

Official Newsletter of the
**SPOTLIGHT
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COMPANY**

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SPOTLIGHT THEATRICAL COMPANY

Top Hat Productions presents
RUTHLESS! – THE MUSICAL
SEPT 16 - OCT 2

The new Gershwin® Musical
CRAZY FOR YOU
OCTOBER 29 – NOVEMBER 20

PRIMARY/JUNIOR THEATRE
THE MAGIC PEARL
16-17 OCTOBER

High School Musical Theatre
GRAFFITI
2 - 5 DECEMBER

October 2010

SPOTLIGHT ON YOUTH THEATRE

ADMINISTRATOR
LEA VOSTI

TEACHERS:

PETER MORRISSEY (Drama)

ASHLEY TARDY (Musical Theatre)



JUNIOR PRIMARY CLASSES

present

THE MAGIC PEARL

16 - 17 OCTOBER

BASEMENT THEATRE

SENIOR PRIMARY CLASSES

present

CLIMB MATE, CHANGE!

26 - 28 NOVEMBER

BASEMENT THEATRE

HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL THEATRE CLASSES

present

GRAFFITI

2 - 5 DECEMBER

MAIN THEATRE

FROM ASHLEY'S DESK

It's the end of term 3 and it's full steam ahead to get our final three youth shows on stage. Our High School Drama show was fantastic thanks to the huge amount of work from Peter Morrissey and his team. A big thank you to Lorraine Sinclair and her wonderful crew and especially Lea Vosti for all her help and support.

Our Junior Primary show, *The Magic Pearl* is looking brilliant. Set under the sea, our show is a rewrite of one of our earlier pantomimes. We have simplified it for our Juniors and it's wonderful. Our littlies have been working very hard, learning all their lines and blocking. It's jammed packed with singing, dancing and some hilarious performances by some very talented tots. The two classes have been combined to create this amazing cast and performances are on Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th of October.

Peter is going to be working very hard over the holidays writing our Senior Primary show,

Climb Mate, Change! We are not combining the classes this year, each class will be learning the same play and performing it separately on each night. If your child is in the 9am class they will be performing Friday 26th November, the 10:30am class on Saturday 27th and the 12pm class will perform on Sunday 28th with presentations and party to follow on the Sunday.

Closely following our Senior Primary show is the final show for the year, *Graffiti*. Our High School Musical class is working extremely hard to create our grand finale for Youth Theatre. It's looking brilliant. The talent we have this year is astounding and just trying to find enough material to show this cast off is very difficult. We have everything from contemporary, hip-hop, ballet and traditional musical theatre dancing to an awesome Stomp, which the cast is finding a lot of fun.

Our first act is focusing on what we're calling 'Street Theatre' and act two focuses more on

SPOTLIGHT ON YOUTH THEATRE

ADMINISTRATOR: LEA VOSTI

TEACHERS:

PETER MORRISSEY (Drama)
and ASHLEY TARDY (Musical Theatre)



Broadway. It's fun and exciting and sure to blow audiences away. We open on Thursday 2nd December and continue Friday 3rd, Saturday 4th closing on Sunday 5th.

I have given out schedules for extra holiday rehearsals for High School Musical, all are compulsory. Not much time left and we need

to start putting in some more time, but it'll all be worth it in the end.

Tickets are available now for our last three shows, so book now online at Spotlight's website

www.spotlighttheatre.com.au

or through our booking office 5539 4255.

Stay tuned!

FROM PETER'S DESK

Ah, Holidays! That time when I sit back and relax to a lovely couple of weeks ... play writing. More of that later. First let me give a very big congratulations to the High School Drama classes on their fabulous two shows *L.O.L.* and *Nose*

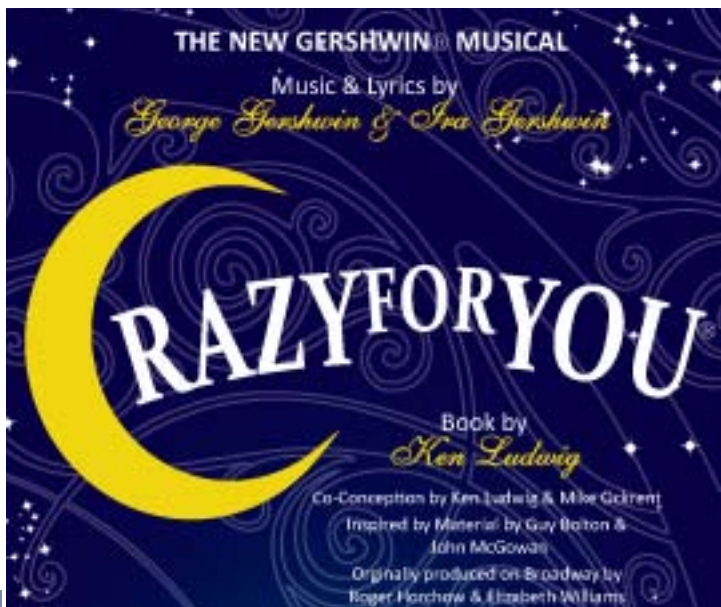


that played in the Main Theatre on September 3-4. The plays had a definite dystopian theme, which was presented with great professionalism from the young cast of forty or so actors.

There were some truly memorable performances across the two plays and I look forward to working with the gang in term four commencing on Wednesday 6th October. With the Senior Primary show just around the corner I just know there will be eager youngsters keen to see their parts for their end of year collage drama *Climb Mate, Change!*, a play based on the sometimes vexed issues around the climate debate.

Satire, slapstick, info-tain-ment and the occasional song will all find their way into the show, which will be in the Basement Theatre on November 26-28.

Daphne Clapperton and Judith Wisemantle are living in a pink nightmare of rosettes made from layers of net, sequined material, and beaded flowers. They are painstakingly creating seven of these flower rosettes for each showgirl, then stitching six onto the skirts before making a headpiece for each girl from the seventh flower rosette. You have got to admire Daphne and Judith for their flair, skill and dedication! But these ladies always come up trumps with costumes. The Zangler Follies will, without any doubt, perform their tap dancing numbers in an exhibition that does justice to these fabulous costumes.



Kimberley Beaumont, choreographer, is creating some exciting and energetic dance routines. After verbal instruction and actual demonstration by Kimberley, Dana (the brave!) Kirkpatrick perfectly executes one of the routines.



Not to be outdone by Dana's poise and athleticism, Clay English flexes his muscles and leaps the broomstick. All that in one dance - only another 4, 5, or is it 6 routines to go ...

Meanwhile Rachel





Love and Tony Campbell (aka Polly and Bobby) get to know each other in a close up, gentler moment in their multi-faceted dance displays. But it is not all light and loveliness, as Lank Hawkins (Andy McFarlane) attempts to bribe

Everett (Jim Barratt) into closing the show before it opens.



The charming Bobby gets chatty with the Zangler Follies and the cowgirls in the dressing rooms before the big opening night at Deadrock, Nevada.

We now have a full cast and things are really progressing in what is proving to be a challenging show both

mentally and physically - well, physically challenging for anyone who doesn't usually spend a few hours a day doing exercise. Fortunately Doug Gehrke has selected a cast where each member brings their own performing forte to create a formidable team. Who could ask for anything more? Well that is about it from me, I need a hot bath with plenty of Radox if I am to make it to the next rehearsal.

Debbie Harrison

Pics by Debbie and Gail Heeley

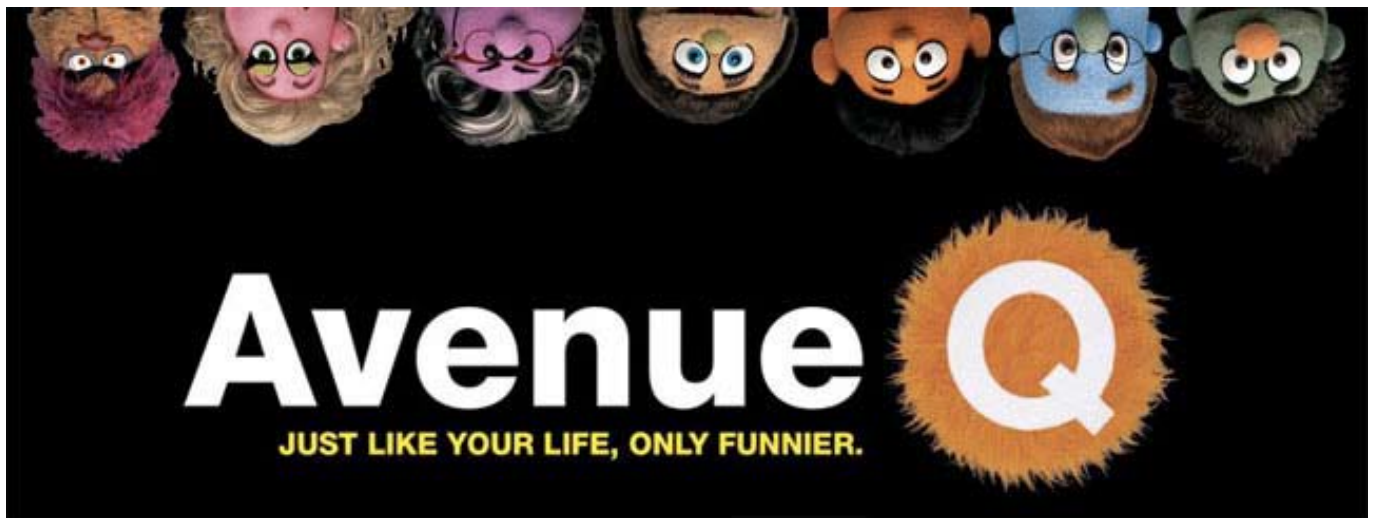


**SEASON
OCTOBER
29th
UNTIL
NOVEMBER
20th**



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ANNOUNCING AUDITIONS FOR SPOTLIGHT THEATRE'S FIRST MUSICAL OF 2011



AVENUE Q caused a sensation at the 2004 Tony Awards by beating blockbuster *Wicked* to win the three most coveted awards – **Best Musical, Best Book and Best Score**. The production is still playing on Broadway to packed houses six years later as well as enjoying continued success on London's West End where it has been playing for the past three years.

There is much to love about *Avenue Q*. The characters are fantastic, the puppets they control are smart-mouthed but charming, the pace is cracking, the lyrics funny and the air is thick with undiluted fun.

Gold Coast audiences will have the opportunity to see what the FUZZ is about when this award winning musical that has become a cult hit around the world comes to the **Spotlight Theatre from February 18th 2011**.

Avenue Q is like an amalgamation of *Sesame Street* and *South Park* that is set in a grimy part of New York. While it is famous for being naughty, it is also delightfully sweet.

University graduate Princeton arrives on *Avenue Q* with dreams of making his mark on the world and there he meets a motley group of locals.

There's the gentle student-teacher Kate Monster, superintendent Gary Coleman, aspiring comedian Brian and his Japanese therapist girlfriend Christmas Eve, sexually-confused Republican Rod and his slob roommate Nicky, and the porn-addicted rockstar of the cast,

Trekkie Monster

The story has ups and downs and Princeton's quest is complicated by appearances by the hilarious Bad Idea Bears and sassy cabaret star Lucy.

The music and lyrics by Robert Lopez and Jeff Marx are witty and wonderful, with stand-out songs including *'Everyone's A Little Bit Racist'*, the wistful *'I Wish I Could Go Back To College'*, the spectacular *'The More You Love Someone'* and the self-pitying *'It Sucks To Be Me'*. Life may suck on *Avenue Q* but being jobless, homeless and politically incorrect, are just some of the topics featured in the terrific songs of this show. For those weaned on *Sesame Street*, the *Avenue Q* puppets may look familiar, but with musical numbers like *'Everyone's A Little Bit Racist'* this send up of political correctness isn't for the kiddies.

Avenue Q is a deliciously entertaining and naughty night out at the theatre that is absolutely worth the effort.

"Exceptional... Avenue Q is a riot." Herald Sun

"Witty, outrageous satire... one of the hottest tickets in town." The Age

With 2,534 performances, *Avenue Q* ranks 21st on the list of longest running shows in Broadway history!

DIRECTOR: KIM REYNOLDS

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS:

All cast members must have excellent co-ordination and strong vocal skills.

The performers in *Avenue Q* are required to manipulate puppets.

Experience in puppetry would be a definite asset.

Auditions will be held on Sunday 31st of October from 10.00am.

All auditionees must book an individual singing audition with the director and also attend the en masse audition at 6.00pm.

Callbacks will be held on Monday the 1st of November at 7.30pm.

The director is looking for 3 - 6 females and 3 - 7 males.

Due to the adult nature of the show all cast must be 18+.

Princeton/Rod MALE

Princeton - Tenor, 20s, Puppet

A fresh-faced kid just out of college. Struggles to find his purpose in life.

Rod - Tenor, 20s, Puppet

A Republican investment banker with a secret - he's gay and in love with Nicky.

Kate Monster/Lucy FEMALE

Kate Monster - Mezzo, 20s, Puppet

A kindergarten teaching assistant. Dislikes not having a boyfriend.

Lucy - Alto/Mezzo, 20s, Puppet

A vixenish vamp with a dangerous edge.

Nicky/Trekkie/Bad Idea Bear MALE

Nicky - Tenor 20s-30s, Puppet

A bit of a slacker; Rod's straight roommate.

Trekkie Monster - Tenor, 20s-30s, Puppet

A reclusive creature obsessed with looking up porn on the internet.

The Bad Idea Bears - Snuggly, cute teddy-bear types. Act as something like Princeton's conscience and tell him to do "fun stuff" like buy beer and commit suicide.

Gary Coleman EITHER

Gary Coleman - Alto/Mezzo, 30s, Human, African-American

Yes, *that* Gary Coleman. Superintendent. Usually played by a woman.

Christmas Eve FEMALE

Christmas Eve - Mezzo/Soprano, 30s, Human, Japanese

A therapist who moved to America from Japan. Engaged to Brian. Speaks with a thick accent.

Brian MALE Tenor, 30s, Human

An unemployed, laid-back kind of guy engaged to Christmas Eve.

Mrs Thistlewat/Bad Idea Bear FEMALE

Mrs. Thistlewat - Mezzo, Puppet

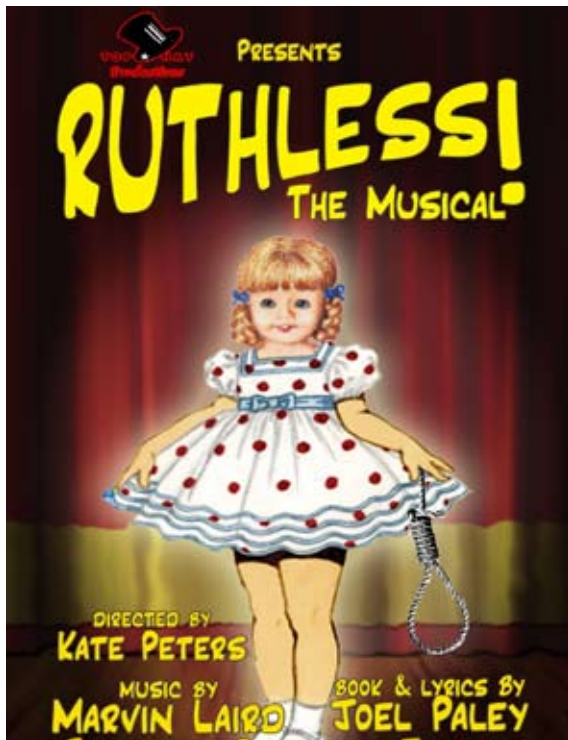
Kate's ancient boss.

The Bad Idea Bears - Snuggly, cute teddy-bear types. Act as something like Princeton's conscience and tell him to do "fun stuff" like buy beer and commit suicide

TO BE A PART OF THIS
PREMIER PRODUCTION
PLEASE EMAIL

auditions@spotlighttheatre.com.au





Forget your clichéd old musicals - the Gold Coast has just premiered a Drama Critics Award-winning blockbuster! *RUTHLESS! - The Musical* opened at Spotlight's Basement Theatre on Thursday 16th September, to fabulous audience feedback. Set, costumes and actors have all been lauded, as has the excellent music coming from Maestro Marie Nicholson and her sturdy little band, happily ensconced in the small dressing room off the stage! Starring some of Spotlight's favourite actors (Tracey and Steffanie Kriz, Catherine Deller, Katrina Lardner, Ashley Tardy and a delicious guest appearance by none other than man-of-all talents Tony Alcock), it's a winner, particularly with anyone who enjoys musical theatre, old films, excellent acting and precocious children who want to be stars! (Courtney Monsma, Eryn Lardner, Ashleigh Walsh and Tahlia Traacey). Running until 2 October, bookings are strong through the box office on 5539 4255 or online www.spotlighttheatre.com.au



WANTED ACTIVE BAR MANAGER FOR SPOTLIGHT'S BUSY THEATRES

CONTACT ADMINISTRATION
FOR FURTHER DETAILS

☎ 5539 4255



Congratulations to 18 year old Jonathon Heeley who has just signed a contract to appear in the musical *The Great Pretenders* next year. "Jono" has been dancing for 14 years and loves every minute of it. He has also been doing lighting for 4 years and finished his Cert IV in 2009.

SPOTLIGHT ON JONATHON HEELEY



Jonathon is studying full-time dance with Raw Dance Company and is currently rehearsing *Crazy for You*® at Spotlight Theatre. He was recently seen tapping up a storm in *The Boy from Oz*. Check out the nice tapping action shots on his Facebook page (even a live video).

The Great Pretenders is still playing on Broadway, and has been in Sydney for the past 4 years. It is coming to the Gold Coast so we'll be able to see Jonathon in full flight.



**THE SPOTLIGHT THEATRICAL
COMPANY
COMMITTEE MEETING
11th October 2010– 7:00pm
at Spotlight Theatre**

REGIONAL COMMUNITY THEATRE AND PERFORMANCE EVENTS

will be back on Air every week from Wednesday, Sept 7th.
Tune in to 4CRB 89.3FM.

The slot:

"Community Theatre Roundup, presented by Joel Beskin"
will be broadcast some time between 10am and Noon.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



As usual, the theatre is a hive of activity as we continue to produce great entertainment for our members.

The Boy from Oz finished its season with full houses and patrons hoping to snare a last minute seat if someone was unable to use their ticket.

Congratulations to everyone involved in producing this outstanding show. Well done and thank you to Rhylee Nowell who did a superb job as Director.

Our High School Drama Classes were the next ones to tread the boards in the Main Theatre as they performed *Nose and L.O.L.* Congratulations to teacher, Peter Morrissey for bringing the best out of these students who really looked like they were enjoying themselves. Well done students! I hope you enjoyed the experience of performing in the Main Theatre. The Basement Theatre hosted Kate Peters and her company Top Hat Productions as they brought to the Coast for the first time *Ruthless!*

the Musical. This wonderful comedy had the audiences wanting more and some nights they were shocked to see 'yours truly' making my stage debut. I think I will stick to serving behind the bar but I did enjoy working with this great cast who made me feel very special.

Rehearsals are underway for the Junior Primary shows and also for *Crazy for You*® directed by the very talented Doug Gehrke. This will be another fine show to watch if rehearsals are anything to go by, so take the opportunity to book online on www.spotlighttheatre.com.au. We held the AGM in August and the results were not known when we went to press last month.

Thank you to all of you who turned up to the meeting and to the outgoing Committee for their commitment to make sure that The Spotlight Theatrical Company maintains its position as the leading Community Theatre on the Coast.

Thank you for having the faith in me to serve as your President again and to those that stood for Committee this year. We have an exciting and busy year ahead so will need many volunteers to get involved so that we can keep the costs affordable. If you feel that you can put something back into the community then just give **Admin. 5539 4255** a call and put your name down and I am sure we will be able to find a job for you. Why not give it a go, you will enjoy it.

That's enough from me so until next month take care of yourselves and each other.

Best Regards

Duncan

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and let us know via our online 'Feedback' form”.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome to New Members

Julie and Maddie Jackson; PeterSaunderson;
Robyn and Don Taylor; and Gail Spence.

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP 976



Hope all our “sickies” are on the mend. Our High School drama production was very successful. Congratulations to Peter, cast and crew. Now on to the other productions. I caught *Ruthless!* this week, please don't miss it. Its a good laugh with a great cast, set and costumes.

Doug is well on the way with *Crazy for You*[®], so we are still very busy at our Theatre Complex. Please advise me if you are changing or have changed your postal or email addresses as we need to keep your records updated.

Cheers,

Lea

CAN YOU GIVE SOME TIME TO YOUR COMMUNITY THEATRE? VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR BAR AND FRONT OF HOUSE.

SPOTLIGHT IS A COMMUNITY THEATRE AND THEREFORE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS IN ALL ASPECTS OF THE THEATRE. AT THE MOMENT OUR VOLUNTEERS ARE LIMITED TO THE SAME OVERWORKED PEOPLE.

WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU IF YOU CAN HELP IN ANY WAY – *BOX OFFICE, BAR, FRONT OF HOUSE, COSTUMES, SCENERY, LIGHTING, SOUND, BACKSTAGE CREW. WE NEED YOU.*

THE MORE VOLUNTEERS WE HAVE, THE LIGHTER THE LOAD FOR ALL CONCERNED. IT CAN BE A LOT OF FUN.

PLEASE CONTACT KATE TARDY 5539 4255

OR email: mailbox@spotlighttheatre.com.au



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Please note: photos need to be in correct format –
high res jpgs for printing purposes.

PLAYREADINGS FROM MERCURY'S WINGS – LAST DAYS

Exploring the related themes of love, lust and loss, local directors and actors will present rehearsed readings of short plays and extracts at *Arts Centre Gold Coast* in the *Basement Theatre*. From Chekhov to Molière via Shakespeare and Sheridan, the season is a tasting menu of the classic authors. Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm, 5th and 19th October. Admission by \$5 donation. Actors and directors interested in participating should contact *Claudine Stephen-Smith* on 0411 787 043.



This last month has seen us travel from one end of the Coast to the other: from Sanctuary Cove to Palm Beach and places in between.

Sad to report we have another one of our members on the "Sick List". Angela McGuire has had to take what we hope is temporary retirement. We all wish her the very best.

Meanwhile, Barbara Fisher and Muriel Watson continue to improve.

In answer to our call for new members, Janette Mannix has decided to join us and has already

made her debut. Hard work and practice meant her performance was successful. We are happy she is with us.

We are still in need of new members for 2011. Anyone interested should ring Pauline on 55379828, or Marilyn on 55290776.

The photo above shows our very own Soap Opera cast in performance at Palm Beach. From the left: Muriel Watson, Margaret Austin, Pauline Davies, Margaret de Mestre and Shirlie Foxover.

Margaret de Mestre – Golden Girls Liaison

AUDITIONS – 26th Sept



SCALLYWAGS



New childrens' entertainment for January 2011

Written and directed by Kate Tardy

Casting will be published in the November issue of
the Spotlighter.

ALL VOLUNTEERS – FRONT OF HOUSE & BAR SPECIAL NOTICE
(NO EXCEPTIONS)

PLEASE NOTE: YOU MUST SIGN IN WHEN YOU ARRIVE AT THE THEATRE. THERE IS A DIARY IN THE BOX OFFICE.

This is required for emergency procedures if they occur.

LICENSING LAWS DO NOT ALLOW VOLUNTEERS TO CONSUME ALCOHOL WHEN ON DUTY.

Tea, coffee, water and soft drink is available. However, after completing duties, if you wish to avail yourself of the FREE drink Spotlight offers, then you may. However, you must sign the Bar Drink Register when you receive this drink.

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