



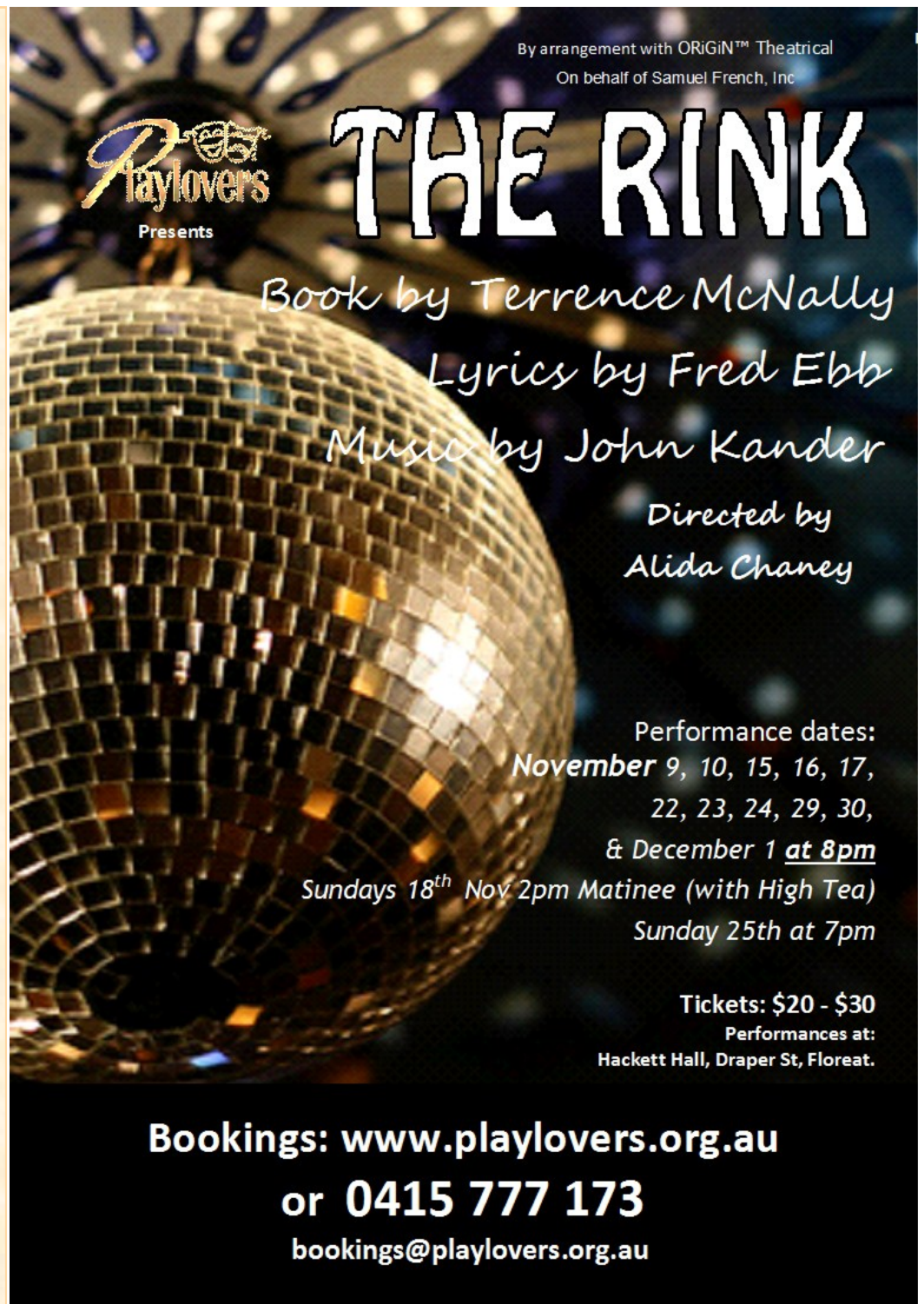
Playlovers Inc.
Hackett Hall, Draper Street, Floreat
www.playlovers.org.au

STAGES


NEWSLETTER ISSUE #5—September/October 2012

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

The Rink
YouthFest -
Evacuees
Falling to the Top
The Plovers
Men's Club
Committee Notes
What's on where



By arrangement with ORiGiN™ Theatrical
On behalf of Samuel French, Inc

 Presents

THE RINK

Book by Terrence McNally
Lyrics by Fred Ebb
Music by John Kander

Directed by
Alida Chaney

Performance dates:
November 9, 10, 15, 16, 17,
22, 23, 24, 29, 30,
& December 1 at 8pm
Sundays 18th Nov 2pm Matinee (with High Tea)
Sunday 25th at 7pm

Tickets: \$20 - \$30
Performances at:
Hackett Hall, Draper St, Floreat.

Bookings: www.playlovers.org.au
or 0415 777 173
bookings@playlovers.org.au

Skate in for Australian premiere of musical by *Chicago-Cabaret* team

THE Australian premiere of a musical written by the team behind *Chicago* and *Cabaret* opens in Perth this November. Written by Kander and Ebb and directed by Alida Chaney at Playlovers, *The Rink* is set in a rundown 1970s rollerskating rink on the US east coast.

It's a story of forgiveness between a mother and daughter – played by Chita Rivera and Liza Minnelli in the original Broadway production – as they try to find a way of letting go of the past to move into the future.

Some of the songs featured, such as *The Rink*, *Marry Me*, *We Can Make It* and *Coloured Lights*, later featured in the Kander and Ebb musical revue *And The World Goes Round*.

Chaney says she has wanted to direct *The Rink* ever since she heard the song *The Apple Doesn't Fall Very Far From The Tree* featured in the show. "The show came to a local fringe theatre near my home town in England in 1998 and happened to star Perth's Martin Crewes," she said. "All my friends in the UK loved *The Rink* and I vowed to direct the show – it was the first time I had shown interest in directing rather than performing."

First stepping on the stage in the UK as an 11-year-old in *Oliver*, Chaney has a wealth of stage credits to her name and has performed with a variety of theatres including Limelight, Playlovers, Garrick and Stirling Theatres since arriving in Perth 14 years ago. She also has also appeared at the Regal Theatre with Glen Shorrock in *Cruisin'* and in *Annie* and *Les Miserables* and at Burswood Theatre with the Harmony Singers. Most recently, Chaney appeared in *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, *Lucky Sods* and *When We Are Married* at Limelight Theatre and directed the musical *Blood Brothers* at the end of 2011 and is currently working as a drama/musical theatre teacher at the Step Up Dance Academy in Ellenbrook and WA Stage School in Malaga.

"*The Rink* is a musical with many highs and lows," she said. "It's a tricky show because the men all play several roles and the two women have to be brilliant all-rounders. My youngest daughter Amy is the choreographer and not all the men are natural dancers but her patience and determination is now paying dividends. The roller skating is also not as easy as it looks but Ian Cross, who was in the English and German productions of *Starlight Express*, is mentoring the cast with his vast skating and theatrical knowledge.

"I am excited by this show because it has no benchmarks to live up to here in Australia – our show will be setting the standard and I feel it will be a hard one to follow."

Performance details are opposite (page 3)



Alex Tibbitt, Ian Griffin, Susan Flood, Mirella Renel, Brad Beckett and Alan Shaw star in the Australian premiere of the musical *The Rink*.



Susan Flood and Mirella Renel play mother and daughter in the Australian premiere of *The Rink* with Kate Sisley and McKinley Seversen alternating as the young girl.

EVACUEES

One-Act Season and YouthFest

Beth Shaw won **Best Production** at YouthFest held at Stirling Theatre on Saturday 22 September 2012 at 9:00 am. The first play off the rank, it had one new cast member, Welland Joyce, who had only one week rehearsal. He did very well, as he was picked out by the adjudicator for giving a very intelligent and considered performance.

What does Best Production mean? Well, to me it means excellence in set, props, ensemble playing, costume and direction. I would like to mention the set. The action takes on a railway station during World War II. The signage at stations was removed during this period and the set showed this with an area depicting where the sign had hung. The milk churns: one member at the Playlovers performance who was an evacuee said milk churns were always on the railway stations. Attention to detail!

What else did we win?

Best Actor - to Jolyon Joyce, as George, the young lad who was always playing up, but who had an emotional story to tell about his father, which was very sad. Well done, Jolyon.

It doesn't stop there. Leah Addison won a certificate for cohesiveness in performance. She was the older child who kept the group focused.

I make a special mention of Stephanie Shaw, the youngest child, who never lost a beat in her characterisation and to Kristen Twynham-Perkins, the only adult in the production, who was matter-of-fact, kindness tempered with what needed to be done. Perfect.

Beth was thirteen at the time of the performance, and turned fourteen at the award ceremony. The audience sang *Happy Birthday*. Perhaps we will have a full length play directed by Beth in the future. Nick Christo was only eighteen when he directed *Oedipus* for Playlovers. How about *Lord of the Flies*? Well done, Beth. You're a winner!

The Rink

By Kander & Ebb

Directed by Alida Chaney

Performance dates:

November 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 18, 22, 23, 24, 25, 29, 30,
& December 1

All performances at **8pm** except **Sunday 18th at 2pm**
followed by a high tea, and **Sunday 25th at 7pm**

Performance Venue:

Hackett Hall, Draper St, Floreat, WA
Doors open half an hour prior to curtain.

Ticket Prices:

\$25 Adult; \$20 Concession
\$20 group bookings (group =10 or more).
Matinee performance on Sunday 18th at 2pm
(**includes post-show high tea**):
\$30 Adult; \$25 Concession and group booking

Bookings:

Book online at www.playlovers.org.au (NO FEES!)
OR
Phone: 0415 777 173
Email: bookings@playlovers.org.au

Cast

Anna	<i>Lyn Atterton</i>
Angel	<i>Mirella Renel</i>
Guy, Dino, Father Rocco & Debbie Duberman	<i>Alan Shaw</i>
Lino, Lenny, Uncle Fausto & Mrs Jackson	<i>David Nelson</i>
Tony, Tom, Peter Reilly & Suitor	<i>Michael Ferrari</i>
Buddy, Hiram, Junior Miller, Punk & Suitor	<i>Ian Griffin</i>
Lucky, Sugar, Bobby Perillo, Danny, Suitor & Punk	<i>Alex Tibbit</i>
Dino's Father, Mrs Silverman	<i>David Young</i>
Ben, Sister Philomena	<i>Brad Beckett</i>
Little Girl (shared role)	<i>Kate Sisley or Mckinley Severson</i>

Falling to the Top

Tyler Jones offered to Playlovers for our One-Act Season, a new musical called *Falling to the Top* - music by Robert Woods, book and lyrics by Tyler Jones, directed by Tyler. Of course we accepted this submission.

However, Playlovers were in trouble. Our planned opera could not be cast, so we tried to put on a play, which also could not be cast. We had this big space to fill; three months without a production!. The committee, in its infinite wisdom, asked Tyler if his musical could be full length, if it could be ready in time, and was there enough content? "Yes, yes, and yes", said Tyler. He is so accommodating. From the time it was decided to do the show, Tyler and Robert had only six weeks to put it together - set, lighting, stage props, costumes, casting and directing. "We can do this," they said. And they did.

Noel Herbert and David Hardie built the set from Tyler's design. This was Noel's first set and he was thrilled with Tyler's comment, "If I get 85% of what I want, then I'm happy". Noel made Tyler happy. The painting of the set was completed by Tyler and Robert, generally after rehearsal, and they would often go until 3am. It had to get done.

John Woolrych's lighting was effective and unobtrusive, one of the best lighting arrangements I have seen. Robert and John put the lighting on the computer, linked to the music, so the lights came on and off with the sound. Well, that's my understanding.

Terry McAuley - costumes. What was said? "Unashamedly flamboyant, fantastic and amazing!" Terry purchased some of the costumes in China. When he asked for bigger sizes, the reply in broken English was "one size fit all"!

Graeme Johnson - sound. Efficient and successful. And with so many beautiful women in the show, I'm sure Graeme had the best time.

Tammie Rafferty - choreography. The song *Look at my Lips* took on a new aspect under Tammie's direction. From then on each time was a surprise and a shock. What was said? "Amazing." "Shockingly clever." "You cringed and laughed." "Disgusting." "Inspirational" (I think that was said tongue-in-cheek).

The cast; 'One Note' singer Salli-Ann (Maria Velletri), the mother of septuplets, Tonya (Claire Taylor), the fame obsessed FonDue (Breehan Jones) and the pleasantly plump Feliciabel (Kimberley Harris) were all outstanding, both vocally and dramatically. Tight tuning, harmonies, articulation and diction were all on display. Well done! They were a cohesive ensemble as the trashy Divalettes, yet each was able to demonstrate her individual character's personality.

The supporting cast were really strong and Jess Dowson's facial expressions (as Angela Slagmeyer) were delightful, as was her singing. Chris Bedding showed his great comedic ability as the sweet and soft Brian. (The audience loved him.) Manuao TeAotonga as Spicy Lamangino showed his triple talent; singing, dancing and acting. Their contrast of characters was well demonstrated by this talented pair. Joanne Tyler and David Gray were another talented duo, who gave great support in many different roles.

What was it about? A send-up of talent shows, MTV, reality TV, made up girl groups, sexing up songs for shock value. What I liked best were the differences in the songs. The pop music was just that - pop music. But when required, the musical theatre songs such as *Mama Can't You Hear Me*, Chris Bedding's song, Kimberley Harris's song with a mouth full of cake, Tonya's song, all brilliant and tuneful, carried the story along.

A new theatre work at Playlovers, it was unique, funny and very engaging. Loved it. The committee thanks Tyler and Robert for their tireless effort and for their sense of theatre.



THE PLOVERS

Every December, 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, 5 or 6 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 Cameo Performance
- ◆ 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!

There is one other award that is not associated with a particular production – the “Playlover of the Year”. This is determined by the club committee and is awarded to any member of the club who has made a significant contribution to the club during the year, or even over the past few years. This is *one* award which is not necessarily given every year.

This year the Plover Awards Night is **Saturday, 15th December**, so mark that date in your diary. On the Plover Awards night, instead of the usual tiered seating, the hall will be set up for table-seating. So everyone is encouraged to bring a plate, get some drinks at the bar and enjoy the party! More detail in the next newsletter.

Save the Children Wanneroo Branch

Quiz Night

Saturday 10 November

Time 7pm onwards, BYO

Venue Wanneroo Community Centre
23 Civic Drive, Wanneroo

Tickets \$20 or \$150 for a table of 8
(include a share plate for the table,
a goodie bag & lots of great prizes)

Bookings savethechildren.org.au/wa-events
or contact us on 9267 3900 or email
ceandra.faria@savethechildren.org.au



Save the Children
Australia
savethechildren.org.au

Follow us on



Quiz Night
10 Nov 2012

COMMITTEE NOTES

Your committee submitted an application for funding a major refurbishment of Playlovers auditorium and facilities. If funding is granted, and there is still a long way to go before the refurbishment can commence, then prior to commencement we may be required to appoint a project manager.

Your committee will keep you posted on our progress with this project from here on.

The high tea after *Falling To the Top* was well-received. However, it was suggested it would work better if the cost was included in the ticket price. The committee has adopted this suggestion and this is reflected in the prices for the matinee for *The Rink*. (see page 3).

The playbill for 2013 is still being negotiated. The committee expects to provide details in the next issue of *Stages*.

Playlovers' Playbill 2012

MINDGAME	HOBSON'S CHOICE	FALLING TO THE TOP	One Act Season EVACUEES	THE RINK	PLOVERS
Directed by Jenny Ferguson 2-17 March	Directed by James Hough- Neilson 27 April - 12 May	Directed by Tyler Jones 24 Aug -8 Sept	Directed by Elisabeth Shaw 15 September	Directed by Alida Chaney 9 November - 1 December	15 December
Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Bookings open	

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 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.



What's on Where

What's on	Where	When	Bookings
Sunset Boulevard	Limelight Theatre Civic Drive, Wanneroo	22 Nov-8 Dec	9571 8591
A Wet and Windy Night	Marloo Theatre Marloo Rd, Darlington	23 Nov-8 Dec	9255 1783
Calendar Girls	Garrick Theatre 16 Meadow St, Guildford	23 Nov-9 Dec	9378 1990
Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf	Old Mill Theatre Cnr Mill Point Rd & Mends St, South Perth	5-20 Oct	9367 8719
Murder in Company	Rockingham Theatre 8 Attwood Way, Rockingham	15 Nov-1 Dec	rockinghamtheatre.com
Go Back For Murder	Stirling Theatre Morris Place, Innaloo	16 Nov-1 Dec	9440 1040
Avenue Q	Roleystone Theatre	16-24 Nov	9397 5730
Scrooge	Melville Theatre Cnr Canning Hwy & Stock Rd Palmyra	16 Nov-1 Dec	9330 4565
The Ash Girl	Harbour Theatre 70 Adelaide St Fremantle	30 Nov-15 Dec	9484 1133

If undelivered, please return to -
PLAYLOVERS INC
PO BOX 164
WEMBLEY 6913

SURFACE
MAIL

POSTAGE
PAID

PP602669-00364



COMING SOON **The Rink**

By Kander & Ebb
Directed by Alida Chaney
9 November to 1 December

Bookings:
www.playlovers.org.au or
bookings@playlovers.org.au



PLAYLOVERS WEBSITE: www.playlovers.org.au

PLAYLOVERS INFORMATION EMAIL: info@playlovers.org.au

COMMITTEE 2012

President

David Young 9444 2395

Vice President

Ewen Malcolm 9284 9785

Secretary

Barbara Zahari 9379 3531

Treasurer

Marie Corrigan 9445 8626

Committee Members:

Kerry Goode 9328 7369
Bronwyn Hammond 9447 0945
Janelle Hammond 9447 0945
Derrie Harwood 0407 383 776
Jenny Ferguson 6460 2467
Gaye Harvey 9446 9834

Ex-Officio Members:

Theatre manager
Sound/Lighting
Nedlands Council
Archivist
Publicity

Noel Herbert
John Woolrych
Terry Tinsley
Terry McAuley 9444 2395
Chris Thomas