

SPOTLIGHT

NEWSLETTER OF PHOENIX PLAYERS

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Welcome to our April edition of Spotlight.

This edition provides information on the auditions for the upcoming Phoenix shows – the one act plays in June and Eurobeat, which will play in August/September.

AUDITIONS

Phoenix rising Program

To all the budding and experienced actors out there... details of auditions for the one act plays are below ...

For the inaugural Phoenix Rising program we will showcase two one-act plays from June 27 – 30, at the Street Two.

Albert – Directed by Dim Ristevski

Synopsis: A one act play by Richard Harris - When three strangers come together, none of whom speak each other's language, chaos reigns. Two of the three characters speak only their native tongue, Italian and Finnish, but what we hear is straightforward English. Occasionally they attempt a few words in an alien tongue but this serves only to hurtle them faster towards an unexpected resolution of the challenges of the European Union.

Characters: 2 Males 25-30 yrs, 1 Female 18 – 23 yrs. Need to be able to put on an accent.

Fairytale Ending – Written and Directed by Jonathan Garland.

Synopsis: Five young people are spending three days on an island in search of a rare spider. But each also has a more personal motive. When a group of young adults, all with issues of romance and relationships to sort out, are forced into such close proximity, there are bound to be fireworks. Is it going to end happily ever after for any of them?

Characters:

- David David is in his mid-twenties. He's a former soldier and is introspective, quietly capable and slow to anger. While he is a capable woodsman, his social skills are poor and he has difficulty relating to people. He shares journalism classes with Jenny
- Jenny Jenny is in her early twenties. From a deeply religious family, she has a tendency to let guilt, obligation and other people dictate her choices. She has a way with people and is usually fairly perceptive. With her wedding imminent, she's worried that she and Josh have started arguing so frequently

- Josh Josh is in his early twenties. A fairly typical bloke, he had a history of parties and girls but Jenny has settled him down a lot. Wedding preparations are driving him crazy, as is the attitude he's been getting from his mate Michael.
- Libby Libby is in her early twenties. She is a scientist by profession and an environmentalist by inclination. She finds comfort in the certainty of systems, scientific or social. She just doesn't understand how to deal with people.
- Michael Michael is in his early twenties. He is the stereotypical guy after one thing and is loud, self-centered and shallow. There is no filter between what he thinks and what he says. He has very little actual knowledge of anything, but offers advice on everything.

Auditions for both these plays will be on **Sunday 29 and Monday 30 April**. Please contact Amy Moon on 0401 920 161 or email to **amycmoon@gmail.com** to arrange an audition time.



Eurobeat, Almost Eurovision is a glorious tribute to the Eurovision song contest, involving plenty of audience participation. It will be a high energy, extravaganza that is sure to be a hit.

We are looking for the following cast members:

Country	Character/Act	Brief Description	Song
Italy	Vesuvia Versace	Female	Don't Say "Ti Amo"
Germany	Herbert Gönemeyer Jnr	Male	Simply
Iceland	Gert Grollmersdetter	Female	Love Ballad #3a
UK	Rayne & Sheiner - Hattie Windsor Rayne and Stevie Sheiner.	Male and Female duo	I Love To Love To Love (Love)
Estonia	Toomas Jerker & The Stone Hard Boys	Male	Together Again
Greece	Persephone	Female	Oh Aphrodite
Russia	KGBoyz	4 piece male group	Ice Queen
Hungary	The Molnar Sisters	Female Trio (none of the original Molnar sisters are left!).	Apró Madarakkal
Ireland	Ronan Corr	Male – Early 30's	La La La
France	Estelle Lacroix	Female	Viande d'Amour
Liechtenstein	Nepotism	Trio	Be-Bop For Veronda
Sweden	AVLA - SVen' and ELcie' Olaf and LAr's' and Ana' Hansell	2 males, 2 females	Same Old Song
Hosts	Bronya and Sergei	Female and Male hosts	Bronya sings "I'm Sarajevo, taste me"
Dancers	To accompany some of the acts	To be determined	

Auditionees should come prepared to WOW the panel. You must sing a daggy pop song from the bygone eras, preferably with a foreign accent! The director, Gordon Nicholson, encourages auditionees to look at the website for inspiration and further information:

<http://www.eurobeat.com.au/>

Auditions will be held on **Sunday 27 and Monday 28 May**. To book an audition time and for detailed character descriptions, please contact Production Manager, Pam McManus on ph 6258 5736 or email pamelamcmanus@bigpond.com.

Here are some of the reviewer's comments from the Sydney and Melbourne shows:

- "Celebration of kitsch is a wicked delight. Eurobeat is immense, well-observed fun...tight yet authentically over the top dance and comedy routines that rival the real thing...costume, lighting, set and sound design are all spot-on and the multi-tasking cast of 20 are excellent" SYDNEY MORNING HERALD
- "A deliciously farcical tribute that will have you in stitches ... Eurobeat's 20 performers are the cream of our musical theatre talent. Never has incompetence been so artfully simulated. The show also heralds the dawn of the interactive musical. As in the real contest, the audience votes for the song it wants to win. With a bit of easy cheese and a lot of plastic fantastic, Eurobeat is a night of outrageously funny musical entertainment." THE AGE, CAMERON WOODHEAD, MAY 2006
- "Eurobeat is a terrifically funny show. It's even better than the real Eurovision because you can actually laugh at the artists rather than behind their backs." ROVE McMANUS
- " ... the next cult musical ... fun, fun, fun!" HERALD SUN, MAY 2006

THANK YOU FOR SHED CLEAN-UP HELP

A big thank you to all the people who turned up on the weekend of 14-15 April to help with the shed cleanup. We made some good in-roads into getting the shed in order, and stirred up a lot of dust! A special thank you to Myles for organising the clean-up and for all his hard work!

THEATRE AROUND CANBERRA

What's happening around town in May and June...

Phoenix Players – Two one-act plays - Albert by Richard Harris and Fairytale Ending by Jon Garland. Dates: June 27 - 30. Performances at Street Two. Bookings will open in May. More information on bookings in the May Spotlight.

Ickle Pickle – *The Wizard of Oz* – The classic musical for the whole family comes to life at the Street Theatre during the April school holidays. Featuring all the songs and characters you know and love. Adults \$26, Children/Concessions/Groups \$24, Family \$90. Bookings on 6247 1223.

Tempo Theatre Inc - *Jackaroo and the Beanstalk* – Performances: April 19,20,21,27 & 28 April at 7PM; Morning: 24 April at 10.00am; Matinees: 21, 24, 26 & 28 at 2PM; Twilight Show: Sunday 22 at 4pm; Bookings: Phone 62474456 or email: ticketing@philo.org.au .

Free Rain – *Hedda Gabler* – opening 11 May at The Courtyard Theatre Canberra Playhouse until 26 May. Adults: \$27.00; Pensioners: \$22.00; Child (15yrs & under)/Student: \$22.00; Unemployed: \$22.00; Seniors: \$22.00; U27 members: \$22.00; Pay what you can performances - Wednesday 16 & 23 May at 6.30pm. Pay what you can at the door. Preview - Friday 11 May at 8pm. All tickets: \$15.00. Matinees - Saturday 19 & 26 May at 2pm and Sunday 20 May at 5pm. All tickets: \$18.00. Bookings phone 6275 2700 or book online <http://www.canberratheatre.org.au/pages/page29.asp>

Canberra Rep – *Elizabeth Rex* – 13 April – 5 May. Wednesday – Saturday 8pm (except Anzac Day); Matinees Saturdays 21 & 28 April 2pm; Twilight Sunday 22 April 5pm
Preview 12 April 8pm. Prices: Full price - \$33;Concession - \$25; Matinee - \$22; Groups 10+ - \$2 off each ticket. Bookings 6257 1950.

Supa Productions – *Buddy – The Buddy Holly Story* – 11 - 26 May 2007 at the ANU Arts Centre.

Queanbeyan Players – *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* – 18 May to 2 June, Queanbeyan Cultural Centre. Performances 18, 19, 24, 25, 26, 31 May and 1, 2 June at 8pm; 26 May and 2 June at 2pm. Bookings Canberra Ticketing on 6275 2700 or Country Heir Interiors on 6297 4054.