



Lieder Theatre Company

NEWSLETTER

Number 76

May 2010



The Lieder Theatre Company

Presents

A Black Comedy

Crimes of the Heart

By **Beth Henley**

Directed by *Chrisjohn Hancock*



**Michelle McAleer, Melissa Chandler
and Miranda Lean (during rehearsals)**

Crimes of the Heart

Don't be shy to book early for the next Lieder play *Crimes of the Heart* written by Beth Henley and with a stellar local cast featuring Michelle McAleer, Melissa Chandler, Matt Kay, Suzanne Hockey, Josh Waters and Miranda Lean.

Crimes of the Heart is set in the little township of Hazehurst, Mississippi, where the three Magrath sisters have gathered to await the news of the family patriarch, their grandfather, who is living out his last hours in the local hospital.

All three have miserable luck in love but find enough for each other by the end of the play which overflows with infectious high spirits, wit and zany passion, while at the same time telling a touching tale that will linger in the mind long after the curtain has fallen.

Opening on Wednesday 26th May 2010 at 7:30 pm

With a charity performance for the Tea Pot Club of Goulburn on Wednesday 26th May at 7.30pm. Tickets for this performance are available from Something Special, corner of Auburn and Market Streets Goulburn or by phoning Judy on 4822 1149 or Del on 4822 2500. All tickets for this performance will cost \$25 and include pre-show drinks and delicious sweets and coffee at interval.

**And continuing every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday until June 12th at 7:30 pm
Matinee performance on Saturday 5th June at 2:00 pm**

**Tickets \$20 full price, \$15 Adult members & groups of 10 or more,
\$10 for children and all concession card holders
(students, pensioners, unemployed, seniors)**

Choose your own seats and purchase your tickets online at www.liedertheatre.com

Or in person at Michael Connolly Chemist 312 Auburn Street Goulburn
or book by phoning The Lieder Theatre 4821 5066.

Audition

Sunday 30th May at 2pm
for our next mainstage production
opening at the end of August

Cloudstreet

A great Australian classic
Directed by Chrisjohn Hancock
Rehearsals will commence in June
Performers over 18 required
For more information
phone the theatre on 48215066

Venice Theatre Festival

There are only a few chances to see **The Colour Play** and try to work out why the American Association of Community Theatre's were so determined to have us at their Festival in Paradise in Florida this year.

After politely declining their offer to take part in their international theatre festival the American organisers made us an offer we could not refuse and now eleven members of our company depart for the US on 20th June

The Lieder Theatre Company will be performing as guests of the American Association of Community Theatre at their *Festival in Paradise* in Venice, Florida 22 – 27th June.

The Lieder Company includes Fiona and Mark Churchill, Erin Williams, Greta and Linden Fennamore, Shane Daly, Josh Waters, and new cast members this year Martin Sanders, Suzanne Hockey and Kathy Campbell.

In Florida we will be performing alongside companies from Italy, Brazil, Spain, Denmark, Peru, Poland, Israel, Singapore, Republic of Georgia, America and Russia.

New Technology

The Lieder Theatre is currently trialling a new ticketing system through www.trybooking.com (search for Lieder) where patrons can choose their own seats and pay online for their tickets to see Lieder shows. Or use the link from the online bookings at www.liedertheatre.com.

"I encourage everyone to help us trial this new booking system and to give us feedback about it so that we can assess if it is worth continuing with it. Patrons can also use the usual methods to book and purchase tickets for Lieder shows, but for this play I encourage everyone to give our new system a go, and then tell us what you think." *Chrisjohn Hancock*

Thank You

A Big thanks to Dr Isabella Hawke and her ANU Medical Students, especially Paris and Kieran for organising and teaching Bollywood dance classes at the Lieder. It has been fantastic fun.

Crimes of the Heart (Cont'd)

Beth Henley completed *Crimes of the Heart*, her tragic comedy about three sisters surviving crisis after crisis, in 1978. She submitted it to several regional theatres for consideration without success. Unknown to her, however, a friend had entered it in the well-known Great American Play Contest of the Actors' Theatre of Louisville. The play was chosen as co-winner for 1977-78 and performed in February, 1979, at the company's annual festival of New American Plays. The production was extremely well-received, and the play was picked up by numerous regional theatres for their 1979-81 seasons.

At the end of 1980, *Crimes of the Heart* was produced off-Broadway at the Manhattan Theatre Club for a limited, sold-out, engagement of thirty-two performances. By the time the play transferred to Broadway in November, 1981, *Crimes of the Heart* had received the prestigious Pulitzer Prize.

Henley was the first woman to win the Pulitzer for Drama in twenty-three years, and her play was the first ever to win before opening on Broadway. *Crimes of the Heart* went on to garner the New York Drama Critics Circle Award for Best New American Play, a Guggenheim Award, and a Tony nomination.

The tremendously successful Broadway production ran for 535 performances, spawning regional productions in London, Chicago, Washington, Atlanta, Los Angeles, Dallas, and Houston. The success of the play—and especially the prestige of the Pulitzer award—assured Henley's place among the elite of the American theatre for years to come. As Henley herself put it, with typically wry humour, "winning the Pulitzer Prize means I'll never have to work in a dog-food factory again"

The Shoe-Horn Sonata

Enormous thanks to Doreen, Kathy, Mark, Marianne our wonderful musical director, Anne, Brittany and all the choir and crew that worked on this very special production. Those that saw it will agree I'm sure that this was one of those memorable shows that will linger in our minds for quite a while. Fantastic job everyone!

Vintage Fair

Thank you to Lee, Pauline John and all the clowns, face painters, stilt walkers and performers in period costumes who entertained crowds at Riversdale for the Vintage Fair organised by the National Trust. Well done guys!

FYI

Information has been sent to the Lieder on some interesting pages in the Canberra Times about the recent Federal Budget which discusses one article on Arts funding changes amounting to around \$8million. Another article talks about sports funding – receiving an additional \$195.2 million.

The Lieder Theatre Company and
The Lieder *Youth* Theatre Company present

The Colour Play

At the **Lieder Theatre** Sunday 13th June at 3pm

accompanied by a guest performance from
The Yurungai Dancers from Sydney who will be presenting

Yurungai Dance.

Their story follows:-

'Once there was a little black duck called
Yurungai who lived on an island.

He was the only bird on the island who could fly.
However, he was too frightened to fly.

The other birds, who wished they could fly,
persuaded Yurungai to overcome his fears and
fly away to the country where he truly belongs.'

The Yurungai Dancers are made up of Aboriginal
and Islander children who live in Sydney. This group will
perform in Lingen Germany at the 11th World Festival of
Children's Theatre between 18 – 25th June

The Colour Play is a movement drama lasting
approximately 45 minutes. It was originally designed and
created by Chrisjohn and the Northern Territory Theatre-in-
Education Team to be performed for non-English speaking
children in the isolated aboriginal communities of Arnhem
Land. It was first performed in May 1983. Last year the
production toured successfully to Theatre Festivals in
Monaco and Girona and as a consequence of the
international response to the play it has been invited to
America this year.

The Colour Play will be presented for the general
public in Goulburn on two additional occasions before
flying off to the States to perform between **22-27th June**—
as part of the American Association of Community
Theatre's International *Festival in Paradise* at the Venice
Theatre, Venice, Florida

At the **Caroline Chisholm Court Yard**

Monday 14th June at 2pm

(wet weather alternative – Lieder Theatre)

At the **Lieder Theatre**

Tuesday 15th June at 7.30pm

All tickets at the door. Entry by donation \$10

CASP Funding (Part 1)

This year the Lieder has received funding from
Regional Arts NSW to undertake two projects. The first is
to engage an aboriginal performer to take part in
Cloudstreet and all indigenous performers in our region are
invited to attend Auditions for the production on Sunday
30th May at 2pm.

Please contact Chrisjohn Hancock at the Lieder on
48215066 to discuss the role in more detail.

Membership

Lieder **memberships** fall due at the end of June.
Becoming a member shows your support for our company
and its work. Your membership fee covers newsletter
expenses and the general administration costs that
accompany the running of this busy community
organisation.

Your prompt payment of your membership renewal
fee will be rewarded. Payments made before the end of July
will receive a discount voucher reducing their next theatre
ticket price by half for one show this year.

Membership forms can be found at the Lieder web
site at www.liedertheatre.com or by dropping into the
Lieder foyer. Alternatively send an email or make a phone
call to the Lieder and we will send one out to you.
Membership renewals cost \$15 for an individual and \$20
for a family.

If taking out membership for the first time a one-
off \$5 joining fee is added. Current members receive a
discount on the purchase of Adult tickets for Lieder shows
and all members are part owners of our historic theatre built
in 1929.

The Veolia Mulwaree Trust

Awarded the Lieder a grant last year to undertake a
Creative Opportunities project to repair, replace, and
purchase essential safety equipment at the theatre for the
Lieder Youth, the building and the Company.

This project is nearing its completion with the
acquisition of new stilts, costumes, fire safe costumes and
fire tools for the Youth Theatre, refurbished auditorium
seats and new cushions for the foyer seats, electrical repairs
to foyer lights, new ladders, first aid kits, stage curtains and
an electrical lead tester.

The Lieder is indebted to the Trust for their
generous support for our community company and are
thrilled with the new purchases that have enhanced our
80yr old building and contributed to more creative
activities by our members.

CASP Funding (Part 2)

The second project receiving funding through the
Regional Arts Country Arts Support Program (CASP) is for
the Lieder Youth to initiate and spear-head their own
performance project due to culminate in October this year.
Young people are invited to submit ideas for a project that
would engage a guest tutor to run workshops in some NEW
SKILLS that would be used by the company in a
performance.

ALL IDEAS ARE WELCOME – contact
Chrisjohn with your thoughts at the theatre, by phone or
email or on FACEBOOK. It is expected that this project
might begin during the July school holidays.

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The Veolia Mulwaree Trust

The Commonwealth Regional Arts Fund

Southern Tablelands Arts (STARTS) Inc.

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<p><i>The Regional Arts Fund is an Australian Government initiative supporting the arts in regional and remote Australia.</i></p>		

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