



MONEY & FRIENDS

Australia's most successful Comedy Playwright

By David Williamson

Directed by Sherry Ede
August 15th - 29th 1998

- Wednesdays to Saturdays at 8.00 pm
- Sunday 16th August at 6.00 pm
- Sunday 23rd August at 2.00 pm

THE ROSE CENTRE
THEATRE, SCHOOL RD, BELMONT

COMPANY THEATRE

Gala Champagne Opening
Saturday 15th August 1998

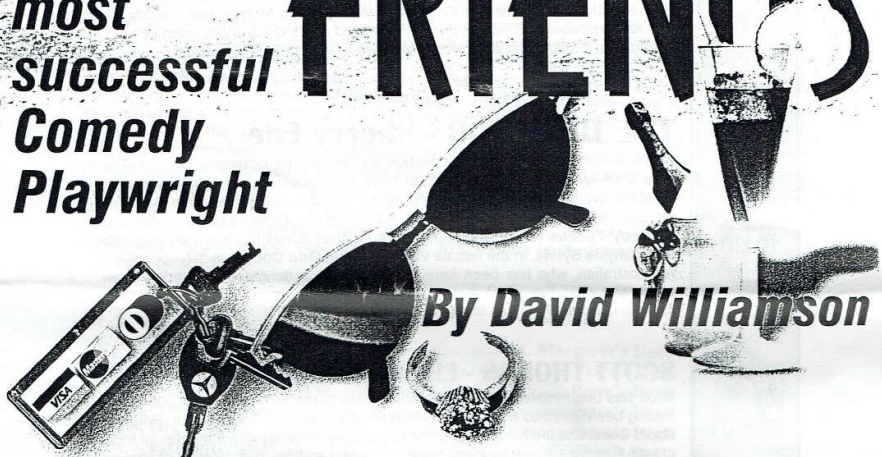
Bookings essential, call
445 9900 or 486 3835

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THE PLAYWRIGHT- David Williamson

Born in Melbourne in 1942; has a degree in Mechanical Engineering; lectured in thermo-dynamics and social psychology until 1973, when he was voted most promising playwright, following the British production of *The Removalists*. Since then he has had numerous box office hits around Australia, London & Los Angeles, including *Don's Party*, *Gallipoli* & *Travelling North*. He lives in Sydney with his journalist wife Kristin, and four children. *Money and Friends* was first produced in Brisbane in 1991. It played at the Circa, Wellington in 1996. Williamson is said to be Australia's most successful comedy playwright.



THE DIRECTOR - Sherry Ede

This is Sherry's second major production, as Director, for Company Theatre (*The Mad Mad World of Theatre*, '94). In 1994, she received a Theatre Federation Merit Award for Best Director in the North Island Final of The One Act Play Festival. Since then she has directed and acted in, three seasons of *Arthrob Comedy Theatre* for the Devonport Art's Festival & was last seen on stage for Company as Sylvie, in the female version of *The Odd Couple* in '97. An Australian, who has been here 11 years, she is delighted to direct a show which she says has great dialogue; acute observation of character; is clever, witty, and entertaining, yet thought provoking.



SCOTT THOMAS - Lighting Design

Scott has been interested in the technical side of theatre since his school days, having been involved with drama and musical societies in Christchurch, Rotorua, Kapiti Coast and the North Shore. He is currently involved with a number of local groups helping with set building, stage managing and his main interest of lighting design.



Company Theatre welcomes new members. Please phone Annie Gandar on 445.8181 for membership enquiries.



NEXT AT COMPANY THEATRE
Hedda Gabler by Hendrik Ibsen
14 - 28 November 1998

Directed by Sian Davis
Auditions on Saturday August 29th at 1.00pm.
For more information phone Sian on 483.4255

 * by **DAVID WILLIAMSON** *

SYNOPSIS

The play is set in *Crystal Inlet*, a beachside resort, on the coast of NSW, where four couples escape from the pressures of city life. It is the summer of 1991, a few years after the most severe economic depression in Australia, for 60 years. Banks lost a fortune and the property market dropped dramatically. Comparisons with New Zealand in 1998 can be made.

The two central characters, *Peter* and *Margaret*, are in grief and bitterness at the loss of their respective partners. They share a genuine friendship, made all the more interesting because it is between a man and woman. Other characters are married but do not really seem to be friends. The difficulty of maintaining friendship within marriage is a recurrent theme in Williamson's plays. The three couples (*Alex & Vicki*; *Stephen & Penny*; *Conrad & Jacqui*) have been dubbed "the awfuls" by one reviewer. During the play they are tested by some home truths and their reactions vary, but ultimately nearly all (except *Penny*) remain completely selfish. One of Williamson's lines in the play says, despite their selfishness, "their fallibility makes them all the more endearing." Are they just a product of their society, perhaps? Is that an excuse? The topics "*Money*" and "*Friendship*" - have been major and perennial themes for playwrights, since before Shakespeare. This play is an entertaining interpretation of those ideas in the 90's, - from an Australian (New Zealand?) perspective.

ACT 1

- Pre-Scene.....Margaret's Deck
- Scene 1, eveningPeter's Deck
- Scene 2, later that eveningPeter's Deck
- Scene 3, next morning.....Peter's Deck
- Scene 4, late morning.....Peter's Deck
- Scene 5, early afternoon.....Stephen's Deck
- Scene 6, early afternoon.....Peter's Deck
- Scene 7, late afternoon.....Stephen's Deck
- Scene 8, early evening..... Margaret's Deck

Interval of 15 minutes, during which refreshments are available in the foyer.

ACT 2

- Scene 1, evening.....Vicki's Deck
- Scene 2, next day.....Peter's Deck
- Scene 3, same day.....Vicki's Deck
- Scene 4, later that day.....Conrad's Deck
- Scene 5, later that day.....Stephen's Deck
- Scene 6, early evening.....Vicki's Deck
- Scene 7, the next day.....Margaret's Deck
- Scene 8, evening.....Conrad's Deck
- Scene 9, next afternoon.....Margaret's Deck



 * **MONEY & FRIENDS** *

THE CAST in order of appearance...

- Margaret, a University Lecturer*.....Adrienne Morgan
- Peter, a Mathematics Professor*.....John Palmer
- Conrad, a television presenter*.....Perry Cameron
- Jaqui, Conrad's third wife, a journalist*.....Rebekah Berresford
- Stephen, an orthopaedic surgeon*.....Steve Wright
- Penny, his cheerful wife, an artist*.....Catherine Long
- Alex, a corporate lawyer*.....Richard Parmee
- Vicki, Alex's wife, a social climber*.....Sylvia McQuilkan
- Justin, Conrad's son, from his first marriage*.....Peter Leyden

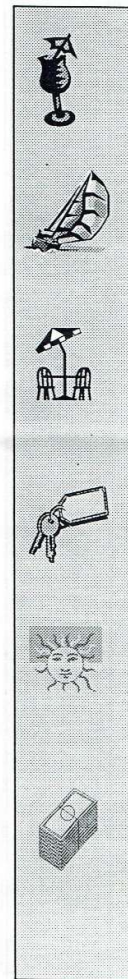
THE CREW

- Director.....Sherry Ede
- Stage DesignMalcolm Love/Sherry Ede
- Set Construction.....Malcolm Love
- Costume Design.....Cathie Sandy
- Lighting Design.....Scott Thomas
- Lighting Operation.....Doug Annan
- Props Manager.....Maureen Kenny
- Stage Manager.....Annie Gandar
- Sound Operation.....Elise Edwards
- Set Painting.....Tony Sandy, Diane Michels
- Follow Spot.....Les Bryant
- Publicity/Photography.....Sherry Ede
- Programme.....Sherry Ede
- Front of House.....Doug Bourke
- Bar Manager.....Tony Sandy

Thanks to Aquasun Suntan Products for samples.

Acknowledgements and Many thanks to:

Scenery Movers: Sue Collins; Belinda Johnson; Shiela Stevens; Steve Green & Kerrie Holding. Abigail's of Devonport (White flowers) Moira Coote (Set Dressing); Phil Searle (The BBO); Stan Mauger (Poster concept); Linmax Graphics, Albany (Poster Design); Trish Worrall (Prod. Ass't); Lyndall Frost (Lines Ass't) Anne Rimmer (Set Ideas); Devonport Garden Centre (Pots), Sandy Paint Supplies.
The Director would particularly like to acknowledge Malcolm Love for building all the decks for the set and to thank the core of the production team, who are: Cathie Sandy, Scott Thomas, Maureen Kenny, Elise Edwards & Doug Annan.



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COMMUNITY NEWS

Actor gets ready for Money and Friends

North Shore's Peter Leyden is trying not to think about stage fright.

Mr Leyden joins a cast of experienced actors in the Company Theatre's latest production, *Money and Friends*, which opens at the Rose Centre in Belmont on August 15.

Mr Leyden plays 24-year-old Justin, who is in a relationship with a 45-year-old woman, Margaret.

She asks him to stay at her holiday home for a weekend. Justin is embarrassed when learning his father, who he hasn't seen for eight years, lives in the area and is a close friend of Margaret.

Money and Friends explores relationships and friendships and also deals with maintaining a friendship within a marriage.

The play is by leading Australian comedy playwright David Williamson. Information, ph 445-9900, or 486-3835.



STAGE FRIGHT: North Shore's Peter Leyden makes his stage debut in *Money and Friends*.



Steve Wright, Peter Leyden, Perry Cameron, Richard Parmee



Steve Wright, Sylvia McQuilkan, Richard Parmee