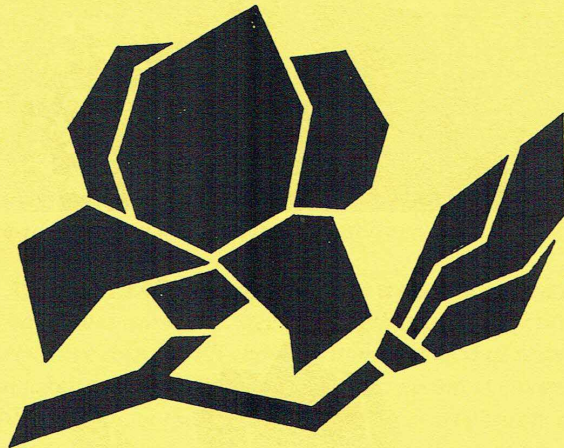
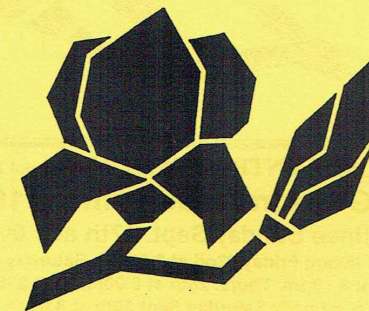


COMPANY THEATRE'S
**STEEL
MAGNOLIAS**

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.



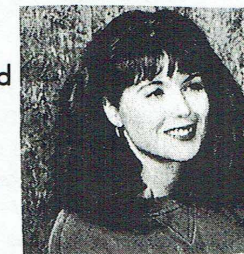
Rose-Marie Moore as M'Lynn

This is 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 *Snow White* and *Alice in Wonderland*. She continued her interest with a performance in *Bye Bye Birdy* at Secondary School. Her previous appearance for Company Theatre was in the comedy *Mothers and Fathers* in 1994.

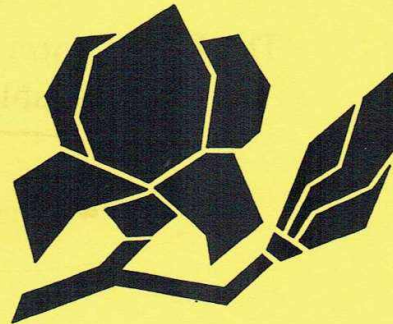


Catherine Long as Ouiser

An enthusiastic performer in her youth, Catherine first appeared with Company Theatre in their farewell production of *Murder in Company* at St. Michael's Hall. Subsequent roles with Company include *Habeas Corpus*, *Map of the Heart*, and *Split Ends*. 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.



Steel Magnolias A Synopsis



Act I Scene I.....Truvy's Beauty Shop.
Act I Scene II.....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!!



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, Belmont.

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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).



