

*Sunnybank Theatre Presents*  
*in association with The Cameron Creswell Agency Pty Ltd*

*Secret*  
*Bridesmaids'*  
*Business*  
*by Elizabeth Coleman*

*directed by Leonie Walsh*

*Feb 3 - 18, 2017*

## Leonie Walsh - *Director*

*Secret Bridesmaids' Business* sees Leonie direct her third show at Sunnybank Theatre Group, having directed *Breaking Up Is Hard To Do* in 2013 and *Dusty the Original Pop Diva* in 2015. 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 finds working with like minded and creative persons such a buzz. Leonie thanks her creative team June Gemmell, Chris O'Leary, David Gemmell, Alisha Lenthall, Allan Hare and Joanne Oram for always being open to ideas and working cohesively for the show and to STG's Pam Cooper for being such a support behind the scenes and the front of house staff for their commitment to our audiences.

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.

## June Gemmell - *Production Manager*

Holding a Bachelor of Music from the Conservatorium of Music Qld, June is no stranger to theatrical productions. With extensive knowledge of music and musical theatre, we usually see her at the keyboard during rehearsals encouraging her singers to excel. She has been musical director for numerous productions at STG and other companies. Her recent foray as musical director was in 2015 - the sellout season at STG of *Dusty - The Original Pop Diva*. For this production June has taken on the role of production manager with gusto. Director Leonie says she would be lost without Junes' support and tremendous organisational skills.



## *Director's Note*

This contemporary play is a gem. Elizabeth Coleman has written this beautifully, with comedic and heart wrenching language exposing each character to the core. She brings out the controlling and loving personality of the mother, the semi-Bridezilla antics of the bride and her genuine angsts, the concerns of both bridesmaids - opposite opinions and the honesty of the groom. Personally I love that Coleman's script see her "break the wall" and each character speak from their heart to the audience. It gives patrons the opportunity to hear the innermost thoughts - honest, raw exposing thoughts. I hope you'll enjoy this piece of theatre from this very clever Australian playwright as much as I've enjoyed directing it.





# Cast

(in order of appearance)



## Robyn Ryan - Colleen

Robyn has been a singer all her life – in school and youth choirs in her teens and later training in classical and contemporary styles and has returned to those roots as a current member of the QPAC choir. She is no stranger to the stage, having performed ensemble and major roles in countless music theatre productions in Beaudesert, Beenleigh, Gold Coast and Sunnybank. She has worked for Sunnybank Theatre Group, as Assistant Musical Director to June Gemmell, for their productions of *Brigadoon*, *Calamity Jane*, *Call Me Madam*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Breaking Up is Hard to Do* and 2015's sellout season of *Dusty – The Original Pop Diva*.

*Secret Bridesmaids' Business*, however marks her only second foray into non-musical theatre and her first as Mother of the Bride! Robyn is enjoying the challenge and is delighted to be working with such a friendly and talented cast and crew. She would also like to apologise in advance to her daughters should any of Colleen's behaviour inadvertently surface in the future!



## Carolyn Mills - *Meg*

After taking a break from the stage for 7 years to populate the earth with two beautiful girls, Carolyn is thrilled to be back into it again!

Having discovered her love of the stage from a young age she studied Speech and Drama and performed and directed various plays throughout school and university. She has also taught performing arts and was stage manager for three productions at Summer Camp in Connecticut USA in 2003.

Since then she has settled into Brisbane 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 looks forward to breaking that up by continuing her passion as a stage actor for many years to come!



## Jennifer Singleton - *Angela*

The last dramatic thing Jennifer was part of was “My family Christmas” in 2009.

Before that, she hadn’t seen the inside of a stage since high school drama. Her New Year’s resolution for 2016, however, had one item on it that she was sure she could complete, “audition for something”. When she received the email for open auditions at the end of the year, she thought she could at least tick one thing off the list, never dreaming that she would have to write a bio wondering what she could possibly say about herself.

When Jennifer’s not attempting to tick off New Year’s resolutions at the last minute, she enjoys writing, reading and attempting to keep fit. She lives with her husband and an overly energetic boxer dog called Virgil.





## Menu

### Entrees

Seafood Crepe with Buttered  
Asparagus Spears

Pumpkin and Feta Flan

### Main Course

Coq-au-Vin

Boeuf Bourguignon

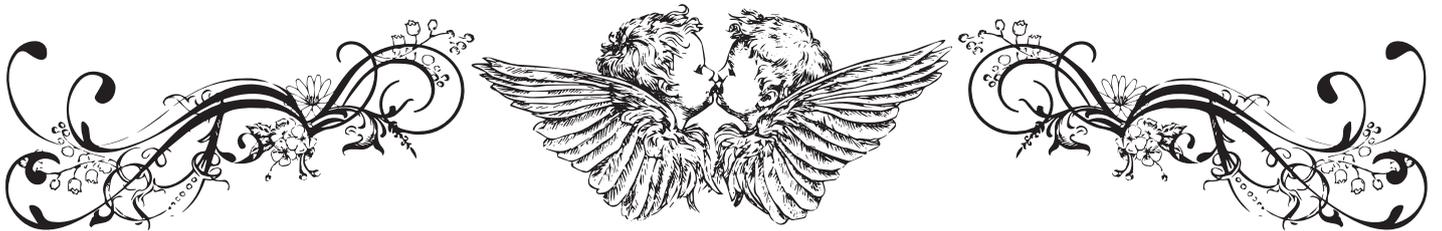
### Dessert

Pavlova Rhondo

Chocolate Torte

## Vicki Yianni - *Lucy*

Vicki is celebrating a return to the stage in the role as Lucy in *Secret Bridesmaids Business* after an epic 20 year break. Prior to this she had leading roles in many community plays and was part of a small group that won first prize at the Australian National Eisteddford in Canberra. She is an entrepreneur and yogi who is passionate about veganism and reaching her fullest potential, and she likes shoes almost as much as Lucy.



## Venessa Kohl - *Naomi / Housemaid*

Recently moving to Brisbane from Adelaide Venessa couldn't wait to get back on stage. She leapt at this opportunity and is enjoying working with such a talented, warm bunch of individuals.

In 2015 she shared the role of 'Sonya' in the Bulgarian play *Pleasantly Scary*. She played the 'Guard', as well as Assistant Director, Props, Set Design, Lighting & Sound and Costumes for *Twelve Angry Jurors* at the Holden Street Theatre in 2014.

Venessa has always been interested in the Arts and was lucky enough to develop her craft through the Priority Country Area Program (P.C.A.P) in Charleville as a Clarinettist. She performed in the local Dinner Theatre, Annual Eisteddfods and Concerts as a musician, dancer and actor She has since furthered her acting skills with a Bachelor of Arts (Drama) through Flinders University.



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# THIRD WEEK IN AUGUST

PETER GORDON



Mar 24 - Apr 8



# TWELVE ANGRY MEN

by REGINALD ROSE

May 19 - Jun 3

Tickets available online now - [www.stg.org.au](http://www.stg.org.au)

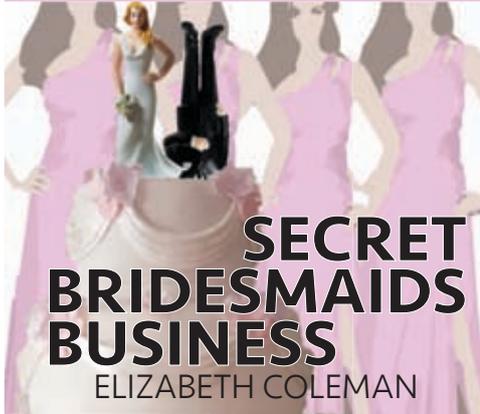


# SUNNYBANK THEATRE GROUP

cnr Mains & Beenleigh Rds, Sunnybank

## 2017 PERFORMANCE CALENDAR

in association with **The Cameron Creswell Agency Pty Ltd**



### SECRET BRIDESMAIDS BUSINESS

ELIZABETH COLEMAN

director **LEONIE WALSH**

**Feb 3 - Feb 18**

By arrangement with **Hal Leonard Australia Pty Ltd**  
on behalf of **Josef Weinberger Ltd London.**



### THIRD WEEK IN AUGUST

PETER GORDON

director **DEBE DEWEY**

**Mar 24 - Apr 8**

in association with **ORIGIN Theatrical**  
on behalf of **Samuel French Ltd**

### T W E L V E



### ANGRY MEN

REGINALD ROSE

directors **PAM COOPER & LESLEY DAVIS**

**May 19 - Jun 3**

Licensed by arrangement with **The Agency, Holland Park, London**



### KEEPING UP APPEARANCES

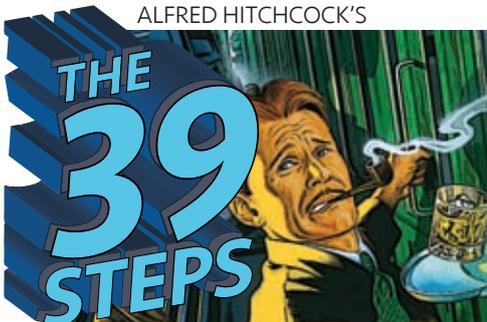
ROY CLARKE

director **GARY SUTHERS**

**Jul 14 - Jul 29**

by arrangement with **ORIGIN Theatrical**

ALFRED HITCHCOCK'S



### THE 39 STEPS

adapted by **PATRICK BARLOW**

director **CHRIS O'LEARY**

**Sep 8 - Sep 23**

by arrangement with **Hal Leonard Australia Pty Ltd**

### Avenue



**ROBERT LOPEZ & JEFF MARX** *it ain't Sesame Street*

director **JOHN MORDACZ**

**Nov 10 - Nov 26**

performances  
**8pm evening**  
**2pm matinee**

to book ph: **3345 3964**  
online at **www.stg.org.au**

## David Richardson - *James*

David is excited to be making his return to Sunnybank Theatre after performing in *Key for Two* in 2016.

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 English.

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 is also a big music fan and enjoys playing the occasional gig in the Gold Coast pubs.



## *Crew*

Stage Manager/Set Painting

Set Construction

Lighting/Sound Design

Lighting/Sound Operation

Properties

Photography

Media

Alisha Lenthall

Bob Clayton  
Cameron Clayton

David Gemmell

Joanne Oram  
Allan Hare

Cast and Crew  
James Pace  
Jennifer Singleton

Kayleen Zoethout

Chris O'Leary

