

Repertoire

August 2019



Newsletter of Adelaide's
oldest theatre group

Look Back in Anger the Rep's third play for 2019

by John Osborne
Directed by Lesley Reed
Aug 29-31 & Sept 4-7

Standing Left to Right: Jessica Carroll, Leah Lowe and Jack Robins
Seated Left to Right: Adam Tuominen and James Edwards

John Osborne was described as an 'angry young man' when, along with other young playwrights, he disagreed with the social, political and theatrical status quo of 1950s Britain.

The label has endured as a representation of all angst-filled young men. It is also synonymous with the lead character in Osborne's powerful and gut-wrenching 1956 play '*Look Back in Anger*'.

This realistic social drama was initially seen as groundbreaking and was met with a mix of acclaim and outrage. Its multiple themes are still as relevant today.

The Adelaide Repertory Theatre is proud to present Osborne's classic play as its third production for 2019, beginning August 29 at the Arts Theatre.

It is the mid 1950s and highly intelligent but working class and under-employed, Jimmy Porter rages against his life in an English Midlands city. He endures a volatile, poverty-affected existence with his upper-middle class wife, Alison, in the dingy attic room of a Victorian-era boarding house.

The marriage is not one of which Alison's socially aware parents approve.

Welsh friend and workmate, Cliff Lewis lives in the same boarding house and spends a lot of time with the couple. He often acts as peacemaker between them. When Alison's sophisticated friend, Helena Charles comes to stay, she is the catalyst for explosive events and revelations that will change all their lives. But emotional dependence is a powerful force...

Award-winning director **Lesley Reed** leads a strong Adelaide Repertory Theatre creative team for '*Look Back in Anger*', including some of Adelaide's finest actors, including NIDA graduate **Adam Tuominen** as Jimmy, together with **Leah Lowe**, **James Edwards**, **Jessica Carroll** and **Jack Robins**. With original music by **Kim Orchard**.

Season booking details page 4

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by post and would prefer to receive it
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enquiries@adelaiderrep.com and we'll update our database.





Message from the Chair

I hope you are all coping with this particularly cold winter. I know it can be a challenge to leave the warmth of your lounge room to venture out but I can assure you our third play for the year will be well worth the effort. Plus I am happy to report we now have air conditioning (heating and cooling) in the foyer as well as the auditorium.

The Rep is very pleased to welcome **Lesley Reed** to our family of directors. It is Lesley's first time with us and fresh from directing her ATG award winning play *Incorruptible* last year.

Lesley has recruited some of Adelaide's finest actors to bring us the classic drama *'Look Back in Anger'* by **John Osborne**. I am confident this is a piece of theatre you will not want to miss.

As reported in the last Repertoire, our Theatre Manager of some 28 years has retired and I personally and all the board would like to welcome our new Manager, **Michael Todd**. Read all about him in the accompanying article in this edition.

Our final production for 2019 welcomes back regular director to The Rep, **Megan Dansie** with **Patrick Barlow's** adaptation of *'A Christmas Carol'*. Both plays are now open for bookings. Get in early and request your favourite seat.

The Rep is always grateful to the volunteers who help put each of our productions on the stage. We would particularly like to make mention of those who help Front of House. These are the faithful who greet our patrons each night, serve tea and coffee, sell programs or show them to their seats.

If you would like to be added to our FOH volunteer database please email our FOH manager **Julie Quick** at juliequick99@gmail.com I'm looking forward to seeing you all at *'Look Back in Anger'*.

Cheers, Ray



Foyer Friends

Photos by Richard Parkhill.

Snapped in the foyer of The Arts Theatre at the opening night of the Rep's second production for 2019 *'Well, Shut My Mouth'*:



Kay Novak and friend



Gillian Cordell and Jan Duval



Rep President Ray Trowbridge
with Lucy Havelberg and Jamie Jaensch

Barb's Farewell Bash



Samela and Barb

Sunday night June 21st 2019. The stage of the Arts Theatre rocked with laughter as friends and relatives of the outgoing theatre manager, Barb Messenger, gathered on stage to wish her well in her retirement.

Led by our own Panni Hamilton-Smith as Mistress of Ceremonies, Barb's long-time pal journalist Samela Harris was the first of many to reminisce over her friendship with Barb. Jill Bartlett from the Therry Society, Michael Eustice from Red Phoenix, Carmel Vistoli from The Met all shared their memories and thanks to Barb for a job well done.

Greg Hart sang 'Only You', Michael Whitmee shared hair curling tech

tales, Matt Byrne charmed, Barb's daughter Kristen announced that Barb's retirement plans included helping with Kristen with her 'bugs' (which took Barb somewhat by surprise), Rep President Ray Trowbridge thanked and Barb responded.

'Dear Barb from all of your friends at The Rep we wouldn't be where we are today if not for your hard work and dedication'.



Barb at the microphone with Ray in the wings

Meet Michael Todd - The New Manager of The Arts Theatre



Say Hello to the new Manager of the Arts Theatre.

Following the retirement of our previous theatre manager, Barb Messenger, we welcome Michael Todd to the role of Manager, Arts Theatre.



Michael was born and raised in Newcastle in NSW. He was introduced to live theatre at a young age by his mum who took him to a local company called Young Peoples Theatre, or YPT as it was known, in Hamilton Newcastle NSW.

On 1989 he started working for Hoyts as an usher and in 1991 he moved to Adelaide to take up the Assistant Manager position at Tea Tree Plaza. For almost the next 10 years he worked between TTP and Hoyts Regent in Adelaide as assistant manager, ultimately transferring to Sydney to take up the Assistant Manager role at The Hoyts Centre on George street, widely regarded at the time as the busiest cinema in the southern hemisphere.

Michael moved back to Adelaide in 1998 and took up the position of General Manager of The Capri Theatre Goodwood, independently owned by The Theatre Organ Society of S.A. where he stayed for 5 years making friendships and business connections that are with him to this day.

Pursuing his love of cinema led him to a business partnership that in 2003 bought the Trak Cinema on Greenhill Road, and in December 2012 after much wrangling and wheeling and dealing they took over the lease of the Chelsea Cinema, now the Regal Theatre in Kensington and CMax cinemas Palmerston in the Northern Territory.

Michael exited the cinema business in January of this year and is looking forward to the next stage of his career managing the Arts Theatre, working with the Rep and all the other production companies who use the Arts Theatre. He has big shoes to fill, but big shoes tread a clear path.



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Official Website for the Theatre Assoc of South Australia



**The Adelaide
Repertory Theatre Inc.**

Patron: His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AO
Governor of South Australia

Vice Patron: The Right Honourable
The Lord Mayor of Adelaide, **Sandy Verschoor**

Venue: ARTS Theatre, 53 Angas St, Adelaide 5000

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LEADING ACCOUNTANTS AND BUSINESS ADVISORS

Look Back in Anger written by John Osborne

Season: August 29-31 and
September 4-7

Standing at Rear: L-R, Jessica Carroll, Leah Lowe and Jack Robins.

Seated at Front: L-R, Adam Tuominen and James Edwards.

ARTS Theatre

53 Angas Street, Adelaide
Performances commence at 8pm
plus a 2pm matinee Sat 7th Sept
Book at: www.adelaiderep.com
Special prices available for
group bookings.

For further information
contact the Booking

Manager Ray Trowbridge, on 0415 756 536



Rehearsed Play Readings

Our next rehearsed play reading will be 'A Spectacular Drop' - a romantic comedy by John Ovenden at 2.00pm Sunday 1st September 2019 in the Thomas Nave room.

Join us for the first reading of this funny and charming play about life, wine, love and walls.

For more information email
enquiries@adelaiderep.com.au

What the critics said about 'Well Shut My Mouth'

by Brenton Whittle; Directed by Sue Wylie

This is what the critics said about our second play for 2019 – the world premiere of Adelaide writer **Brenton Whittle's** brand new work 'Well Shut My Mouth'.....

*'Writer, **Brenton Whittle**, and director, **Sue Wylie**, have created a delightful production of 'Well, Shut My Mouth' for The Adelaide Repertory Theatre..... an engaging evening's entertainment'.*

Pam Watts – Broadway World:

***Andrew Horwood's** timing is perfect, and his lecherous humour is just charming enough to get away with it.....'*

Ana Obradovic – Glam Adelaide:

*'Well done to **Brenton H Whittle** and Adelaide Repertory Theatre for creating, workshopping and producing this quirkily 'different' comedy that will tickle many a rib and warm many hearts on these cold Adelaide nights. **Julie Quick** is endearingly sweet and daffy**David Salter** is wonderful as Craig....'*

Lesley Reid – Stage Whispers:

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Your subscription gives you 5 ticket vouchers for \$70.
That's \$14 per ticket - a saving of \$8 on each adult ticket.

Vouchers can be used for any show, use one for each show or use them all for one show.

Receive invitations to Opening Night suppers in the Thomas Nave Room and Membership of the Rep.

Book for friends at the concession rate of \$17/ticket.

It wouldn't be Christmas without 'A Christmas Carol'

Our final play for 2019 comes from the pen of **Charles Dickens** ... with a little help from Olivier Award winning and Tony nominated writer **Patrick Barlow**. This new stage version takes Dickens' classic story of greed, grief, ghoulish ghosts and eleventh-hour redemption, and makes it feel brand new again.

This adaptation brings the timeless tale to life with just five actors and all the wit, flair and theatrical invention you'd expect from **Patrick Barlow**, the writer who brought 'The 39 Steps' to the stage in so memorable a fashion. Using nothing more than some simple props, fresh physicality and the power of imagination, this timeless story of redemption shows how Ebenezer Scrooge transforms from a stingy miser to a man who generously celebrates the spirit of the season all year long.

In the capable hands of seasoned Director **Megan Dansie**, this is sure to be a fast seller so BOOK NOW to avoid disappointment.



Megan Dansie

A Christmas Carol Season:

14 -16 Nov 2019 at 8pm
20 - 23 Nov 2019 at 8pm
Matinee Saturday 23 Nov 2019 at 2pm



WANT TO EAT BEFORE THE SHOW?

Here are 2 great offers for Rep patrons

The Wakefield Hotel on Wakefield Street offers 50% off the 2nd meal when you produce your Rep tickets

Gurkhas Restaurant on Angas Street offers 10% discount on the total bill for Rep ticket holders