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R E P E R T O I R E

Newsletter of Adelaide's oldest theatre group

the other place

by Sharr White

directed by David Sinclair

One step at a time, a mystery unravels as
contradictory evidence, blurred by truth
and fragmented memories collide on
the windswept shores of Cape Cod.

Arts Theatre - 53 Angas St. Adelaide
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April 2025

The Other Place

Written by: Sharr White
Directed by: David Sinclair

The Adelaide Repertory Theatre Company kicks off its 117th season with a deft and provocative family drama imbued with psychological mystery. Sharr White's highly literate and timely family play, keeps its audience on its toes, undermining our assumptions almost as soon as we make them.

'The Other Place' revolves around a deep crisis in the lives of a couple of stellar professionals: Ian, a middle-aged oncologist, and Juliana, his 52-year-old wife, a research scientist. The play begins with her monologue — pitching a drug Juliana's lab has developed — at a mostly male medical conference in St.

Thomas, Virgin Islands. Brilliant, hard-edged, a chic professional, she lectures on her research with practiced ease, showing a series of slides, describing the way her drug interacts with the molecular structures diagrammed, and interjecting personal asides to her two audiences: the assembled neurologists and us.

A stark, single set facilitates quick transitions: the action moves from a contemporary living room to a doctor's office and then a beach house. We slowly realize that these scenes may be flashbacks, flash forwards or Juliana's fantasies about her marriage, her possible illness, her estranged daughter and son-in-law, and The other place, the house where her

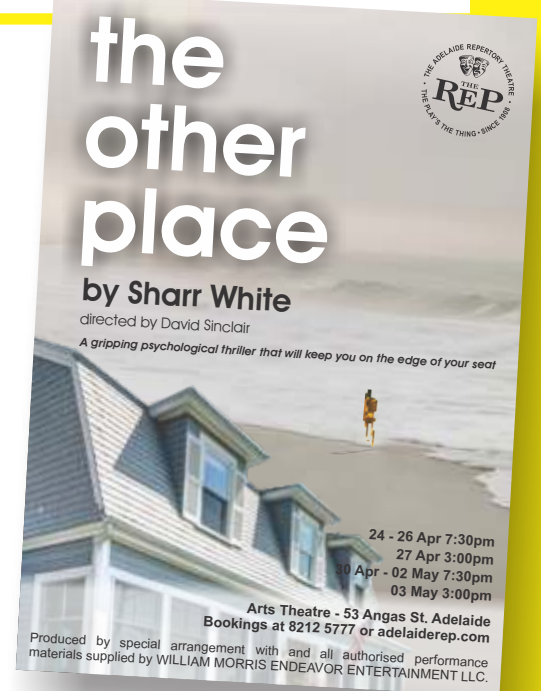
One step at a time, a mystery unravels as contradictory evidence, blurred by truth and fragmented memories collide on the windswept shores of Cape Cod.

family summered when she was young and which she has inherited.

Between Juliana's imperious commands to the slide technician, "NEXT!" we learn bits and pieces of the crises that drive the play. Juliana is a fiercely independent academic who can turn on a dime from

gracious woman to sarcastic bitch. She's a control freak who suddenly finds herself having an inexplicable episode of memory loss. She's suddenly out of control, suspicious, angry, confused, dependent on the kindness of both family and strangers.

Some scripts transport us into faraway worlds and into the lives of exotic characters. *'The Other Place'* takes us inside living rooms and doctor's offices that are all too familiar to us, and examines the devastating effects of dementia, an illness that has been less publicly discussed than cancer and is becoming far too relevant to our lives. You will walk out feeling enriched which is a tribute to a remarkable playwright and a passionate production.



The Other Place

Theatre Review
by: Helen Epstein

The creative team for the production includes David Sinclair (scenic, projection, casting and sound design), Rebecca Jarratt (costume), Richard Parkhill lighting design),(original music).

The Adelaide Repertory Theatre company is the resident not-for-profit company that produces 3 plays per year at the ARTS theatre at an affordable ticket price. Adelaide Rep. productions have earned a number of awards.

The ARTS is managed by a Board chaired by David Sinclair. For more information, visit www.adelaiderep.com



The Playright
Sharr White

Sharr White is an American playwright and screenwriter. He's known for his Broadway plays *'The Other Place'* (2011), *'The Snow Geese'* (2013), and *'Pictures From Home'* (2023).

He's also known as a producer and writer for Showtime series *'The Affair'* (2015–2019), the *'Starz'* series *'Sweetbitter'* (2019), the *'HBO Max'* series *'Generation'* (2021), and the Netflix limited series *'Halston'* (2021).

His Broadway debut was his play *'The Other Place'*, which was produced by the Manhattan Theatre Club, and opened at the Samuel J. Friedman Theatre from December 2012 through March 3, 2013. The play, directed by Joe Mantello, starred Laurie Metcalf and Daniel Stern. It was originally produced Off-Broadway by the MCC Theater in 2011.

The New York Times reviewer of the Off-Broadway production wrote: "A sense of disorientation unites audience and protagonist in *'The Other Place'*, a new drama by Sharr White about a forceful business woman confronting the onset of an illness whose nature keeps eluding her grasp. The play... is dominated by a compelling, at times scarily intense performance from Laurie Metcalf." *'The Other Place'* received two Outer Critics Circle Award nominations, for Outstanding New Off-Broadway Play and Outstanding Actress in a Play (Laurie Metcalf).

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the other place

Just as scientist Julianna Smithton's research leads her to a potential breakthrough, her life is disorienting. A haunting and thought-provoking play that delves deep into the complexities of the human mind and the fragile nature of truth.

Described as New York's most moving play of the year, Sharr White's *'The Other Place'* drops you into a gripping thriller that keeps you gasping at every turn.

Just as Dr Juliana Smithton's research is leading to a potential scientific breakthrough, her life takes a disorientating twist. And from the moment she spots the girl in the yellow bikini a mystery begins to unfold that will engulf her brilliant mind. All she knows is that people are telling her lies, her husband is in on it, and that it all began long ago at The Other Place.

Theatre is rarely as powerful or emotionally satisfying as in this

riveting drama. Award-winning director David Sinclair (Best Comedy – Noises Off- TASA 2023) returns to the stage to direct a cast led by Robyn Brookes with original music by Phil Short.

The play runs for 82 minutes and is one act only. The bar will remain open for one hour after the performance. There will be a Q and A session 30 minutes after each matinee giving audience members the opportunity to question the director and the performers about the production and its themes.

The Other Place Cast

Director, David Sinclair has assembled an exciting cast for this performance



Robyn Brookes



Scott Nell



Tegan Gully-Crispe



Brendon Cooney

The season starts on Thursday 24 April at 7:30pm and continues for another 7 performances:

Friday 25 Apr at 7:30pm
Saturday 26 Apr at 7:30pm
Sunday 27 Apr at 3:pm and this year a mid-week performance on Wednesday 30 Apr at 7:30pm then the last 2

nights and a matinee in the following month Thursday 1 May at 7:30pm & Friday 2 May at 7:30pm Saturday Matinee 3 May at 3pm. Tickets available at Adult: \$32 Concession: \$28.50



The Director David Sinclair



Director, David Sinclair is a multifaceted talent in the world of theatre. Based in Adelaide, South Australia, he has made significant contributions as an actor, director, and the President of the Adelaide Repertory Theatre.

David's journey in the arts began with his passion for acting. Over the years, he has taken on numerous roles in various productions, showcasing his versatility and dedication to the craft. His performances have been well-received by audiences and critics alike, earning him a reputation as a skilled and compelling actor.

In addition to his acting career, David has also made a name for himself as a director. His keen eye for detail and ability to bring out the best in his cast have resulted in several successful productions. One of his notable achievements as a director was the award-winning Australian premiere of *'August: Osage County'*, which received widespread acclaim.

David's commitment to the arts extends beyond his work on stage and screen. As the President of the Adelaide Repertory Theatre, he has played a crucial role in supporting and promoting the local theatre community. His leadership and vision have helped the theatre thrive, providing a platform for both emerging and established artists to showcase their talents.

Outside of his professional life, David is known for his dedication to the community and his passion for fostering a vibrant and creative theatre scene in Adelaide. His contributions have had a lasting impact on the cultural landscape of the city, and he continues to inspire and support the next generation of artists.

David Sinclair's remarkable career and unwavering commitment to the arts make him a true asset to the Adelaide theatre community. His work as an actor, director, and President of the Adelaide Repertory Theatre has left an indelible mark on the world of theatre, and his legacy will undoubtedly continue to influence and inspire for years to come.

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Sexy Susie Small: the impact of an image

by: Sue, a volunteer with the Rep's History Collection

I first spied Susie Small in a bathtub many years ago. It was during a party following a production by the Adelaide Rep. I don't recall the show, but I've never forgotten Susie.

Susie was mostly covered by bubbles and she wasn't there in the flesh. Her photograph was one of many 'Famous Faces'; displayed on the wall of the Thomas Nave Room upstairs in the Arts Theatre. However, it was Susie who caught my eye. At that moment I realised sexuality can be fluid; it's possible to be attracted to more than one gender.

Our paths cross again

Seeing Susie Small wasn't a fleeting moment. I never forgot her beauty nor her sultry look. So I was thrilled to rediscover her image when I helped display theatre memorabilia for The Rep's 'Behind the Scenes' tours for the 2024 History Festival.

The Rep's Thomas Nave Room is home to play readings, rehearsals, board and committee meetings, a gallery of 'Famous Faces' and post-theatre parties. It's also a treasure trove that includes a

costume room, a library of plays, and many 1,000's of photographs, theatre programs, posters and costume drawings. So much history and art! However, most of it is stored in cardboard boxes and only partly documented,

An opportunity

'Behind the Scenes' tours proved popular and the Board decided to establish a history committee to preserve, document, and increase accessibility to theatre memorabilia. So I volunteered! (I enjoy research, photography, reading, writing and art, which I thought might be useful skills.)

As a volunteer, I've discovered AusStage (a database of Australian theatrical performances), researched archival resources, assisted with grant applications, attended an Artlab/State Library workshop and - together with other committee members - helped sort a few thousand photographs. All of

which has been fun!

Back with Susie

Recently I was asked if I'd like to write an article for The Repertoire but the suggested topic (the 1978 fire at the theatre) didn't appeal. Sexy Susie Small sprang to mind; I thought this would be a way of learning why she's famous.

AusStage was insightful: their records reveal Susie was an accomplished actor, director and singer. She directed 'Fiddler on the Roof' and 'Guys and Dolls' for the Stirling Theatre Company. Between 1976 and 2006, Susie performed with The Rep, the Therry Dramatic Society, the Hills Musical Company, St Jude's Players, the Metropolitan Musical Theatre Company and the 1986 Adelaide Fringe Festival. She was part of a star-studded production of 'The Man Who Came to Dinner' at the Space Theatre in 1992. This Adelaide Children's Hospital fundraiser





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More on Sexy Susie Small

by: Sue, a volunteer with the Rep's History Collection

also included Andrew Jarman, Angela Bannon, Angela Condous, Jo Peoples, Peter Goers, Russell Starke and Samela Harris.

Susie's longest theatrical relationship was with The Rep. She performed in:

'Career' (1978)

'Play it Again Sam' (1979)

'Present Laughter' (1982)



At Left. Top, Susie Small. Middle Row, Rosemary Johnston, Judy Menz, Susan Barreau. Front Row, Deane Hutton, Rhonda Grill, Barbara Crompton.



'The Women' 1983

'The Women' 1983

'Outside Edge',
'The Women'
and 'Brown
Slouch Hat' (a
busy 1983)

'Much Ado
about Sweet
Fanny Adams'
(1984)

'West of the Black Stump' (1985)

'Let's Get This Show on the Road' (1987)

'Fallen Angels' (2006).



'Brown Slouch Hat' 1984

"Susie Small shines as the frothy Julia Sterroll who has settled into a comfortable, but passionless existence with her dull but lovable husband. Small is somewhat reminiscent of Katherine Hepburn as she oscillates, torn between appreciation of her dependable husband and yet longing for something a little more exciting." (Adelaide Theatre Guide)

A Trove search revealed a little more about Susie. She started in theatre in 1969, having majored in music and drama at Sydney Teachers' College. In 1971 Susie moved to Adelaide, she had two sons, lived in Bellevue Heights and was a "well-known local personality".

Stephanie Johnson reviewed the Rep's production of Noel Coward's 'Fallen Angels' and it was pleasing to read that:



'The Outside Edge' 1983

More on Sexy Susie Small

by: Sue, a volunteer with the Rep's History Collection

I'm sure Susie Small found something more exciting with the Rep. And thanks to her, I have too!

Pictured are some of the plays Susie performed in with The Rep.





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Do you want more?

If you would like to see more Famous Faces and explore other treasures from the Rep's History Collection, why not visit our exhibition Through the Decades as part of the 2025 History Festival to be held in May.

And if you're looking for extra excitement, you might find it behind the scenes or front of house at the Rep. So please reach out and try a volunteer role.



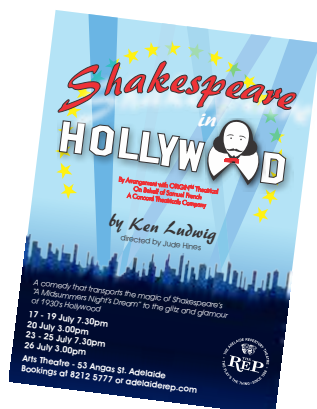
Coming to The Rep in 2025

Coming to The Rep later in the year are two magnificent productions.

Firstly in mid July 'Shakespeare in Hollywood', a comedy that transports the magic of Shakespeare's 'A Midsummers Night's Dream' to the glitz and glamour of 1930's Hollywood.

Directed by Jude Hines and with a hand picked cast it is destined to keep you entertained all night.

It's 1934, and Shakespeare's most famous fairies, Oberon and Puck, have magically materialized on the set of a Warner Brothers movie of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'.



Smitten by the glitz and glamour of show biz, the two are ushered onto the silver screen to play (who else?) themselves.

With a little help from a feisty

flower, a blonde bombshell and a movie mogul, the results are raucous to say the least. The mischievous magic of moviedom sparkles in this hilarious comic romp.

To round out the year The Rep presents 'Adrift in New York' in November.

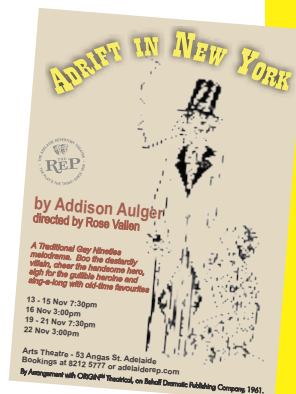
Melodrama at its finest! 'Adrift in New York' is a thrilling tale of virtue, villainy, and Victorian-style suspense.

When an innocent young

heroine is cast adrift in the big city, fate, fortune, and a fiendish scoundrel conspire to test her resilience. Will justice prevail? Will true love triumph? Expect dastardly deeds, dramatic twists, and a hearty dose of theatrical nostalgia in this rollicking classic.

A delightfully over-the-top adventure brimming with heroics and heart—don't miss The Rep's spirited revival of this vintage gem.

Director Rose Vallen can't wait to get you involved in this traditional gay nineties melodrama where you can boo the dastardly villain, cheer the handsome hero, sigh for the gullible heroine and sing-a-long with old time favourites. It will be a night to remember!



AGM 2025

Adelaide Repertory Theatre Inc, will hold its Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 25th March 2025, at 7.00pm at The Arts Theatre 53 Angas St Adelaide.

All welcome.



The latest from The Arts Theatre Fringe, Fresh Lights and Future Shows

Fringe season was in full swing, in March and the theatre was buzzing! Fountain Lakes in Lockdown: A Drag Parody played to packed houses, bringing laughter and a touch of suburban fabulousness to our stage.

As we look ahead, there's plenty more to get excited about. Therry Theatre's *'Mum's Gift'* is up next, followed by The Rep's gripping drama *'The Other Place'*. Then, get ready for a touch of glitz and glamour when The Met brings *'La Cage Aux Folles'* to life.

Behind the scenes, we've been working hard to upgrade our technical capabilities. We're thrilled to have acquired some second-hand lighting stock, giving our aging lanterns a much-needed boost. However, major work is still needed on our fly system, air conditioning, and fire safety measures—so if you love what we do and want to help secure the future of this historic venue, donations are always warmly welcomed.

Stay tuned for more updates, and we'll see you at the theatre soon!

Mum's Gift

Therry Theatre presents *'Mum's Gift'* by Phil Olson, directed by Lucy Johnson



Heartfelt, hilarious, and just a little bit heavenly—*'Mum's Gift'* is a touching comedy that

proves a mother's love knows no bounds. On the eve of her father's wedding, a woman gets an unexpected visit from her late mother... with one last mission to complete before she can truly rest. Packed with warmth, wit, and a sprinkle of the supernatural, this charming play is a celebration of family, love, and the little miracles that shape our lives.

A delightful blend of laughter and tears—don't miss this uplifting theatrical treat. Book now!

La Cage Aux Folles

'La Cage Aux Folles' began life as a stage play in 1973 and was adapted into a wildly popular French film premiering in 1978. The musical premiered on Broadway in 1983 and the film version was then remade as

THE ARTS THEATRE

'The Birdcage', starring Robin Williams and Nathan Lane, in 1996. The musical is a wickedly funny farce about two gay men, Georges and Albin, who have had a relationship for over 20 years.



The two men own a glamorous nightclub in St. Tropez where one is the star and the other the MC. Together they have raised Georges' son, the product of a one-night stand years ago. When Georges' son, Jean Michel, brings home the daughter of a very conservative French politician and announces their impending marriage, slapstick comedy ensues as everyone tries to pretend they are someone or something they are not. The stuffy politician, his wife, and the innocent young couple who just want to get married provide an hilarious storyline whilst Georges and Albin define the best of friendship and love, the kind that only gets stronger through the years. In many ways, this is an old-fashioned musical about old-fashioned family values.....with a twist!