



**Butterfly Creek
Theatre Troupe**



Troupedour

September 2010

The Dresser

"The Dresser" (by Sir Ronald Harwood) is progressing with all due speed towards the season of **Thurs 21, Fri 22, Sat 23, and Thur 28, Fri 29, Sat 30 October** with the cast working without scripts from the first rehearsal and the actors taking it in turn to prompt from the side when needed.

It is the first time I have directed in this way and I thoroughly recommend it. Blocking is easier and getting down to the nitty gritty immediately very rewarding. John Marwick does this with Bard in the Yard and I'm glad I've followed his example.

It wasn't until we ran Act One as a whole that I realised how very funny it all is. I couldn't wipe the smile off my face. John Marwick, as Sir, does an excellent job of maintaining a straight face as Trevor Rose (Norman) flits about the stage trying to keep everything going as normal. Sir (John Marwick), the actor manager playing KING LEAR, has had a break down. Norman (Trevor Rose), Sir's long time dresser wants everything to carry on as before. Her Ladyship (Joanna Hulme) and Madge (Fran Baldock) want to cancel the performance. Irene (Beatrice Kircher) wants to take over from Her Ladyship. Geoffrey (Peter Hughson) wants a costume that fits. Oxenby (Chris Sands) wants his play read. The rest of the actors just want to get on with the play.

I can't wait to tackle Act two to see how it all turns out.

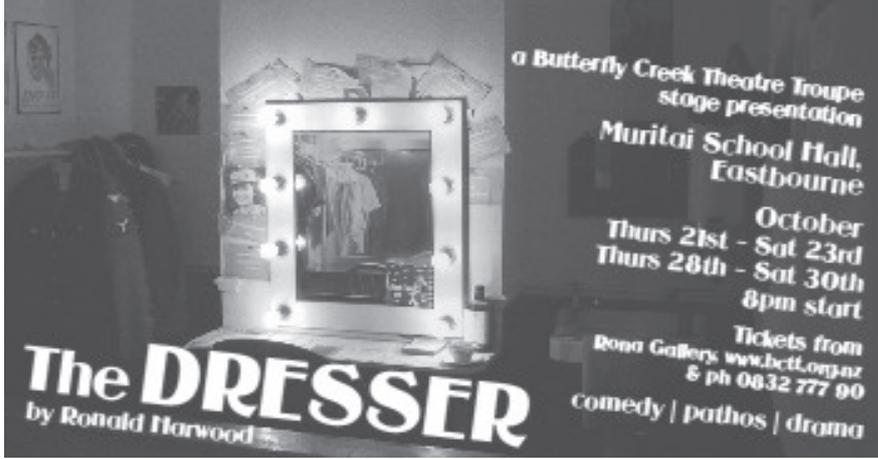
The performances (October 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30 @ 8pm) are on the stage with audience up there too, so seating will be limited. Don't wait until the second weekend and run the risk of missing out.

Florence McFarlane

Focus on Arts and Culture

BCTT have been invited to join a new forum being established by the Hutt City Council, as part of it's new Community Arts and Culture Policy. The Forum comprises a small group of passionate individuals from organisations that represent a wide range of arts and cultural activities in the Hutt. It will help with advice, planning and support for the Council and each other, with the vision of increasing an arts and culture focus within the Hutt.

Barry Mawer will be our representative.



Thanks to those members who have paid their subscriptions for 2010, for the others, these are now overdue.

Please pay on-line at —<http://bctt.org.nz/about-the-troupe/membership/>
Or post to Box 41-120 Eastbourne

People News

Introducing Avi Duckor-Jones

Avi Duckor-Jones was born in the sunny seaside township of Eastbourne 25 years ago. Fairly soon after under the guidance of theatre guru Florence McFarlane, he took to the stage in such sell-out performances as *Jack and the Beanstalk* (headlining as “Jack” himself), *Aladdin* and various other pantomime gems, later making a debut for the elite BCTT in *The Lark*. Avi’s career skyrocketed in high school where he maintained stellar grades amongst sporting feats and an action packed theatre schedule including an award winning performance in *The magic and the madness* which took out best one act play in 2001. Though his career was reaching headlines, Avi still remained loyal to the BCTT, appearing in *JC Retro*, *A tangled Web* and *An Inspector Calls* appearing alongside such seasoned A-list stars as Barry Mawer and John Marwick.

Avi continued his studies at Otago University, following in the footsteps of stage legend and Grandfather Jerry Duckor, perhaps the greatest actor/lawyer combo to have ever lived (Avi says –Ed); pursuing both Theatre and Law. Avi stepped out of the spotlight to write such plays as *A Family of Fish* and to direct a series of low budget student plays, appearing once more on stage in Ionesco’s *Rhinoceros* to rave reviews. To complete his degrees, Duckor-Jones took an exchange to Hawaii, again to study theatre and law, graduating that fall. Avi then took a two year hiatus to focus on his surfing, making his way around the Hawaiian Islands, California and Mexico before travelling on to New York to absorb more of the great teachings of Grandfather Jerry Duckor and the extensive theatrical feast New York had to offer.

His travel bug still not satiated, Duckor-Jones travelled further to Oregon, all around Australia, Indonesia with one final stint in Hawaii to catch those last epic waves before heading home to reignite his fading career.



Photos
“One Flesh”

Back in NZ, he finished his professional legal studies while simultaneously treading the boards in Peter Baldock’s recent production of *One Flesh* in the controversial role of “Penny”. Despite this (or because of – Ed ??) he is to be admitted to the bar in October.



What next for this intrepid travelling lawyer /actor whose career never ceases to shock and amaze friends, family, fans and himself?

Who knows . . . tune in next week.



Watch out among the international stars for Barry Mawer as King Duncan in the NZ Opera production of Verdi’s *Macbeth* at St James Theatre Oct 9, 12, 14, 16. The good news is that since it’s a “silent” role, Barry doesn’t have to sing. He just has to be “Kingly” and to bleed a lot.

Antoinette’s Awards night

Wellington Theatre Federation’s Antoinette’s Awards night is on Sun 31st October

Polish Society Rooms, 757 Riddiford St Newtown
7pm for a 7.30pm start.

Wgton District Theatre Federation- Full Length Play Festival 2010

Adjudicator, Jillian Carpenter's Report provided very positive feedback for the cast and crew who brought Fiona Samuel's "One Flesh" to the stage at St Alban's Church as part of their 100th year anniversary celebrations.

Director, Peter Baldock, was very pleased with the success of this "powerful and moving story", as the adjudicator put it.

Recall the magic – "Practice random kindness and senseless acts of beauty. Love is more than simple acts of kindness: it comes from deep within us like a note".

The adjudicator said under **Theatrical Endeavour**:

This was a sincere and cohesive production. You maintained the audience involvement throughout, in spite of the narrow, 100 year old pews. To attempt and succeed with such a play in such an environment is a credit to the director, the cast and crew. Congratulations to you all.

The full report can be viewed on-line at:

<http://bctt.getshopped.com/files/2010/04/Adjudicators-Report.pdf>



Unrehearsed Play reading @ The Lifeboat - August 2010

About 14 people met at "The Lifeboat" on Monday, August 30th, to read through Ray Cooney's play, "It Runs in the Family".

An intricate plot: Dr Mortimer is an ambitious neurologist who is about to deliver a major speech at a medical conference. If successful, it could change the course of his career. Unexpectedly, a former nurse and lover turns up to inform Mortimer that he has a teenage son who needs his immediate help.

The good doctor knows his marriage and career are at stake; he therefore weaves an ever more complicated web of deception in his effort to extricate himself from potential ruin. Misunderstandings and innuendos abound, resulting in a very enjoyable and amusing evening for all who attended. Another successful play reading.

Join us for the next one!

Sue Jones

Next Unrehearsed Play reading @ The Lifeboat - Monday 27th Sept 2010,

THE WEDDING PARTY, by Fiona Samuel, 7.30pm, come early for a meal.

All the humour and unfoldings as can happen at a wedding party. 9 to 10 main characters (total cast 17 - can have some doubling up).

Fran Baldock

Thanks to the Hutt Valley Theatre Trust for their help with a grant for the much needed restoration of the pair of wooden stage steps. They squeak no more!

WHAT ELSE IS ON

Trick of the Light by Ken Duncum at **Wellington Repertory Theatre**, 14 Sep to 25 Sep 2010

Peter Pan by John Morley at **Hutt Repertory Theatre**, 27 Sep to 2 Oct 2010

The Dresser by Ronald Harwood at **Butterfly Creek Theatre Troupe**, 21 Oct to 30 Oct 2010

Silly Cow by Ben Elton at **Stagecraft Theatre**, 3 Nov to 13 Nov 2010

Spreading Out by Roger Hall at **New Players Theatre Company**, 11 Nov to 20 Nov 2010

Black Adder II The Early Tudors by Richard Curtis & Ben Elton at **Wellington Repertory Theatre**, 24 Nov to 4 Dec 2010

Four Flat Whites in Italy by Roger Hall at **Mana Little Theatre** from 24 Nov to 4 Dec 2010

www.theatrenewzealand.co.nz/links.php

Theatre updates check out NZTF Website
www.theatrenewzealand.co.nz