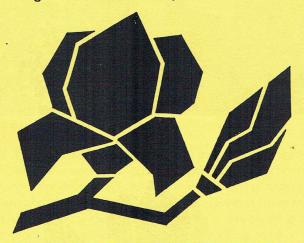




by Robert Harling

Designed and Directed by Robert Letcher



At the ROSE CENTRE THEATRE, School Rd, Belmont.

OPENING Saturday September 16th, 1995.

Matinee Sunday Sept. 17th at 2.00pm

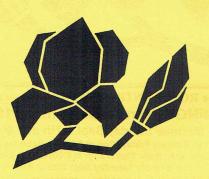
Weds 20th at 8.00pm; Friday 22nd at 8.00pm; Saturday 23rd at 8.00pm Tues. 26th at 8.00pm; Thurs. 28th at 8.00pm; Fri. 29th at 8.00pm and finally Saturday Sept 30th at 8.00pm

Tickets \$12.50 incl. tea/coffee, programme. (\$10 concession)

Bar open before the show.

Bookings at the Theatre 445.9900 (Mon-Fri morn.) or 445.6939







Steel Magnolias

By Robert Harling

Directed and Designed

by Robert Letcher

CAST

Ann Baxter, Lyndall Clark, Rose-Marie Moore, Annette Boyd, Catherine Long and Moira Coote.

Production Notes

This play was written 7 years ago and is fast becoming a modern American classic. It is constantly being performed by companies all over the world. The script was painstakingly crafted by Robert Harling, who also wrote the screenplay for the film. Shirley MacLaine, Sally Field, Olympia Dukakis, Dolly Parton, Darryl Hannah and Julia Roberts were the top actresses who enthusiastically brought this impressive, warm, and very witty slice-of-life story to us, as a successful recent film.

The "STEEL MAGNOLIAS" are six women in a deep Southern town. Behind their beauty and warmth, a steely strength is gradually revealed to us. The characters are drawn with charm, wit and a touch of sadness. Care has been taken to ensure that the Louisiana accent is clear, true and sustained evenly throughout the production, which is set entirely in a hairdressing salon. It is hard to imagine a director who is not a hairdresser, being able to fulfil the technical requirements of the play. I am very proud of my 6 magnolias. We have worked tirelessly for the last six weeks and it has been an inspiration to see them develop their already obvious talents. I wish to thank COMPANY THEATRE for allowing me to direct this play. It is a first step into American Drama for them, and I hope not the last.

I am very happy with the efforts of the production team.
Enjoy, with us, seeing these six classy women together in this classy play.
ROBERT LETCHER.

A Cast with their own stories to share...

Lyndall Frost as Truvy

Lyndall was attracted by this play's wit and warmth, and was thrilled to have the opportunity to play Truvy. Truvy is a true romantic who owns the "most successful beauty shop in town". Lyndall has been associated with **Company Theatre** for five years and has had notable success in a number of leading dramatic and comedy roles.



Rose-Marie Moore as M'Lynn
This is Poss Marie's first role with Co

This is Rose Marie's first role with Company
Theatre, but she has worked extensively both
on-stage and behind the scenes, mostly with
Mairangi Players and Lunchtime Theatre.
Mother roles seem to just come her way, and
have included such parts in Night Mother,
Masterpieces and Joyful and Triumphant. She
is "tickled pink" to be cast in such a "peach" of a
role as M'Lynn, and is enjoying the camaraderie
and dedication of the cast immensely.



Annette Boyd as Shelby

Annette has always been interested in acting, and at the age of seven performed in <u>Snow White</u> and <u>Alice in Wonderland</u>. She continued her interest with a performance in <u>Bye Bye Birdy</u> at Secondary School. Her previous appearance for Company Theatre was in the comedy <u>Mothers and Fathers</u> in 1994.



Catherine Long as Ouiser

An enthusiastic performer in her youth, Catherine first appeared with Company Theatre in their farewell production of <u>Murder in Company</u> at St.Michael's Hall. Subsequent roles with Company include <u>Habeas Corpus</u>, <u>Map of the Heart</u>, and <u>Split Ends</u>. She shared the Theatre Federation's 'Best Actress' award with Rose-Marie Moore, for her performance as Ruth Steadman in Map of the Heart in 1993.





Ann Baxter as Clairee

Ann always enjoys working with Robert Letcher. The last time was in <u>Lend me a Tenor</u>. Other roles have been in <u>Waiting in the Wings</u>, <u>A Taste of Honey</u> and <u>Stepping Out</u>. She has been a member of Mairangi Players for many years and is enjoying her involvement with **Company Theatre**.



Moira Coote as Annelle

Moira has been involved with Company Theatre for the past six years. She has appeared in Murder in Company, and as the T.V. presenter in Map of the Heart. Last year she was a dedicated housewife in Situation Comedy. As Co-Director of JUNIOR COMPANY she is in the throes of rehearsing their Pantomime, Aladdin. Moira celebrated a birthday during these rehearsals. She is not telling us which one it was... but it wasn't her 22nd!



ROBERT LETCHER DIRECTOR

Local lad, Robert Letcher, has an unrepentant love of theatre. He first performed on stage when he was seven, and has enjoyed reaching out to other branches of the art ever since. As a hairdresser he has been able to work in professional theatre, as well as involvement in Stage Management, Set Design, and other roles. He performs regularly as "Basil Fawlty" in theatre restaurant, and this is something that satisfies his desire to be on stage himself!



However, his greatest love is directing, where he can share his enthusiasm, with others. He has worked with a wide range of material, from musicals to Shakespeare, Opera, Drama and Farce. This is his 31st Direction to date and he is still enthusiastic and learning the marvels of theatre!

Robert prefers to design and direct each of his shows as he feels that this brings the production together and gives a better flow.

THE PRODUCTION TEAM

Directed & Designed by
Director's Assistant
Costume Design
Wardrobe
Lighting Operator
Production Manager
Stage Manager
Properties

Set Construction

♣Prompt ♣Poster Design ♣Foyer/Cast Photography ♣Foyer Display ♣Publicity

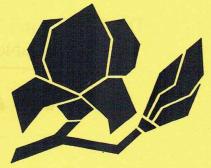
* Programme

♣Bookings ♣Front of House Manager ♣House Bar Robert Letcher Bill Wallace Cathie Sandy Gail Carran Bill Wallace Sherry Ede Alastair Fletcher Sue Gross Trish Worrall Robert Letcher/Tony Sandy Mike Brick/Jim Mackay Gerald Lightbourne/ Linda & Anthony Whitehouse Alastair Életcher Perry Cameron/Les Bryant Carol Dosser Claire Carrie Richard Coote Moira Coote Cindy Schofield/Anthony & Linda Whitehouse Sherry Ede/Perry Cameron Alastair Fletcher Sherry Ede Ruth Segrove Doug Bourke Tony Sandy Gary Glanville

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
Mairangi Players, Takapuna Grammar,
Mike Brick Plumbing.
(Voice by Barrett Irving.)



Steel Magnolias A Synopsis

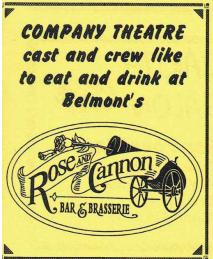


Act | Scene |Truvy's Beauty Shop.
Act | Scene | I.....Later in the year, before
Christmas

There will be an interval of 20 minutes, during which complimentary tea and coffee will be served. The house bar will be open.

Act II Scene I......The same 18 months later.

Act II Scene II.....Some time later.





The Rose Centre Theatre - Belmont Is available for HIRE!!

BUT HOW?

Telephone the Rose Centre on 445.9900, if you would like to hire this facility. It can be yours for a very reasonable fee.

If you would like information on membership of Company
Theatre, please phone Lyndall Frost on 376.0725. We hold
regular club nights and social activities. You could request to
have your name put on our free mailing list for advance notice
of future productions. Our postal address is Company Theatre
c/- The Rose Centre, School Road, Bemont.



Ann Baxter
Helen Coombe
Rachel White

3/103 Owens Road Epsom Phone/Fax (09) 630.3872

CARITA SALON

For Your Hair

Robert Letcher 64 Vauxhall Road Devonport Phone 445 2053



ekly Entertainment Guide

Thursday 7th September

Steel Magnolias performed on the Shore



THE CAST: Annette Boyd (left), Catherine Long, Moira Coote, Rose-Marie Moore, Ann Baxter and Lyndall Frost.

Company Theatre will soon perform one of the classic comedy dramas, "Steel Magnolias" at its home venue, the Rose Centre in Belmont.

"Steel Magnolias" is known to many after the popular movie starring Dolly Parton and Shirley McLean. It is a poignant tale set in the beauty parlour of a small town in southern USA.

It follows the lives and enduring friendship of six very different women, through good times and bad. We meet Shelby, young and flighty, soon to be married, and M'Lynn, who offers all that any mother could. Ouiser, whose caustic nature is happiest being unhappy, and her unlikely friend Clarrie, the upper class mayors wife. Annelle is new to town and with some dark hidden secret; and over all of them presides Truvy, like a mother hen.

As a hair stylist during the day, director Robert Letcher has been able to bring a special flair to the production. And the Company Theatre has gone all out to recreate a full hair salon on stage, complete with hot and cold running water.

A talented cast of very respected actresses will ensure that this is a memorable show.

It opens for a two week season on September 16. Bookings can be made by phoning 445-9900 (weekday mornings) or 445-6939 (after hours).











1995 STEEL MAGNOLIAS

