



HARLEQUIN

MUSICAL THEATRE

Next Show:

CATS – From 6 June 2009 @ The Civic Theatre,
Auckland. Bookings Open Now

**Harlequin
Musical Theatre**
Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2009
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Harlequin Musical Theatre

**Invites you to come and celebrate with us at
our 2008 awards ceremony, and the launch of
our 50th year**

We are proud to present awards for successes in 2008, and
excited to show you what a fantastic year we have planned for
our Jubilee Year.

**Sunday 1st February – 4pm onwards at
Harlequin Theatre**

Come and catch up with your Harlequin friends, past and
present, and enjoy a drink and some food

BBQ provided, the bar will be open or BYO

Please RSVP by Thursday 29th January, so we can
cater accordingly

Presidents Report:

1959 – 2009

Doesn't time fly! Well, with the Harlequin it has and in typical show style we have a year of celebrations planned and would like to invite all past, present and future members to celebrate with us.

Sunday 1 February at 4pm is our launch date for the celebrations and when we will present the 2008 Harlequin awards. We would love you to be part of this day. Come along and see what we have achieved over the last few weeks. The BBQ will be on, the music playing and we have ordered the sun!

As our major show this year, we will be staging *Cats* at the Civic Theatre in June.

Bookings are already open and going well. The rehearsals for *Cats* will be at the Harlequin, but we thought for our 50th we should celebrate in grand style and stage the show at the Civic. Audition info is available elsewhere in the newsletter.

We have a lot of talent in our theatre; one of our members, Linda Charles has written a musical, *A Day in Paris*. This will be premiered in August. Finishing off the year we will be staging a revue taking in past show highlights and ending our year-long birthday. Two shows not to be missed.

As well as these shows there are movie nights, a Jubilee dinner and cabaret; jazz, wine and cheese evening, working bees etc. All details on the website.

We would love to see you at some stage at the theatre, either helping with activities or on our shows. Our aim this year is to create an atmosphere for all age groups and make sure there is something going on for everyone.

It has been volunteers over the years that have made the theatre what it is today, but we can't do it alone.

At the end of last year we held a strategic planning day and fundraising is high on our 'must do' list. One of our top priorities is air conditioning. This is needed for cast and crew as well as making the theatre more hireable. If you would like to be on the team that makes this project work, please call me.

So, we are heading into 2009 with a lot of enthusiasm and a lot of projects on the go. We feel this year is an extremely important milestone for our theatre and would love to see as many past and present members enjoy the year with us, and we look forward to seeing you at as many activities as you can possibly attend.

Thanks, Sue

What's On

Family Planning
A Comedy
Dolphin Theatre

Little Shop of Horrors
North Shore Music Theatre

La Cage Aux Folles
Auckland Music Theatre

The Tempest
Outdoor Summer Shakespeare
Old Arts Quad, Auckland University
25Feb – 14 March

Funny Money
A comedy by Ray Cooney
Playhouse Theatre, Glen Eden

Lipstick Dreams
A comedy
Howick Little Theatre

Cats

Help Wanted!

All hands on deck for our production of *Cats*. Assistance is needed for rehearsals – please give Front of House Manager, Trish MacLennan, a ring and put your name down on the roster. Even if you only have one evening free – all is appreciated!

Call Trish now – 0274 873 110

Auditions: 14/15 February 09

Opening Night: 6 June 09

Thanks!

A Huge, and we mean HUGE thank you to all those committee, members, volunteers, husbands and 'drag ins' that helped with our working bee. We really wanted to give the theatre a good clean out and you would not believe the rubbish that we have found hidden away and now dumped! The theatre has begun to breathe again and there is a lot more space. There is also a lot more to do, but thank you to those that gave up your Saturday and helped the theatre. As always we provide lunch for working bees, so don't be scared to show your face.

And..., special thanks to **Claire, Colin, Alex and Rachel** for all their hard work in getting the new website up and running. Their technical know-how has paid off and the new site is running well. It will be updated regularly so add it to your favourites list on your computer. Check it out.

Thanks!

Interested in being on the committee? It's not all work and no play. We have plenty of play! AGM is 9 March, come and join us and have fun!

T-Shirt anybody?

HMT will be selling T-shirts via the new website, featuring the new logo, to celebrate the 50th anniversary.

Available soon.

Calendar of Events:-

1 February

Launch date and prize giving – BBQ. Opportunity to pay your membership and go in the draw for two tickets to CATS. Competition closes 25 February 2009 and drawn on movie night, 27 February 09.

14/15 February - Auditions for CATS.

21 February - NAPTA Evening.

Book Tickets now through Dayle – see further on in newsletter.

27 February - Movie Night.

\$10 a ticket. Movie to be announced soon.

Come and buy an ice cream and sit and watch a movie at the best theatre in town. Bar open prior to, interval and after the movie.

9 March - AGM

7.30pm for the Trust.

7.45pm for the Harlequin.

Nomination forms for committee are available from the website.

20/22 March - Musical Theatre New Zealand Federation Conference in Queenstown.

May - 50th Celebration Dinner – date, venue and details to be announced in next newsletter.

6 June - Opening Night of CATS at the Civic Theatre, Auckland.

18 July – Wine & Cheese Evening – top class jazz band entertainment. Venue – Harlequin Theatre. Tickets available soon.

12 July – Auditions for A DAY IN PARIS.

21/22/23, 28/29/30 August – A DAY IN PARIS. Sit back, relax and enjoy a glass of wine and be entertained in a café in Avenue des Champs Elysees.

23/24 August – Auditions for YESTERDAY, TODAY & TOMORROW – a Musical Revue.

31 October – Halloween Party – dust off those broomsticks, witches britches and vampire capes and join us at the Harlequin in your scariest costume. (Small entry fee to cover supper)

21 November – 5 December – YESTERDAY, TODAY & TOMORROW – A Musical Revue celebrating the 50 years of the Harlequin.

Got a spare hour or two on your hands?

Recommended movies:

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button – 3 hours long, so your bum goes to sleep, but interesting film.

The Slum Dog Millionaire – The quiet film that is tipped to win the Oscars. Based on a brilliant book, (called "Q & A"), the film is marvelous. Go and see.

The Visitor – Slow paced art film. Great characters and story. Easy to watch.

Vicky Christina Barcelona – The latest masterpiece from Woody Allen!!!!

Membership – HMT have introduced a new structure of membership. The Harlequin Musical Theatre offers great benefits to its members, and a variety of membership options to suit your needs:

- 6 months Individual Membership, \$15, if joining July or later
- Annual Individual Membership, \$25 Adults, \$15 Children (up to 16 yrs.)
- Couples Annual Membership, \$40.
- Family Membership, \$60, 2 adults, 2 children
- 24 month Individual Membership, \$50, adults

What do I get for my membership?

Benefits for Annual Individual, Couples, Family and 6 month:

- Voting rights for those aged over 18 at the AGM
- Cast prices at the Harlequin Bar during shows produced by the Harlequin Musical Theatre, (upon presentation of membership card)
- 50% off programmes for shows produced by and hosted at the Harlequin Theatre.
- Access to Harlequin social events, monthly newsletter with all upcoming news and events.

Additional Benefits for 24 Month Individual Membership:

- 10% off ONE ticket for all shows produced by and hosted at the Harlequin Theatre.
- ONE free programme for all shows produced by and hosted at the Harlequin Musical Theatre.

Membership forms available from website

For all enquiries please email memberships@harlequintheatre.co.nz

NAPTA's

Yes, it's that time of year again, dust off those glad rags and join the rest of Auckland theatre at the annual NAPTA awards. As in previous years, the awards evening is being held at the Bruce Mason Theatre, Takapuna. The date is 21st February at 6pm.

Theme this year is black and white – that should be hard for the guys!!!!

Come and support Harlequin, who are up for a couple of awards this year.

Phone Dayle on (09) 576 7311 for tickets or further information.

Ticket price is \$120, including full dinner and bar. Well worth the money and truly a night to remember.

New Harlequin Musical Theatre Website: *Check out all our latest information, show details, auditions, show dates, social events, theatre gossip, photo's and outside shows coming to the theatre:*

www.harlequintheatre.co.nz

CATS

Auditions

June 2009
Auckland Season

Onstage performers and backing vocalists needed.

Auditions will be held in Auckland, 14 & 15 February 2009.

www.catsnz.com

or
(09) 486 1517

Next Newsletter:

This year we will be giving you deadlines for our newsletters. Our newsletter is only as good as the information it contains. Please email anything to us, whether it be 'What's on' around town, theatre gossip, events, letters, cast news, show news, stories, reviews, news about new pro shows coming or been, in fact ANYTHING!! You getting the idea? We can't survive without you. All and everything can be emailed to:

newsletter@harlequintheatre.co.nz.

**Deadline for March newsletter is:
15th February 2009**