

# STAGES

**NEWSLETTER ISSUE #1—January 2013**

Our opening season for 2013:

## AMERICAN BUFFALO

By David Mamet

Directed by John Milson

15-23 March



Bookings open later in January

[www.playlovers.org.au/american-buffalo](http://www.playlovers.org.au/american-buffalo)

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# AMERICAN BUFFALO

By David Mamet

Directed by John Milson

**A dark parody on the American dream..**

A Chicago junk shop owner and two of his low-life friends plot to steal back a valuable buffalo nickel that they sold to a coin collector. The original Broadway production was nominated for two Tony Awards and Four Drama Desk Awards.

"David Mamet brings you to the edge of your seat with language. Not just the force of it, but the cunning deployment of everyday American speech patterns that cut corners and pure grammar to distill hard meaning and veiled threats from the frenzied banter of a trio of articulate burglars in a downtown junk shop. Hearing Pinter for the first time must have been something like this." Michael Coveney, *Financial Times*, Jun. 29, 1978

**Performance Dates:**

March 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 23  
All performances at **8pm** except  
Sunday March 17th - at **7pm**  
Doors open half an hour prior to curtain.

**Performance Venue:**

Hackett Hall, Draper St, Floreat, WA

**Ticket Prices:**

\$20 Adult; \$15 Concession  
\$15 group bookings (group =10 or more)

**Bookings:**

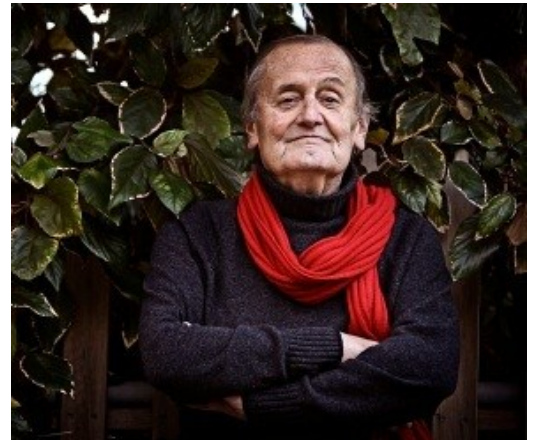
Bookings will open in January  
See [www.playlovers.org.au/american-buffalo](http://www.playlovers.org.au/american-buffalo)

## John Milson with Playlovers again!

WA theatre stalwart, John Milson will direct David Mamet's *American Buffalo*, in Playlovers' first season of 2013. This is the first David Mamet play that Playlovers has ever tackled but certainly not the first time that John has brought a challenging work to Playlovers audiences. He has, on and off over the last 30 years, directed both musicals and plays for Playlovers as well as running workshops for our members. His last Playlovers production was the musical, *Jonah*, in 2010.

In a *professional* career spanning 40 years, Milson has directed shows for Opera Australia, the Australian Opera Studio and Effie Crump Theatre amongst others. He also instigated WAAPA's world-renowned Musical Theatre course, which he ran for 12 years before his retirement. Because of his extensive teaching and professional background, John is able to impart so much about acting, script interpretation and directing that actors who have worked with him always come back for more.

*American Buffalo* will play for 2 weeks in March. See the website for more information, <http://www.playlovers.org.au/american-buffalo>.



John Milson  
(photo courtesy of The West Australian)

## Obituary - Ron Martin

Ron Martin died a few days before Christmas. His wife, Rose Martin,, was a director and actor at Playlovers from 1958 to the late 1990s. Ron brought Rose to the theatre for every rehearsal and every performance. He was a staunch supporter as a spectator at every show that we produced. Ron always made a point of going to each and every actor saying how much he enjoyed their performance.

Ron was born in 1921. He worked at the WAGR (later called Westrail) in Accounts until retirement and was an avid West Perth supporter in the WAFL.

David Young, President

## 2012 Christmas Show

Alida Chaney and David Nelson put together, directed and hosted the Christmas Show and it was grand. Christmas songs known and unknown, funny bits and choreography that could be done by non-dancers and still look good.

The cast had a good time and that reflected on the audience. It was all over by 9:20pm, but as was pointed out, it was enough, especially at Christmas time, when we are all so busy

Alida and David must be congratulated on putting it all together with just four rehearsals.



## 2012 Plover Awards

Our in-house adjudicators for 2012 were Kimberley Shaw, Shirley Toohey, Sandra Martin and Leigh Wright. They all came to the shows, adjudicated the shows and Kimberley Shaw used their scores to pick the winners.

Kimberley Shaw, with the other adjudicators, short-listed the nominations in each category and selected the winners. She then went on to make the certificates and place them in envelopes. What a wonderful, fabulous person.

### Plover Winners

Best Production	Falling to the Top
Best Director	Tyler Jones, Falling to the Top
Best Actor - Male	Marcus Plato, Mindgames
Best Actor - Female	Mirella Renel, The Rink
Best Supporting Actor - Male	David Nelson, The Rink
Best Supporting Actor - Female	Susan Flood, Mindgames
Best Newcomer - Male	Alex Tibbit, The Rink
Best Newcomer - Female	Kate Sisley, The Rink
	Mckinley Severson, The Rink
Best Cameo	David Gray, Falling to the Top
Adjudicator Certificate - New Musical	Tyler Jones and Robert Wood, Falling to the Top
Adjudicator Certificate - Magic Moment	Skating Dance, The Rink
Best Set	Wayne Herring, The Rink
Best Costumes	Terrence McAuley, Falling to the Top
Best Lighting	John Woolrych, The Rink
Best Stage Management	Bronwyn Hammond, The Rink
Best Sound	Jane Anderson, The Rink

## Playlover of the year    Noel Herbert

Noel came into our lives because he attended by chance "Candide" which he loved. He wanted to help in some way. "What can you do?" I asked.

"I'm a truck driver, metal worker, jack of all trades - and master of them all."

"How about helping out on Monday mornings at the Men's Club?"

"Okay."

So he helped build the set of 'Mindgames' and 'Falling to the Top'. He built those wonderful "Rolled Steel Joists" for 'The Rink'. He has tidied up the storeroom. After the front stage extension was removed for The Rink, he re-instated it for future productions. Things run more smoothly with Noel.

Somewhere along the line he became Theatre Manager and obtained a set of keys.

Well done, Noel. A most deserved award.

David Young, President



# Audition - Nevermore

Music by Matt Conner  
Lyrics adapted from the writing of Edgar Allan Poe  
Book by Grace Barnes

Directed by Jenny M Ferguson  
Musical Director: Joshua Webb

Auditions will take place on **SUNDAY 20<sup>th</sup> JANUARY** (preferably by appointment) commencing at **10am**.  
Rehearsals will start at the end of January.  
The season will run from **May 3-18, 2013**.  
Auditions and performance at **HACKETT HALL, DRAPER ST., FLOREAT [not UWA]**

## For the Audition:

**Sing:** Prepare 1 minute of any song that shows your talent. Please bring your sheet music (preferred). If you don't have sheet music you can use backing CD. You will also run scales for range.

**Act:** Recite/ Act the below from The Raven. The Raven is easily found on YouTube if you want to see and have a listen. Even Homer Simpsons has a rendition. Looking for expression.

If you are interested in Chorus only, there is no need to learn the below.

'Be that word our sign of parting, bird or fiend!' I shrieked upstarting -  
'Get thee back into the tempest and the Night's Plutonian shore!  
Leave no black plume as a token of that lie thy soul hath spoken!  
Leave my loneliness unbroken! – quit the bust above my door!  
Take thy beak from out my heart, and take thy form from off my door!  
Quoth the raven, 'Nevermore.'

**Dance/Movement:** Some roles may require Dance/Movement. (Not dance as in dancing. I prefer to call it contemporized body movement)

## Characters:

<b>Edgar Allan Poe</b>	Baritone/Tenor	A challenging role spanning Edgar's life from age 13 until his death at 40.
<b>Virginia</b>	Mezzo/Soprano	Edgar's first cousin and child bride. She is youthful in appearance and vocal sound.
<b>Elmira</b>	Mezzo/Soprano	Edgar's first love and the very first patron of his work.
<b>Muddy</b>	Alto/Mezzo	Virginia's mother and Edgar's surrogate mother, also his aunt.
<b>The Whore</b>	Alto	This character is a composite of all the ways that Edgar used his demons to escape reality and find an excuse for his life situations.
<b>Mother</b>	Mezzo	Edgar's mother. She died when Edgar was still a child. She is a haunting presence in Edgar's life. She can be aged to look somewhere in 30s, 40s

## And Chorus

I prefer that you email me to book a time slot for the 20<sup>th</sup>. This will minimise any waiting:

If needed, there will be call-backs on Tuesday night.

I am also looking for backstage people, props coordinator, and a rehearsal prompt.

For further details go to [www.playlovers.org.au/audition-nevermore](http://www.playlovers.org.au/audition-nevermore) or email [jenmarree@hotmail.com](mailto:jenmarree@hotmail.com)

## Playlovers' Playbill 2013

AMERICAN BUFFALO	NEVERMORE	THE PRODUCERS	CURTAINS	TBA	PLOVERS
Directed by John Milson 15-23 March	Directed by Jenny M Ferguson 3-18 May	Directed by Peter Clark 28 June-20 July	Directed by Kristen Twynham-Perkins 13-28 September	Directed by David Nelson 15-30 November	tba
	AUDITIONING	AUDITIONING			





# Audition – The Producers

Book by MEL BROOKS and THOMAS MEEHAN

Music and Lyrics by MEL BROOKS

Directed by Peter Clark

Musical Direction by David Hardie

Auditions will take place on **SATURDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> and SUNDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> FEBRUARY**  
(by appointment). Rehearsals will start mid-March

The season will run from **June 28 – July 20, 2013.**

Auditions and performance at **HACKETT HALL, DRAPER ST., FLOREAT [not UWA]**

## For the Audition:

**Voice:** All singers will be required to sing one of the following songs unaccompanied (1 min):

- Female: "When You Got It, Flaunt It"

- Male: "Springtime for Hitler"

Please also have a back up song of your choice (may not be required)

**Dance:** All auditions will have a dance component, so participants should wear appropriate clothing in order to perform some choreographed dance moves.

## Characters:

### MAX BIALYSTOCK

Baritone

(mid 30's to mid 50's)

A lead character and one of the producers in the title. Max is crass, aggressive, belligerent, amoral, and yet charming in an obnoxious way. This role requires an actor of power, comedy and presence – theatrical thunderstorm who is a baritone with a vocal range of c to f1. Good movement skills.

### LEOPOLD BLOOM

Tenor

(20's to 30's)

A lead character and one of the producers in the title. He is a meek, nerdy, and anxious accountant. This role needs a strong actor who must be comedic, passive yet passionate. Vocal range is tenor, c to f1, with good dance/movement skills. Tap an asset.

### FRANZ LIEBKIND

Baritone

(mid 30's to early 50's)

A lead character. He is a Nazi living in Greenwich Village who has written a play about his hero, Adolf Hitler. This role requires a strong comedic actor who can do a German accent. He is a baritone with a vocal range of c to g1. Good movement skills.

### ROGER DE BRIS

Tenor

(mid 30's to early 50's)

A lead character. He is a pretentious, flamboyantly gay director. The actor must be an over-the-top comedian, capable of an unidentifiable European accent (comic British). This character also plays Hitler in the 'Springtime for Hitler' sequence. Vocal range is c to g1. Dance ability an asset.

### CARMEN GHIA

Tenor

(20's to early 30's)

A supporting lead character. He is Roger De Bris' "common-law assistant" and is openly gay as De Bris. This role requires a strong comedic who can play a feminine gay stereotype. This part requires a high tenor range of e to a1 with a falsetto to g2. Dance ability an asset.

### ULLA INGA HANSEN BENSEN

YONSEN TALLER HALLEN

SVADEN SVANSON

Mezzo/Soprano

(20-35)

A lead character. She is voluptuous, leggy blonde. Ulla must have a comic Swedish accent and be a mezzo-soprano range g to e2 with a belt. The role requires a strong comedic actress with excellent dance skills.

### ENSEMBLE

(late teens – 80),

All other parts are played by the ensemble of 8-12 women and 8-12 men who must be classic musical comedy performers who can sing, dance and act with comic timing. The work rate of the ensemble is high with most members being required for several large production numbers and several minor or cameo roles.

Rehearsals start March 2013 with a read-through on 23rd Feb 2013.

Please email the director to request an audition time: [peterclarky33@yahoo.com.au](mailto:peterclarky33@yahoo.com.au)

We will also be looking for backstage and technical people.

For further details go to [www.playlovers.org.au/audition-the-producers](http://www.playlovers.org.au/audition-the-producers)



## Save the Children Australia

### New Year, New Look, New Team for South Fremantle's Save the Children Op shop

Save the Children's Op Shop in South Street Fremantle is undergoing a revamp. We have some great new ideas going into the shop, Designer and Retro ranges, plus an improved book area with space to sit whilst you browse and make your choices.

Along with changes to the fabric and design of the shop we are looking to introduce a brand new retail team. We need a Shop Supervisor and Team members.

We want our shop to be friendly, welcoming and community based. This is a wonderful opportunity to be part of something new, to build on the identity and culture of the store and to make new friends whilst doing something great for children in need in Western Australia. We welcome new ideas and love it when our volunteers bring fresh insight, experience and enthusiasm to our shops. Retail experience is very welcome, but not necessary as training will be given and as part of a team there is a spot for everyone to bring their own particular skills, experience and personality.

Our shop is situated on the cafe strip at 272 South Terrace so why not grab a coffee and pop in to see the changes and find out about joining our new retail team today.

**We are also looking for a new Supervisor at our Mount Hawthorn Store** 19-21 Green Street. We have a great team in place at Mount Hawthorn who need the leadership of someone equally as great. This is a shared role with our existing long time supervisor who would like to cut down her hours.

For more information on both these positions please contact Elizabeth on 9267 3900 or email [elizabeth.acason@savethechildren.org.au](mailto:elizabeth.acason@savethechildren.org.au)

### Pop-up book shop in the city

From January 14, Save the Children will have a pop-up book shop in Brookfield Place on St Georges Terrace. The shop will be selling a huge selection of pre-loved books weekdays from 11am to 3pm, with all proceeds going to Save the Children. Pop in and have a browse for a paperback treasure. We are also looking for volunteers to help at the shop, if you are interested please call Ceandra on 9267 3915 or email [ceandra.faria@savethechildren.org.au](mailto:ceandra.faria@savethechildren.org.au)

## What's on Where

What's on	Where	When	Bookings
Secret Bridesmaids' Business	Old Mill Theatre Cnr Mill Point Rd & Mends St, South Perth	1-16 Feb	9367 8719
Key for Two	Marloo Theatre Marloo Rd, Darlington	1-23 Feb	9255 1783
Double Bill ( <i>Hands Across The Sea</i> , <i>Someone Called Rob</i> )	Melville Theatre Cnr Canning Hwy & Stock Rd Palmyra	8-16 Feb	9330 4565
A Lady Mislaid	Garrick Theatre 16 Meadow St, Guildford	8 Feb-2 Mar	9378 1990
The Secret Garden	Stirling Theatre Morris Place, Innaloo	22 Feb-9 Mar	9440 1040 (From 21 Jan)
The 39 Steps	KADS Theatre Central Kalamunda	22 Feb-16 Mar	9293 1412 (1-4pm, one month prior to opening)
A Night in Provence	Harbour Theatre 70 Adelaide St Fremantle	7-23 Mar	9433 6260

# Playlovers Annual General Meeting

Sunday 10th February 2013  
Time: 7pm  
Hackett Hall, Draper Street, Floreat

Election of Playlovers committee for 2013  
All members are invited to attend and have their say  
Only financial members may vote.

## Membership

Membership fees are due at the end of January. You can make payment via direct deposit:

Account Name: Playlovers Inc.

Account BSB: 036-078

Account Number - 475844

Reference Number - Your name & payment date (e.g. JSmith31JAN)

Alternatively send a cheque made payable to "Playlovers" to the address on the form below.

If your details have changed, you can fill in the application form online - click on the Membership link on our website: <http://playlovers.org.au>. Or fill in the form below.



### APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

**Return to:**  
Playlovers Inc.  
PO Box 164  
WEMBLEY WA 6913

I/We would like to become a member/renew my membership of Playlovers Inc. for 2013

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms (given name): \_\_\_\_\_ (surname): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ P/C: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (Home): \_\_\_\_\_ (Work): \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please circle)

#### Membership Fees:

Single	\$25.00 pa
Double/Family	\$40.00 pa
Unwaged	\$15.00 pa
Newsletter Only/Junior	\$10.00 pa

#### Particular Interests:

Singing	Set designing
Dancing	Set building / painting
Acting	Sound / Lighting
Directing	Wardrobe
Musical directing	Front of house
Backstage	Administration
Publicity	Other .....
	.....

I enclose a cheque OR I have paid online Reference \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Playlovers use only: database ☐ card ☐ sent ☐ mail-list ☐

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

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**Coming soon**

**AMERICAN BUFFALO**



By DAVID MAMET  
Directed by John Milson  
15-23 March 2013  
Bookings: [www.playlovers.org.au/online-bookings](http://www.playlovers.org.au/online-bookings)  
[bookings@playlovers.org.au](mailto:bookings@playlovers.org.au) or  
0415 777 173



**PLAYLOVERS WEBSITE:** [www.playlovers.org.au](http://www.playlovers.org.au)

**PLAYLOVERS INFORMATION EMAIL:** [info@playlovers.org.au](mailto: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	