



Love amid ghostly goings-on

Opening at Javeenbah on 17 September is the first performance — that's right, a world premiere! — of David Scott's latest play, *Has Alice Frikkin a Ghost of a Chance?*

This spooky comedy features Alice Frikkin, a “friendly and beautiful ghost” haunting an abandoned house. When the Crapp family buys the house and moves in, everything changes. Alice and the Crapp's naïve son fall in love and the odd-ball members of the family have to deal with someone even stranger than themselves.

Javeenbah has put on David's one-act plays in the past and both his *Gathering Shadows* in 2008 and *Echoes in the Mist* in 2007 went on to win the author's award at the Dalby festival.

Life member Joan Stalker-Brown is directing and Life member Trevor Love plays one of the parts. Another role is played by David.

Joan describes the play as a challenge because she has never directed an Australian fantasy/farce. But after seeing David's one-acters she promised that she would direct a full length play for him.

She says workshoping and rehearsals have been “a lot of fun for all of us, which makes me feel that we've had ‘help’ from a benevolent ghost!”

Joan has cast Kellie Eatock in the role of Alice Frikkin; Jack Harbour as her love interest Steve Crapp; Pam Ryan as his mother Mary, Kevin Ryan as his father Frank and Mish Graham as his sister Zyste. Trevor Love is Uncle Jim, Kevin Smith the Drunk and David is Fred Bixby.

Kellie has been in several productions at Javeenbah, including *Jinx*, *Spurboard* and *Maskerade*. She looks on Javeenbah as her “home” theatre and hopes to spend many more hours on our boards.

She teams up with another member of the *Maskerade* cast, Mish Graham. Mish was seen recently in *Joey and Maria's Comedy Italian Wedding* at the GCAC as Maria. She says she's worked with many great actors before, but none as creepy as this cast.

Jack Harbour has never appeared at Javeenbah before and his next part is as Sebastian in *Twelfth Night* for Mercury's Wings later this year.

Husband and wife team Kevin and Pam Ryan are cast as Frank and Mary Crapp. Both recently appeared in *Waiting In The Wings* at GCLT which Joan also directed.



The ghostly form of Alice Frikkin (played by Kellie Eatock) surveys the earthly scene that is about to descend into chaos in Javeenbah's production of *Has Alice Frikkin a Ghost of a Chance?* opening on 17 September. — Picture: SHANE CADDAYE

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For details of future productions visit our website at <http://www.javeenbah.org.au>

Javeenbah Theatre Company Inc gratefully acknowledges the support of Gold Coast City Council

Musical comedy completes bill

The feel-good musical comedy *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*, directed by Iain Hogg, opens at Javeenbah in November to complete our 2010 playbill.

The production is presented in the form of a series of vignettes connected by the central theme of love and relationships. The play's tagline is "Everything you have ever secretly thought about dating, romance, marriage, lovers, husbands, wives and in-laws, but were afraid to admit".

It is an ensemble piece with solos, duets and choral parts. Songs include *A Stud and a Babe*, *Tear Jerk*, *Always a Bridesmaid*, *Marriage Tango*, *On the Highway of Love*, and *Shouldn't I Be Less In Love With You?* The script is made up of individual scenes for two to four people.

With few exceptions, each scene is independent of the others, but they all progress in a fashion designed to suggest an overall arc to relationships throughout the course of one's life. A first date, for example, comes before scenes dealing with marriage, and scenes dealing with marriage come before those dealing with child rearing.

The singer/actor cast take multiple roles and Iain has chosen Joey Blaubaum, Alison Edmonds, Sarah Haigh, Henry Kafoa, Marc Lyster, Gendi Moore, Nathan Skaines, Natalie Stephenson and Natasha Veselinovic.

Iain is an accomplished singing teacher,

director, musical director, choreographer and performer on the Gold Coast with more than 25 years of experience. He has embraced the mediums of theatre, film and television and is trained in all forms of dance, drama and singing.

He received his first taste of musical theatre when he won the role of Gavroche in the 1994 Gold Coast production of *Les Miserables*. Since then he has been involved in both professional and amateur productions.

Iain is very excited to be directing *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* with Javeenbah after a five-year break. From 2003 through to 2005, Iain directed *Fame the Musical*, *Guys and Dolls* and *Cabaret* for both Beenleigh Theatre and Spotlight Theatre. These productions, earned him nominations for the 2004 Gold Coast Honours Awards and the 2005 Gold Coast City Australia Day Awards.

He currently teaches high school drama, music and English and is vocal teacher and musical director with the National Academy of Performing Arts.

Iain's support team includes Jacqui Gaynor as music director, Cilla Scott assistant director and Wendy Edwards production/stage manager.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change, music by Jimmy Roberts, book and lyrics by Joe DiPietro, is the second-longest running off-Broadway musical on record with 5,003 performances.

Vital info: *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* opens at Javeenbah's Nerang Playhouse, corner of Stevens and Ferry Streets, Nerang, on Friday 26 November and runs until Saturday 11 December. There will be a matinee on Sunday 5 December. Ticket booking details are on the website, <http://www.javeenbah.org.au>, or you can book by phoning 5596 0300 and leaving your name and number or by e-mailing book@javeenbah.org.au.



Party reminder

Don't forget — Javeenbah's Christmas party this year will be on Sunday 5 December and start at 5pm, after the matinee of *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*. If you have thoughts about how a theatrical Christmas should be celebrated — or want to help organise the event — call president Colleen Reynolds on 0420 788 017 or e-mail her at colleengail@hotmail.com.

Javeenbah's playbill 2010

- 17 September *Has Alice Frikkin a Ghost of a Chance?* by David Scott, director Joan Stalker-Brown — until 2 October
- 24 October Auditions for first production of 2011 — details to be advised
- 26 November *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* by playwright/lyricist Joe DiPietro, composer Jimmy Roberts, director Iain Hogg — until 11 December
- 28 November Auditions for second production of 2011 — details to be advised

On other bills

- Now Murwillumbah Theatre *Beauty Queen of Leenane* until 4 September
- 10 September Ballina Players *Money & Friends* by David Williamson, until 25th
- 11 September Gold Coast Little *Travelling North* until 2 October, matinees 19 and 26 September
- 17 September Neptune Productions *Desert Song* until 26 matinees 18, 19, 25
- 16 September Top Hat Productions *Ruthless* until 2 October matinees 19 26 September at Spotlight
- 22 October Tweed Theatre *Pins And Needless* until 31 October, matinees 24 and 31
- 22 October Murwillumbah Theatre *Fantastic Mr Fox* until 6 November
- 29 October Spotlight Theatre *Crazy For You* music and lyrics by George and Ira Gershwin until 20 November matinees 7, 14 November

To join Javeenbah Theatre, visit our website at <http://www.javeenbah.org.au>

Spiritual love

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Trevor Love as Uncle Jim claims to have a close relationship with spirits (the bottled kind) and Kevin Smith “the drunk” had his own ghostly encounter on the Fremantle docks many years ago when his crane collapsed, plunging him into the sea. He’s drowned his sorrows in spirits ever since.

David Scott, the proud author, is playing the hauntingly villainous role of Fred Bixby. David admits that many of his ideas come to him in dreams. When you see this work of his you’ll ask yourself the question: “What was he dreaming about that night?”

Backstage crew include Gillian Crow as stage manager, Julie Smith and Diana Ingram.

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TOP: Alice (Kellie Eatock) shows Steve (Jack Harbour) how ghosts make love. ABOVE: Uncle Jim (Trevor Love) amazes Mary and Frank (Pam and Kevin Ryan) with his find. RIGHT: There’s something bugging Zyste (Mish Graham) and the “Drunk” (Kevin Smith). Pictures – SHANE CADDAYE

2011 Playbill line-up looks good

Javeenbah is lining up a great playbill for next year. Unfortunately, we cannot say too much about it at the moment because we're still in the process of securing rights and signing up directors.

But all should be settled by AGM, so come along and hear what a superb line-up is planned.

Artistic director Amy-Louise Anderson and her production committee have put together a program

Online system near

Javeenbah's online booking and ticketing system remains on track to become operational in time for our next production, *Has Alice Frikkin a Ghost of a Chance?* We are taking early bookings manually but they will be switched to the electronic system once it's running sweetly.

As this issue of the newsletter went to press, the internet payment component with its online credit card transaction and verification process was just about ready to go live and we were planning to start training box office volunteers before AGM. Ticket printing, both in the box office and do-it-yourself printing for patrons at home, were also close to live.

The system we're using is SeatAdvisor's Box Office, which is also being used by a couple of other theatres on the Gold Coast. So when you go to see *Alice*, you can expect to receive a computer-generated ticket — unless you choose to print your own at home.

Opening occasions

Expect to see changes at opening nights next year.

August's management committee meeting decided we need to do more to make opening nights an occasion. Starting with the first production of 2011, openings will revert to Saturday nights and Friday will be the official preview night. In order to encourage audiences, preview tickets will be discounted to \$10 per person with no other concessions.

For the formal opening on the first Saturday of a run we'll be offering a glass of complimentary bubbly to all adult patrons as well as the traditional light supper. We'll be doing more to encourage patrons to stay behind for the supper and meet the cast.

Welcome

Javeenbah welcomes Maureen Fitzgerald whose application to join the greatest little theatre on the Gold Coast was approved at the August management committee meeting.

Official newsletter of the publisher, Javeenbah Theatre Company Incorporated, PO Box 1101, Ashmore City, Qld 4214, (Cnr Ferry/ Stevens Sts, Nerang, Qld 4211) Phone 07-5596 0300, fax 07-5596 7513, e-mail info@javeenbah.org.au, website <http://www.javeenbah.org.au>, ABN 85 317 315 331. Editor Ralph Lenton

that should appeal to all tastes, challenge us, yet still put bums on seats.

What can be revealed now is that auditions for the first play of 2011 will be next month, on Sunday 24 October. It's an Australian comedy/thriller with a cast of four, two men and two women. More details in next month's newsletter.

We're planning two music-based productions next year and the first should get all you 50s and 60s rockers out in force as well as having the younger set dancing in the aisles. The second musical will also appeal to young people and the oldies.

A second Australian play that's planned is a comedy described as delightfully original and good contemporary theatre.

The playbill is completed by two well known plays, one of which falls into the category of classic drama.

Sorry we can't tell you more at the moment. We'll certainly have more info in next month's newsletter and we'll put as much detail as possible on the website as soon as we can.

Bard for fun

Nerang Library is host to a Shakespeare for Fun group that meets weekly over late afternoon tea. Targeted at those who couldn't get to grips with the Bard at school, the program encourages old and young to enjoy the excitement, adventure and imagination of Shakespeare in a friendly setting.

Shakespeare is a Hoot started at Nerang Library on the corner of Price and White Streets, Nerang, on 2 September and will run on Thursdays from 5.30pm until 7. Bookings essential on 5581 7180.

Helping hand

Another example of community theatres helping each other out was given at the August meeting of Javeenbah's management committee. Jim Dickson reported that he had taken over directing *Beauty Queen of Leenane* by Martin McDonagh for Murwillumbah Theatre. He had borrowed props and other gear from Javeenbah which had been a great help in ensuring the production went ahead.

Cyber newsletter

Don't forget, Javeenbah's newsletter is now on the internet and is available by e-mail. To read the web version go to Javeenbah's website at <http://www.javeenbah.org.au> and click the "Javeenbah newsletter" link on the left hand side. When you reach the Newsletter page, click the date of the issue you want.

If you receive the snail mail newsletter and you want to go on the e-mail list, send an e-mail to us at info@javeenbah.org.au with "Newsletter" in the subject line. We've now got the file size down to around 500kb, so it's not too terrible to download on dial-up and a breeze on broadband.

To audition for productions visit our website at <http://www.javeenbah.org.au>