



Coming soon to STG  
**Nuncrackers**

*The Nonsense Christmas Musical Comedy*

*By Dan Goggin*

*Director—Stephanie Ellis  
Musical Director—June Gemmel  
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](http://www.stg.org.au)  
by arrangement with Tams-Witmark  
Or  
By phone on (07) 3345 3964*

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Sunnybank Theatre Group Inc. presents

# The Female of the Species



By special arrangement with Tropolis Pty Ltd and Currency Press

*by Joanna Murray-Smith*

*Directed by Yvonne Mes*

*10-25 September, 2010*



# A note from the Director...

Last year I was looking for a play to direct, something fun, punchy and with something to say while being entertaining... I stumbled on *the Female of Species* by Joanna Murray-Smith over a year ago and liked the play straight away. It was gutsy, modern, funny and touched on issues of feminism, motherhood, ambition, idols, love and was Australian as well. Luckily Sunnybank Theatre Group Artistic Committee were happy to give me the opportunity to stage the play.

Then I became pregnant and realised I would start directing a play while breastfeeding a 2 month old during rehearsals...how ironic. Luckily I have a supportive husband (Derek Freeman) doubling as assistant director and a gorgeous little boy doubling as the assistant to the assistant director and an understanding and strong cast which made rehearsals very entertaining in itself.

Casting this play was easy, rehearsals were an adventure and a pleasure. I admire the way each cast member enthusiastically embraced the play and their characters and I have been impressed with the hard work and great performances delivered by all.

I would like to thank the STG Committee for giving me the opportunity (though with some restrictions on some on the colourful language) to put on this lovely play. I hope STG audiences will sit back and enjoy *The Female of the Species*.

Yvonne Mes



# The Crew



Franck Dance



Loretta Donnelly



Maurice Thorn

**Director**  
**Assistant Director**

**Stage Managers**

**Props/ Stage crew**

**Set Design**  
**Set Construction**

**Special Effect Design &  
Light/Sound Design**  
**Light/ Sound**

**With thanks to**

**Front of House  
Manager**

**Publicity/  
Photography**

**Program**

**Art**  
Paintings on set are for sale \$250 each, please contact Front of House.

**Yvonne Mes**  
**Derek Freeman**

**Courtney Kiernan**  
**Franck Dance**

**Loretta Donnelly**

**Yvonne Mes**  
**Frank Dance**  
**Maurice Thorn**

**Derek Freeman**  
**Brittany Wright**  
**Joanne Sephton**  
**Stuart Sephton**  
**David Gemmell**

**Janet Noack**

**Kayleen Gibson**

**Yvonne Mes**

**Alexandra Bass**



Courtney Kiernan



Brittany Wright

# Directors



**Yvonne Mes** has been involved with Community Theatre for 12 years with Mount Isa Theatrical Society, Mount Isa Civic Centre and Ipswich Little Theatre. Doing everything from acting in drama, pantomime, comedy and musical, to directing (*Vagina Monologues*, *Mort*, *Stanislavski's Chair*) playwright (*Nth Degree Reality*) set design and visual art, FOH, backstage and more. This is her director's debut at STG after acting in one of the one act plays earlier in the year.

**Quinten Freeman** is making his debut at STG as the assistant to the assistant director and following in the footsteps of his big brother, **Liam**, who has sat through many years of rehearsals and performances.

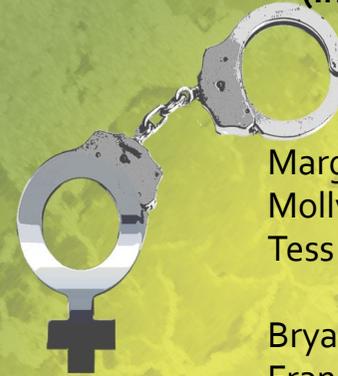


**Derek Freeman** has a long history with community theatre in Brisbane and has worked with Mount Isa Theatrical Society. As an engineer, Derek enjoys the technical side of theatrics, but lends his hand to acting, singing, costumes, FOH, orchestra and directing (*Nth Degree Reality*—Mount Isa Theatrical Society) as opportunities arrive. Outside the theatre Derek is involved with the Volunteer Marine Rescue and spends time with his new family; even if that means being an assistant to his wife at the theatre.



# The play...

## Cast (In order of appearance)



Margot  
Molly  
Tess

Ruth Wilkes  
Kate Davidson  
Wendy Moman

Bryan  
Frank  
Theo

Alex Donald  
Chris Howard  
Kevin Prout

### ACT 1

The play is set at the country retreat of Margot Mason, best-selling author of the 'Cerebral Vagina' and many other celebrated feminist works, who is to her dismay suffering a touch of writer's block. Enter Molly, a former student, feisty, confused, determined and with a whole lot of emotional baggage. The two engage in a revealing, witty and highly charged conversation ending in a hostage situation. Enter Tess, Margot's exhausted daughter and mother of three who is looking for some respite from her demanding family.

### ACT 2

Bryan enters looking for Tess, followed by Frank, the taxi driver and Theo, Margot's publisher. As each new character enters the play becomes more outrageous to Margot's dismay.

# The Cast



**Ruth Wilkes** returned to the stage seven years ago at her husband's insistence after a 30 year hiatus. Ruth has performed at the Melbourne Theatre Company Youth Group, Victoria Shakespeare Co and other companies and won a nomination for a supporting role in David Copperfield from the Victorian Drama League. This is Ruth's first role with STG and was blown away when she received the part of Margot. Ruth is looking forward to share her character with the audience.



**Alex Donald** has acted mainly in TV and film over the last year and this is his first venture into Theatre and his first full-length play. Alex has lived and worked in Paris, London and Scotland. Alex has always been passionate about film, television and theatre leading him to leaving university and travel to London where he worked in the film industry. He loves the ability to help create a piece of work which can both entertain and move people. Alex is pursuing a career as an actor professionally.



**Kate Davidson** has always had a passion for drama and musical theatre since age 12 but when study, work, travel and life took over she ended up revisiting her passion and auditioned for a musical a few years ago and has since performed in *Tarantura! Tarantura!*, *No, No Nanette*, *Fame! The Musical* and currently *Cabaret*. Kate made her STG debut in this year's One Act Plays in 'He Said and She Said'. Kate is halfway through a Masters in Applied Linguistics and hopes to one day get a book published. Kate is very excited to play the role of 'Molly' particularly because she can relate to the plight of being a young student writer.



**Chris Howard** is excited to perform in his second play at STG. Chris has been acting since he was 14 years old and loves to improvise: "When I improvise it's like my brain is on auto-pilot, and my mouth is the captain. I never know what I'm going to come up with next when I get in the zone." He performed as Hughie Cook in *The One Day of the Year* last year and can't wait to get on the stage at Sunnysbank Theatre Group again. He loves the role of Frank and looking forward to unleashing his inner Macho stud.



**Wendy Moman** is a bum wiping, spider squishing, vegetable sneaking, sticky floor cleaning goddess. She is a lullaby singing, bear-hug giving, good-night kissing, boo-boo fixing superstar. She is a grocery shopping, tantrum stopping, potty training, diaper changing diva. Wendy is a mum. Which made the role of the exhausted mother Tess so effortless and delightful to play. Life doesn't totally imitate life though...Wendy loves her husband dearly and her mother is the antithesis of feminism!



**Kevin Prout** joined STG in 2004 after a long absence from the stage with a dual role in the play 'When we are Married' which re-ignited his acting passion. He followed this by using his choral skills in *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Calamity Jane* and *Call me Madam* and in 'Me and My Girl' with Beaudesert Amateur Musical Society. In 2009 he had his most challenging role as Frank Crawley in 'Rebecca' with STG. Kevin has felt the acting bug struck again and is eagerly awaiting an audience to enjoy *The Female of The Species*.

