

# Repertoire

November 2019

Story by Charles Dickens  
Adapted by Patrick Barlow,  
Directed by Megan Dansie  
November 14 -16 & 20-23

## A Christmas Carol Adelaide Rep's final play for 2019

L to R. David Salter, Georgia Stockham,  
Matt Houston and Laura Antoniazzi.



***"Picking a man's pocket every twenty-fifth of December! It's not fair sir d'ye hear me? Just not fair."***

It wouldn't be Christmas without 'A Christmas Carol'. In this new stage version, Patrick Barlow takes Charles Dickens' classic story of greed, grief, ghoulish ghosts and eleventh-hour redemption, and makes it feel brand new again.

Dickens' tale, adapted by Olivier Award winning and Tony nominated Barlow, returns to the stage of the ARTS Theatre in November, starring Tony Busch as Ebenezer Scrooge.

What kind of a Scrooge will be offered by Mr Busch? He does not have a heart of iron, but one damaged by his refusal to let love in. Scrooge reckons he is a capital chap. After all, he gives alms, but to the workhouses and prisons. He simply doesn't notice his own casual cruelties, smiling benignly as he squeezes out hope and demands an ever greater return on his investments, insisting that everyone must work harder for less. Rather like Rob Lucas on budget day. Learning again to play like a child – and in the process reconnecting with the love of his mother, who died when he was a baby – is the key to Scrooge's redemption. Witness Ebenezer Scrooge's transformation from a stingy miser to a man who generously celebrates the spirit of the season all year long, in this highly theatrical adaptation.

Barlow, whose version of 'The 39 Steps' was an Adelaide Rep. hit in 2012 combines puppets and modern-day poignancy in this high-spirited adaptation.

'A Christmas Carol' is directed by award winning director, Megan Dansie, who last year, directed 'Rules For Living' at the Rep.

It's a larky production that operates as a play within a play. The play trades in puncturing illusions: the illusion that money can bring happiness, the illusions of capitalism and the illusions of theatre itself. It does so with playful glee.

This thrilling adaptation uses only seven actors to bring some of Dickens' most beloved characters to life. All this is quite fun, warm and silly, with Tony Busch, Matt Houston, Georgia Stockham, Laura Antoniazzi, David Salter, Jacqui Maynard and Max Rayner making spirited turns as assorted charity collectors, ghosts and lost loves. From Scrooge and Tiny Tim to Bob Cratchit and Mrs. Fezziwig, Barlow's 'A Christmas Carol' uses nothing more than some simple props, fresh physicality, and the power of imagination to convey this timeless story of redemption.

The script quite clearly makes connections between Dickens' story and our own times. It suggests that Scrooge's heartlessness lives on the behaviour of the 21st-century financiers and the politicians who put the interests of business before the interests of people.

Season booking details page 4

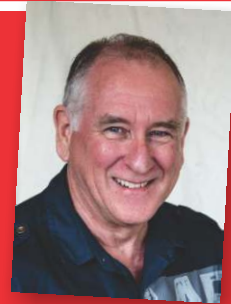
## Message from the Chair

It is hard to believe we are already talking about our last play for the year, 'A Christmas Carol'. One of Adelaide's favourite directors, **Megan Dansie** and her team of talented actors have been working very hard to bring to you a night of fun and song leaving you with a big smile and a drive home singing Christmas Carols.

It has been a very busy year for The Rep especially with our long term theatre manager, **Barb Messenger** retiring and the hunt for a replacement and all the work that goes into finding the right person. I am happy to say **Michael Todd** is settling into the position nicely.

The three plays we have presented to you so far this year have been well attended and received. It is always so gratifying to have patrons approach me in the foyer after a show and say "thank you, that was so moving" or "that was so funny". While I think we all realise we can never present four plays a year that will be everyone's favourites, we do try to give you a variety that you can laugh at, cry with or maybe stop and think. That is the purpose of live theatre.

We are very excited with our 2020 season. Once again something for everyone. If you haven't seen our season launch video yet please check it out on our website [adelaiderep.com](http://adelaiderep.com). We owe a tremendous amount of gratitude to **Genna Dixon** who produced the amazing video.



From early December online early bird tickets will be on sale. Your chance to get discounted tickets for any or all of our 2020 productions. At the same time, if you wish to save even more, our subscriber books also go on sale. Five vouchers to use anyway you wish during the year.

What a wonderful Christmas gift that keeps giving all year.

Everyone at The Rep would sincerely like to wish you and your families a very safe and prosperous Christmas and New Year.

Don't forget to come up and say hello in the foyer.

*Cheers Ray*

## ATG 2019 "Curtain Call" Winner - Henny Waters



On the 28th of Sept the ATG was pleased to be able to return to a full Gala Dinner format "Curtain Call" Awards Night, celebrated by guests from across SA's theatre community at the Carrington Function Centre.

The Winner of the Best Female Young Performer was **Henny Waters** for her role as **Helen Keller** in the 'Miracle Worker' - Adelaide Repertory Theatre April 2019.

Henny made her stage debut in 2013 and has played many roles since. After playing Anne Frank in the 2017 production of 'The Diary of Anne Frank' (Adelaide Rep. Theatre), she was nominated for the Curtain Call Best Young Actor award (Adelaide Theatre Guide), the Emerging Artist of the Year Award (Adelaide Critics Circle) and Best Youth Female Actor Award (TASA). This year she has finally received the accolades for some of her best work to date. Congratulations from all at the Rep. Henny, well deserved.

## Rehearsed Play Readings

Our last rehearsed play reading was 'A Spectacular Drop' - by **John Ovenden**. The reading was followed by a lively discussion about the play. Come along to the next one on November 17th from 2:00 pm. Join us for afternoon tea. For more information email: [enquiries@adelaiderep.com.au](mailto:enquiries@adelaiderep.com.au)



L to R: Maxine Grubel, Ray Taylor, Megan Dansie, Greg Janzow, Myra Waddell, Brian Godfrey, Rodney Hutton and Tom Carney.



Actors at play reading Maxine Grubel and Ray Taylor.



Brian Godfrey and Rodney Hutton.



Playwright John Ovenden.



Greg Janzow and Myra Waddell at play reading.



Tom Carney and Megan Dansie.

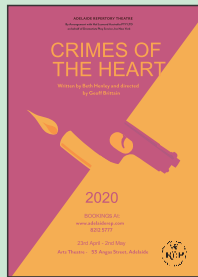


Play reading audience.

# What's happening in 2020

**Crimes of the Heart**  
 Directed by Geoff Brittain  
 23 April - 2 May 2020

This Tragicomedy relates the story of the three Magrath sisters who are back together in their hometown of Hazelhurst, Mississippi for the first time in a decade. Lenny, the eldest, never left Hazelhurst – she is the caretaker of the sisters' cantankerous Old Granddaddy. Meg, the middle sister, left home to pursue stardom as a singer in Los Angeles, but has, so far, only found happiness at the bottom of a bottle. And Babe, the youngest, has just been arrested for the shooting of her abusive husband, Zackery Bottrelle. Under the scorching heat of the Mississippi sun, past resentments bubble to the surface and each sister must come to terms with the consequences of her own "Crimes of the Heart."



The play won the 1981 Pulitzer Prize for Drama and was nominated for the Tony Award for Best Play.

**We will Always Have Paris**  
 Directed by Norm Caddick  
 18 - 27 June 2020

Three women of a 'certain age' gravitate to Paris. There's Nancy, a retired headmistress determined to throw off the shackles; Anna, recently widowed – and free – after years of nursing a sick husband; and Raquel, a divorcee in search of eternal youth and a new toy boy. A feel-good play with laughter and tears, the promise of romance,

friendship and anger, and the advantages and disadvantages of growing old. Perhaps not La Vie en Rose, but "We'll Always Have Paris" is certainly a play that will leave audiences charmed, amused, thoughtful – and singing!



**Good People**  
 Directed by Nick Fagan  
 27 August - 5 September 2020

Welcome to Southie, a tough, blue collar Boston neighbourhood where single mother Margie Walsh has been a lifelong resident caring for her intellectually disabled adult daughter.

After losing her job at the local dollar store, facing eviction and scrambling to catch a break, Margie reaches out to Mike, an old flame from her youth – now a successful doctor – in the hope that he might be her ticket to a fresh new start. But is this apparently self-made man secure enough to face his humble beginnings? Margie is about to risk what little she has left to find out.

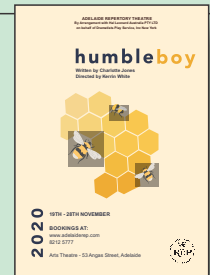
From Pulitzer Prize-winner David Lindsay-Abaire, and nominated for two Tony Awards including best play, "Good People" looks at the dangerous consequences of choosing to hold on to the past or leaving it behind.'

**Humble Boy**  
 Directed by Kerrin White  
 19 - 28 November 2020

*"You know, Felix, bumblebees shouldn't be able to fly... They don't obey the laws of physics. But they fly anyway."*

It's early summer and all is not well in the Humble hive....

Thirty-three year old Felix Humble, a bumbling and unworldly Cambridge academic, returns to the family home in the Cotswolds after the sudden death of his father, James. His vain and domineering mother Flora has hastily removed all traces of his father's existence from the home, including his beloved bees. In fact, Flora is on the brink of marrying another man – one as unlike his father as possible. George Pye is loud, brash and randy and has actually been having an affair with Flora for the last six years. To further complicate matters, George's daughter, Rosie, once had her heart broken by Felix and unbeknownst to him gave birth to their daughter. Families, hey! Charlotte Jones' comedy of family dysfunction was a sleeper hit for the National Theatre, followed by successful productions in both the West End and on Broadway. Winner of two Olivier Awards. The Adelaide Rep is proud to present the South Australian premiere of this warm, bittersweet comedy.



## SA's own internet guide to Theatre in and around Adelaide



Supporting local theatre productions. What's On in Drama, Musicals, Comedy and more  
[www.theatreguide.com.au](http://www.theatreguide.com.au)

Official Website for the Theatre Assoc of South Australia

## Special Car Parking Rates Moore St Parking

**\$8.00** Undercover parking 6pm 'til midnight

Located on Moore St opposite the Arts Theatre stage door!!



## 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

**Ph:** 8212 5777 **Web:** [www.adelaiderep.com](http://www.adelaiderep.com)

**Email:** [enquiries@adelaiderep.com](mailto:enquiries@adelaiderep.com)

**Rep. Photography:** Norm Caddick **Editor:** Penni Hamilton-Smith

**Printer:**  Douglas Press 8268 7877

## Welcome New Board Member Brian Nolan

Ever since studying drama at school, Brian has been fascinated by theatre and the magical entertainment it provides for our community.



Brian is a Governance, Risk and Compliance Management professional with over 15 years' experience in this field. Brian has worked extensively in the financial services, vocational training and transport industries, and now, the education sector.

Brian holds a Bachelor of Laws from the University of South Australia and a Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice from the Australian National University. In his spare time, Brian enjoys exploring the world with his young family, attending the theatre, all things cricket, and painting; having held solo and group exhibitions at the Adelaide Convention Centre, Port Dock Brewery and the Duncan Gallery.

He is honoured to be serving on the Board and is very much looking forward to making a contribution to the continued success of The Rep.

## Reviews - A Christmas Carol

Story by Charles Dickens Adapted by Patrick Barlow, Directed by Megan Dansie

"...a true gift of a Christmas show." - LondonTheatre.co.uk

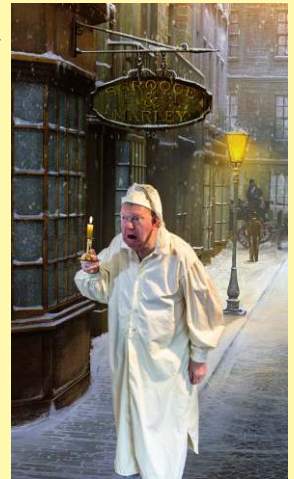
"warm and familiar" - The Stage

"Tis the season for adaptations of Charles Dickens' immortal A Christmas Carol, and if you think you've seen it all before, just wait until you see Patrick Barlow's new adaptation...True to its source (a ghost story, after all), it has its frightening moments as well. And then there are the small touches that set this adaptation apart from Dickens' original: the occasional anachronistic phrasing, fourth wall disintegration, and a dash of puppetry. No matter how many times you've experienced A Christmas Carol this version is not one to miss." - Stage Magazine

"From a certain angle, A Christmas Carol is a story about storytelling...This aspect of the Charles Dickens classic is the driving force behind playwright Patrick Barlow's new adaptation...The entire show is performed by seven actors, most of whom play multiple roles. Every time they switch characters, we're reminded that we're watching a live story unfolding in front of us." - TDF Stages

"Patrick Barlow injects a lot of humor into the piece. This comedy takes place because Barlow doesn't keep strictly to the original text as he takes liberties with language, the situation and, of course, the mood of the play." - Saratogian Theatre

"A Christmas Carol focuses on the political and social side of Victorian England, illuminating the joys and holiday traditions more than the religious view. As Scrooge claims at the end, "For we are all of us upon this earth a great family all together, Sir! Are we not dear Bob!," this is an entrancing and enlightened way to get into spirit of the season." - Curtain Up



## A Christmas Carol Season: November 14-16 and 20-23

### ARTS Theatre

53 Angas Street, Adelaide  
Performances commence at 8pm plus a 2pm matinee Sat 23rd Nov.  
Book at: [www.adelaiderep.com](http://www.adelaiderep.com)  
Special prices available for group bookings.

For further information contact the Booking Manager Ray Trowbridge on 0415 756 536



L-R, Georgia Stockham, David Salter, Matt Byrne,

Laura Antoniazzi and Tony Busch as Ebenezer Scrooge.



## 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



If you're receiving your copy of the Repertoire by post and would prefer to receive it via email, please send your details to [enquiries@adelaiderep.com](mailto:enquiries@adelaiderep.com) and we'll update our database.

