



PRESENTS



by Dori Appel

Directed by Paul Marshall

BY ARRANGEMENT WITH
DOMINIE PTY LTD

16 - 31 July 2010

A note from the Director ...

Hat Tricks can best be described as a compilation of six scenes and three monologues designed for performance by mature actresses. Covering a range of women's experience in the second half of life, the nine pieces range from the purely comedic to those that combine humour with thoughtful and sometimes poignant explorations.

It is a richly varied collection featuring a single commonality - every scene includes the presence of a hat. Most of the hats you will see on the stage were made especially for this production by the talented millinery students at the Metropolitan South Institute of TAFE Mt Gravatt Campus. I would like to say a particular thank-you to Robyn Smallhorn both for her patience with me and her work with her students in creating such amazingly beautiful hats.

When I go to the theatre, the performances that I enjoy the most are the ones that start in a place that I am familiar with and then take me on a journey to somewhere unexpected. When I first read Dori Appel's script for *Hat Tricks* I knew that it had the ability to do just that.

Each one of this wonderful cast and crew has been on a journey with me to some unexpected places and I would like to thank them for their trust and their efforts in bringing this production to the Sunnybank stage.

The women they will bring to the stage for you today are women you have met before - aunts, sisters, daughters, wives, mothers, grandmothers and friends. As in life, I am sure you will develop a soft spot for your favourites among them. Some you will meet only briefly on the street but others will give you the opportunity to drop by their homes and spend a little more time with them. I know you will not regret accepting their invitation.



Paul Marshall

Synopsis of Scenes

(Cast in order of appearance)

ACT I

Specs	Jeanette Campbell
Bon Voyage	Pam Cooper Deirdre Robinson Denise Oxborough
Retribution	Loretta Donnelly Joanne Hennessy Desley Nichols
Gift Exchange	Jeanette Campbell Denise Oxborough
Treasure Hunt	Pam Cooper Deirdre Robinson Joanne Hennessy

ACT II

Alchemy	Loretta Donnelly Desley Nichols Joanne Hennessy
Junkyard Dog	Deirdre Robinson
Vocab Lesson	Denise Oxborough
Dream On	Deirdre Robinson Jeanette Campbell Loretta Donnelly

The Cast



Jeanette Campbell was last seen on the Sunnybank stage as Olga in *Roses are Red, My Love* but patrons may also remember her as Marge in *Hotel Sorrento* and Miss Clairee in *Steel Magnolias*. Jeanette has found playing the motor-mouthed Darlene whilst doing Tai Chi (in *Gift Exchange*) about the greatest challenge she has yet had to face in the theatre.



Pam Cooper has been a member of the Sunnybank Theatre Group for many years. Pam is probably better known in the role of director and regular patrons will remember her latest production at STG, *Noises Off* at the beginning of this year (which Pam believes is the best comedy ever penned!) She is now delighted to be “under the direction of” one of her own regular cast members, Paul Marshall. Pam says it is great to be working with Paul but strange being on the ‘other side’ of the stage. It is quite a challenge and one she is really enjoying.



Loretta Donnelly has been involved in theatre, both backstage and onstage, for several years, mostly in Christchurch, NZ. She joined STG in 2007 and has been crew member or props coordinator for several productions, most recently for *Noises Off*. In 2008 Loretta was Stage Manager for our One-act season and *Butterflies are Free* and last year she was Assistant Director for *Silhouette*. Earlier this year Loretta directed the one-act play *Chook Chook* which went on to win the Adjudicator’s Choice Award at the Dalby Theatre Festival.



Joanne Hennessy is debuting with STG in this production. It is not the first time she has trod the boards though - Joanne started her acting career at the tender age of 10 playing Mother Mary in a bush play. Now at a more tender age of 50 Joanne thought it was about time to step back into the spotlight again and share her magic! She believes the experience has certainly taken her from fear to fearlessness. Joanne encourages others to feel the fear and do it anyway as she has found the whole experience quite liberating!!



Desley Nichols is appearing for the first time on the stage at Sunnybank, but over the past five years she has been a regular in various productions with St Luke's Theatre Society. These include *Come Blow Your Horn*, *Tiptoe Through the Tombstones* and *Lend Me A Tenor*. A HR Manager during the day, Desley is a passionate theatre-goer, enjoying all types of theatre, music and dance. Desley is enjoying her first experience with the folk at Sunnybank and hopes this will be the first of many.



Denise Oxborough has been seen on the STG stage as the detective and the maid in *Pillow Talk*, the senior vamp in *Out of Sight*, *Out of Murder* and the tough Emily in *Tomb with a View*. Denise has also enjoyed the challenge of theatre in North Queensland playing such roles as an ageing call girl, a demented 100 year old, an obsessive compulsive medical patient, a bored wife living out fantasies and an adulterous opera singer! Denise is pleased to be able to bring three of Dori Appel's characters to life in *Hat Tricks*.



Deirdre Robinson has been absent from STG since directing *Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* in 2009. In recent years her directing credits for STG include *Come Blow Your Horn* and *84 Charing Cross Road*. Deirdre has been seen on stage in *On Golden Pond* and *Hotel Sorrento* for STG, *Daylight Saving* for Front Row Theatre and *Shirley Valentine* for Logan City Theatre Company.

The Hats

Many of the hats in this production were produced specially for the show by the millinery students at the Metropolitan South Institute of TAFE Mt Gravatt Campus. Led by millinery teacher Robyn Smallhorn, the students were given a copy of the script and a free hand to respond and create a hat to suit. The result, we are sure you will agree, is a set of stunning hats that are able to hold their own as characters alongside the human actors.



The Crew

Stage Manager	Courtney Keirnan
Stage Crew	Robin Matic Jacqui Mckell Andrew Roberts
Set Design	Paul Marshall
Set Construction	Mark Zoethout Paul Marshall John Mordacz
Set Dressing	Jenny Marshall Gabrielle Marshall Grace Marshall
Props	Jenny Marshall
Lighting design	David Gemmell
Lighting/sound	Joanne Sephton Stuart Sephton
Front of House	Janet Noack
Ticket Office	Deon Spann
Green Room manager	Janet Noack
Publicity/Photography	Kayleen Gibson
Program	Paul Marshall

Paul Marshall (Director) is stretching his legs at STG with *Hat Tricks* being his first full length production as a director. While Paul has appeared on stage many times over the years it was only in 2008 that he made his directorial debut with the one act play *The New Quixote*. In 2009 he was again a part of the season of one act plays with the moving *Post-its, Notes on a Marriage*.

Thanks to Grand Master Gary Khor for the use of his Tai Chi soundtrack.



COMING SOON TO STG

The Female of the Species

BY JOANNA MURRAY-SMITH

DIRECTOR – YVONNE MES

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR - DEREK FREEMAN

10 - 25 SEPTEMBER 2010

Tickets on sale from 10am, Saturday 14 August

Book tickets online at www.stg.org.au

or

by telephone on (07) 3345 3964

Nun-crackers

The Nunsense Christmas Musical Comedy

BY DAN GOGGIN

DIRECTOR - STEPHANIE ELLIS

MUSICAL DIRECTOR - JUNE GEMMELL

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR - DALE HOLYOAK

19 NOVEMBER - 4 DECEMBER 2010

Tickets on sale from 10am, Saturday 23 October

Book tickets online at www.stg.org.au

or

by telephone on (07) 3345 3964

All details correct at time of printing.

All rights for photographs reserved by Sunnybank Theatre Group Inc.

Written permission from the copyright holder has been obtained.

Incidental music covered by PPCA and APRA licences.