

≡ *Burning News* from the Incinerator Theatre

May 2022

Ipswich Little Theatre Society Inc Newsletter



Ipswich Little Theatre
— SOCIETY ESTABLISHED 1946 —

Editor:

Ian Pullar

07 3281 4437 or e-mail:
info@ilt.org.au

**NEXT ILT
COMMITTEE
MEETING
7pm
Tuesday
14 June 2022**

From the President	2
Directors Masterclass	2
Juniors & Little Players	2
Shirts	2
Daytime Theatre Troupe	2
Auditions <i>Deliver Us From Mama</i>	3
It Never Rains ...	3
YTs 50 Years On	3
Festival 2022	4
Diary Dates	5
A Little Help	5
Contacts	5

**Many thanks to all
the volunteers who
are manning Front
of House**



The Show Must Go On!

Never has there been a better example of the lengths to which Directors and casts have to go to make this true.

It has not been the easiest rehearsal period at all. Tony and Dave have had over the twelve weeks of rehearsal (and

all in different weeks): one cast member who caught COVID and never came back; one cast member who left to take up a film deal; two weeks lost to the floods with cast not being able to get in; one concussion; one sprained ankle; two car accidents; countless cases of colds and flu; three Close Contacts before the rules changed; one lighting and sound operator with COVID; one lighting and sound operator's daughter with concussion and to finish off the twelve weeks, one cast member with COVID which makes all the cast Close Contacts. And it's not even "The Scottish Play".

Nevertheless *Once in a Blue Moon* is going on. And there are a very few seats still available.

STOP PRESS: And now more floods!



Photos by Amanda

Bookings at
www.ilt.org.au or VIC 3281 0555



We are extremely grateful to Amanda Waschevski of Ipswich Photography Studio for her continued support and her wonderful photography.

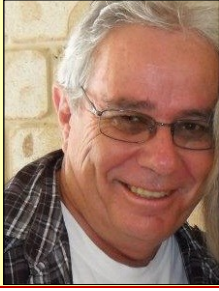
Appointments: ipswichphotographystudio.com.au. Phone: 0466 992 134

A call for scripts for 2023.

Selection Committee is calling for prospective directors to submit their proposed plays for 2023. We need to stay on our game at ILT and also ensure that we have a suitably varied and appealing season for our loyal patrons.

Submissions can be made to Shane Mallory, Convener of Selection Committee, 0403 175 702 or mail@shanemallory.com

Selection Committee members are very happy to assist budding directors with advice on possible scripts for their consideration.



From the President

The Gift that keeps on giving – COVID – has struck hard with several members being infected. I hope all recover quickly. I know Shane has been particularly ill and hope his symptoms ease soon. It has also caused issues with the current play and they are working to ensure that all cast members are safe and that the production can proceed. I wish them success.

Jim

Directors Masterclass

June 11 and 12 (next month!) is the weekend of ILT's Directors' Masterclass: two days packed full of information and hours of opportunity, but above all, fun. Participants will have the chance to learn from some of ILT's directors, actors, producers, technical maestros, publicity wizards and many others that make the magic of ILT come alive for all of our wonderfully loyal patrons. The sessions and workshops to be delivered are packed to the flies (see what we did there) with information, plenty of time for skill development in the directorial craft, and many chances to swap ideas, thoughts and concepts with other like-minded people eager to create amazing theatrical experiences here at ILT. Some of the sessions to be covered include:

- Planning a Production
- Auditions & Budgeting
- Blocking & Movement
- Characterisation/Script Interpretation
- Set Design & Costuming
- Sound & Lighting
- People Management
- Publicity

If you are interested in directing or even becoming an ILT director, you can take part in the Masterclass by registering online now at ilt.org.au/masterclass. Entry is free for current ILT members and \$40 for non members. Morning and afternoon tea will be supplied along with lunch for both days. There is also a Workshop Dinner being considered for Saturday evening. When completing your online registration be sure to let us know of any dietary requirements you may have. Take the time over this weekend to soak up the atmosphere of the ILT Complex, learn and lean into the process of directing.

Shirts

We always encourage those hardy souls who volunteer as workers at the theatre to wear blacks. We now have so many new volunteers and so many longer term members who have worn their shirts so often they are worn out, that we are contemplating obtaining a bulk order of the printed garments like the one shown. Anyone who is interested in being part of the purchase is asked to contact Sandie Henwood stipulating the number and size required.

sandie_henwood@iinet.com.au or 0439 4499



Juniors & Little Players

Junior Theatre will be reprising *Big Louis* and *the Cantouchems* which was first presented in 2016. It will be presented in the Jean Pratt Building on 17 & 18 June.

Little Players will be presenting *A Game of Numbers* on 9 June.

Daytime Theatre Troupe

The play, *Henrietta's Not So Helpful Day*, directed by Jane Sheppard assisted by Margaret Martin, has been successfully cast and rehearsals have commenced on Wednesday mornings.

Over the years, this vibrant group has boasted a large number of members who have delivered memorable performances. Inevitably some members move on. A farewell lunch was held for member, Jenny Pearce, who has moved to live in Warwick. Who could forget her performances in roles such as that of Captain Hook?

Auditions Auditions Auditions

Mama's back – so chaos can't be far behind! This rip roaring, hilarious, high-energy, high-octane race to beat the stork begins when Walker Sprunt's wife, Hayley, goes into labour with their first child. The problem? She's in Alabama and he's in LA trying to get through a surprise visit from his meddling mother and bossy big sister Savannah when he gets the call!



Best way to get there is by plane – except when an air controller strike means a cross country dash where high speed police chases, UFO encounters, a last-minute wedding and a daiquiri party barge all seem to conspire against them. The big question is whether they get to the hospital in time to witness the birth of the newest Sprunt!

Director Chris Austin-Greenhill and assistants Robyn Flashman, Martie Blanchett and Tracey Spence look forward to auditions to be held on 20 June in the Jean Pratt Building.

We are doubling roles to 'mix things up' and are looking for 5 women and 4 men to play multiple roles of various ages.

Women:

Noreen Sprunt – Mama to Savannah and Walker. Age late 50-60+

Savannah Honeycutt – Noreen's long-suffering daughter and Walker Sprunt's bossy sister. Age mid 30's to mid/late 40's

Tamarind, Ardale, Fleeta, Winkie, Birdwell – Flexible age

Ariana, Suebrenda Lutz, Judge Hubbard – Flexible age

Rema Jean, Marique Tatum, Nurse Kelly – Flexible age

Men:

Walker Sprunt – Late 20's- early 30's

Rudy Earl, Cousin Chicken, John Curtis Buntner, Mr Toliver – Flexible age

Andre, Leon, Uncle Ferd, Reece, Leonard – Flexible age

Denton Crocker, Orlan Hinkle, Duval – Age late 50-60+

With the play set in various locations in the US from Birmingham, Alabama to Santa Monica, California, and many points in between, this will be an actor's dream to transform between characters and take on a few different roles. The time is the present and the rehearsal period is 12 weeks with an initial commitment of three nights a week. For a copy of the script, feel free to contact Chris at treasurer@ilt.org.au or on mobile 0427977007.

It Never Rains ...

We have had a few problems with the courtyard roof of late and the repairs have been delayed. Opening night for *Once in a Blue Moon* was very wet. Deirdre Lowe reported:

A gentleman leaned over the bar and almost whispered "Do you know you have a leak in your roof?"

Standing ankle deep in water, I replied, "Oh yes, I know."

Everyone was great that night. Not one complaint. Good job we only had 47 in the audience so there was plenty room to shelter.

Young Theatricals and 50 Years

Next year, 2023, Young Theatricals will turn 50 and celebrations are planned. ILT is keen to have the involvement of as many former YTs as possible and are hoping previous players will participate. Contact Tony Erhardt

0408 058 706 or tony.erhardt@gmail.com

if you would like more information or to become involved.

When directing *Macbeth* in Ipswich
he fancied a pretty young witch
but when he had seen
them dressed up for their scene
he couldn't tell which witch was which.



Festival 2022

After a two year COVID-enforced hiatus, the Festival is back on again (hopefully) bigger and brighter than ever. Once again the Incinerator will host its wonderful smorgasbord of plays and conviviality during the second weekend in August

12, 13 14 August

There will be six sessions:

- 12 August evening session – ten minute plays
- 13 August morning session – youth plays
- 13 August afternoon and evening sessions – open section
- 14 August morning session – open section followed by traditional barbecue
- 14 August afternoon session – open section & adjudication

The adjudicator for Festival 2022, **Elodie Boal**, was first contacted to adjudicate Festival 2020 and then Festival 2021. Well, I guess this makes it third time lucky.

Elodie is an award-winning actor, director, producer, and playwright and is well-known on the festival circuit. Elodie is back home from studying her Masters of Theatre (Directing) at VCA in Melbourne. She has spent many years in the industry perfecting her craft, which ventures into many areas of the arts.

In 2022, Elodie joined SK Entertainment as a full-time Producer and Business Manager and is currently working on the national tours of **FRIENDS! THE MUSICAL PARODY**, **MENOPAUSE THE MUSICAL** and **THE TAP PACK**.



Independently, she produces theatre with her company, [Mira Ball Productions](#), and has also collaborated with THAT Production Company as an Actor and Producer on **COSI** and as Associate Producer on the 2021 Matilda-nominated production of **TICK, TICK... BOOM!**.

Elodie is a published playwright with Australian Plays, and has penned several scripts including **UPDATE**, **THE DESCENT** and **WONDERED**. In 2019, Elodie received five Del Arte recognitions, including Best Actress, Best Direction and Best Production, for her work as an actress, director, and producer of **X-STACY**. Elodie has also received Gold Coast Palm Awards for Best Supporting Actress (2017), Best Community Production (2019), and was nominated as Best Director (2019). In this same year, Elodie was also nominated for the Seven News Young Achievers Awards for her work in empowering emerging artists.

Outside of theatre, Elodie is the Creative Director and Founder of [Theatre Haus](#), a digital platform for arts and entertainment across Southeast Queensland. Through this digital site, Elodie has produced several digital works including **THE BRISBANE BUNCH** and **CAROLS IN THE HAUS**. Elodie has also worked as a freelance writer and journalist with The Courier Mail, Brisbane Times and Rave Magazine, and as a Reviewer and Freelance Writer with Scenestr Magazine, Absolute Theatre, The Creative Issue and Theatre Haus.

We at ILT are delighted to have Elodie as our Adjudicator, finally.



Festival Technical Director Tony Erhardt would very much appreciate assistance from volunteer lighting operators

tony.erhardt@gmail.com or 0408 058



2022 Season in Brief

Season 1: 3 March — 19 March

The Games People Play

Two short comedies:

"Golf, Marriage and Other Murderous Matters" by Debra Chalmers

Director: Aaron Evans, Assistant Director: David Austin

Rated: M Adult themes and some coarse language.

"Murder Play" by Brian J Burton

Director: Ann Collyer: Assistant Directors: Desley Cronon and Gillian Simpson

Rated: PG Some adult themes.

Season 2: 12 May — 28 May

Once in a Blue Moon by John Dole

Directors: Tony Erhardt & Dave Dunkerley
Rated: PG Some adult themes

Annual Drama Festival

12, 13, 14 August

Season 3: 22 September — 8 October

Deliver us from Mama by Jesse Jones, Nicholas Hope and Jamie Wooten

Director: Chris Austin-Greenhill:
Assistant Directors: Robyn Flashman and Martie Blanchett

Rated PG: Mild Adult Themes.

Season 4: 17 November — 3 December

Breaker Morant by Kenneth G Ross

Director: David Austin: Assistant Director: Aaron Evans

Rated: PG Adult themes

DIARY DATES

9 June 7 pm	Little Players present <i>A Game of Numbers</i>
11 & 12 June	Directors Master Classes
Friday 17 June 7 pm Saturday 18 June 10 am & 12:30 pm	Junior Theatre presents <i>Big Louis and the Cantouchems</i>
20 June 7:30 pm	Auditions for <i>Deliver Us from Mama</i>
12, 13, 14 August	Festival 2022

A Little Help

As so often happens, we were asked recently if we would help a student from USQ with a University project. He wanted to make a video presentation of the Incinerator with shots of the buildings and interviews with a few members about the history, use and importance of the building. Publicity Officer Robyn Harm was unfortunately confined with COVID but she lined Jim, Di and Ian up to meet him.

A very personable young man Alex, and his camera operator Amanda, duly arrived, sussed out the grounds for good interview sites and then proceeded to the interviews.

Di went first with questions about how people could get involved and that included information about our myriad activities. Then Jim was asked about what sort of plays we present and what was on the program for this year.

Then it was Ian's turn on the history. Alex was a bit taken aback when Ian informed him that when we told the visiting groups our story it took around 40 minutes. Ian was given three.

After three hours Alex went on his way. The final video will last about ten minutes. There is some chance we will see it.

2022 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS

President	Jim Orr	0402 377 258
Vice President	Shane Mallory	0403 175 702
Past President	David Austin	3812 9431 / 0413 636 249
Secretary	Helen Pullar	3281 4437/0400 801 443
Treasurer	Chris Greenhill	0427 977 007

CONTACT DETAILS FOR OTHER IMPORTANT POSITIONS

Front of House Management Coordinator	Deirdre Lowe	0409 202 380
Subscription Secretary	Julie-Anne Wright	0419 758 724
Group Liaison	Robyn Flashman	0477 771 016/
Publicity	Robyn Harm	0413 742 116
Building Bookings	Desley Cronon	3288 8754 / 0435 309 352
Junior Theatre/Little Players	Deirdre Lowe	0409 202 380
Young Theatricals	Kate Hoepner Stephanie Groves Aaron Evans	0479 048 979 0439 202 955 0431 041 068
Daytime Theatre Troupe	Kay McAllan	5464 3965/0439 305 658
Tourific Troupers	Helen Pullar or Jane Sheppard	H 3281 4437 .J 5464 5363
Theatre number	NB: Only during rehearsals or meetings	3812 2389

For more details about Ipswich Little Theatre: www.ilt.org.au