

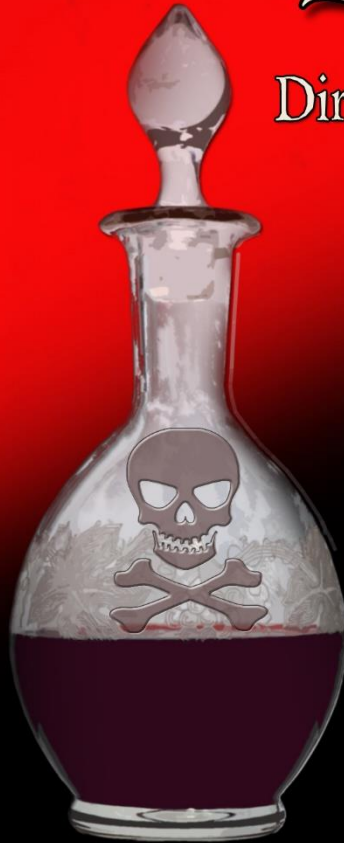


MAITLAND
REPERTORY
THEATRE

Joseph Kesselring's

& ARSENIC & OLD LACE

Directed by Colin Delaney



9 to 27 October, 2019

PROGRAM

By arrangement with Hal Leonard Australia Pty Ltd, on behalf of Dramatists Play Service, Inc New York.

Cast

Abby Brewster
The Rev Harper/Mr Witherspoon
Teddy Brewster
Officer Brophy
Officer Klein
Martha Brewster
Elaine Harper
Mortimer Brewster
Mr Gibbs
Jonathan Brewster
Dr Einstein
Officer O'Hara
Lieutenant Rooney
Mr Hoskins
Mr Spenalzo

Dimity Eveleens
Michael Kevin Smythe
Colin Delaney
Patrick Delaney
Ryan Hodges
Jo Cooper
Emma Campbell
Robert Lewis
Mark Chorlton
Ronan Barrett
Ian Robinson
Matt Scoles
Robert Comber
Himself
Himself



Behind the Scenes

Director	Colin Delaney
Executive Director	Frank Freeman
Assistant Directors	Jo Cooper and Col Kirkman
Stage Manager	Robert Comber
Properties Manager	Dimity Eveleens
Tech/Light Design	James McCaffrey
Lighting Operator	Coldan Kirkman
Sound Operator	Matthew Collins
Set Design	Colin Delaney
Set Construction	Dan Shaunessy, Ian Robinson, Robert Comber, Dimity Eveleens, Colin Delaney, Col Kirkman, Saturday Morning Crew
Set Decoration	Dimity Eveleens, Anne Robinson, Leilani Boughton, Campbell Knox, Alex Comber, Claudia Minter, Sophia Minter
Costumes	Anne Robinson and Cast
Make Up and Hair	Leilani Boughton and Cast
Publicity	Ian Robinson and Leilani Boughton
Catering	The Catering Team
Poster and Program	Colin Delaney, Anne Robinson and Ian Robinson
FOH Roster	Alastair Anderberg



Setting

The play takes place in the living room of the Brewster home in Brooklyn.

Act 1		An afternoon in September
Act 2		That same night
Act 3	Scene 1	Later that night
	Scene 2	Early the next morning



Run Time

The play runs for about 2 hours and 20 minutes including a 20 minute interval.



Director's Notes

As director of *Arsenic and Old Lace* I welcome you to our latest production and I do hope you enjoy my take on this classic show.

When I was younger I used to sit and watch the old Cary Grant movies with my parents and always delighted in *Arsenic and Old Lace*. As an adult I now consider how and when it was written. Its message is dark but humorously delivered. It speaks of things that are still not easy to talk about - the old ladies considered poisoning lonely old men with no family to be a mercy (euthanasia); and they are dealing with mental health (Teddy is either crazy or has a personality disorder).

Back in the 1940s people would humour those with mental health issues (if they were not dangerous) or institutionalise them (if they were). Those two views would be confronting enough, but then we meet a serial killer who moves around the world killing people, accompanied by a plastic surgeon who conceals his identity. This was not a commonplace concept. All these elements combine to create a quite dark comedy.

There is also the subtle but obvious element of racism from an early pre-globalism of an emerging World War II era.

This a family-centric show which talks of five generations of Brewsters and I am pleased to be able to represent my own family on the walls with images of my great grandparents and one of their sons (my great uncle). This family connection continues because my son also appears on stage with me.

This show has been in the planning for almost two years. It has taken the efforts of many people doing many hours of work to bring this to you. Our cast and crew listed on this program have worked together to present what we hope is an entertaining show for you.

Colin Delaney, Director

Traditional Melodrama Fun

LILY, THE FELON'S DAUGHTER

by Tom Taggart

Directed by Robert Comber
and Colleen Kirkman

2pm Matinee and
8pm Evening
Performances

29 November, to
15 December, 2019
(Doors open 7.30pm)

Tickets \$30

Bookings -
mrt.org.au or
02 4931 2800
(10 - 3 daily)



2020 Season

*Details of our 2020 Season will be available soon.
Season Tickets will be available for \$65.*

Join Us

*We're always looking for new members. To find out how to join, visit the
Get Involved page of our website – www.maitlandreptheatre.org*

Acknowledgements

*Thank you to the CONDA Judges, AV Chartered Accountants, Custom Audio, Scion Audio, ABC Radio 1233, Ken Longworth and The Newcastle Herald, Donna Sharpe and the Maitland Mercury, The Sign Shop, Inkquip Maitland, Optic Empire Webhosting and also to our audiences for their continued patronage.
Patrons: Jenny Aitchison MP, Meryl Swanson MP, Mayor Loretta Baker, Keith Cockburn, Bob Geoghegan and Margaret Sivyer OAM.*

Donate

*All donations of \$2 and above are tax deductible. If you would like to donate to Maitland Repertory Theatre please visit the **Get Involved** page of our website.*
Audience members are reminded to please turn off mobile telephones or change to silent mode once in the theatre. No photographs can be taken inside the theatre.

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