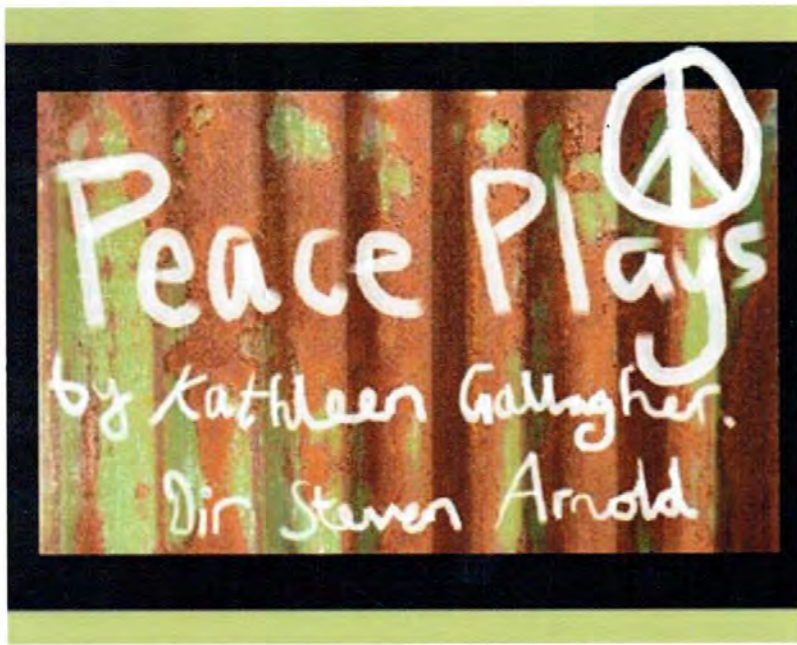




COMPANY THEATRE



14 – 28 March 2015

Weds - Sat 8pm, Sundays 2pm
The Rose Centre, School Road, Belmont

\$2

www.companytheatre.co.nz



Kathleen Gallagher

Playwright

Born and raised in Christchurch, Kathleen Gallagher is a writer, an accountant, a director and a film producer. She began her writing career as a poet and playwright and she was involved with the Blue Ladder Theatre Group and the Women's Action Theatre Group. She has written and produced over 15 plays. Her poetry collections are *Tara* (1987), *Gypsy* (1993), and *Twilight Burns The Sky* (2001). Kathleen Gallagher has won various awards for theatre, including the NZ Playwrights Award, and her films have screened widely at national and international film festivals.



Steven Arnold-

Director

Steven's personal commitment to these plays is because his grandfather was a conscientious objector, though he was not imprisoned. He is a member of the New Zealand Peace Council. In the year 2015 there will be much talk of war. War has been a strong thread in the development of our nation's identity and it seems this is a current theme in the media, especially as NZ debates its role in peace keeping and engagement with International coalitions to face the situation in Syria with ISIS. New Zealand is known and widely respected internationally for its peace stance especially in the face of Nuclear Weapons but there are many other stories to war. The world needs other voices. What have we learnt? What have we forgotten?

"We dedicate this production to my grandfather Max Hayman and all others who make a stand against war."



Dave Miller

Musical Director

This is Dave's first experience as sound designer and musical director in a theatrical production. And what a thrilling ride it's been. He's learned new instruments, composed original music and spent hours recording, mixing and arranging the sound track for these two very special plays.

There are fifteen songs in our two plays. You will hear at least nine different instruments. Almost every character sings. Yet Peace Plays is not a musical. There is no band in the wings. Our characters sing and play because they are alive, to comfort themselves and one another, as humans have done for centuries.

Dave has added his own music and plays several instruments in production; snare drum, violin, conch, nose flute, banjo and harmonica.



Why "Peace Plays"?

HAUTU and CHARLIE BLOOM are two plays performed together in one evening's presentation

New Zealand is currently represented on the UN Peace Council. There are ongoing wars in the Middle East. New Zealand has decisions about how best to support the struggles and cruelty that we witness around the world. The world remembers 100 years since 1915, when New Zealand first engaged in WWI. There are many people's stories of different times and places throughout history.

HAUTU and CHARLIE BLOOM are plays based on true stories that address stories that are not often told and explore notions of peace. What do we do with people who choose not to go to fight? What is the story of those who go to wars? Of those who return? Or those who don't return? It took a nuclear bomb to end the Second World War. Yet there is still much to learn from the effects of radiation. What has been learned? What do we still need to learn? What is the nature of peace?

HAUTU

PETE BAWN
Daniel Fernandez

MOLLY BAWN
Kath Hair

YVONNE BAWN
Jan Judson

TTM FLANAGAN
James Fox

GUARD / CONDUCTOR
Stephen Hood

JUDGE
Dave Miller

SUPERVISOR / GUARD
Mathieu Pury

MAGGIE FLANAGAN
Elizabeth Gill

PAPER SELLER / MOLLY
MARTIN / NORA SPITZ
Samantha Geraghty

Synopsis of Hautu - How does one live as a pacifist when all those around you are at war? During WWII over 800 Conscientious Objectors were sent to Detention Camps in New Zealand. Hautu, at the southern end of Lake Taupo, was one of the toughest. This is a play about two men in Hautu, and of their women and families at home. Hautu tells the story of those who chose not to engage; the conscientious objectors and the impact that a decision NOT to go to war has on their families. It is set in the late 1930's and 1940's.

THERE WILL BE A 20 MINUTE INTERVAL



CHARLIE BLOOM

CHARLIE BLOOM
Dave Miller

OLA
Carol Smith

OLA (young)
Ruth Flynn

WAIRUA
Jo Olsen

PATRICK PERKS
Mathieu Pury

DOCTORS
Stephen Hood &
Samantha Geraghty

Synopsis of Charlie Bloom - At Mururoa on 12 September 1966, the French exploded a 120 kiloton bomb at 600 metres, despite unfavourable wind conditions. 3160km away, the fallout cloud from the bomb is intercepted by a rainstorm and falls on Samoa. 'Charlie Bloom' tells the story of a couple living there, and their experience of living with undiagnosed radiation poisoning.

THE CREW

Director
Steven Arnold

Musical Director
Dave Miller

Production Manager
Linda Camplin

Stage Managers
Kathy Gent /
Linda Camplin

Set Construction
Phil Davis

Properties
Doreen and Fred Gould

Lighting Design
Sam Mence

Technical Operators
Steven Arnold /
Andrew Furness /
Oscar Arnold

Wardrobe
Ruth Chapman

Publicity/Advertising
Kathy Gent

Bookings
Kath Hair

Photos
Sherry Ede

FOH Manager
Sherry Ede

Bar Managers
Alastair Fletcher /
John Sala



LINDA CAMPLIN



KATHY GENT



FRED AND DOREEN GOULD



CAST



DANIEL FERNANDEZ

I arrived in New Zealand three years ago. Prior to this I had trained in drama, physical theatre and clowning in Spain. I belong to the Auckland Playback Theatre Company, where I continue developing my skills in improvisation and theatre sports. With more than 15 years doing performance, I have explored a diverse range of classic theatre authors, like Moliere (The Pretentious Young Ladies, being The Marquis of Mascarille), Bertold Brecht (Life of Galileo Galilei, being Andrea Sarti), or Jardiel Poncela (Night of Summer with Insomnia, being Valentin), short films and live performances. When not acting I am a Solar Energy Engineer and I would like to be an inventor. I believe in the power of theatre for storytelling and moving people emotions and consciousness. Peace Plays has given me the opportunity to reflect about the decisions that we take in life and the



effect that it has on our communities.



RUTH FLYNN

I have a passion for NZ plays. After reading "Hautu" and "Charlie Bloom" I was delighted to be cast in "Charlie Bloom" and be back performing after intermittent breaks from theatre. I have performed in a number of roles over the years including Ruth in Company's production of "Calendar Girls" but NZ plays have always been a favourite. Productions include "Eugenia", "One Flesh" and "The Rosenberg Sisters" as well as premieres of "The Baby Farmer", "Scow", "Acting Jesus" and "Bernard's Daughters". As an actor being able to tell NZ stories is very important to me, and particularly appealing are stories which either haven't been told or which provide insight into our past. We've enjoyed some great discussions through the production process of "Peace Plays" and no doubt these will continue through the season as well. *"It isn't enough to*

talk about peace. One must believe in it. And it isn't enough to believe in it. One must work at it!" Eleanor Roosevelt



JAMES FOX

This is my first play for 2 years. I am fortunate to be part of Company's Theatre Production of "Peace Plays". It has been great to be part of this wonderful cast/family. My hope is that that this production stirs up talk about Peace and War in New Zealand.



SAMANTHA GERAGHTY

This is my first time performing at the "The Rose" and in community theatre. I have studied drama at Westlake Girls High School since Year 10 and I am now in my final year. I was fortunate

to be in NYTC's "The Little Mermaid" which gave me the confidence to audition for this play. The subject of peace is not something often addressed nor completely understood. Theatre allows ideas such as peace to be communicated in an engaging and personal light.



ELIZABETH GILL

I am enjoying working with Company Theatre again. My role as Maggie Flanagan is a big change from playing the conservative 'Lady Chiltern' in "An Ideal Husband" and the sassy 'Elaine' in Calendar Girls. As a high school Drama teacher, I am enjoying the opportunity to be on the stage instead of in the director's chair. Working on Peace Plays has really provoked some questions for me about how we can achieve peace particularly in our current world climate and the opportunity for constant discussion has been invaluable to me.



KATH HAIR

I have been involved backstage and onstage in a number of Company Theatre productions, more so now that I am working at The Rose Centre! Recent performances in Auckland include Lost Girls for Theatrewack Ltd, Pericles for the University Shakespeare and It's Just Sex directed by Richard Parmee for Company Theatre. I studied Meisner Technique with Michael Saccente and enjoy helping out the groups in the centre with the technical aspects and acting for film, from time to time.



STEPHEN HOOD

After concentrating on the sound and lighting side of theatre, I bravely ventured back on stage - playing a

couple of uniformed characters who are convinced that without the likes of them, society would fall apart. Two of my early memories are arriving home from school to see live TV coverage of East German border guards letting some people escape, and the protests surrounding USS Texas' visit to Wellington in 1983 - which could "neither confirm nor deny" carrying nuclear weapons.



JAN JUDSON

Drama has always been part of all my life and I have been involved in school and community groups as teacher and director. Over recent years however, my main love has been doing one woman programmes of singing and original dramatic monologues and poetry, performing to many groups in venues all over the North Shore. Stage work includes the role of the nurse in the Shoreside production of Romeo and Juliet and with Company Theatre, Lady Cravenshire in Calendar Girls and the

fainting Miss Tibbs in Fawley Towers. I also have a ladies' capella group - the Treble Makers - who perform throughout the North Shore.



DAVE MILLER

This is my second production with Company Theatre, after appearing as Lord Caversham in *An Ideal Husband*. This production has been a special treat for me, as it brings together so many different aspects of performance. I have also enjoyed the challenge of telling stories that ask difficult questions without pretending to know the answers. Our plays are about how ordinary people find peaceful ways to cope with suffering in a harsh world. We hope you enjoy them as much as we have enjoyed producing them.





JOANNA OLSEN

I have been involved in theatre for the past ten years. Recently I have been in the 2012 Auckland Uni Summer Shakespeare production of Much Ado About Nothing. In that same year I was in Auckland Theatre Company's Next Big Thing production of Checkout Chicks. In 2014 I was in Dolphin Theatre's production of That Woman. When I first read the Charlie Bloom script I found a connection with the Wairua character so was delighted when I was cast as Wairua.



MAT PURY

I have been in New Zealand from my native France, for one and a half years, though I have been acting since I could remember. It was such a privilege to be part of this production with Company Theatre and the amazing crew. It is a great opportunity to become more of a New Zealander. My girlfriend encouraged me to join Company Theatre. I enjoy music and play in a band.

Gallagher's desire to portray Ola as a Maori woman. Being able to incorporate some of our te reo and tikanga Maori has been mana enhancing for me. Although I have played parts in many other types of theatre this play has definitely touched my wairua. I have always enjoyed being in front of an audience which having been in the teaching profession for more than thirty years has allowed me to exercise my thespian gene, creating learning experiences to convey messages and stories.



CAROL SMITH
Te Rarawa

It is such an honour to have been chosen to be an actor in Charlie Bloom, not only for the kaupapa it portrays but also because of Kathleen

Jack and Jean Rogers, the couple on whom the characters of Pete and Molly Bawn are based, in 1947, a year after Jack was released.

Company Theatre Next Production



Auditions 2pm on Sunday May 24th

Contact Production Manager Kathy Gent on kathygent@xtra.co.nz

Acknowledgements: Company Theatre wishes to thank the following

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|----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| 3M New Zealand Limited | Belmont Shoe Repairs | Relay Roofing Ltd. |
| Hinekura Smith – Karanga | Mark Hair | Malloy Antiques. |
| Matthew Reece – Didgeridoo | | |



Company Theatre is the resident theatre group at The Rose Centre in Belmont. We produce 3 plays a year and also welcome visiting theatre groups to use our facility. You can view our past productions since 1992 proudly displayed on the foyer walls of the Rose Centre.

Final Waiata:

<i>I te timatanga kō te hiahia</i>	<i>In the beginning comes desire</i>
<i>Mai i te hiahia kō te mähārā</i>	<i>From the desire comes the awareness</i>
<i>Mai i te mähārā kō te whakaaro</i>	<i>From the awareness comes the thought</i>
<i>Ka puta nga kau papa e</i>	<i>Then comes forth the kau papa</i>





Peace Plays a total theatrical experience



Peace players...
Liz Gill and Kath Hair in *Hautu*

The Auckland premiere of *Peace Plays* will be held at the Rose Centre, reflecting Devonport's status as the first local authority in the country to declare itself nuclear-free and the North Shore becoming a peace city in 2009.

Company Theatre is presenting two plays by Kathleen Gallagher from her Peace Plays collection – *Hautu* and *Charlie Bloom* – at the Rose Centre until 28 March.

Hautu is set in a detention centre for conscientious objectors during the Second World War and *Charlie Bloom* in Auckland 20 years after the nuclear testing in Muroroa in the 1960s.

The script is overlaid with music, sound, lights and visual effects to create a total theatrical experience, and the cast has explored the concept of peace and the effect of war on their characters in great detail, through workshops (including one with Kathleen Gallagher), and discussions.

After the matinee performances there will be an opportunity for the audience to join the cast in reflecting on their own feelings about peace, especially in the context of the production.

Peace Plays, directed by Steven Arnold, will be presented at the Rose Centre 14-28 March; Wednesdays to Saturdays at 8pm and Sunday matinees at 2pm. Phone bookings at 445 9900 or email info@rosecentre.co.nz. Tickets are \$25 or \$20 for concessions.