

**WMT Studios**  
in association with Sunnybank Theatre Group  
and ORiGiN Theatrical present

# **DONE TO DEATH**

**by Fred Carmichael**

**directed by**  
**Dierdre Robinson**  
**John Mordacz**

April 26 - May 11 2019

# Act 1

WMT Studios, 1970s

# Act 2

Vulture's Vault

When we first considered staging *Done to Death* here at Sunnybank, we couldn't quite decide whether it was a who-dun-it, a comedy, a melodrama, a thriller or a farce. So, we decided to do the lot. What you see in this performance represents the diversity of talent that we are fortunate to have at STG. You will be wowed by the brilliant set, devised and constructed by Mark Westby, the incredible range of lights and effects which are the brainchild of Joanne Sephton, and the gadgets dreamed up by Richard Williams.

And then of course we have a very dedicated cast and crew, with some new and very welcome faces included.

We have all had a lot of fun in the weeks of rehearsal that have taken place in the lead up to this presentation, and we trust that you will think we are all quite crazy, have a good laugh, and leave the theatre with a big smile.  
Enjoy!

John and Dierdre



Sunnybank Theatre Group is a participant in the 2019 Gold

## **Dierdre Robinson – Director**

Coming from a theatrical family background, it was inevitable that the stage would become a very central part of Dierdre's life. From her first onstage performance in *White Horse Inn* with Bundaberg Amateur Players as a twelve-year-old, to her years with Queensland Ballet, and subsequent involvement with repertory companies in the UK, and in Sydney and Brisbane, she has enjoyed a very wide range of theatrical opportunities. Here at STG Dierdre is usually focused on directing or stage managing, though she has made an occasional onstage appearance, most recently in *Kindly Leave the Stage* in 2018. *Done to Death* has provided her with a change of genre and lots of fun, and she has a few more directing plans on the horizon.



## **John Mordacz – Director**

John has been a fixture at STG for many years as director, assistant director, lighting and sound operator, stage manager, crew and president of the committee. He has been a part of many productions, including *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, *Good Business Sense*, *The Sound of Music*, *Stepping Out* and *Guys and Dolls*. In 2017 he directed the successful season of *Avenue Q* and is always on the lookout for other shows that are quirky, humourous and a little naughty.



## Carolyn Mills – Jessica Olive

With her parents meeting on stage and her dad introducing her to her love of the stage at a young age, Carolyn knew acting was always going to be a part of her life in some way. She studied Speech & Drama and performed and directed various plays throughout school and university. She also taught performing arts and was stage manager for three productions at Summer Camp in Connecticut USA in 2003. Since then she has settled in Brisbane with her husband and two young daughters and has recently performed in the STG productions *God of Carnage* and *Secret Bridesmaids' Business*. Earlier works include *Dimboola*, *Fanny the Farmer's Daughter*, *Sailing South*, *Pillow Talk* and *Hot Taps*.



## Chris O'Leary – Whitney Olive

2019 marks Chris' 10th year with STG where he has been seen as actor, stage hand, set designer, lighting designer, promoter and director. Starting with *Little Shop of Horrors*, Chris has also acted in *Suddenly at Home*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Deathtrap*, *The Sound of Music*, *And No More Shall We Part* and *Sleuth* just to name a few.

He co-directed *Guys and Dolls* with John Mordacz in 2014 and *The 39 Steps* in 2017. He is working on authoring his first play, which he hopes to complete at the end of this year.

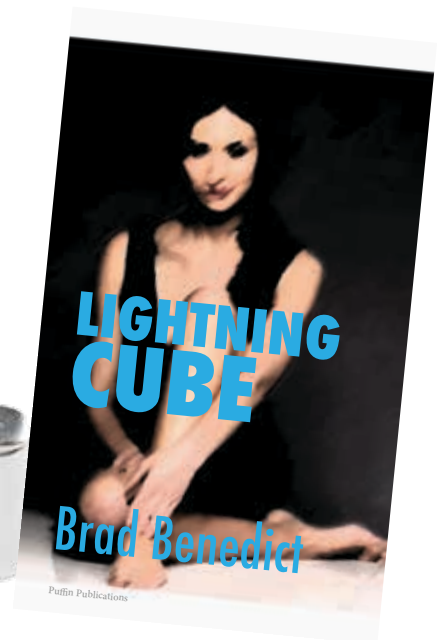
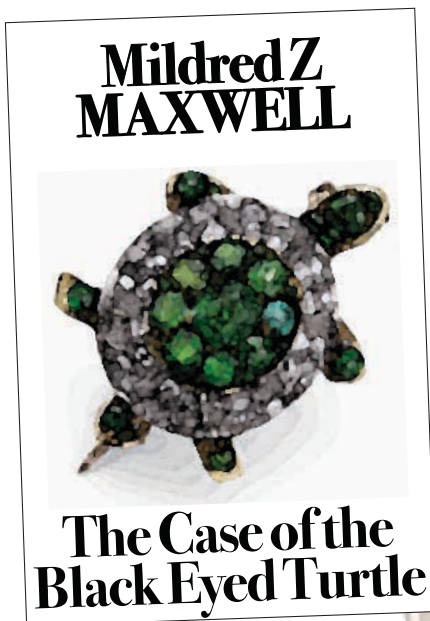
Chris has had a great time with this wonderful cast and crew and hopes you enjoy the silliness that is *Done to Death*.





## Joanne Oliver – Mildred Maxwell

Joanne is very happy to be at Sunnybank again performing with an outstanding cast. Her last adventures here include *God of Carnage* and *Kindly Leave the Stage*. Mildred is definitely an outrageous character that she hopes will make everyone laugh. Joanne believes we have all met a Mildred sometime in our life. Working with highly committed people making a play come to life is an absolute gift. Laughter, fun and hard work makes any performance an absolute pleasure. Enjoy!



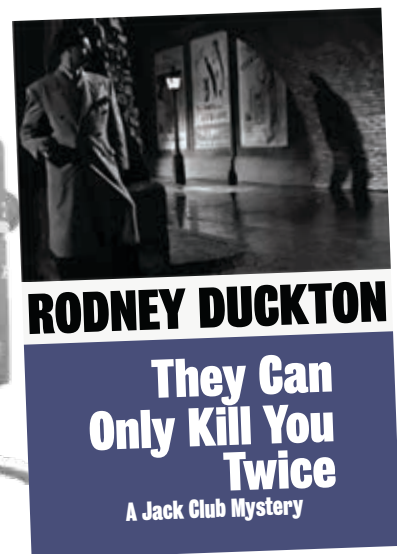
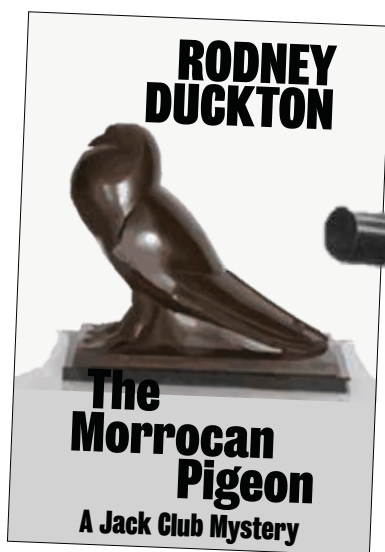
## Henry Jacobs – Brad Benedict

Henry is an aspiring actor who is soon to graduate with an extended major in drama from the University of Queensland. He enjoys challenging characters, gritty plots and a slice of comedy. Coming from the small, student-run production *Sheep and Goats*, this the second play he has worked on and is eager to continue to learn.



## Greg Johnson - Rodney Duckton

Greg is delighted to be back on stage after last appearing with STG in the 2016 production of *Anyone for Breakfast*. He has had many years experience in community theatre in Brisbane, the Gold Coast, and Bundaberg in musicals and plays. Favourite shows include *Camelot*, *Oklahoma!*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *Hello Dolly!*, *The Shifting Heart*, and *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* which he did with STG. Other shows with STG have been *The Sound of Music*, *The Mikado*, and *You Must Remember This*. Greg hopes you will enjoy the madcap performances you will see in this crazy romp - *Done to Death*.



## Nathaniel Young - Jason Summers

Nathaniel first discovered *Done to Death* in late 2017, fascinated by the concept of mashing different authors with different styles, is excited to at last appear in a production of said play, and hopes you'll all enjoy it very much!

If he looks familiar, you've probably seen the Brisbane based actor on stage in *Twelve Angry Men*, *The 39 Steps*, *The Wedding Singer* and *Kindly Leave the Stage*.

Or, potentially, you've seen his directorial dabblings with *Beyond Reasonable Doubt* and *Keeping Up Appearances*, or his Stage Managerial debut with *God of Carnage*.

Outside STG, Nate has made the odd appearance with Centenary Theatre Group and Nash Theatre. He has written, produced and performed in shows as part of Brisbane Anywhere Festival and Short+Sweet. Keep an eye out for the premiere of his new radio play *Tally Hall* at Sunnybank in August, as well as a top secret project in October!



## Ewan Paterson - George/Monster

Unlike most 33-year-old Ewan Patersons, this one lives at Coopers Plains, where he occasionally wears pants. As could be expected from one of such radiant charisma, the thermal currents of superstardom have lifted Ewan up by his mutton-chops, to soar the thespian heights of Wingham, Armidale and now Sunnybank; where it is expected he will soon commence to drive his "career" into a slow, publicly irritating death. Having performed in only three lead roles in the past (in *Threepenny Opera*, *Dunbar* and *Spamalot*), Ewan has spent plenty of his time as supporting cast, doing his noble bit to steal as much limelight from the principles as he can get away with. Given this established ethos, he intends to furnish *Done To Death* with as much "ham" as a Christmas banquet! Oh, and ladies, we regret to confirm what you no doubt feared – he does indeed have a girlfriend. However, we understand that she is only too happy to surrender him for a nominal fee.



## Daniel Baker - Ne'er-Do-Well/Grip

This is Daniel's first production with STG. He has also appeared in productions at Brisbane Arts Theatre. His day job herding cats doesn't allow him to use his creative side so he is currently studying acting part time as well.





## Lesley Davis - Martha/Secretary

Lesley is no stranger to the STG stage, and a familiar face behind the scenes at STG for many years now. It is certainly a far cry from her 'day job', for which she rocks up every day to help keep the cogs of government in motion.

She looks forward to supporting this fabulously talented cast and helping to bring this intriguing play, *Done to Death*, to life.



## Melanie Pennisi - Girl/Stephanie

Mel has loved being a part of the STG family since 2016. Since then she's enjoyed performing in *Beyond Reasonable Doubt*, *Third Week in August*, *The Wedding Singer*, *Kindly Leave the Stage* and her favourite, *The 39 Steps*. Mel has had lots of fun rehearsing *Done to Death*, and as a big fan of murder mysteries, she's looking forward to being part of one on stage!





## Evelyn Ho - Jane

Evelyn is an aspiring actor and director studying dentistry at UQ. She has been involved in a number of theatre production with University of Queensland, including *The Darlings*, *The Family Business*, *That Face*, *Bitches of Bourbon Street* and *Medea*. Evelyn is excited to be making her debut at STG and hopes to continue her passion for acting when she is not drilling teeth. Rumour has it that Evelyn can be found running lines with her calico cat before rehearsals.



## Richard Williams - Gregory

Richard has been acting (mostly the clown) all his life - at work and at play. A vocal artist he became obsessed with comedy and drama audio from the age of 13. It is fair to say that his acting career (if it can be described as such) has been somewhat sparse. However he has appeared in such farces as *Charley's Aunt*, *Kindly Leave the Stage*, *Ladies Day* and *The 39 Steps*, all of which have helped counteract his serious and slightly more boring business side. A lifelong mimic and impressionist with a fascination for accents, he is also a frustrated rock star, rally driver, fast-jet pilot and family man with four children and 1.5 grandchildren. *Done to Death* has provided Richard an opportunity to play a non-drunk role, which makes a nice change.



# Grew

Stage Manager	John Mordacz
	Dierdre Robinson
Stage Crew	Daniel Baker
	Ewan Paterson
	Lesley Davis
	Melanie Penissi
Set Design	Mark Westby
Construction	Mark Westby
	Chris O'Leary
Lighting/Sound Design	Joanne Sephton
Operators	Joanne Sephton
	John Mordacz
Special Gadgets	Richard Williams
Props	The Cast
Costumes	The Cast
Photography	Kayleen Zoethout
Program/Poster	Chris O'Leary

Special thanks to all of our wonderful volunteers who assist with many areas of the theatre - box office, ushering, greenroom and bar to name a few.

Don't miss our next evening of theatre sports. Great fun and a great way to meet new people and learn new skills.



**Saturday May 18th**

Join us in the greenroom from 6:30pm with the fun starting at 7:00pm and finishing around 8:30pm

Like us on



If you love theatre like we do, come and join us.  
You'd be very welcome.

We're a great bunch of people who share a passion for the stage.

If acting isn't your thing, there are lots of other ways to be involved.  
You could work back stage, or with sound and lighting.

You could help build sets, or make costumes.

Perhaps you could give a hand in the box office,  
or the bar, or show people to their seats.

You can be involved as much or as little as you want,  
but we would love you to be involved.

Talk to one of our volunteers, call us on 3345 3964,  
email us at [info@stg.org.au](mailto:info@stg.org.au),  
or chat to us on Facebook (search for @sunnybanktheatre).



in association with ORiGiN Theatrical

# Chapter Two

by Neil Simon



director **Pam Cooper**  
**June 14 - 29**

**Tally Hall** Radio  
Plays

director **Chris O'Leary**  
**August 2 - 10**

**Shining Lights**

director **Nerida Day**  
**August 16 - 24**