

BALLARAT NATIONAL THEATRE

Presents

TWELVE ANGRY MEN



by

REGINALD ROSE

at

The Courthouse Theatre
Lydiard Street Sth. Ballarat

Saturday 28th September to
Saturday 5th October 2013

75th ANNIVERSARY SEASON

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Shared Mission

BALLARAT NATIONAL THEATRE Inc.

presents

TWELVE ANGRY MEN

Adapted by SHERMAN SERGEL from The Emmy award winning movie by

REGINALD ROSE

Judge Clerk Guard Jurors

Reg Mowat Andrew Fry **Brian McClelland** Michael Zala Kaine Hansen

Tim Gav **Matt Noble** Lee Taylor

Tony McGuiness Daniel West Andrew Seeary Fred Fargher Brendan Bawden John Daykin Sam O'Brien

Directed by Peter Tulloch

The continuous action of the play takes place in the jury room of a New York court in 1957

There will be a fifteen minute interval during which Refreshments will be served in the foyer, where membership forms are also available.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

There are several versions of Twelve Angry Men with a number of possible gender balances. But as the arguments offered in the piece are essentially male, I am thrilled that we were able to select an all male cast, involving many of Ballarat's finest.

Though the play is so clearly based around the central trial and we wait to see what will happen when the judge's gavel falls, it also brings us a range of male strengths and weaknesses, character traits, personal prejudice and foibles. We see men at their compassionate best, laughable worst and much behaviour in between!

The play observes the classical unities of action, place and time and is fundamentally naturalistic, but I have designed a table which was never in any jury room in order that you the audience may see the reactions and interplay of all the characters.

There is no attempt to reproduce the notable film of the same name, indeed I haven't seen it ...yet!, but rather we are interpreting the text, taking the story off the page and setting it on an empty stage!

Michael Zala has chosen music not so much to create a mood for the performance but rather to evoke the period of 1957 in which we have chosen to play the piece.

PETER TULLOCH – (Director) has been professionally involved in theatre productions as a director, designer, teacher, lecturer and actor in New Zealand and Australia since 1965. In 1970 he founded Gateway Players, mounting some 12 productions a year, in a small regional city in New Zealand. Following the success of this venture Peter was invited by the Victorian Ministry for the Arts & the Melbourne Theatre Company, to further his work in Melbourne in 1977. From 1989 to 2000 he was Courses Coordinator of Performing Arts at the University of Ballarat, developing the Ballarat Academy of the Performing Arts (BAPA).

CARLY MACDONALD – (Directror's Assistant) This is Carly's first experience with a National Theatre Play; having worked with BLOC for the past 6 years, and as a committee member since 2009. Carly began her theatre involvement as a dancer and choreographer. Her interest in directing began whilst working with Peter Tulloch on BLOC's *Singin' in the Rain*, as the Associate Choreographer. Carly has since assisted Peter with *Oklahoma* and *Anything Goes*. She took the directors reins solo when she directed BLOC's junior production of *Narnia* in 2012.

ABOUT THE CAST.

BRENDAN BAWDEN - Brendan has been busy in this theatre, with this production being his third in twelve months with National. He felt this play was a great opportunity to work with some familiar faces from the Ballarat Theatre scene plus meet some new younger talent. He has enjoyed the rehearsal process and as you could imagine, rehearsing *Twelve Angry Men* has been a lot of hard work but also a great deal of fun, with some good laughs thrown in, even though it is a serious subject. Watching each of his fellow actors develop their characters under the intelligent direction of Peter Tulloch has also enabled Brendan to continually challenge himself with his own character and be part of a great team on and off stage to produce a quality production.

JOHN DAYKIN - made his stage debut in Geelong in 1986 with Peninsula Players' Confusions. Since moving to Ballarat, he has performed many roles for BNT and other companies. Highlights include the lead role in BNT's One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, Theatre-Movement's Victims and Brilliant Lies and BLOC's Chicago. John also appeared in Noises Off, BNT's inaugural Courthouse Theatre production. More recent BNT appearances include How the Other Half Loves, The Ghost Train, Dry Rot, See How They Run, The Edge of Darkness and The Browning Version. His most recent performance with BNT was the premiere of One Boy's War earlier this year. John is thrilled to be involved with such a wonderful cast and crew in Twelve Angry Men, undoubtedly a modern classic.

FREDERICK FARGHER - During the first rehearsal of this play a suggestion was made to re-title it "Eleven Angry Men and One Old Goat". Thus audiences would understand the type casting of Fargher as the oldest, baldest member of the jury. At age 44 Fred made his first appearance with BNT in the 1963 revue *With Knobs On* which satirised the young Australian television industry – a prophetic piece for Fred's future.

He has a long list of direction and choreography credits for both the major musical theatre companies in town. Personal favourites for BNT include the original production of *Noises Off* for which he won that year's best actor award, a couple of Alan Ayckbourn comedies, *Relatively Speaking* and *How The Other Half Loves* and two Neil Simon plays working with both Julian Oldfield and Andrew Seeary, *Rumours* and *The Sunshine Boys*. Fred's most recent appearance was in the drama *Suspects*.

TIM GAY - first appeared on stage in the BLOC Juniors production of *Tom Sawyer* in 1980 where he shared the limelight in the chorus with a 13/14 year old Brendan Bawden. Most recently, Tim played Lord Evelyn Oakleigh in Bloc's *Anything Goes*, and Marston in *And Then There Were None* and Trevor in *Bedroom Farce* for Ballarat National Theatre. Tim has had a long association with 'National' having worked backstage on several productions in the '90s. His performance tonight is quite a departure from his previous roles which include Patsy in *Spamalot*, Cogsworth in *Beauty and the Beast*, Emcee in *Cabaret*, Scarecrow in *The Wizard of Oz*, Dodger in *Oliver* and many more. His love for the musical stems from Saturday afternoons watching anything but footy on the telly.

ABOUT THE CAST (continued).

KAINE HANSEN - After finishing high school last year Kaine is fairly new to the theatre. Performing with Mayte Youth Theatre as The Mayor in *The Pied Piper Of Hamelin* early in August, and a selection of high school plays throughout the years, including Alfred III *The Visit* (2011) and Harry Witherspoon in the musical farce *Lucky Stiff* (2012). Kaine is excited to further his acting career in the future and what a better place to start then with this classic play.

BRIAN McCLELLAND - was introduced to live Theatre at an early age by his parents. His on stage experiences began at school and then with the Donald Drama Group. Since moving to Ballarat in the 80's, Brian has keenly supported BNT, including on stage appearances in *Rough Justice, Penelope, The Staffroom* and the one act play *Joy.* Brian is also our Treasurer.

TONY MCGUINNESS - has performed in seven musicals staged by BLOC. These included the award winning *Me and My Girl*, in which he played the role of Sir Jasper Tring. He played Wally Carlisle with the Beaufort Arts and Theatrical Society in their production of *No Time On*. He has been a regular supporter of B.N.T both on and off stage, His most recent on-stage appearances with us were in *Voyage Round My Father*, *The Sunshine Boys*, *Rumours*, *The Anastasia File*, *Under Milk Wood* and *And Then There Were None*. Tony also stage- managed *Bedroom Farce* in 2011.

MATT NOBLE - has worked and performed with BNT on numerous occasions. Following his first onstage performance in *Rumours*, he continued his 'Offstage' commitment before appearing again in *Lettice and Lovage, The Winslow Boy, The Anastasia File, A Place in the Present and Holiday Snaps*. His experience as performer, musician and Musical Director with BLOC, Ballarat Lyric, SBC and Ballarat University includes; *Chess, Half a Sixpence, Oliver, Chicago, Annie, Bugsy Malone, Cabaret, The Producers, Singing in the Rain, The Sound of Music, Oklahoma, Bare and Parade.*

SAM O'BRIEN - Sam has been involved in local theatre for the past 5 years, appearing in Ballarat National Theatre's productions such as *The Glass Menagerie* (Jim) and *The Mousetrap* (Giles). Sam has also tried his hand at musical theatre appearing in an anniversary production of *Titanic the Musical*, Leading Notes *The Boy from Oz* and BLOC's *Singin' in the Rain*. Sam plays football for the Ballarat Swans and is studying paramedicine. Now that's enough reading its time to get angry!

ANDREW SEEARY - With over twenty five years of involvement in the Ballarat theatre scene as a director, designer, writer and actor Andrew is employed as a Performing Arts coordinator and senior drama teacher at Damascus College. It has been well over two decades since he was first approached to direct *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, his first production for BNT. Since then he has

directed or appeared in a variety of productions for the Company including *Plaza Suite, The Odd Couple, The Sunshine Boys, Rumours* and *See How They Run.* Over the last decade teaching and family commitments coupled with the desire to lead a quieter life has contributed to his lack of interest in performing. That said he has been coaxed out occasionally, even to do leading roles in musicals such as Billy Flynn in Lyrics 2004 production of *Chicago* and Max Bialistock in Lyric's 2008 production of *The Producers*. A strong advocator of nurturing the talents of others he is also a firm believer in the old adage of *practicing what you preach* which along with the chance to play along side some of Ballarat's finest in one of his favourite plays brings him to this evening.

LEE TAYLOR - After returning to Ballarat from a year of travelling around the globe, Lee makes his BNT debut as Angry Man No. 5. Lee has been consistently involved with theatre productions since early high school, where he performed in plays, musicals and the Melbourne Comedy Festival's "Class Clowns" competition. At Mannix College, Clayton, he made his directorial debut with a cast of students in *Noises Off*, and performed in numerous productions with Monash University Student Theatre, including the role of Blackbeard in Harley Hefford's *Topsy-Scurvy* and as the Father in Frederico Lorca's *Blood Wedding*. Lee now lives in Buninyong, Victoria, and would like to dedicate his performance to the judicial process...

DANIEL WEST - Daniel's theatre credits include Romeo in *Romeo & Juliet*, Jared in *Blackrock*, Hastings and Prince Edward in *Richard III*, Nick in *Belladonna*, along with performances for Theatre Movement, Melbourne Writers Festival, Screen Play, and for BLOC Music Theatre, *My Fair Lady, Half A Sixpence* and the role of Ali Hakim in BLOC's 2012 production of *Oklahoma!*. Daniel directed school productions of *Cosi* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at Damascus College and is a graduate of The Ballarat Academy of Performing Arts (BAPA), where he completed a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Performance. Daniel is employed at St James' Parish School as a grade 3/4 teacher and Performing Arts Co-ordinator. *Twelve Angry Men* is Daniel's first production with Ballarat National Theatre.

MICHAEL ZALA – Michael recently appeared in BNT's *Theft,* as well as *Party Pieces* and the radio play *The Creaking Door* – two of National's 75th Anniversary special events at the Art Gallery.

Last year we saw him as a doctor in *And Then There Were None*, and as a postman in *Sylvia's Wedding*. Previous plays with BNT include *Bedroom Farce*, *The Right Person*, *See How They Run*, *When Grief Hath Mates*, and others going back to *The Odd Couple* in 1994. Michael has appeared in music hall and melodrama at Sovereign Hill's Victoria Theatre, Ballarat Lyric Theatre's *South Pacific* and *No No Nanette*, and BLOC Music Theatre's 1999 production of *Oklahoma*.

Production Credits:

Stage Manager

Beth Foyster Savannah Clark

D.S.M & Switchboard Lighting

Julian Oldfield Zac Jones & CameronThomson

Music Selection

Michael Zala & Sound Set-Up

Director's Assistant

Carly Macdonald

Jim Muller & Lyle Quick **Table Construction**

Costumes Kate Sullivan

Joanne Humphrey Props

Graphics Image Finder Wayne Hines

Andrew Seeary

Photography

Gary Hunt

Foyer Yvonne Downing & B.N.T. Members

Pre-Production

Yvonne & Ivan Downing, Fred Fargher, Tim Gay Brian McClelland, Tony McGuinness, Julian Oldfield Ken Prato. Andrew Seeary, Lee Taylor Peter Tulloch, Michael Zala, Peter Zala

B.N.T. Thanks the following for their valuable assistance:

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Gail Sjogren Frank Hanrahan Gwen & Lyle Quick St Andrew's Uniting Church Her Majesty's Theatre Nigel Rideout Dale Gull University of Ballarat **WIN Television**

COMING UP.

BNT at The Gallery - 6

17th November 2.30

THEATRE SPORTS

Spontaneous Entertainment as the group (guided by Andrew Seeary) perform in the manner of 'Thank God You're Here'.

**Please note change of date.

COURTHOUSE PRODUCTION 4.

We regret that we are no longer able to proceed with our planned production of Christmas Carol.

In it's place we will be presenting

LORD ARTHUR SAVILE'S CRIME

A Far-Fetched Fantasy Based on a story by

OSCAR WILDE

Gala Night – 30th Nov. – 8 pm Matinees – 1st & 7th Dec. – 2 pm Wed. 4th to 6th Dec – 8 pm

Fundraising - Corporate - Charity performances available on 29th Nov., and 2nd & 3rd Dec.

ABOUT THE CREW.

BETH FOYSTER - (Stage-Manager) started her dramatic career as a toddler. Through her life she has worked with her mother in various musical forms, such as dramatic, choral, opera and stage managing. Throughout her teenage years she was involved and acted in many productions, both dramatic and musicals, in and out of high school. Beth also acted and worked as a stage hand in several amateur productions in Brisbane with the Samford Players. She appeared in our production of *Under Milk Wood*, Stage-Managed several plays for BNT and repeats that role tonight.

SAVANNAH CLARK – Studied Live Production at Ballarat University and has several years experience in theatre, radio and film production. Savannah moved to Ballarat from South Australia in 2010 and has been assisting with the lighting rig on most of our productions for the past three years. She also serves as Deputy Stage Manager and occasional Sound Operator

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EMAIL INFORMATION SERVICE.

If you would like to receive information about BNT (Production dates, Reviews and other snippets) this is the service for you.

Just fill in the forms which will be available at all performances and you will receive this information.

Benefits of BNT Membership - Receipt of Newsletter, Ticket concessions and other occasional specials -will NOT be received by enrolling on this listing; however BNT Members who already receive their Newsletter via Email will automatically receive the information dispatched by this new service.

If you miss out on getting a form for this service please just send your email details to <u>Info@BNT.org.au</u> indicating that you would like to receive this information.

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