



Spotlight Theatre

Fostering an outlet for creative youth and community, while seeking to produce vibrant, quality entertainment that enriches and educates.




The SPOTLIGHTER

Official Newsletter of

The Spotlight Theatrical Company

Fostering an outlet for creative youth and community, while seeking to produce vibrant, quality entertainment that enriches, engages, and educates.

MARCH 2024

 **The Spotlight Theatrical Company**
Proudly presents

THE SOUND OF MUSIC

Music by **RICHARD RODGERS** Lyrics by **OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II**
Book by **HOWARD LINDSAY** and **RUSSELL CROUSE**

Suggested by "The Story of the Trapp Family Singers"

*"The Sound of Music" is presented by permission of
ORIGIN Theatrical on behalf of R&H Theatricals,
A Concord Theatricals Company*

Directed by
DAVID VALKS

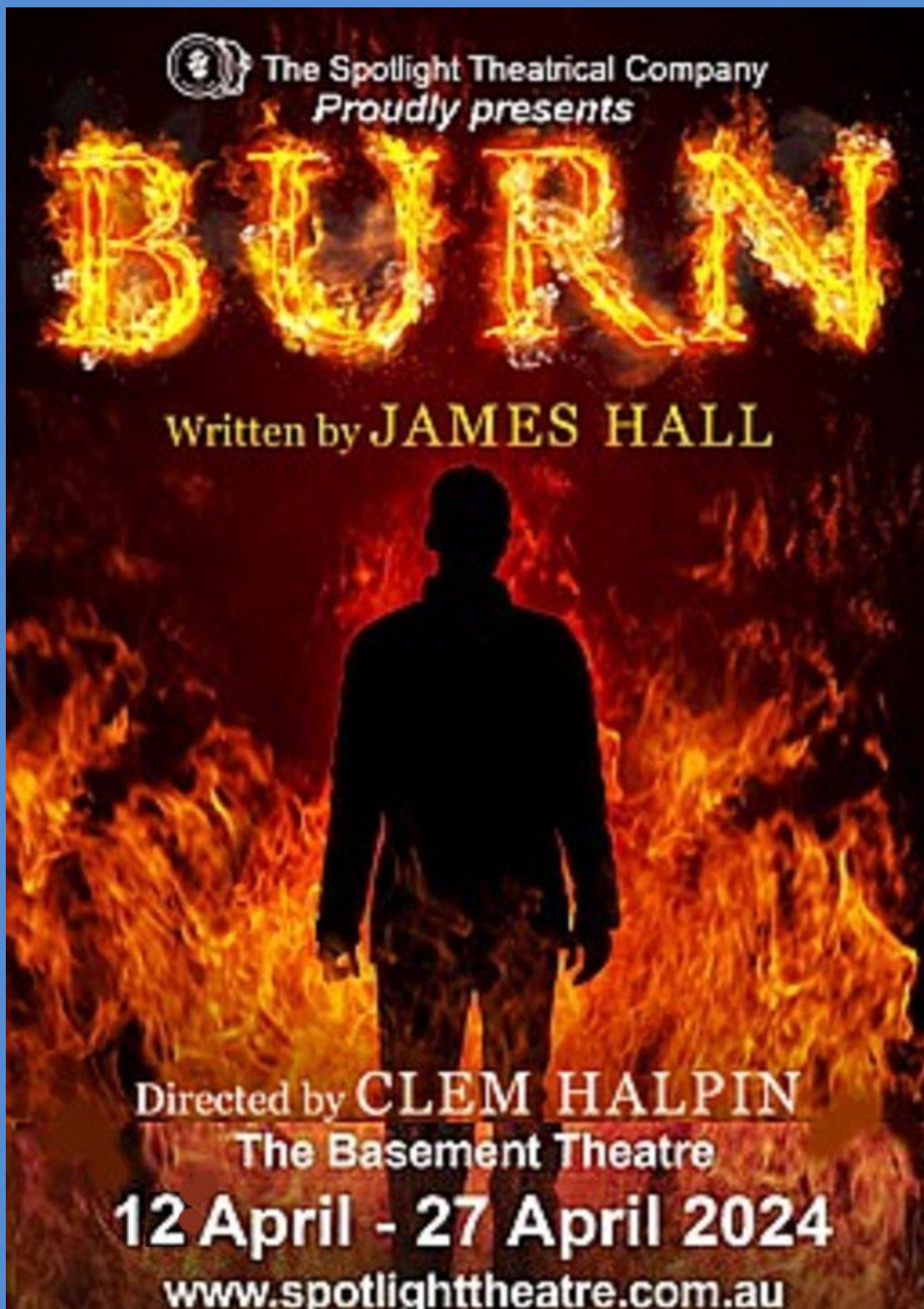
Halpin Auditorium
9 February – 9 March 2024
www.spotlighttheatre.com.au



The Hills are well and truly alive at **Spotlight Theatre** with this classic musical receiving standing ovations from very appreciative audiences every night. The regular season, including five extra performances, sold out. Congratulations to **Director David Valks** and his creative team for creating such a magnificent show. Well done and thank you to all cast and crew for being so generous with your time and performing so brilliantly in every performance **Photos courtesy Vargo Studios**

What one of our patrons said, "Our sincere congratulations to all involved with the production of 'Sound of Music'. We attended last night and were blown away by the excellence of the performance – singing, acting, stage-work etc – Wow! Thank you once again for a memorable performance worthy of any stage."
Barry & Lesley Berry

OUR NEXT PRODUCTION
BASEMENT THEATRE
Tickets on Sale NOW



The Spotlight Theatrical Company
Proudly presents

BURN

Written by **JAMES HALL**

Directed by **CLEM HALPIN**
The Basement Theatre

12 April - 27 April 2024
www.spotlighttheatre.com.au

TICKETS ON SALE NOW AT www.spotlighttheatre.com.au or phone box office on 5539 4255

ABOUT THE WRITER

JAMES HALL



BURN is the second play from myself as playwright and Clem Halpin as director. My first interest in writing bubbled back in 1997 when I watched “Good Will Hunting” at the movies. I was instantly amazed about how two young friends could pen such an emotional and entertaining piece. It piqued a curiosity that’s never died down. However, it wasn’t until many years after this moment that the tingling inspiration to write a play surged out onto the page. I find something magical lives within the joy of sitting in front of the computer and darting down imagination’s countless rabbit holes. Similarly, reading a script that can ultimately be called a final draft is a very special and satisfying moment. I don’t have formal training in writing - which director Clem Halpin says is blatantly obvious considering how left-field and confronting my works can be! More so, I’ve fallen in love with being able to momentarily morph into a crazed creator of different characters, emotions, truths, and sub-existences. I was fortunate enough for my first play, EXIT, to be a success, and I have the absolute honour of my second play, BURN, being performed in Spotlight’s Basement Theatre from April 12th to 27th. (PS. I’m currently completing a third script – this time a comedy, a purposeful contrast to my first two psychological drama plays – and am hopeful there might be a hat trick of Spotlight productions

ABOUT THE PLAY

BURN is a psychological drama that dissects the dynamic between two polar opposite brothers. It includes elements of trademark darkness, as well as other emotional touchstones, namely, the underlying turns the five characters force upon each other to manipulate circumstances to their own advantage. Audiences will be attracted to each character’s arc and, with a devastating twist at the end of the script, they’ll appreciate the tragic foundations of the story they’ve just witnessed. Clem and I have found there is a distinct thirst for local, original dramatic plays, as highlighted by the universally passionate response to EXIT. We believe the same sincere reaction will apply for

BURN. Tickets on Sale NOW

<https://spotlight.sales.ticketsearch.com/sales/salesevent/118899>

NEXT MUSICAL in HALPIN AUDITORIUM
DOG FIGHT
DIRECTED BY JOSH McCANN-THOMSON
Opens Friday 10 May
Tickets on Sale NOW

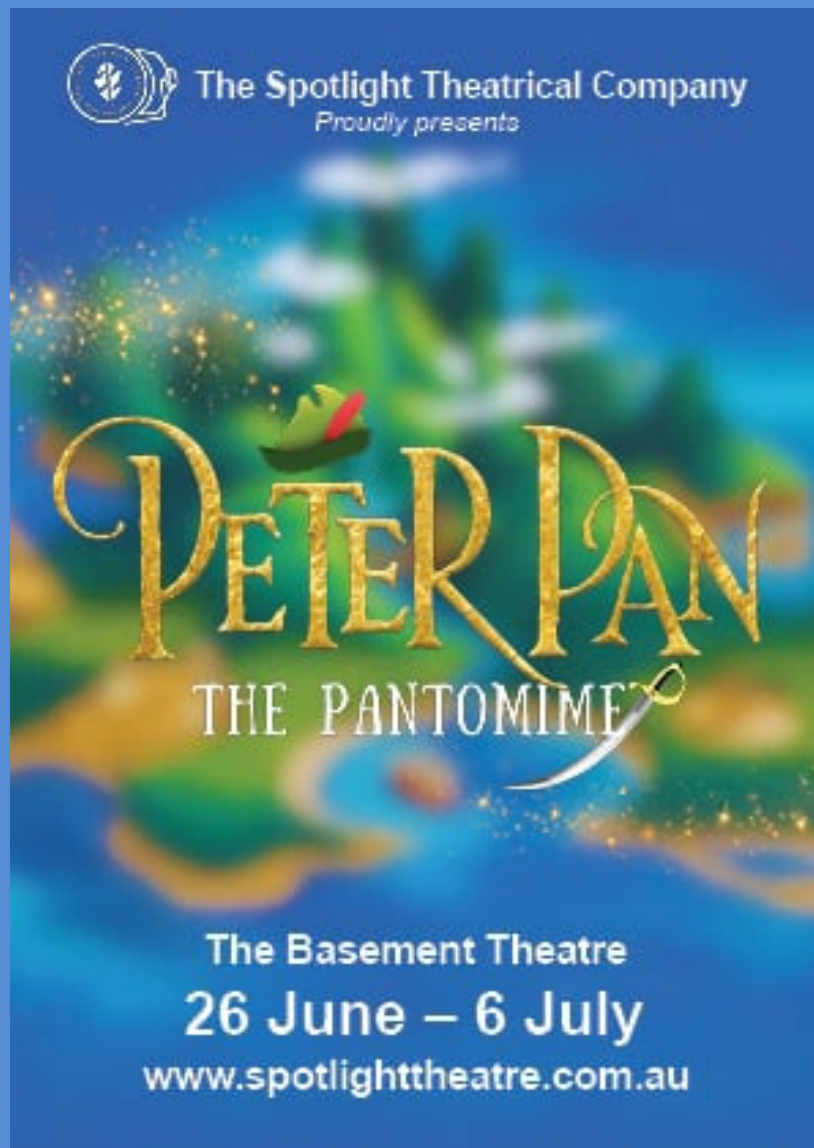
<https://spotlight.sales.ticketsearch.com/sales/salesevent/130607>



DOG FIGHT: THE MUSICAL
a moving story about finding love in unlikely places.

Experience the emotional rollercoaster of Dogfight, a musical based on the movie starring River Phoenix. A group of young Marines engage in a transformative night before deployment for the Vietnam War. Set against the backdrop of 1960s America, this poignant tale follows Eddie Birdlace as he navigates the complexities of love, loyalty, and the true cost of camaraderie. With a dynamic score by Benji Pasek and Justin Paul, acclaimed composers of "Dear Evan Hansen" and "La La Land," the production showcases stirring performances and powerful storytelling. Don't miss this captivating musical that explores the resilience of the human spirit and the beauty found in unexpected connections.

AUDITIONS



For the upcoming pantomime

Directed by **Lucy Martin**

are being held in the Halpin Auditorium on

Saturday 16 March 10am to 5pm

Audition packs available on our website

<https://www.spotlighttheatre.com.au/auditions-peter-pan.php>

Two shows daily at 10.30 am and 2pm

Tickets on Sale in April

Spotlight Youth Theatre

CLASSES HELD AT: Unit 4 - 50 Johnston Street Studios & Spotlight Basement Theatre



Our Youth Theatre Leaders organised a meet and greet evening on Monday 26 February for our students' parents and guardians with our 2024 Teachers. This very informative evening enabled all the teachers to highlight their curriculum for the year and targets for each term.

As we have some new teachers this year, we will introduce them all to you in future editions once we have some photos of them. Our Youth Theatre is overseen by Noreena Wines, who is also the Secretary of The Spotlight Theatrical Company. Val Leftwich looks after administration and Kay Hawker looks after accounts. You will see these wonderful volunteers regularly and at all the youth theatre productions and showcases.

Our Teachers in Alphabetical Order are **Melissa Dorge, Olivia Hardcastle, Sarah Hunt, Jackson Kook, Lucy Martin, Georgia Ogge (trainee) , Ethan Speight, and Alana Schokman.**

The productions for all classes are scheduled in our Youth Theatre Season between 10 September and 2 November. The teachers are finalising their show choices which we will advise next month when all the approvals have been secured.

Our youth theatre is entering its 60th year after being established in 1964 when we had 10 students in one class. We now have nearly 300 students being taught by our highly trained experienced teachers. Make sure you catch one of the shows this year.



Proudly Supporting
Spotlight
Youth Theatre

PLAYBILL

2024

SEASON

Join us for another fabulous year of entertainment!

THE SOUND OF MUSIC

Directed by David Valks
Halpin Auditorium
9 February - 9 March

BURN

Directed by Clem Halpin
The Basement Theatre
12 April - 27 April

DOGFIGHT

Directed by Josh McCann-Thomson
Halpin Auditorium
10 May - 1 June

PETER PAN - THE PANTOMIME

Directed by Lucy Martin
The Basement Theatre
26 June - 6 July

GHOST THE MUSICAL

Directed by Clay English
Halpin Auditorium
19 July - 17 August

A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE

Directed by Hunter Wall
The Basement Theatre
23 August - 7 September

OUR YOUTH THEATRE SEASON

Halpin Auditorium and The Basement Theatre
10 September - 2 November

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Directed by Elodie Boal
Halpin Auditorium
15 November - 7 December

SPOTLIGHT ON CHRISTMAS

Halpin Auditorium
13 December - 15 December

THE SPOTLIGHT THEATRICAL COMPANY
165 - 187 Ashmore Rd, BENOWA, Qld, 4217

ENQUIRIES & BOOKINGS (07) 5539 4255
www.spotlighttheatre.com.au



Spotlight Theatre

Providing an outlet for creative growth and community, while seeking to produce vibrant, quality entertainment that entertains and educates.



Spotlight Costume Hire

THOUSANDS OF COSTUMES FOR HIRE. DISCOUNT FOR SPOTLIGHT MEMBERS

FRIENDLY EXPERT SERVICE AND ADVICE

COSTUME HIRE OPENED MORE THAN 40 YEARS AGO AND HAS BEEN SERVING THE GOLD COAST COMMUNITY WITH UNIQUE AND EXCEPTIONAL COSTUMES EVER SINCE.

VISIT US AND GET DRESSED BY THE BEST

Visit our website <https://spotlight-costume-hire.com>

THE SPOTLIGHT THEATRICAL COMPANY

COSTUME HIRE

the **largest range** of
+ unique + unusual
+ vintage + hand-made
costumes & accessories for hire on the Gold Coast

OPENING HOURS
10am to 4pm
Mon, Wed, Fri and Sat

 (07) 5539 4700
 mailbox@spotlighttheatre.com.au
 spotlightcostumehirebenowa
 spotlightcostumehire

187 Ashmore Rd, Benowa QLD 4217

What happened during the last 25 YEARS at THE SPOTLIGHT THEATRICAL COMPANY?

We want to find out.

As we are turning 70 next year it is an ideal time to update the History of the Theatre over the last 25 years. Peter Meggitt wrote and published the History of Spotlight Theatre in 1999 and now we need to hear from all the Directors, Actors, Patrons and creatives who have stories to tell.

The wonderful **Peter Maden**, an experienced actor and MC and lifelong supporter of the Company has offered to compile all the information received and to research the archives to find those hidden gems and moments that make Spotlight the success that it is.

If you have any stories to tell or photos about the last 25 years, please email Peter at mailbox@spotlighttheatre.com.au . He would love to hear from you.





Note from the President

Welcome to the March Edition of The Spotlighter our first edition for 2024.

The Christmas and New Year storms affected many of our volunteers and patrons as well as committee members and the theatre complex. Hopefully life has returned to some normality for all those affected. The theatre buildings escaped severe damage apart from water leaks and machinery breakdowns which have now been fixed. We are replacing the workshop roof next week which should make that space much better and waterproof at last. This has been partially funded by the proceeds of the raffles we run.

The **Sound of Music** has started our year off very well with the fantastic cast and crew putting on five extra performances to enable everyone an opportunity to see this superb show. A sell out season and standing ovations were a true indication of the quality of this show. Thank you, **David Valks**, and your creatives for creating such an amazing show and to the wonderful cast and crew for providing such outstanding entertainment.

Our next show **BURN**, by Local writer **James Hall**, is being performed in the Basement Theatre from 12 April until 27 April. This play is being directed by the one and only **Clem Halpin**. After the success last year of EXIT it seemed only natural that these two talented creative artists would combine again to bring you this psychological drama. This is a very limited season of only 9 performances so secure your seats now available online.

Our Next Musical in the Halpin Auditorium **DOGFIGHT** directed by **Josh McCann-Thomson** is now in rehearsal. Season opens 9 May through to 1 June. Tickets are available online now.

Our annual Costume Hire Car Park sale is being held on Saturday 15 June so mark that date in your calendar. More information in next month's edition

Lastly, I would like to thank all the volunteers that make up the Spotlight Family and give of their time so willingly. With your commitment and dedication, you help make Spotlight Theatre a very special theatre and a happy place for so many.

Until next time take care of yourself and each other.

Duncan