# TRUST NEWS



The New York Shakespeare Festival's Broadway production of Gilbert and Sulli-

van's THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE is to be staged in Australia by the Victoria State Opera, the Victorian Arts Centre Trust and the Australian Elizabethan Theatre Trust. Following a season at the new Melbourne Concert Hall it will open at Sydney's Regent Theatre in February.

This modern version of the Gilbert and Sullivan favourite was first performed in New York's Central Park four years ago with Kevin Kline and Linda Ronstadt in leading roles. The irreverent handling of the 100 year old operetta met with such popular acclaim that it was transferred to Broadway and played continuously to packed houses for two years. The show has since toured major American cities, been made into a movie and played London's West End where it is still drawing full houses.

THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE has been performed countless times since its premiere on New Year's Eve, 1879 and during that time it has gradually "become a production like the ones that Gilbert and Sullivan were spoofing" according to director John Ferraro. "But the New York version, which will be faithfully reproduced in Australia, reverts to the irreverent

send-up as originally envisaged by Gilbert and Sullivan who were of course the Monty Python of their day. In addition, the music, while faithful to the original tunes, is presented in a modern style, complete with synthesisers."

John Ferraro, who was Associate Director of the New York production for two years recently came to Australia to hold auditions for the Australian cast. Marina Prior who won the coveted role of Mabel has been desribed by Ferraro as "Australia's Linda Ronstadt." Jon English will play the Pirate King, June Bronhill will be Ruth, Simon Gallaher is Frederick and John Wood the Major General with David Atkins as the Police Sergeant.

Members may purchase up to ten tickets for the special Trust Member performance on Monday February 20 when a \$5.00 discount applies. At other performances a \$2.00 concession applies. Preferential booking facilities are available for Monday Feb 20 and for week three of the season (commencing March 5) until Friday December 16. See Member Activities for supper and dinner (February 20). Your booking coupon is enclosed.

#### **CHRISTMAS GIFT SUGGESTIONS**

It is not too late to take advantage of our offer made in November Trust News. Purchase a Trust Membership for a Xmas gift and you'll receive a gift yourself — a copy of PATT-ERNS OF A LIFETIME, the biography of leading Australian artist Clifton Pugh by Traudi Allen. Lavishly illustrated with full colour reproductions of Pugh's works this hard bound volume normally sells for \$29.95.

The Australian Arts Diary this year features 16 colour plates from State Gallery collections around Australia. Printed on fine quality lined paper with full colour cover it is 25cm deep by 19cm. Trust Member price is \$8.50 and it can be collected from the Trust or mailed (\$3.00 postage).



Jon English

# MERRY CHRISTMAS TO OUR MEMBERS

With this final edition of Trust News for 1983 we would like to wish all our Members a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. Our first edition of Trust News for 1984 will be published on February 8 and will bring you full details of what's happening on the theatre scene in 1984.



#### **TELEPHONE BOOKINGS**

We remind Members that they have automatic membership of Mitchells-Bass Hotline service. Ring 266 4826 and state your ticket requirements and your AETT Membership No. Tickets can be charged to either your Grace Bros account, Bankcard, or Diners Club and are either mailed to you (if time permits) or left at the theatre for collection. Tickets can be purchased at Trust Member prices but please note a \$1.50 surcharge per ticket applies to the service. For advance bookings Members should still use their Trust member booking coupons.



Trust News is the newsletter of the Australian Elizabethan Theatre Trust which is mailed free of charge to its 5000 Sydney members, eight times per year. The price concessions and advance booking facilities offered in this newsletter are available only to members of the A.E.T.T. Those wishing to join the Trust should complete the New Member Application form on the enclosed Trust Member Booking Coupons and return it to the Trust for processing.

Anyone who would like further information about the facilities available to Trust Members should ring the membership office on 3571200. The Australian Elizabethan Theatre Trust, P.O. Eox 137, Kings Cross, N.S.W. 2011.

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The Regent Restaurant, a Regency style restaurant around the corner from the Regent Theatre at 101 Bathurst Street is a very convenient place to eat before seeing THE PIRATES. Do join us. It's a great way to relax before the show and to meet with other Members. Tickets are \$16.00 including wine.

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Members who are interested in joining Members Committee President Shirley Hay on her visit to Adelaide next year should ring her as soon as possible on 357 1200 to obtain a Festival brochure and itinerary for the weekend. Festival time is always a wonderful time to be in Adelaide ... don't miss it!

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Continued page 4



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# the non professional theatre scene



A.E.T.T. Members, Bill Gleeson and Kristine Kilburn are two very unusual people. Not only have they the talent to put together a new musical (Bill is the composer and Kristine the lyricist) but they also have sufficient confidence in their work and sufficient energy and enthusiasm to mount a production. PIZAZZ! concerns the hilarious antics of professional "amateurs" in the last 24 hours before a new revue's opening will open at the Footbridge Theatre, Sydney University with a black-tie, champagne premiere on February 29th. Trust Members are invited to attend at the special price of \$10.90 which includes supper. A \$1.00 concession applies at other performances. Your booking coupon is enclosed but please note bookings for the gala opening close on Friday December 23.

#### NIMROD 1984 (from page 2)



Drew Forsythe

Members who wish to subscribe to Nimrod's 1984 season should telephone the Nimrod box office on 699 5003 for an application form. At the same time details of the Downstairs subscription season will be supplied. It commences at end January with Barry Dickins play GRAEME "KING" LEAR, a study of loneliness and artistic aspiration from a comic talent of rare distinction.

Those Members who do no wish to subscribe should note that in addition to the substantial concessions offered at Upstairs preview performances throughout the year, a \$1.00 concession does apply to performances both Upstairs and Downstairs Tuesday to Thursday and Sunday matinees.

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Evelyn Krape



Ross Williams

#### "I CAN GIVE YOU A GOOD TIME"

Playbox Theatre Company's production of this strong and compelling work by English playwright Gilly Fraser opened in Melbourne in October 1982 and played for 8 weeks of sellout performances. A fascinating study, through psychological drama of a male's hatred towards sexuality in women, it is no coincidence that the play, concerning a prostitute and her client is set in an inner city suburb of Leeds at the time when the Yorkshire Ripper was on the rampage. The production stars Jillian Murray and Ross Williams and is directed by Peter Oyston. Designer is Rosemary Simons. "I CAN GIVE YOU A GOOD TIME" plays at The Sailor's Home from January 13 to February 26. Trust Members performance (when a \$4.00 concession applies) is Sunday January 15 at 6 p.m. Your booking coupon is enclosed.

# ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL OF PLAYWRIGHTS

The Ensemble Theatre is once again presenting a season of new plays during the Festival — this time at their new Opera house venue. Three plays will be presented: The Girl with the Odd Coloured Eyes by Bob Herbert, Fair and Tender Ladies by George Hutchinson and An Act of Settlement by Ronald McCowan. All performances commence at 8 p.m. Monday to Saturday and bookings can be made through the Opera House 20588. AETT concession \$2.00. See Showguide for dates.

#### MUSIC AT THE FESTIVAL

The happy tradition of Barely Bach and Never Neckties commonly known as the Mostly Mozart season at the Opera House continues again in January from 3 to 8. Performances will be presented by the Elizabethan Sydney Orchestra, Australian Chamber Orchestra, Sydney String Quartet, and the St. Philip's Chamber Orchestra. They will present a series of concerts featuring the muchloved popular music of Cimarosa, Haydn, Handel, Rossini, A. Scarlatti, Tchaikovsky and, of course, Mozart. AETT Concession \$4.00. Bookings at the Opera House.

The internationally acclaimed organ maestro, Guy Bovet will play with the St. Philip's

#### DANCE AT THE FOOTBRIDGE

New Zealand's foremost modern dance company, Limbs, joins with Canberra's Human Veins Dance Company and Melbourne's Dance Works and Sydney's Dance Exchange to present a season of dance at the University of Sydney's Footbridge Theatre.

Limbs will present works by New York choreographer, Ruby Shang, Douglas Wright, an ex Limbs member who now dances with the Paul Taylor Dance Company in New York, and Mary-Jane O'Reilly, the company's artistic director. Performances will be presented on January 18 to 21.

Human Veins Dance Theatre presents a mixed media experience which effects a balance between dance, theatre and live music. Called FROM THE SOUTH SEAS MUSEUM it is the company's most exciting and ambitious dance theatre project to date. It will be presented on January 23 and 24.

Nanette Hassall of Dance Works and Russell Dumas of Dance Exchange have collaborated with their companies to produce a work for the dance programme. Performances are on January 27 and 28. Bookings at Mitchells Bass.



Human Veins Dance Theatre in a scene from THE SOUTH SEAS MUSEUM.

Chamber Orchestra conducted by Michael Dyer at the Sydney Town Hall on January 15 at 8 p.m. The programme includes works by Bach, Alain and a unique joining of Handel's Concerto No. 10 in D Minor/Major with Mr. Bovet's own Concerto on the same theme. AETT Concession \$1.00. Bookings at Mitchells Bass.

The Contemporary Virtuosi programme includes performances by Dennis Henning (January 10) the Australian Wind Virtuosi (January 19) and Flederman (January 26). AETT Concession \$3.00. Bookings at Mitchells-Bass.

Last year's inaugural series of Music on the Move concerts was such a success that they are being repeated and expanded for the 1984 Festival. Music on the Move gives you the opportunity to hear splendid music in several famous city buildings and to learn something of the buildings themselves. It is presented each Sunday during January commencing at 2 p.m. Tickets must be purchased in advance from Mitchells-Bass. AETT concession \$2.00.

indicates concession which may be applied to each of two tickets any performance (unless otherwise stated)

**ENSEMBLE THEATRE AT THE SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE (356 3011)** 

Music Room, Sydney Opera House Snoopy!!! by Charles M. Schultz Until December 31

\$2.00 (December 16, 19 and 20) Festival of Playwrights
The Girl with the Odd Coloured Eyes by Bob

January 3 to 10 Fair and Tender Ladies by Gaye Hutchinson January 12 to 19

An Act of Settlement by Ranald McCowan January 21 to 28

**FOOTBRIDGE THEATRE (266 4922)** 

University of Sydney Limbs Dance Company January 18, 19 and 20 Human Veins Dance Theatre January 23 and 24 Dance Works/Dance Exchange January 27 and 28

**GENESIAN THEATRE (909 2928)** 

470 Kent Street, Sydney How the other Half Lives by Alan Ayckbourn Until January 28

KINSELAS (331 3100) 383 Bourke Street, Darlinghurst The Brass Band Until December 31 \* \$1.00 Mark Murphy January 3 to 28 \*\* \$2.00 \$5.00 (Jan 3 only)

**MARIAN STREET THEATRE (498 3166)** 

Marian Street, Killara Blithe Spirit by Noel Coward Until December 23 84 Charing Cross Road by James Roose-Evans Commences January 3 \*\* \$1.00 \$6.00 (January 8, 10 and 15)

**MARIONETTE THEATRE (273 274)** 

Sydney Sailors Home, 106-108 George Street North

Bear Dinkum by Neil Curtis December 10 to January 8

**NEW THEATRE (519 3403)** 

King Street, Newtown The Money or the Box? devised by NIDA 3rd year students From January 17

NIMROD THEATRE (699 5003)

500 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills The Pack of Women by Robyn Archer Until January 1 The Servant of Two Masters by Carlo Goldoni Commences January 11 \$4.90 (January 7 & 8)

OFF BROADWAY THEATRE (266 4922)

73-79 Bay Street, Broadway Secrets by Nigel Triffitt January 5 to 21 \*\* \$2.00

THE PERFORMANCE SPACE (698 7235)

199 Cleveland Street, Redfern Red Weather January 11 to 22 \*\* \$1.00

PHILLIP STREET THEATRE (232 8570)

169 Phillip Street, Sydney Aladdin and his Magic Lamp Until December 23 \*\* \$1.00

Q THEATRE (047 215735)

Cnr. Railway & Belmore Sts. Penrith Sweeney Todd by C. G. Bond Until December 10

ST. ANDREWS CHAPTER HOUSE (266

St. Andrews Cathedral, Sydney Square Flederman January 26 \*\* \$3.00

THE ROCKS PLAYERS (569 0223)

Cnr. Marion and Norton Sts. Leichhardt Love Letters on Blue Paper by Arnold Wesker and The Transfiguration of Benno Blinpie by Albert Innuato Until December 18 \$1.00

SEYMOUR CENTRE (692 0555)

Cnr. Cleveland Street and City Road. Chippendale York Theatre

**Lighthouse Theatre Company** Twelfth Night By William Shakespeare January 6 to 18 Netherwood by Patrick White January 19 to 28
\*\* \$2.00

\$4.00 (January 7 & 20)

Downstairs: Female Parts by Dario Fo and Franca Rame Commences January 13

\$4.00 (January 11)

SLOWBOAT TO CHINAMAN'S (266 4922) Palisade Hotel, Millers Point. Continuing

STABLES THEATRE (771 3333)

**Threshold Theatre Company:** Motivators by Clem Gorman

Until December 18 \*\* \$1.00

SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE (20588)

Concert Hall Mostly Mozart January 3 to 8

SYDNEY SAILORS HOME (273 274)

106-108 George Street, The Rocks Playbox Theatre Company I Can Give You a Good Time by Gilly Fraser January 13 to February 26 \$4.00 (January 15)

SYDNEY THEATRE COMPANY (358 4399)

Drama Theatre, Sydney Opera House Insignificance by Terry Johnson Commences January 11

\$3.00 (January 12, 13, February 3, 6) Theatre Royal Nicholas Nickleby Commences December 10 \*\*\* \$12.00

SYDNEY TOWN HALL (266-4922)

A Toast to Vienna

\*\* \$2.00 (A Res), \$1.00 (B)

Guy Bovet concert January 15 \*\* \$1.00 Dennis Hennig recital January 10 \*\* \$3.00 Australian Wind Virtuosi January 19 \*\* \$3.00

A Concession available ONLY by purchase of concessional vouchers from the AETT in person or on the enclosed coupon and available ONLY for screenings specified below. Members may purchase as many vouchers as they wish

N.B. Concession is NOT available by presenting membership card at cinema box office

**GREATER UNION** 

All Theatres and all presentations \$1.00 (except on Saturday and Sunday performances)

VILLAGE THEATRES

\*\*\$1.50 (except Saturday evenings)

HOYTS ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE

Entertaining Rita Return of the Jedi Octopussy Careful He Might Hear You
\*\*\$1.60 (except Saturday evenings)

B Concession available at theatre box office on presentation of card

HOYTS PLAZA BONDI (389 5877)

\*\$1.50 (except Saturday evenings) **DENDY CINEMA (233 8166)** 

Martin Place \*\*\$2.00 (except Saturday evg)

CHAUVEL CINEMA (33 0695)

Cnr Oxford St & Oatley Rd, Paddington

### IN BRIEF

THE MARIONETTE THEATRE OF AUS-TRALIA is mounting a new adult puppet show called BEAR DINKUM. It is based on the book of the same name by Neil Curtis and tells the story of a young koala, Bear Dinkum, whose wheat-farming father, in a fit of delusion, which makes him believe he is Grand Master of the Cooralong Imperial Ballet, forces him into a career of ballet. This show should be avoided by those who believe all koalas are cuddly. At the Sydney Sailors Home, George Street North from December 10 to January 8. AETT concession \$1.00. Bookings on 273 274.

THE THEATRE OF THE DEAF will conduct visual communication theatre workshops from January 11 to 14 for both the deaf and hearing as well as observers. Areas of study will include: movement, mime, theatregames, story-telling, masks, and translations from script to stage. For further information ring Theatre of the Deaf on 357 1200

The Sydney City Council has donated \$2000

to the Theatre of the Deaf to pay the salary of Carol Lee Aquiline, the actress from the National Theatre of the Deaf (USA) who joined the company last year. The Theatre of the Deaf would like to thank Sydney City Council including the Chairman of the Finance Committee, Alderman Robert Tickner, for its most generous donation.

MOTIVATORS, a new play by Clem Gorman who wrote A NIGHT IN THE ARMS OF RAE-LENE, is currently playing at the Stables Theatre and will continue until December 18. It is the first production of **THRESHOLD** THEATRE COMPANY and takes a hum-

ourous and touching look at some myths and double standards in our liberated society. The production is directed by Alan Becher and stars Marilyn Allen and Peter Corbett. AETT concession \$1.00. Bookings on 771 3333.

Sydney Harbour is to have a showboat once again - the brainchild of Lloyd Suttor, co founder of the Flying Fruit Fly Circus which had such a successful season in Sydney last

year — called SLOWBOAT TO CHINA-MAN'S. The audience will gather at the Palisade Hotel, Miller's Point where they will be given a light meal, then it's all aboard the ferry from a nearby wharf and on with the show! After about 50 minutes there's a short stop at a selected waterside restaurant for more refreshments and then its on with the show before returning to the Palisade. AETT discount \$2.00. Bookings through Mitchells Bass. See Member Activities for Trust function on Friday January 20.

The Performance Space will play host between January 4 and 15 to the Buffoons presented by RED WEATHER. Related to humanity but not quite of it, mocking the institutions and conventions of our world the Buffoons are at once shocking and familiar, vulgar and visionary. They are the poets of the monstrous. Red Weather presents a unique and exciting theatre event which both parodies the human condition and celebrates its potential. AETT concession \$1.00. Bookings through Mitchells-Bass.