



Take A Chance On Me

A Comedy by
Roger Hall

Directed by
Kathy Gent

Rose Centre Theatre
19 March - 3 April
2004

Kathy Gent - Director

Kathy has directed 'Three of a Funny Kind', 'Blithe Spirit', 'See How They Run' and 'Straight and Narrow' for Company Theatre and is a longstanding committee member. As a director with several groups in the UK, her productions included Cabaret, Stepping Out, Rebecca, Charley's Aunt, When We Are Married, Lord Arthur Saville's Crime, A Chorus of Disapproval, Bedroom Farce and many pantomimes and revues. She particularly loves directing and acting in comedy.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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OUR NEXT PRODUCTION

'Kindertransport' by Diane Samuel, directed by Graham Wagstaff.

Production dates 12-26 June.

Auditions: 6pm Sunday 4th April at the Rose Centre: Enquiries Ph Graham on 478 7102

COMPANY THEATRE MEMBERSHIP ENQUIRIES PHONE SHEILA 445 6580

'TAKE A CHANCE ON ME' BY ROGER HALL
A COMEDY IN TWO ACTS WITH A 15 MINUTE INTERVAL

CAST

ERIC	NIAL GREENSTOCK
LIZ	MARIE ORTQUIST
LORRAINE	DIANNE LAMONT
BRIAN	JOHN CLARKE
DAN	STEVE WRIGHT
ELEANOR	NGAIRE JONES
FLEUR	JULIA LEATHWICK
TIM	GRAHAM WAGSTAFF

CREW

DIRECTOR	KATHY GENT
PRODUCTION MANAGER	NGAIRE JONES
STAGE MANAGER	SHEILA STEVENS
SET DRESSING	GAIL CARRAN
LIGHTING DESIGN/OPERATION	SCOTT THOMAS
SOUND	RICHARD PARMEE
PROPERTIES	MAUREEN KENNY
REHEARSAL PROMPT	MOLLY CLARKE
COSTUME COORDINATOR	REBECCA COOPER
COSTUME ADVISER	CATHIE SANDY
WIGS AND MAKE UP	ALEX WHARTON
CHOREOGRAPHY	LYNNE DAVIS, ANNETTE KENNEDY
STAGE ASSISTANT	JEREMY DOONER
SET CONSTRUCTION	TONY SANDY, PHIL DAVIS,
	ANGIE HOLMES
PUBLICITY	KATHY GENT
PHOTOS	SHERRY EDE
POSTER	TOM HENDERSON
PROGRAMME	RUSSELL GOLDING
FRONT OF HOUSE	DOUG BOURKE
BAR MANAGER	TONY SANDY

FROM THE DIRECTOR

It is exciting to present a modern New Zealand play, especially one by New Zealand's most successful playwright. In the last 25 years, Roger Hall has written and co-written well over 150 scripts including *Glide Time*, *Middle Age Spread*, *The Share Club*, *Social Climbers*, *Dirty Weekends* and *The Book Club* - all of which show his acute understanding of middle New Zealanders' concerns and interests. Once again, with *'Take A Chance on Me'*, Roger Hall gives us a slice of life, very real, very moving but throughout, hilariously funny. I have laughed and cried with the actors in rehearsal and am privileged to have directed such a talented cast, supported by the most dedicated and competent backstage crew.

John Clarke

'Take a chance on me' is John's 5th play with Company Theatre. He appeared previously in 'Run for your Wife', 'How the Other Half Loves', 'Arsenic and Old Lace' and 'Brilliant Lies'. He also performs in musicals, and has played characters ranging from snowmen and munchkins in 'Wizdard of Oz' to a hard nosed director in '42nd Street'. John appears on TV ads, and in 'Shortland Street' and 'Street Legal'. His latest film role is playing a tough Super 12 team manager on the new NZ film 'Skin and Bone'. " Thanks to Kathy and all the crew; I'm looking forward to a great season!"

Nial Greenstock

This is Nial's sixth production for Company Theatre. He previously appeared in *Brilliant Lies*, *Eugenia*, *Outside Edge*, *Straight & Narrow* and in the premiere production of *The Pain and The Passion* (June 2000). Other credits include a lead role in the recent feature film *1Nite* (opposite Bruce Hopkins) and several TV commercials and short films, not to mention recent appearances in *Being Eve* and the current season of *Mercy Peak*.

Dianne Lamont

Dianne says she has lost count of the characters she has played over the years. She has fond memories of performing professionally in an earlier Roger Hall play *'Middle Age Spread'*. She finds his plays 'perceptive, witty and wonderful to perform'. This is her seventh appearance for Company Theatre, and she is relishing the role of the widowed Lorraine.

Ngaire Jones

This is Ngaire's second play for Company Theatre. She previously appeared in *'Pain and the Passion'* in 2000. Since then she has performed for many of Auckland's theatre groups including *Stables*, *Titirangi* and *Dolphin*, and most recently in another Roger Hall production, *'By Degrees'* at ETS late last year. In addition to the role of 'Eleanor', Ngaire has taken on the task of Production Manager for this play - a challenge far more taxing than mere acting!

Julia Leathwick

Julia is happy to finally be performing for Company Theatre after having enjoyed seeing many, many shows at this great theatre. Julia has been in and around amateur dramatics most of her life and Roger Hall is a favourite writer of hers. She has appeared in four previous Hall plays and last year directed the a highly successful production of his play *'By Degrees'* for the Ellerslie Theatrical Society. She looks forward to working with her friends on stage tonight and likens it to 8 mates having a lot of fun with an audience thrown in for good measure. Enjoy the show!

Marie Ortquist

Marie has been involved in theatre for just on 25 years. Keen to experience all that theatre has to offer she has performed with a variety of theatre groups in Napier and Auckland. Marie is overjoyed to have finally found the perfect outlet for her schizophrenia. Her roles within *Take a Chance on Me* allow her to share all her personalities with us; see if you can spot her favourites!

Graham Wagstaff

Graham studied at the London Theatre School and New Zealand's Theatre Corporate. He has featured in NZ short films, TV - including *Dr McKenzie* in *Shortland St* - and many TV ads. Graham has acted in most of the Auckland theatres, most recently in *Sylvia* at *Titirangi*. His last appearance for Company was as *Gayev* in *The Cherry Orchard*. Graham will be directing our next play *Kinder Transport*.

Steve Wright

As an aficionado of playwright Roger Hall, Steve is delighted to be playing Dan. Since playing Hugh in an early production of *"Glide Time"* he has directed *Glide Time*, *Prisoners of Mother England*, *Social Climbers*, and *Market Forces*. A recent spate of directing, including *"The Memory of Water"* by Shelagh Stephenson for Company Theatre has kept Steve off the stage but he is very happy to return to his *raison d'être*, to be on stage in *"Take A Chance on Me"*.



