

Issue 4

June/July



By arrangement with Hal Leonard Australia Pty Ltd

Leonard Bernstein's

Candide

The Royal National Theatre Version

Director: Kevin Langoulant
Music Director: David Hardie

Hackett Hall, Draper St, Floreat

July 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17

All shows at 8pm, except Sundays, at 7pm

All is for the best, in this best of all possible worlds.



JULY 8—17
\$25 Adult; \$20 Concession
Book online now!
www.playlovers.org.au





Alan Markham, Leesa Frawley & Rex Gray



Natalie Fulcher, Patricia de-Soto-Phillips & Lyndall Fairbairn



Kevin Lloyd & Lyndall Fairbairn

CANDIDE

Director Kevin Langoulant says *Candide* has a strong story and complex music but it's rarely presented in its full form.

"A new production by the Royal National Theatre in London in 1999 presented a fresh look at the show," he said. "It went back to its roots and the Voltaire original more than many previous productions that stressed the comic and ignored the serious angles. The strength of the Playlovers company provides a cast able to handle the complex music without losing the depth of the drama in the story."

Involved in theatre for the past 40 years, Langoulant started as a stage manager for the Hole in the Wall Theatre and was technical director for the Civic Theatre Restaurant, Dirty Dick's, Diamond Lil's and the Perth and Fremantle Old Time Music Halls.

During the 1980s he worked as a freelance director on the east coast and became chairman of the Committee for Performing Arts for the Albury/Wodonga Regional Council.

After 13 years in the UK, Langoulant returned to Perth in 2003 and became production manager for several Gilbert & Sullivan Society of WA shows and is artistic director of the Fremantle Musical Theatre Company.

With *Candide* he believes the complexity of the music will be his greatest challenge. "The singers need to be able to read music and sing complex harmonies usually only associated with opera. To cover all this in a two-hour comic opera and still be entertaining is a challenge."



CANDIDLY CANDIDE

HEARD FROM OVER THE BACK FENCE



Candide himself, Mr Robin Fletcher—practicing his vocals before rehearsals for *Candide*. The next door neighbour was so impressed that she rang Playlovers booking officer and booked seats immediately. “It sounded so beautiful” she said “I didn’t want to miss seeing the show.”

One of our more mature members of Playlovers who happens to be in the chorus of *Candide* had to advise her director, Kevin Langoulant that she was about to have a procedure done on her knee the next day and wasn’t sure whether she would be able to keep up the pretence of walking sedately up the wonky stairs. “Don’t worry Dahling! – I’ll make you a cripple” was the stern reply.

Most of us have heard the age old story of the “understudy” waiting in the wings for her chance to play the lead on the big stage—think 42nd Street. Well that has happened to our delightful Jenna Robertson who is now playing the lead “Cunagonde” in *Candide*. Jenna was originally going to understudy the role—and probably do at least two shows— but now she will be doing all seven of them—thanks to the first “Cunagonde” (Clara) getting through to the finals in Australia’s Got Talent. Congratulations to you both.

LAUGHTER HAS NO FOREIGN ACCENT

What's On	Where	When
The Odd Couple	Garrick Theatre Club	17 June—9 July
The Men	Old Mill Theatre	June 30, July 1 & 2
Funny Business	Melville Theatre	July, 1,2,7,8,9,14,15,16 at 8pm & 2pm July 3
Blak Yak Theatre	Subiaco Arts Centre	July 6,7,8,9,13,14,15,16 at 8pm
Return to the Forbidden Planet	Stirling Players	15 July—30 July

THE PLOVERS

Every year, Playlovers holds its very own version of the Oscars. Known as "The Plovers", these awards celebrate the "best" from our productions throughout the year.

At the start of the year, before the first season opens, 4 or 5 people in the theatre community are invited to be Plover adjudicators for the forthcoming year. These adjudicators, who are normally experienced actors and/or directors from Playlovers or other theatre groups, will see every play and musical that Playlovers performs. They review each production and award points according to a quite complicated marking system that endeavours to reflect important or significant aspects of the production.

Only Playlovers members are eligible to receive a Plover Award – so if you're not a financial member, pay up now! – in the following categories:

Most Outstanding Lead Actor - Male

Most Outstanding Lead Actor - Female

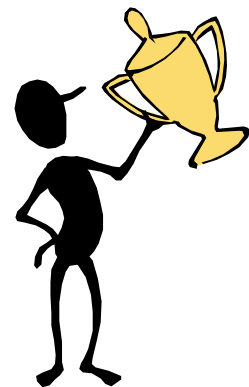
Most Outstanding Performance in a Role other than a Lead - Male

Most Outstanding Performance in a Role other than a Lead – Female

Best Newcomer Male

Best Newcomer Female

Most Outstanding Production



There are also Technical Awards for Lighting, Sound, Set Design, Costume and Stage Management. And there are special Certificates awarded at the adjudicators' discretion for aspects that they particularly wish to commend.

The adjudicators are co-ordinated by an experienced club member who collects the adjudicators sheets and tallies the "scores" after the final production for the year. Only the Plover co-ordinator (and whoever prints the certificates) knows who the winners are until *that* envelope is opened on the night! So if you're involved in a production this year, start practising your acceptance speech now (OK, a simple 'Thankyou' will suffice!) – or if you've just been part of our appreciative audience, start laying your bets on who the winners will be! And I'll see *you* at the next Plover Awards Night!

Do you have a bar manager's licence or an RSA (Responsible Service of Alcohol)? We are looking for people with the relevant liquor licensing qualifications to help on one or two evenings, during productions, by serving behind the bar.

If you don't have a qualification but would like to help, Playlovers will pay for you to get a qualification. There is an online course that you can do via the web with no upfront costs; Playlovers will pay on completion. See:

http://www.ahawa.asn.au/training/liquor_licensing.phtml

Email info@playlovers.org.au or phone one of the committee.

The most effective moments in the theatre are those that appeal to basic and commonplace emotions--love of woman, love of home, love of country, love of right, anger, jealousy, revenge, ambition, lust, and treachery.

CLAYTON HAMILTON, *Theory of the Theatre*

UPCOMING SHOWS:

SIDE SHOW A MUSICAL



"Side Show" has commenced rehearsals and is thus far proving an exciting yet extremely challenging venture! With over 30 songs, ranging in style from fun 30's vaudeville numbers to powerful, vocally-demanding ballads, the major focus at this point is on the music. The cast, a mixture of new faces alongside several Playlovers regulars, have so far risen to the challenge and are producing some amazing work. This promises to be a unique and moving theatrical experience.

*Based on the true story of Siamese twins, Violet & Daisy Hilton, who became stars during the Depression. Side Show is a moving portrait of two women, joined at the hip, whose extraordinary bondage brings them fame but denies them love. Told almost entirely in song, the show follows their progression from England to America, around the vaudeville circuit and to Hollywood on the eve of their appearance in the 1932 movies *Freaks*. Along the way they are consistently victimized by their managers. The adventurous, ambitious Daisy and the quieter, more retiring Violet are unforgettable characters that sing their way into your heart.*

Side Show was written by Bill Russell & Henry Krieger and is directed by Tyler Jones.

Cast includes: Claire Taylor, Breeahn Jones, Chris Gerrish, Owen Measday, David Bowyer, David Wallace, Cicely Binford, Liza-Mari Schwindt, Maria Velletri, Cassie Skinner, Emily Dewar, Jess Clancy, Joanna Tyler, Lexi Rollins, Skyler Ellis, Geoff Kenny & Mitchell Robinson.

A SHOW NOT TO BE MISSED

BOOKINGS OPEN IN JULY

Show Dates: September: 2,3,8,9,10,11,15,16,17



***The Boy from Oz** is a colourful musical biography/tribute to the late, great singer/songwriter Peter Allen and the first Australian musical to make it to Broadway.*

Peter Allen was born in the outback Australian town of Tenterfield in 1944 and made his entertainment debut at the age of five. As a teenager he became a pop star then toured Asia, where he met Judy Garland and became engaged to her daughter Liza Minnelli.

In the US Peter enjoyed the highs of success by winning an Oscar, selling out performances in Radio City Music Hall, and receiving adulation when he returned to Australia. There were also plenty of lows... Breaking up with his wife, staging a Broadway flop, the death of his partner and his own battle with illness. Peter Allen had an extraordinary life which has become a magnificent musical.

Auditions will have been held and the production fully cast by the time this newsletter is printed.

Music by **Peter Allen** , Directed by **Ryan Taaffe**.

Booking open in September: bookings@playlovers.org.au

Show Dates: November 4,5 10,11,12,13,17,18,19,20,24,25,26

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Don't forget to book for our next production

CANDIDE

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