

Sunnybank Theatre Group presents
in association with ORiGiN Theatrical

GOD OF CARNAGE

by Yasmina Reza
translated by Christopher Hampton

directed by Leonie Walsh

April 6 – 21, 2018

Please note there will not be an interval for this production, but do join us in the greenroom after the show to meet the cast and crew.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Aptly described as a “play of manners without the manners” Yasmina Reza’s *The God of Carnage* takes us on an emotional roller coaster ride. The winner of several Tony Awards and an Oliver Award, the audience watches two couples meeting for the first time, not on neutral territory, verbally dance through awkward conversations of oh-so-political correctness until such time as none of them can keep up the facade. Little by little verbal jibes see that socially acceptable and expected veneer chipped away to reveal each player’s true personalities and feelings. The players are: Annoying Allan (always on his phone); his wife Awkward, Anxious Annette; their hosts Annoyingly Passionate, Self Righteous Veronica and Liberal Michael who is initially Veronica’s subordinate but watch his veneer slip and slide away! The play is peppered, at times, with inappropriate comments and graphic language yet would be inappropriate not to be scripted in for its shock value.

It’s been a pleasure once again working with the passionate people who make up Sunnybank Theatre Group. Thank you to you the audience who have come to see this black comedy. Please take time to read the program and note the names of these stellar folk. I give special mention to STG’s current president Paul Marshall for his administrative leadership and help when it was needed most and to Chris O’Leary, who is my white knight in shining armour. Working with like minded and creative persons is such a buzz. My thanks to my creative team June Gemmell, David Gemmell, Nate Young, Andy Cosier, Allan Hare, Jane Rapley and Kaiden Day for always being open to ideas and working cohesively for the show. A big thanks to Nate Young who stepped into my shoes for several rehearsals when I was unable to attend. I so appreciate this Nate. A special mention goes to the front of house staff for their commitment to our audiences.

Finally my thanks to the God of Casting for shining down on audition day giving me such stellar players in Joanne and Brad Oliver, Carolyn Mills and David Richardson. It’s been an absolute pleasure working with you all.

Please stay on after the show for a drink or afternoon tea with the cast and crew. We look forward to meeting you all.

DIRECTOR

LEONIE WALSH

The God of Carnage sees Leonie direct her fourth show at Sunnybank Theatre Group. Past shows at STG are *Breaking Up Is Hard To Do* in 2013, *Dusty the Original Pop Diva* in 2015 and *Secret Bridesmaids Business* in 2017.

Leonie joined BAMS Theatre in Beaudesert in 1986. Two years later she was assistant director for the musical *Kismet*. Since then Leonie has directed the musicals *Grease*, *Oklahoma*, *The Music Man*, *The Sound of Music* (twice), *The King and I*, *South Pacific*, *Nunsense 1, 2, 3 and 4*, comedies *See How They Run*, *Elizabeth the Third*, *On Our Selection*, murder mystery *Murder Mistaken* and was assistant director for *Annie*. Leonie has played in *Oliver*, *Oklahoma*, *The Bride and the Bachelor* and scared most of the children in Beaudesert as her speech impaired, green faced, hooked nose version of the Wicked Witch in *The Wizard of Oz*. Since then the colour green has never meant the same to Leonie!

Leonie and her husband Terry have encouraged their four children to participate and appreciate the magic, joy and escapism of theatre. Leonie thanks her wonderful husband Terry for his encouragement and support. It gives her great pleasure to see her sister Kate, daughter Loretta and nephew Edward Foy working professionally as actors and her daughter Kate teaching high school drama. Leonie and her grand daughter Violet are often seen at the theatres around SEQ. It's the enjoyment of creative works whether as a participant or audience member that makes life, isn't it?



CO-DIRECTOR

NATHANIEL YOUNG

When not thinking about, but not actually, writing, Nathaniel can probably be found somewhere around Sunnybank Theatre Group. During his tenure with STG, “Nate” has appeared in *Relatively Speaking*, *Twelve Angry Men*, *The 39 Steps*, and most recently *The Wedding Singer*. In addition to acting, he has dabbled in directing with *Beyond Reasonable Doubt* and the highly successful *Keeping Up Appearances*.



Outside of STG, Nathaniel has written, produced and performed in shows as part of Brisbane Anywhere Festival, including *Arrivederci* and *Adamo Mortem*, and has written for the Short+Sweet Festival. He’s also worked with Centenary Theatre Group in *Dangerous Corner*, *A Little Murder Never Hurt Anyone* and *There Goes the Bride*. Earlier in 2017, he made his debut with Nash Theatre in a radio play adaptation of *The Philadelphia Story*.

Nate is looking forward to branching out as a Stage Manager, and even though you won’t see him, he’ll be there, always watching, always waiting...for the next cue!



VERONICA

JOANNE OLIVER

Joanne is thrilled to be performing once again at Sunnybank Theatre.

Some of her previous shows are *'Allo 'Allo*, *Are You Being Served*, *Keeping up Appearances*, *Third week in August*, *Calendar Girls*, *The Odd Couple* (female version), *When the Cat's away*, *Crèche and Burn* and *The Importance of Being Earnest* to name a few.

God of Carnage is definitely a challenge. It has been fabulous exploring these interesting characters and giving life to the story. Reacting to things in ways that we all would have liked to do at some point in our lives. Don't expect any political correctness in this play. It is life at its most raw and brutal and makes no apology for it.

It has been great working with such wonderful actors and director. We hope that you enjoy *God of Carnage* as much as we have.



MICHAEL

BRAD OLIVER

Brad became involved in Brisbane live theatre in 2015.

He has appeared in numerous plays at Sunnybank, including *Are You Being Served*, *Post Its*, *12 Angry Men* and *Keeping Up Appearances*.

He has also performed at Centenary Theatre in *A Little Murder Never Hurt Anybody* and more recently *There Goes the Bride*.

Brad was introduced to theatre by his wife Joanne, who will be appearing alongside him in this production of *God of Carnage* as his wife Veronica. Brad loves the artistic outlet theatre provides along with the camaraderie and team work that goes into every production.

He sees the character of Michael being very different to any other role he has played.

The rollercoaster of emotions in this play are epic. Working alongside some very talented actors and an amazing Director are a huge bonus.

And of course, the opportunity to work alongside his real-life wife Joanne should make things very interesting.



ANNETTE

CAROLYN MILLS

Carolyn returned to the stage last year in STG's *Secret Bridesmaids Business* as bride Meg. Having discovered her love of the stage from a young age she has 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 performed in the productions *Dimboola*, *Fanny the Farmers Daughter*, *Sailing South*, *Pillow Talk* and *Hot Taps*. With a very busy work life as a business analyst for a local medical software company, Carolyn loves to escape the "crazy" and unwind on the stage!



ALAN

DAVID RICHARDSON

David is excited to be making his return to Sunnybank Theatre after performing in *Key for Two* in 2016 and *Secret Bridesmaids' Business* in 2017. Previous to that, he appeared in a number of theatre productions on the Gold Coast, including *Footloose*, *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress* and *Play It Again, Sam*. As part of his double-life, David is a teacher of Film & Television and Drama. Being a big film fan, he loves being able to teach and talk to students about films and film-making. Some of his favourite films are *Pulp Fiction*, *American Beauty* and *Star Wars*.

David has appreciated being able to perform with three insanely talented actors in the Tony Award-winning *God of Carnage*. Added to that, he's honoured to take on the role played by one of his favourite actors, two-time Oscar winner Christoph Waltz, in the film version – *Carnage*.



CREW

Lighting and Sound Design	David Gemmell
Lighting Operators	Allan Hare
	Jane Rapley
	Kaiden Day
Stage Manager	Nathaniel Young
Stage Crew	Andrew Cosier
Casting and Production Crew	June Gemmell
Digital, Program & Media	Chris O'Leary
Set Design / Construction	Bob Clayton and Cast
Special Effects	David Gemmell
Photography & Advertising	Kayleen Zoethout
Properties	Cast
Costumes	Cast
Front of House	Our wonderful volunteers



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.

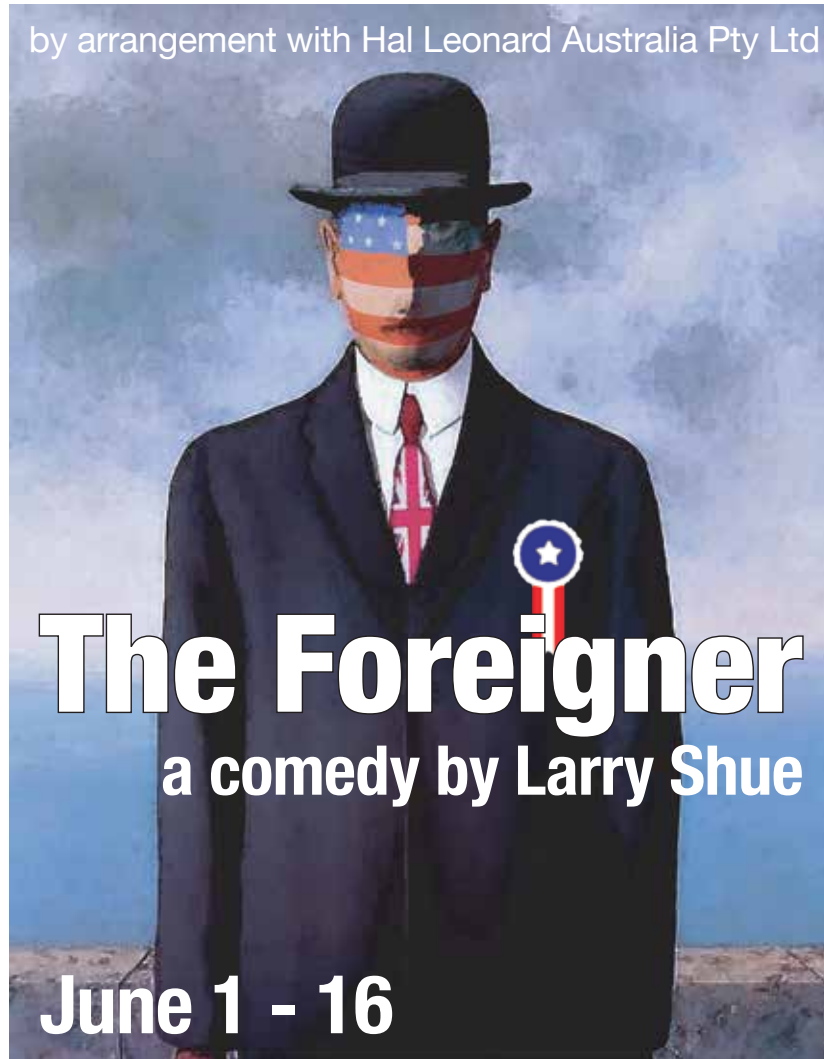
Perhaps you could give a hand in the box office,
or the bar, or show people to their seats.

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,
or chat to us on Facebook (search for @sunnybanktheatre).

don't miss our next production

by arrangement with Hal Leonard Australia Pty Ltd



The Foreigner

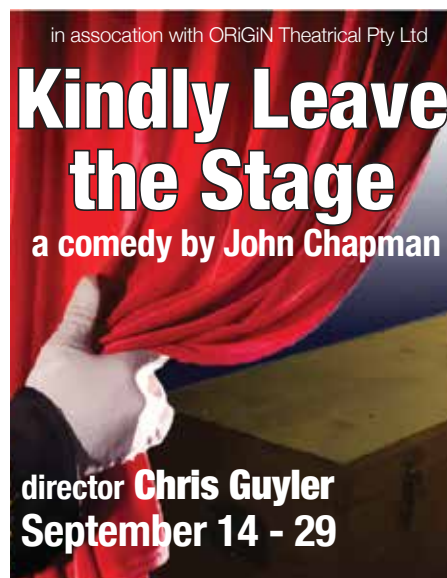
a comedy by Larry Shue

June 1 - 16

Tickets are available now for The Foreigner and the rest of our 2018 season

Festival of the Ages

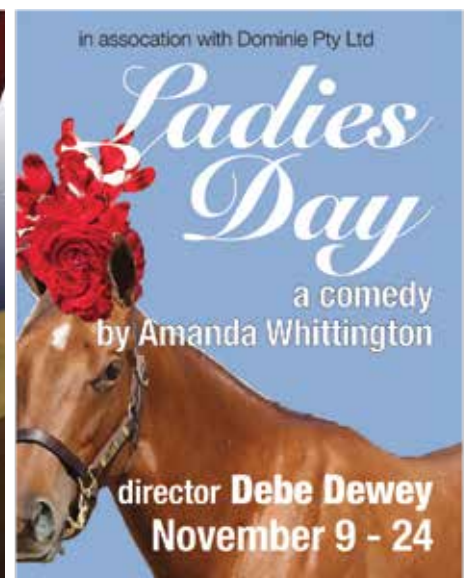
STG Youth Theatre
The Farndale Avenue
Housing Estate
Townswomen's Guild
Dramatic Society's
Production of
'Macbeth'
That Championship
Season
July 20 - August 11



Kindly Leave the Stage

a comedy by John Chapman

director **Chris Guyler**
September 14 - 29



in association with Dominie Pty Ltd

Ladies Day

a comedy
by Amanda Whittington

director **Debe Dewey**
November 9 - 24