



COMPANY THEATRE



ALL MY SONS

By **ARTHUR MILLER** Directed by **SIAN DAVIS**

6 - 20 August 2016
WEDS - SAT 8PM SUNDAYS 2PM

The Rose Centre, School Road, Belmont
 Tickets \$25 . \$20 Concessions
 Bookings 09 445 9900 or info@rosecentre.co.nz

www.companytheatre.co.nz



Welcome from Company Theatre



Sherry Ede - President of Company Theatre

It is always a pleasure to have Sian Davis direct for us and do her own stunning set designs. We welcome you to meet the Keller family in what has been described as one of the 10 best plays of the 20th century. This is powerful, classic, theatre. We are proud to have such an experienced and professional cast and crew to bring it to life. Thank you to the hard working committee behind the scenes. We hope you enjoy the performance.

COMPANY THEATRE 2016 COMMITTEE

Sherry Ede, Alastair Fletcher, Kathy Gent, Ruth Chapman, Ruth Flynn, Linda Camplin and Kay Williams



Paddy Stafford-Bush - Patron of The Rose Centre



As Patron of "The Rose Centre" it is always exciting to share good news. With any community group it takes lots of energy, voluntary time, patience and consensus to make big changes. The refurbishment of the Rose Centre is well underway. With newly upholstered seats and new carpet in the auditorium we have created a very smart and modern look for all to enjoy. Company Theatre were the first to use this Auditorium more than 21 years ago so it is only fitting that the Company Theatre's "All My Sons" has the privileged position of being the first to experience the new look. We are really proud to have Company Theatre as our resident theatre group.

THE ROSE CENTRE BOARD 2016

Raewyn Nevin, Ruth Chapman, Phyl Andrews, Sue Golding, Tony Sandy, Suzanne Lynch, Tama Gravenor and Charles Digby

ALL MY SONS By Arthur Miller

CAST

Joe Keller	Reg Williams
Kate Keller	Lynn Webster
Chris Keller	Richard De Luca
Ann Deever	Chloe Smith
George Deever	David Steadman
Dr. Jim Bayliss	Arthur Young
Sue Bayliss	Laurene Dearlove
Frank Lubey	Brendan Grant
Lydia Lubey	Sophie Cook
Bert	Josh Masterton

Events before the play

- **Autumn 1943:** Joe Keller allows his business partner Steve Deever to supply the USAAF with faulty cylinder heads resulting in 21 planes crashing. They are both arrested.
- **Nov. 25th 1943:** Larry Keller disappears off the coast of China.
- **July 1944:** Joe Keller released from prison. Steve Deever remains there.

The Setting

The play is set in the backyard of the Keller home in 1947 (Ohio, USA)

The night Ann Deever returns to her old neighborhood to visit Chris Keller and his family, a tree in their backyard blows over in a storm. The tree was planted as a memorial to the older Keller son, Larry, a fighter pilot who was lost in World War II. This is the morning after the storm. Family members and neighbours gather in the yard to chat, to read the newspaper, and to discuss Ann's return.

Act 1 Early Sunday Morning

ONE interval of 15 minutes

Act 2 The same day, moving into twilight

Act 3 The following morning. (Around 2.am)

The Director - Sian Davis



Sian's involvement with theatre, amateur and professional, long predates her history with Company Theatre. It starts in NZ in the 60s in the Taihape Town Hall, performing in some Whitehall farce she'd probably like to forget (fun at the time, but!).

A seminal period was her involvement with Theatre Corporate in 1974, which meant, eventually, actually getting paid to 'get up there and do it'. And eventually, that mutated into 'Hey, let's get others to get up there and, etc... 's easier!' (out of respect to her fellow

directors, of course, that's not at all true).

COMPANY was the first theatre group, game enough to give her a 'shot' at directing with its production of **Hedda Gabler** 1998. Subsequently eight others have followed at The Rose including, oh, all sorts, but strictly conforming to her insistence on plays that are 'classic' or 'NZ'. The last was two years ago, **A Shortcut to Happiness** by Roger Hall (NZ comedy), and now she directs her tenth **All My Sons** (US classic).

All My Sons has definitely been one of the most interesting and satisfying challenges she has tackled. With every expectation that it will work well, Sian wants to acknowledge her huge indebtedness to her highly talented and committed group of actors and, of course, to the many people who have contributed in so many different ways.



1947



1949



1953

DIRECTOR'S NOTES on the play

Arthur Miller's sharply edged critique of 'the American Dream' that lies at the heart of *All My Sons* (1947) was a significant factor in his being hailed before the House Un-American Activities Committee in the early 1950s.

Not overtly 'political', the play centres on an ordinary middle-class family in a city in the American mid-West. The family prospered very nicely out of manufacturing components for the US Airforce in WWII and, superficially, at least at the start, everything is pretty 'hunky-dory'..... but, how does a man live with the knowledge that 21 young pilots died directly as a result of his greed and deception? And with the thought that his partner and best-friend still 'carries the can'?

How much does the rest of the family, the neighbours, the partner's children, really know? And what happens as the truth is thrust upon them all?

Miller saw the play as an exploration of 'the geometry of relationships'. And that's the nub of it, that, and a concern with universal human values and the test of moral responsibility.

ARTHUR MILLER – THE PLAYWRIGHT



Arthur Asher Miller (October 17, 1915 – February 10, 2005) was a prolific American playwright, essayist, and prominent figure in twentieth-century American theatre. Among his most popular plays are *All My Sons* (1947), *Death of a Salesman* (1949), *The Crucible* (1953) and *A View from the Bridge* (1955, revised 1956)

Meet The Cast



Reg Williams (JOE KELLER) is appearing with Company Theatre for the first time. His most recent appearances have included Frank - *Educating Rita*, Kipps - *The Woman in Black* and in the Centrestage productions of *Noises Off*, *Out of Order*, and *Not Now Darling*. Favourite parts include #7 -12 *Angry Men*, Archer - *The Beaux Stratagem*, George in *Same Time Next Year*, Danforth - *The Crucible*, and Guy - *A Chorus Of Disapproval*. Classic roles include *Mercutio*, *Hotspur*, *Buckingham* and *Petruchio* as a part of the Cliveden Festival. He toured in the Ubiquitous Theatre Company productions of *Jeffery Bernard is Unwell* and *The Killing Game*. In musical theatre his roles include *Byck - Assassins*, *Finch - How to Succeed...*, *Mongkut - King and I*, *Harold - Music Man*, *Billy - Carousel*, *Sykes - Olivier!*, *Doolittle - My Fair Lady*, *Zach - A Chorus Line*, *Nathan - Guys & Dolls* and *Laertes - Hamlet the Panto*



Lynn Webster (KATE KELLER) received her theatre training at Northwestern University in the US and the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts. Her professional career has taken her to Chicago, Toronto, London and New York; the highlight was being in *Guys and Dolls* at the National Theatre in London in the 80's. After moving to Auckland in 1997, she has played many leading roles in community theatre productions including *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *84 Charing Cross Road*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and *Dolly in Hello, Dolly!* Lynn is delighted to join Company Theatre for the first time and she has appreciated the friendly welcome and support from all the cast and crew.

Meet The Cast continued...



Richard De Luca (CHRIS KELLER) most recently seen in *The Perfect Murder* at Howick Little Theatre, Richard is delighted to be in his first show with Company Theatre. Previous shows at Dolphin Theatre include *Rabbit Hole*, *It's Never Too Late* and *Memory of Water*. Outside of acting, Richard is studying playwriting at the University of Auckland and is in the process of writing a full length sequel to Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman*. The chance to be involved in a production of one of Arthur Miller's other great plays was a dream come true.

Chloe (ANN KELLER) is a 29 year old intermediate school teacher with a passion for theatre. She studied theatre in high school and has taken on the role of director for her school production *'The Tempest'*. Before teaching, she worked behind the scenes on a television current affairs show and took part in a weather presenting role. Chloe has always had a passion for performing arts and hopes to continue stage acting!



David Steadman (GEORGE DEEVER) was last seen on stage in Company Theatre's production of *"When Dad Married Fury"*. David has acted in numerous productions across Auckland in plays written by Noel Coward, David Hare, Aaron Sorkin, Chekhov, Dale Wasserman, George Bernard Shaw and the Bard. One of his favourite playwrights being Arthur Miller – David states the power of Miller's work is his ability to hold a mirror up to the audience and the actors "reminding us of what we have chosen to forget." – Miller.

Josh Masterton (BERT) is a child actor with a passion for both theatre and television acting. Previously he has performed on stage with Performance.net and school productions, and has recently played a television role for *Power Rangers* on Nickelodeon. He has really enjoyed working with the other actors on *All My Sons* and loves playing Bert.



Arthur Young (Dr JIM BAYLISS) previously appeared with Company Theatre in last year's *Hay Fever*; and suffice to say an evening with Noel Coward's *Bliss* family is a far cry from Arthur Miller's *Keller Family*. Taking the role of Dr Jim Bayliss has given him the opportunity to be involved with this classic drama and work with a fantastic cast and crew.

Laurene Dearlove (SUE BAYLISS) started speech & drama at an early age and was active in the performing arts both on stage and on screen in the earlier part of her life. Acting fell by the wayside when 'life happened' and she pursued overseas travels, a property career, marriage and had two sons. Laurene is delighted to finally be back in the theatre pursuing her passion on stage!



Brendan Grant (FRANK LUBEY) has his first role at Company Theatre, and only the second time onstage. Earlier this year he played Jim O'Conner, *'The Gentleman Caller'*, in TheatreWorks Birkenhead's production of *The Glass Menagerie*. He is currently studying to become a high school history and social studies teacher at the University of Auckland.

SOPHIE COOK (LYDIA LUBEY) has performed and directed throughout Australia and New Zealand. Her recent theatre credits include *The Producers*, Antonio in Shakespeare's *The Tempest* and as Hilda Hulme in *Daughters of Heaven*. She has worked as a Shakespeare presenter in schools with Emu Heights Theatre Company and enjoys being a Speech and Drama teacher. This is Sophie's first performance with Company Theatre and is thoroughly enjoying playing the role of Lydia.



CREW

Director	Sian Davis
Production Manager	Linda Camplin
Stage Managers	Linda Camplin and Kay Williams
Lighting/Sound Design	Scott Thomas
Lighting/Sound Operator	Stephen Hood
Costumes	Cathie Sandy
Costume Assistant	Penny Davy
Properties	Doreen and Fred Gould
Set Construction Manager	Tony Sandy
Set Construction Assistants	Ron Reichs, Geoffery Procter Scott Thomas, Stephen Hood Max Golding, Kay Williams and Phil Davis
Set Dresser	Caroline Parker
Set Dresser Assistant	Penny Clarke, Anne Rimmer
Photos /Programme	Sherry Ede
Publicity	Ruth Flynn, Kathy Gent
FOH Manager	Lesley Hawkey
Bar Manager	Alastair Fletcher
Box Office Manager	Kathy Gent
Bookings	Kath Hair at The Rose Centre

*Special thanks to our Company Theatre Volunteers
who help on the front of house*

A Short History



Company began in 1980 in St Michael's Hall, Bayswater. The original 9 are remembered in our Logo.

By the late 1980's, COMPANY needed a permanent home and worked together with those wanting a Community Centre for the area.

In 1992 The Rose Centre was opened. Since then, Company has helped with the upkeep and upgrade of the Theatre and its facilities, working together with The Rose Centre Board. Other theatre groups use The Rose Centre, but Company Theatre is the resident society.

Company finally has its own rehearsal room – an upstairs extension to The Rose Centre, completed through fundraising and donations in 2014. Company Theatre would like to thank Paddy Stafford-Bush, (also the Patron of The Rose Centre); Geoff Clews and the Becroft Foundation, for their support of Company Theatre. We also acknowledge that many volunteers have been active in Company Theatre for over 25 years. We invite applications from new Directors or playwrights. We hold occasional club nights and play readings where you are welcome to come along to participate or just to listen. See our website for details.

www.companytheatre.co.nz

RECENT COMPANY SHOWS:

2013

Calendar Girls by Tim Firth. Directed by Kathy Gent
It's Just Sex by Jeff Gould. Directed by Richard Parmee
Little Gem by Elaine Murphy. Directed by Des Smith

2014

An Ideal Husband by Oscar Wilde. Directed by Steven Arnold
A Shortcut to Happiness by Roger Hall. Directed by Sian Davis
MORE Fawcety Towers by John Cleese and Connie Booth. Directed by Kathy Gent

2015

Hautu & Charlie Bloom by Kathleen Gallagher. Directed by Steven Arnold
Hayfever by Noel Coward. Directed by Julian Harrison
Don't Dress for Dinner by Marc Camoletti. Directed by Elena Stejco

2016

When Dad Married Fury by David Williamson. Directed by Max Golding

Coming Soon



COMPANY THEATRE



**ONE
MAN**

**TWO
GUVNORS**

By **Richard
Bean**

Directed by **Kathy Gent**
Songs by **Grant Olding**

12-26 NOVEMBER 2016
WEDS - SAT 8PM SUNDAYS 2PM

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Auditions 2pm

Sunday 21 August 2016

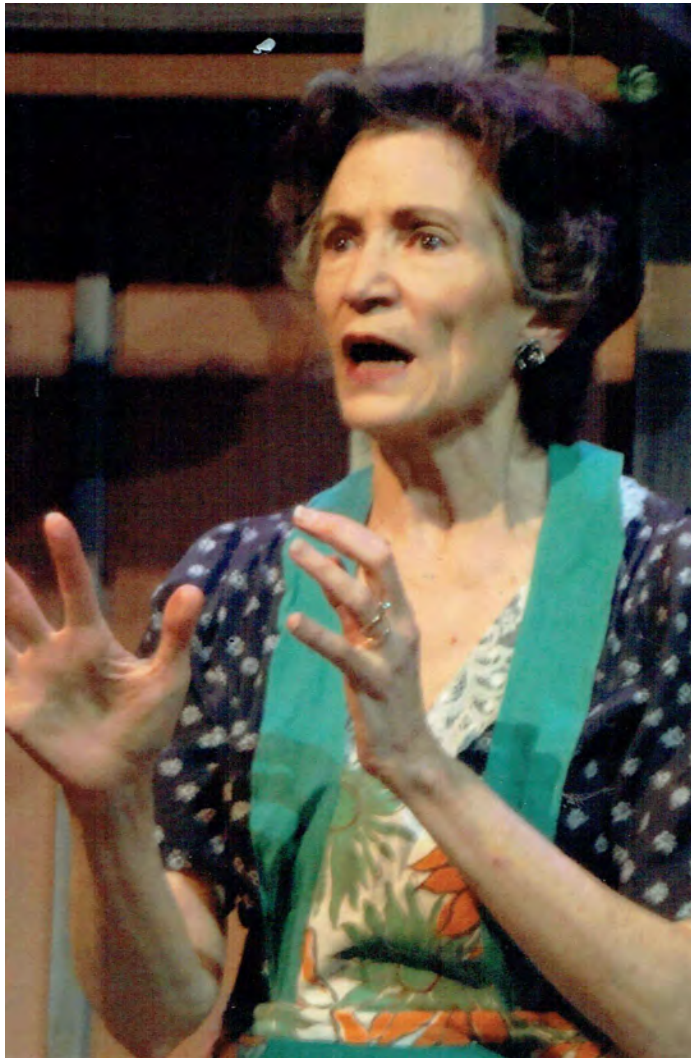
In the Theatre at The Rose Centre

See www.companytheatre.co.nz for details

Featuring a live band. 1960's music.

BOOK your XMAS theatre outing NOW Ph: 445 9900





Lynn Webster



Arthur Young, Brendan Grant, Laurene Dearlove



Richard De Luca, Sophie Cook, Reg Williams, Chloe



Laurene Dearlove, Chloe



Reg Williams, Richard De Luca