudio and Hero are deeply in love. Beatrice and Benedick are deeply in denial. All is well. Then Claudio humiliates Hero. Hero has a fainting attack and pretends to die. And Beatrice and Benedick join forces with a vengeance. And that's just up to the interval.

If it sounds complicated, well, that's love for you - a trip down the aisle is never a straight one. When you delve into other people's relationships you soon learn the real cost of commitment - what we will do and what we won't do for that capricious and often elusive state of love.

John Bell directs this exuberant comedy with a lightness of touch and a fantastic cast including Blazey Best, Toby Schmitz, Max Gillies and Tony Llewellyn-Jones.

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IN THE NEXT ROOM (THE VIBRATOR PLAY)



DATE: Saturday, 4 June at 2pm

VENUE: IMB Theatre, Wollongong

Also

DATE: Saturday, 11 June at 2pm

VENUE: Canberra Theatre Playhouse

(captions on plasmas AND handheld devices)

About the Show

Nominated for three Tony Awards and the Pulitzer Prize, this provocative comedy was a resounding hit when it opened on Broadway in 2009. Now, Sydney Theatre Company brings us the Australian premiere production.

Mrs Givings craves attention and affection. Unable to breastfeed her baby, she is desperately lonely; stifled by the restraints of 1880s Victorian society. But as the electric age dawns, Dr Givings fails to understand his wife's sudden fascination with the new remedial treatment he administers to females suffering from hysteria. The 'Chattanooga Vibrator' is absolutely nothing for his healthy, happy wife to get her bloomers in a twist about.

Funny, touching and slightly outrageous, *In the Next Room, or the vibrator play* features a stellar cast headed by Jacqueline McKenzie. It's sharp, witty and bursting with charisma.

Warning: contains adult themes and nudity. Recommended for ages 16+

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CAPTURE THE FLAG



DATE: Saturday, 7 June at 1pm
VENUE: Frankston Arts Centre, Victoria

About the Show

A play about history and our children, warfare and freewill...

Berlin. 1945. The last gasp of World War II. Three young boys huddle for days in the sewers as the Russian tanks rumble through the streets above. Karl and Albert are both 12 years old, and members of the Hitler Youth – desperate to become men before their time and entrenched in the belief that their “body belongs to their nation”. Herret is only eight, and desperate to get back to his mother, his indoctrination not as complete as his companions but he knows enough to fall in line. The rules of their favourite game have changed and now the bullets are real.

The boys have been conditioned to fight to the last bullet but, almost paralysed by fear and indecision, they bicker among themselves as they must determine how to survive. One moment they debate the promises made to them by Hitler and in the next they talk of the prospect of love and dream about their first kiss. The sudden arrival of a teenage girl running from the occupiers jolts a final reality into the boys and they must face what we already know. The war has been lost. Adults have betrayed them. It has all been in vain.

Award-winning playwright and director Toby Schmitz's new Australian play is a gripping, intelligent and unlikely story that sees coming of age meet historical apocalypse in a unique and immersive theatrical experience.

"Simple and affecting... effective and evocative" – Sydney Morning Herald

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