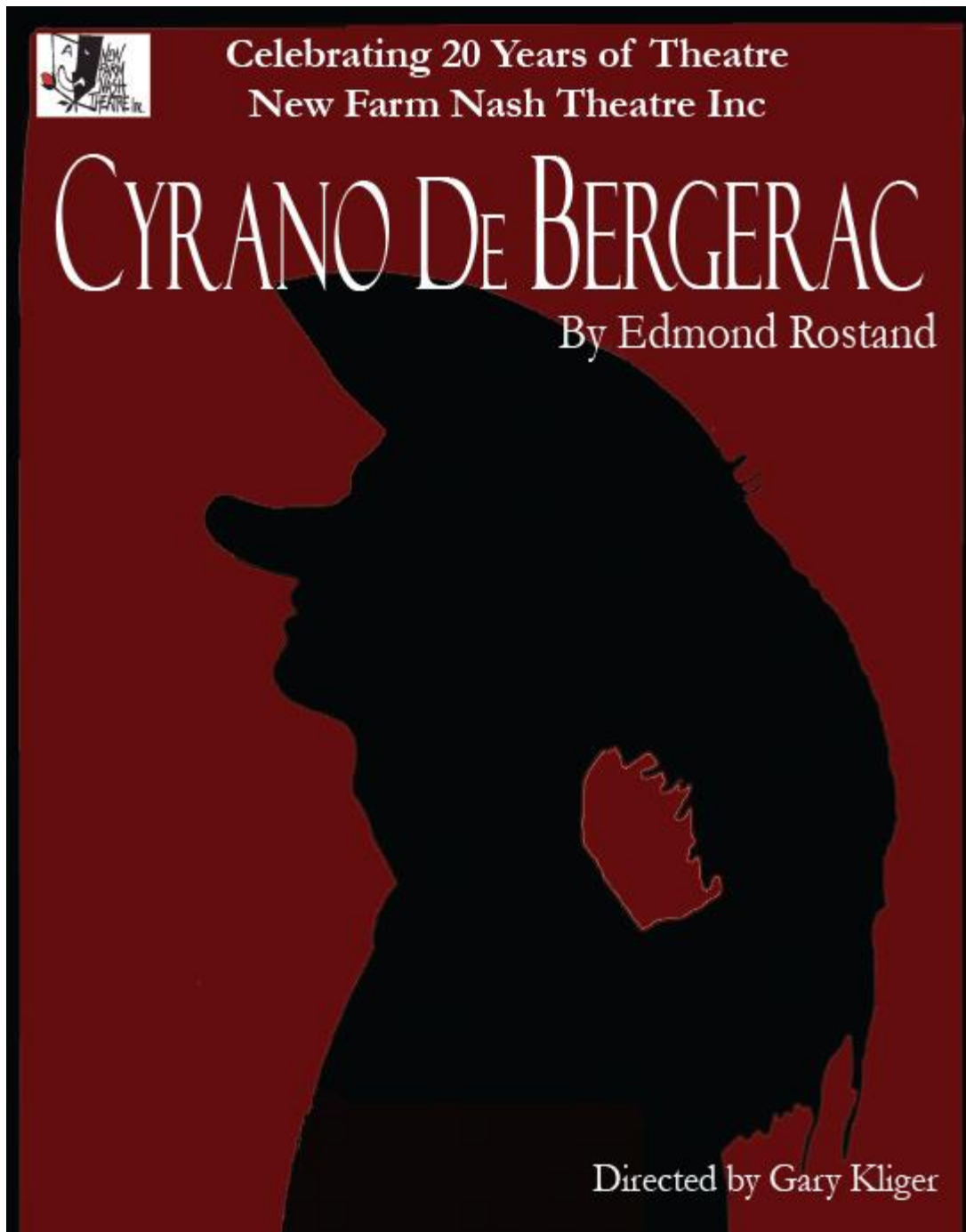




Nash Notes



“...such a nose!”

“You cannot look upon it without crying; No! Impossible! Exaggerated!”

“...and God help the man who smiles!”

September 13, 19, 20, 26 & 27 & October 3 & 4 at 7.30pm

2pm Matinee on September 21

6pm Twilight on September 28

Adults \$20, Concessions \$15, School Students & Members \$12

4 ways to book:

Phone: 3379 4775

Email: nashtheatre4@bigpond.com

Online: www.trybooking.com/90295

Website: www.nashtheatre.com



Director's Notes

Cyrano de Bergerac is a famous and enduring play for very good reasons. Its themes are relevant in any era. You have the outwardly flamboyant, courageous, daring swordsman who is feared for his prowess as a fighter, who suffers from a crushing doubt about his place in the world and his ability to woo Roxane, the woman of his dreams, because of the 'disfigurement', as he sees it, of his overly prominent nose. He has the ability through words, poetry and plays, of expressing deep emotions in the most beautiful poetic language (though we in our cynical age would consider it flowery, overripe and overwritten) but that does not - and cannot - overcome his basic fear of the way women, and Roxane in particular, see him.

His opposite is Christian, a man who has never had trouble attracting women, but who suffers from an inability to be at ease with them, and he also falls deeply in love with Roxane.

Roxane herself has never had trouble getting attention from men, even those she really doesn't want to attract. She is oblivious to the love of Cyrano, given that he's her childhood friend, cousin, playmate and confidant, and it's to Cyrano that she confides her love for Christian, leaving him with a decision: should he help Christian to 'get the girl'?

Cyrano and Christian come to realise that they could make up two halves of a whole: Cyrano assists Christian in his wooing of Roxane by feeding him the lines to say and writing the poetic letters that she requires to fan her desires, because that's what she requires from her would-be lover.

This is a conundrum that still has resonance today, no matter where in the world it is played out.

Cyrano is situated in France in 1640 at a time when France is involved in yet another of what seemed to be interminable wars with Spain, fighting over disputed territory, so the locale has an exotic element as well as the timeless quality of the central trio. Throw in some quirky and delightful characters: a baker who's patron of the arts (basically the target of any artist needing a feed), the worst actor of the time, Cyrano's mates who shadow him wherever he goes and follow him into the battlefield of the siege of Arras, and you have the recipe for a night in the theatre that we hope will live long in the memory.

This has been a remarkable journey for those who have taken part and there's no doubt that we've all learned a lot about the human condition, which is what all great plays still can and do teach us.

We invite you, our audience, to come on this journey with us and we hope that you come away with having had a fun-filled night in the theatre, and perhaps also a rueful recognition of "there, but for the grace of [*insert the religious or secular word that suits you*] go I". In other words, we humans may have moved on greatly from the world inhabited by Cyrano and company, but we humans are still suffering much the same problems of communication and fear of rejection in human relationships as

Cyrano did, regardless of the shape of our nose!

- Gary Kliger



Cyrano de Bergerac is played by Tom Evans (pictured left) suffering for his art. His 'Cyranose' is going to be magnificent!

Want to become a member of Nash Theatre?

The benefits include discounted tickets for shows and drinks at the bar.

Membership for an Adult costs just \$22 a year; there are also couples and concession memberships available.

Contact us via email nashtheatre4@bigpond.com to join or renew your membership.



Coming soon:

*Once Upon a Midnight -
an evening with
Edgar Allen Poe*

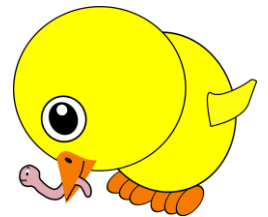
Season: 31st October – 22nd November

BE AN EARLY BIRD & CATCH A GREAT DEAL!

Book & pay
for your seat for
Once Upon a Midnight
by 4th October
& pay only \$15! Online:

www.trybooking.com/100536

Or at the box office when you come to see
Cyrano de Bergerac



A Note from the President

Two productions have closed since our last newsletter. *A Midsummer Night's Dream* finished on August 2nd after a dream run, if you'll excuse the pun. It was enjoyed by audiences and actors alike and introduced several newcomers to our theatre. *Communication Breakdown* had its final performance last Sunday and we are hoping to have a healthy amount to donate to *beyondblue*. The raffled painting was won by Phil Travers and Adrienne Costello won the figurine, 'The Angel of Hope'.

Our next play, the swashbuckling romantic comedy *Cyrano de Bergerac* is on target to open on Saturday September 13th and you can expect a few surprises there. But, if you are thinking that we now have time to relax, think again! This Saturday, September 6th sees auditions for our final production for 2014, *Once Upon a Midnight (an evening with Edgar Allan Poe)* and we are already planning next year's programme for your enjoyment.

Take note of all the dates, commit them to memory, write them in your diary, key them into your phone or scribble them on your tablet but make sure that you are there when it happens!

- Brenda White

Looking forward to Nash Members' Nights in 2015

Nash always encourages new members and holds open auditions for all its productions. Some members, however, may not see each other for weeks on end if they have not been successful in securing a part in a current production. In 2015 we would like to introduce regular Members' Nights, possibly every 4 - 6 weeks. These will be held in the Play Shed along the lines of quiz nights, play readings etc., with refreshments available for a gold coin donation.

If you should have any suggestions for events you would like the Committee to consider for Members' Nights, please feel free to get in touch.

- Gilly Graham



The Nash Profile



Phil Carney is a Nash Committee member, excellent Stage Manager and go-to techie guru. He has been involved with Nash Theatre on and off since the Balfour Street days, and more frequently in the past four to five years.

Has Brisbane always been your home? You may as well say that Brisbane has always been my home....for the past 30 years. Prior to that New South Wales was my home state: primarily northern NSW (Lismore) was my country.

What does New Farm mean to you? New Farm is vibrant, warm, friendly and easily accessible for my real work in the city. New Farm has changed tremendously over the past thirty years from the old Coca-Cola factory down James Street, the Gas Works (not the shopping centre...the real thing....) the wool stores.... Flea markets before the apartments.... No Coles.... Oh no.....

Travelling back in time now, what was your first theatre experience? My very first theatre experience was when I was 12 (40 years ago); I played Prince Charming (charming? more like grumpy...) in Snow White and the seven dwarfs at my primary school. Apart from the occasional cameo, that was the last production where I had a major rôle. I would rather shine light on people than be in the light myself.

Have you had experience as a professional Lighting Designer and Stage Manager? Whilst I have a Masters in Social Work, I have also worked and completed an apprenticeship as a lighting designer / stage manager at the Sydney Opera House 1980 – 82. I then worked for some time at the Griffith Duncan Theatre in Newcastle NCAE/NCU before returning to social work in Queensland.

As Tech / Stage Manager, do you have any niggles? Audience members running late; not starting a show on time.

Are there any techie tips you'd like to share with future Nash backstage crew? Gee, where do I start? Being a friendly Stage Manager is a start. If you expect to receive great rewards on the tech / stage management side, you are in the wrong industry. Oh, and you need great patience, dedication and commitment.

What's the secret to being the perfect Stage Manager? Never look backwards, keep smiling, and always have a kind word for everyone.

If you could wish for one thing? That people leave their egos at home; let's just enjoy the production, after all that is what we are here to do. Enjoy, have fun, meet people and be involved in a great Little Theatre Company called Nash Theatre.

And your next project with Nash is...? Lighting *Cyrano*, that is after I get back from Thailand..... yes, a holiday.... How novel...

You want the last word? Yes. Can I please encourage anybody who wants to be involved with Nash - and not as an actor - to make contact with me. You don't need special training as you will be supported throughout your journey.

Month of Sundays – Communication Breakdown



The first one-act play, *God's Little Joke* by Don Sanderson, was set in a war zone. Instead of normal stage make up, the characters required SFX make up.

So Gilly Graham set to work on Liliana Macarone, Mel Bell and Mel's sons, Lawson and Mitchell (pictured left, before, and below, after).

Good work, Gilly. Well done!



Call out for Front of House and Bar staff...

How would you like FREE tickets to see our upcoming production – *Cyrano de Bergerac*? Here's how you can. We need Front of House and Bar staff for all our shows this year.

What's involved? Read on...

Front of House staff assist in the set-up of the box office, greet patrons, sell tickets, programs and raffle tickets. For less than an hour's work, you get a FREE ticket to see the show on a night of your choice – even the night you do the Front of House! Bar staff assist in the set-up and operation of the bar (serving patrons, making tea and coffee, pouring wine, selling chocolates, crisps and cake) before the show and during the interval. While your time commitment is around the same as Front of House, your duties are spread out over the night. And for your efforts, a FREE ticket to see the show on a night of your choice.

If you can offer your services for a night, especially on 27 and 28 Sept and 3 October, email Brian White at profwhite@bigpond.com or nashtheatre4@bigpond.com or phone (07) 3379 4775.

Booking at Nash Theatre is so easy these days: online via www.trybooking.com

by phone or by email or at www.nashtheatre.com

Be compelled and book now! See you at the theatre...

Is the theatre easy to find? Yes!

52 Merthyr Road, New Farm

If you are driving, there is plenty of free street parking nearby.

If you are travelling by public transport just go to www.translink.com.au Enter your address and our address into the journey planner for a detailed itinerary.

The 199 and 196 bus services are pretty frequent in this part of New Farm.



Couldn't be easier!

Contacting Nash

Booking Line: (07) 3379 4775
Email: nashtheatre4@bigpond.com
Website: www.nashtheatre.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/Nashiefan
Twitter: @NashTheatre
Theatre address: 52 Merthyr Road, New Farm
Mailing address: PO Box 625 New Farm 4005

Contact us via email for information on bookings to all our shows, membership details, information about how to be involved. Suggestions and articles for Nash Notes always welcome. Check out our website, like us on Facebook, tweeting now also available!

New Farm Nash Committee

President:	Brenda White	Vice-President:	Sandra Harman
Minuting Secretary:	David Bentley	Treasurer:	Brian White
		Patron:	Reverend Chris Holden
	Phil Carney		Eamonn Clohesy
	Gilly Graham		Brenda Keith-Walker