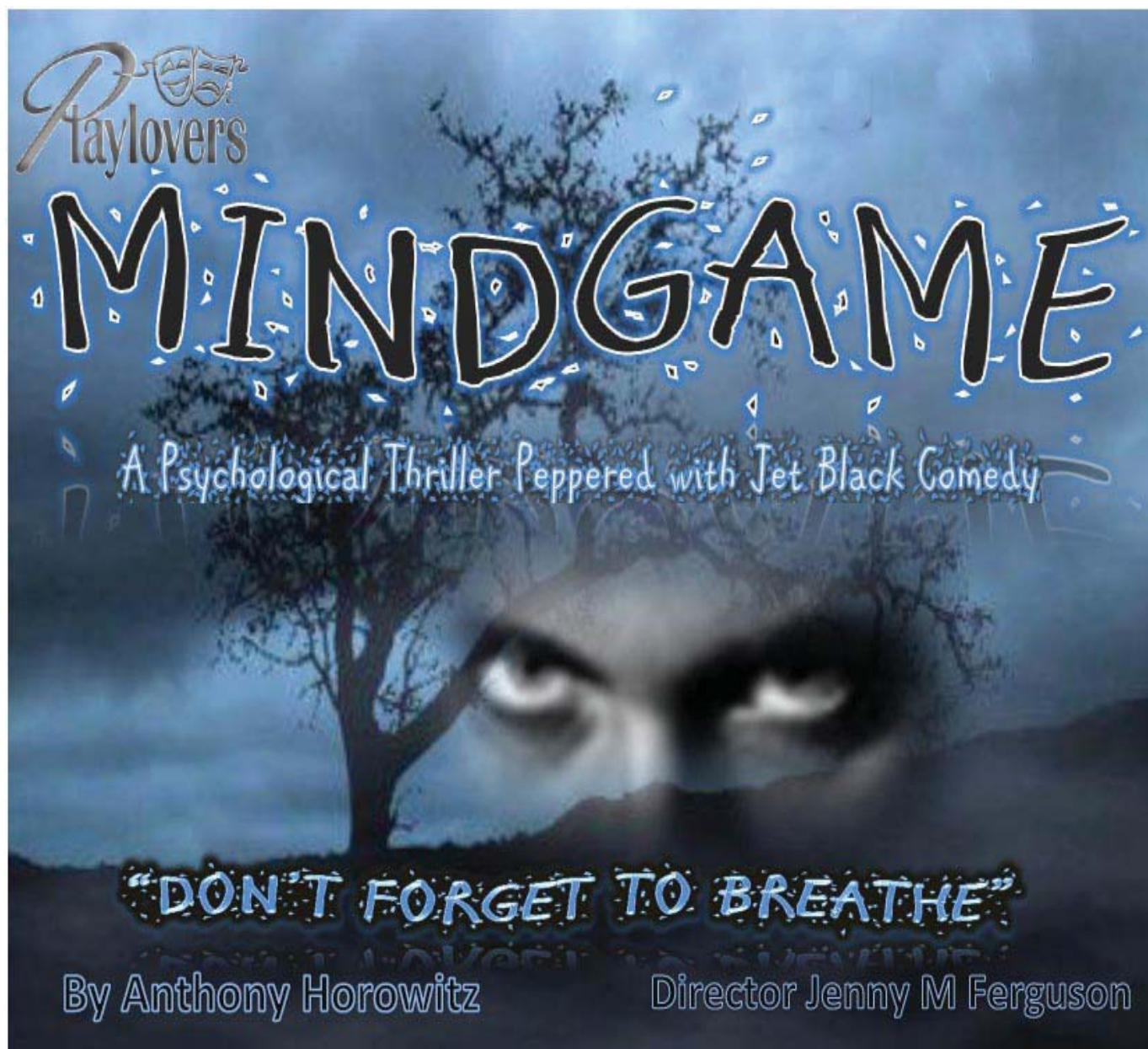


STAGES

NEWSLETTER ISSUE N#1 - January/February 2012



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Perception of reality questioned in WA premiere of psychological thriller

DON'T forget to breathe – the WA premiere of a psychological thriller peppered with black comedy is taking to the stage this March.

Directed by Jenny M. Ferguson at Playlovers, Mindgame is set in a hospital for the criminally insane as true-crime writer Mark Styler tries to interview a notorious serial killer.

It was originally a 2001 novel by Anthony Horowitz, who later adapted it into a play

Horowitz has a wealth of writing credits to his name, including television scripts for Midsomer Murders, Poirot, Robin of Sherwood, Crime Traveller and Foyle's War and the Alex Rider series of books featuring a teenage spy.

Last year, he released an official Sherlock Holmes novel – the first time Arthur Conan Doyle's estate has allowed this.

Ferguson said she wanted to direct Mindgame because she loves psychological thrillers that challenge perceptions.

"In line with my past psychology studies, I am continually fascinated and drawn to productions that unearth the unseen realities of the human condition," she said.

"In particular, I am drawn to productions that challenge our personal boundaries.

"Mindgame is dark and intense but there is some funny dialogue that helps to lighten the play, matched with comic relief from props and music.

"Right from the start, you're double-guessing who's who, what will happen and how far will it go? Some audience members may be shocked and others will just laugh."

Involved in theatre on and off the stage since 1995, Ferguson studied theatre at Murdoch University and has performed and directed shows with Mandurah Little Theatre, Baggie Daks Productions, Murray Music and Drama Club and the Mandurah Performing Arts Centre.

She's scored a wealth of awards over the years at Dramafest and the South West Drama Festival for best play, director and production – among others – for her self-penned Frog Soup and directing Zoo Story.

"Mindgame is very much in keeping with the current popular true-crime films and TV shows but has the added bonus of a good splattering of black humour," Ferguson said.

"It's a play of twists and turns – something funny is going on but you're not quite sure what.

"By the time you figure it out, it's too late and you are sucked into the story."

Mindgame plays at 8pm, March 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16 and 17 and 7pm, March 11. Tickets are \$20, \$15 concession – Book on 0415 777 173 or bookings@playlovers.org.au





HOBSON'S CHOICE

By Harold Brighouse

Directed by James Hough-Neilson

Season - April 27 to May 12

Rehearsals start early March

Reading & Audition - Sunday 19th February, 10.30am

Hackett Hall, Draper St, Floreat

Classic English comedy.

Henry Hobson runs a successful bootmaker's shop in nineteenth-century Salford. A widower with a weakness for the pub opposite, he tries forcefully to rule the lives of his three unruly daughters. When he decrees 'no marriages' to avoid the expensive matter of settlements, eldest daughter Maggie rebels and sets her sights on Will Mossop, Hobson's star bootmaker..

Cast:

Standard north of England Lancashire accents are required for all characters except where stated.

- Henry Hobson - Victorian boot-maker, bullying tyrant, 50-ish to 60-ish
- Maggie Hobson - his eldest daughter
- Alice Hobson - his daughter
- Vickey Hobson - his daughter
- Will Mossop - unappreciated employee
- Tubby Wadlow - another employee
- Mrs Hepworth - elderly N. Country Upper Class – Edith Evans-ish?
(lovely cameo role)
- Dr MacFarlane - elderly doctor, English or any British Accent
- Freddy Beenstock - aged 20-ish to 30-ish
- Albert Prosser - aged 20-ish to 30-ish

For further information or to discuss accents contact
James Hough-Neilson – 9401 2558

Playlovers' Playbill for 2012

MINDGAME Directed by Jenny Ferguson March 2 - 17	HOBSON'S CHOICE Directed by James Hough-Neilson April 27 - May 12	COSI FAN TUTTE Directed by Paul Treasure July 13 - 28	One Act Season tba August/September	THE RINK Directed by Alida Chaney November 9 - December 1	Plovers tba
In Rehearsal	Auditioning	Auditioning			



COSI FAN TUTTE

By W.A. Mozart and Lorenzo da Ponte | Directed by Paul Treasure
Season - July 13 - 28 | Rehearsals start late March
Audition - Saturday 18th February, 10.00am
Hackett Hall, Draper St, Floreat

Mozart's sparkling romantic comic opera.

This is a fully staged production with orchestra and, importantly, sung in English (mostly). Two sisters, two soldiers and one holiday villa by the sea set the scene for the ultimate test in love and loyalty. In a single day the four lovers and their two confidants will have questioned the very nature of love itself.

Principals:

Fiordiligi	Soprano	Ladies of Ferrara, lover of Guglielmo, sister to Dorabella. Principal Part. Several solos and ensemble pieces.
Dorabella	Mezzosoprano	Ladies of Ferrara, lover of Ferrando, sister to Fiordiligi. Principal Part. Several solos and ensemble pieces.
Guglielmo	Baritone	Lover of Fiordiligi, Officer. Principal Part. Several solos and ensemble pieces.
Ferrando	Tenor	Lover of Dorabella, Officer. Principal Part. Several solos and ensemble pieces.
Despina	Soprano	Maid. Supporting role. Some solos and several ensemble pieces.
Don Alfonso	Bass	Old philosopher. Supporting role. Some solos and several ensemble pieces.

Chorus:

SATB. 8 in total. The singing demands are not great. (6 out of 30 numbers) and all chorus will be used in various non-singing roles but a good singing voice is essential.

Singers are requested to prepare an excerpt of a song in English. This can be classical (although grand opera should be avoided) or modern (again anything of an overtly jazz or rock genre should be avoided). This excerpt should be approximately 1 minute or 30 bars or 2 pages in length. Please bring either a CD accompaniment, MP3 player or your own accompanist. There will be no supplied accompanist.

Audition times can be booked by: Phone 041 166 3032 Email: davidlhardie@bigpond.com

MEN'S CLUB (*& women too*)

Friends of Playlovers get together at Hackett Hall
every Monday at 9.30am to about 1pm

to set build, paint, tidy, sweep, move timber and screw – bits of wood together!

What's fun?!

Well, it's the team spirit and the coffee breaks. Okay, mostly the coffee breaks!
Like those people in Italy's piazzas who are there all day chatting and laughing.

I love it! It's life!

If you want more details ring David on 9444 2395.

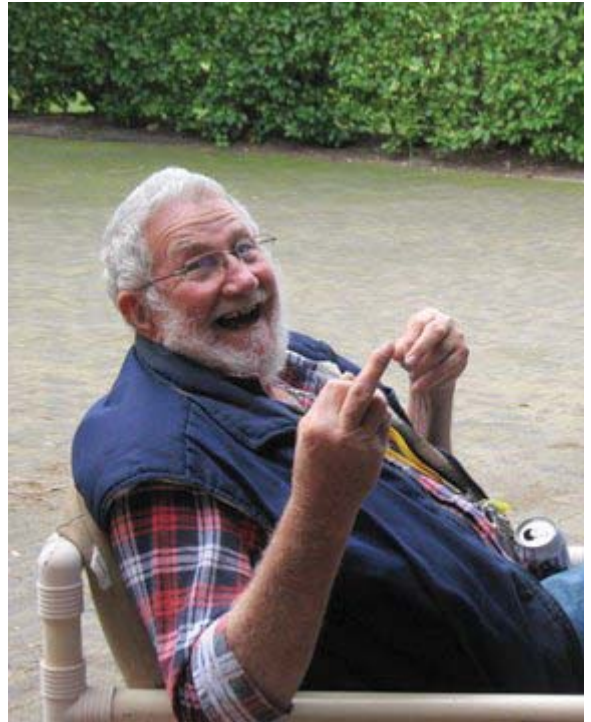
Kevan Hook

1939 - 2011

Kevan became involved in community theatre almost by default. Loving the classical music, and wishing to sing in the Perth Oratorio Chior, Kevan began singing lessons with Gloria Wilson and it was Gloria's suggestion that at first he should try to audition at Stirling Players and later to sing the oratorio works.

Later Kevan joined Playlovers and for about 8 years worked with David Crewes constructing most of the sets. Kevan learnt much from David on staging and set building and it became this practical side of theatre that was to be Kevan's forte in these later years.

Kevan had a natural generosity of spirit and was more than happy to work behind the scenes for the many talented young actors and directors he saw pass through this club; and whom he admired greatly. These productions let him to staging at the Regal, the Playhouse and the Subiaco Theatre Centre - all experiences he treasured.



On the night of the accident, many tears were shed at the (Stirling) theatre. A tribute to the closeness and longstanding friendships Kevan had made. I cannot explain to you the atmosphere in the theatre that night. The performance was cancelled, but on Saturday we did the play's final night - with encouragement from Michael who felt it was what his Dad would have wanted. Honouring Kevan the stage was left open to display Kevan's last set and the performance was dedicated to him.

We thank Kevan who somehow found time amongst everything else he did to give so much of his time and talent to community theatre; plus his friendship, loyalty, generosity of spirit and of course, his love of laughter.

- Extract from Eulogy by Karen Staflund

Kevan Hook was also Playlovers' Bar Manager for many years.

Kevan sadly passed away on Friday the 25th November 2011 at the age of 72, after a skid-steer loader accidentally reversed into him while he was laying reticulation pipes in parkland at the Morris Road Shopping Centre, Innaloo.

Kevan was always lending a hand to the community and has significant history with both Playlovers and Stirling Players both on and off the stage.

Kevan was also one of Perth's longest-serving Father Christmases at shopping centres around Perth.

You will be greatly missed our friend.





Plover Awards

presented on Saturday 10th December
by the lovely Tyler Jones and
the equally glamouress Ryan Taaffe

Thank you for the Plover Adjudicators for a stirring job:
Val Riches, Kimberley Shaw, Sandra Martin, Shirley Twoey.
Thank you also to the adjudicator liaison team of
Claudette & Tony Ridout.

Congratulations to:

- Best Overall Production - Side Show, directed by Tyler Jones
- Best Costumes - Terry McAuley | Side Show
- Unique Sound Production - Graeme Johnson | The Boy From Oz
- Lighting Operator - John Woolrych | Side Show
- Innovative Lighting Consultant - Don Allen | The Boy From Oz
- Most Interesting Lighting Design - John Woolrych | Side Show
- Innovate Set - Tyler Jones | Side Show
- Most Successful Stage Manager - Shelley Ormerod | Side Show
- Best Director - Tyler Jones | Side Show
- Promising New Male Talent - Paul Taylor-Byrne | The Boy From Oz
- Promising New Female Talent - Liza-Marie Schwindt | Side Show
- Best Female Actor in a Supporting Role - Rachel Monamy | The Boy From Oz
- Best Male Actor in a Support Role - David Bowyer | Side Show
- Most Successful Lead Actress - Breeahn Jones | Side Show
- Most Success Lead Actress - Claire Taylor | Side Show
- Best Male Actor in a Major Role - Ryan Taaffe | The Boy From Oz

What's On Where

Falsettos	Old Mill Theatre cnr Mends St & Mill Point Rd, South Perth	Feb 3 - 18 Bookings: 9367 8719
Who Knows	Garrick Theatre Meadow St, Guildford	Feb 3 - 25 Bookings: 9378 1990
When We Are Married	Limelight Theatre Civic Dve, Wanneroo	Feb 9 - 25 Bookings: 9467 9545
The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomens Guild Dramatic Production of 'Macbeth'	Kwinana Theatre Workshop Koorliny Arts Centre Sulphur Rd, Kwinana	Feb 16 - March 2 Bookings: 9467 7118
Steel Magnolias	Stirling Theatre Morris Road, Innaloo	March 2 - 17 Bookings: 9440 1040
The 39 Steps	Harbour Theatre Port Cineast Building 70 Adelaide St, Fremantle	March 9 - 24 Bookings: BOCS 9484 1133

Finley Nom's Night

Nom's night for the 2011 Finley Awards was held on December 30

The Playlovers nominations received were:

Director of a Musical

Tyler Jones, "Side Show"

Daniel Burton & Ryan Taaffe, "The Boy From Oz"

Musical Director

Kate McIntosh, "The Boy From Oz"

Choreographer

Hilary Readings, "The Boy From Oz"

Tammie Rafferty, "Side Show"

Musical Theatre Performer - Female

Claire Taylor, "Side Show"

Breeahn Jones, "Sideshow"

Musical Theatre Performer - Male

Ryan Taaffe, "The Boy From Oz"

Other than Lead Male in a Musical

Chris Gerrish, "Side Show"

David Bowyer, "Side Show"

Paul Taylor-Byrne, "The Boy From Oz"

Other than Lead Female in a Musical

Rachael Monamy, "The Boy From Oz"

Hilary Readings, "The Boy From Oz"

Set (Musical) - "Side Show"

Set (Play) - "Noises Off"

Costumes (Musical)

"Side Show" & "The Boy From Oz"



Finley Awards Ceremony

A fabulous evening of glamour and intrigue presented by the ITA
"the best Finleys ever"

Congratulations to all

The 2011 Playlovers' winners are:

The Robert Finley Award for Best Musical

Runner-Up: "The Boy From Oz", Playlovers

Third Place: "Side Show", Playlovers

The Mary Webb Award for Director of a Musical - Tyler Jones, "Side Show"

Musical Director - Kate McIntosh, "The Boy From Oz"

Choreographer - Hilary Readings, "The Boy From Oz"

Musical Theatre Performer – Female - TIE

Claire Taylor, "Side Show", Playlovers & Breeahn Jones, "Side Show"

Musical Theatre Performer – Male - Ryan Taaffe, "The Boy From Oz"

Other than Lead Male in a Musical - Paul Taylor-Byrne, "The Boy From Oz"

Costumes (Musical) - "Side Show"

Adjudicators' Certificate - Mahalia Bowles, "The Boy From Oz" – Stage Presence.

** Playlovers have won the coveted Finley Award 17 times of the 61 Finley awards presented. The closest is KADS and Garrick who have won 7 each. Playlovers' Terry McAuley has won the best costume award 8 times, the most awarded person.*

**Presenter Kim Harris had a total of 7 costume changes on the night all designed by Terry McAuley.*

If undelivered, please return to:

Playlovers Inc
PO Box 164
Wembley WA 6913

PP602669-00364

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Wishing all our
Playlovers' Members & Friends
a prosperous 2012.
Travel safely and see you
at Playlovers soon for MINDGAME
Tickets on sale now - see page 2 for details

Don't forget you can always contact
us by email at
info@playlovers.org.au

www.playlovers.org.au

President	David Young	9445 2395
Vice President	Robert Whyte	9313 4297
Secretary	Barbara Zahari	9379 3531
Treasurer	Marie Corrigan	9445 8626
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	Ewen Malcolm	9284 9785
	Bronwyn Hammond	9447 0945
	Brendan Kerkvliet	0407 897 433
	David Nelson	
	Brad Beckett	
	Judith Gedero	0438 938 884
	Roz Barker	0410 008 304
Ex-Officio Members:		
Sound/Lighting	Graeme Johnsons / John Woolrych	
Nedlands City Liaison	Terry Tinsley	
Archivist	Terry McAuley	9444 2395

Committee 2011