



"I'd forgotten how big and bouncy a whole lot of actors together can be."

A NEW PLAY BY **RUTH MAYO** DIRECTED BY **SIAN DAVIS**

THE HOUSE OF ANGELS

7 TO 16 JUNE 2018

written by **Ruth Mayo** directed by **Sian Davis**

A WORLD PREMIERE

A character-driven comedy-drama in which eight disparate (and desperate) characters, all in the twilight years of their theatre careers, are unexpectedly 'rescued' from whatever happens to discarded, elderly actors. The why is what the play is about and how at the end they 'rescue' themselves. It is set in the present and in the lounge of an old boarding-house somewhere in Ellerslie, yet to be discovered by Auckland property developers; in need of attention but comfortable.

The NZ playwright, Ruth Mayo, now lives in London but is an ex-Mercury actor from the 1970s to early 80s; she knows her territory well.

TICKETS

- 7 to 16 June at 8pm
- Matinees Sunday 10 and Saturday 16 June 2pm
- No evening performance Sunday 10 June
- No performance Monday 11 June

Tickets \$25 evening, \$23 evening discount
\$23 matinee, \$16 matinee discount

*A discount to members, with bookings of 10 or more, and to Community Services card holders.
Only one discount can be claimed on any one ticket.*

BOOK ONLINE AT

www.iticket.co.nz

or phone 09 361 1000

or 0508 484 2538 if calling from outside Auckland

NO booking fee/delivery fee



BY POST (cheque/credit card only)

Send to: ETS, 40 Michaels Ave, Ellerslie, Auckland 1051.

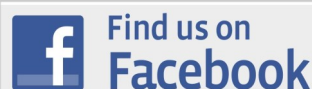
IN PERSON (cash/cheque/credit card/Eftpos)

Box office opens forty five minutes before the performance.

Opening Night Gala

A complimentary glass of méthode champenoise, or juice, and snacks will be served on the opening night performance Thursday 7 June.

Pre-booking is recommended to guarantee your seat.



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Auckland Council



Ellerslie Theatrical Society Inc

40 Michaels Ave, Ellerslie, Auckland 1051 Phone 525 3336

Stables Theatre (Ellerslie War Memorial Community Centre), 138 Main Highway, Ellerslie

email: info@ellerslietheatre.co.nz or newsletter@ellerslietheatre.co.nz website: www.ellerslietheatre.co.nz



WITCHERY

Goodies and baddies ride again! In a series of seamlessly linked vignettes, with memorable cameo moments speckled throughout, it is challenging to pinpoint unique contributors. Director Daryl melded all into a delightful but cogent evening of fluid, faultless entertainment.

Dorren handled fiendishly difficult costume demands and accent challenges to command the stage as dominatrix of the coven, while her spectacularly lurid acolytes provided a background of contrasting, constantly mobile visual treats.

Grandmother Pam, who could be my granny any day, provided delicate wisdom and gravitas throughout.

As W.C.Fields once quipped, "Never work with children or animals." And Luke and Sam showed us again how that combo, puppetry included, can be utterly scene stealing.

And talking of scene stealing, would I have a meal at Raj and Blair's café de movealong?

Thanks also to Roald, makeup artists, the plethora of 'extra' characters, and to the musical continuity, joining to make this an enchanted evening.

Review by Rex Steele



DIRECTOR AND CAST

Director	Daryl Wrightson	Witch One	Victoria Poole
Boy	Luke Orbell	Witch Two	Rose Van Wylich
Grandmother	Pam Browne	Company Witch	Ros Stewart
Grand High Witch	Dorren Tamihere-Kemeys	Company Witch	Renee Palmer
Lawyer/Hotel Doorman/Waiter/Chef	Raj Singh	Company Witch	Emma Gadd
Mr Jenkins/Head Chef	Blair Purkiss	Company Witch	Natalie Thacker
Tree-House Witch/Mrs Jenkins	Jessica Cole	Company Witch	Ashley Gillard
Bruno Jenkins	Sam Megson	Musician	Regan Crummer

RAFFLE WINNER—Gill Ferraby ENJOY YOUR LUCSIOUS SWEETS AND TASTY CHOCS

INFORMAL PLAY READING GROUP

A Story of Love, Laughter, & Lasagna!

This informal group meets periodically to give members the opportunity to read or listen to both complete plays, and interesting excerpts. New participants are welcome, and play suggestions are also invited. There are plenty of parts for readers, and listeners are also most welcome. The reading will be 'Over the River and Through the Woods' a comedy by Joe DiPietro .

The informal play reading group will meet on:

Wednesday 20 June 2018 at 7.30pm

at the home of Rona Colbert, 40 Michaels Ave, Ellerslie

A young, carefree, single bachelor in New Jersey spends nearly every Sunday afternoon visiting and dining with either of his two sets of grandparents, who are ethnic Italians. One Thursday he makes an unscheduled visit to announce that his corporate employer will be promoting and relocating him to Seattle, Washington in a few months. His grandparents are shocked and attempt matchmaking by inviting an eligible young woman to join them at the next dinner in the hope the two will bond and their beloved grandson will decide to remain in the area.

RSVP for numbers or enquiries to Jocelyn McQuaid telephone 09 626 3070 email jossmcq@slingshot.co.nz. Taking a little something for supper would be appreciated.



COME AND PLAY WITH US

AGM PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Held on 16 April 2018. Committee and officers were elected as follows:

Executive: President—Anna Adam, Vice President—Bruce Brown, Secretary—David Blakey, Treasurer—Rona Colbert

Management Committee: Jocelyn McQuaid, Charlotte Taylor, Helen Thomas, Lucy Flavell, Carolyn Loader

Appointments: Patron—Colin Davis, Honorary Accountant—Bryan Mott

Life Member: Desley Simpson was recognised for her unwavering support as Patron of the society for six years.

Extract from the report presented by Anna Adam—President 2017:

As both Production Manager and President I thank the numerous volunteers who spent hours throughout the year – researching, reading, programming and sourcing the performance rights for the plays; sourcing and making wardrobe and props; building and painting the sets; feeding, watering and catering for the cast, crew and audience; stocking the bar; coordinating the helpers for hospitality; selling the tickets, handling the accounts; directing the actors who appeared on the stage; supporting the director; designing the stage; dressing the set; lighting the set; designing and programming the cues to light the set and punctuate the story with appropriate sound; managing the show; coordinating the techs and stage crew, designing and putting the programme together; taking photographs and recordings; reviewing the plays and writing the newsletters; stuffing envelopes; putting up the billboards; and to those who support the theatre in whatever capacity is required. Phew. Making theatre really is a communal experience.

Budgets & Expenditure: ETS received four grants in 2017 and reduced rent rates set by the Ōrākei Local Board. There was a grant of \$3000 from Foundation North to cover the purchase of a new sound board and a grant of \$3000 from the Ōrākei Local Board towards publicity costs.

Publicity & Marketing: The spend on this makes up approximately 25% of our theatre production expenses, 30% if you were to add in the newsletter costs. It covers printing the Play Guide, flyers and billboards for each play and the audition notices. Despite our expenses, our audience numbers are still decreasing, and I think it would be a good time to trial other methods of publicity. While trying to balance a frugal budget the old adage comes to mind that you can't sell a secret and we need to take this risk to spread the word better.

Keep this date - ETS is planning to host the **2019 Tasters Night** again this year and the theatre has been booked for three rehearsal evenings with the presentation being held on **Saturday the 24th of November 2018**.

Venue: We often fantasise about ETS owning its own purpose-built premises or expanding the current facilities to obtain more storage space. It would be good to house all our materials in one place and we have a meeting scheduled with the Strategic Broker, Ōrākei for the Auckland Council, to discuss our needs (and dreams) for the current venue and another more pressing matter. A recent rent review has increased the amount to a level we cannot afford and this matter needs to be resolved quickly if the society is to continue producing plays.

Summary: Ellerslie Theatrical Society Inc. continues to be very healthy. Financially we managed to break even over the 2017 financial year, we have good working and contingency capital, productions are on track and the number of volunteers is growing with each play. Thank you to everyone involved with the productions, support and management of the society in 2017, you are our community and without you Ellerslie, and indeed the entire Ōrākei ward, would not have a theatre. Now there's just a small matter of the venue to address.

The full President's Report is available on www.ellerslietheatre.co.nz.

ETS MEMBERSHIP

As a member you will:

- Receive regular newsletters and audition notices.
- Be able to participate in ETS plays and social functions.
- Receive a discount on ticket purchases.
- Support your local, non-profit, theatrical society.

Membership forms can be found on the '**Contact Us**' page on the **website** or by calling **Rona on 09 525 3336**.

HELP AROUND THE STABLES

Join us behind the scenes, on stage or in front of house. For more information see the website or contact our team.

Membership & Bar - Rona **09 525 3336**

Hospitality - Ros **021 182 8109**
hospitality@ellerslietheatre.co.nz

Design Team - Anna **021 137 4936**
newsletter@ellerslietheatre.co.nz

Crew - Charlotte **021 10208389**
stagecrewellerslie@gmail.com

Set Build - David **027 495 3794**
construction@ellerslietheatre.co.nz

SET BUILD DATES

The House of Angels

Saturday 12 May
Saturday 19 May
Saturday 26 May
Saturday 2 June & Sunday 3 June
Pack-out Sunday 17 June

Beautiful Thing

Saturday 28 July
Saturday 4 August
Saturday 11 August
Saturday 18 August
Pack-out Sunday 2 September

The Lady in the Van

Saturday 13 October
Saturday 20 October & Sunday 21 October
Saturday 27 October
Saturday 3 November
Pack-out Sunday 18 November

Members who volunteer for crew roles receive two complimentary tickets to the show.

AUDITIONS — Saturday 9 June at 1.30pm



BEAUTIFUL THING is an urban fairytale set on the landing walkway in front of three flats on a working class South East London council estate called Thamesmead, and tells the heart-warming story of two young men coming to grips with their sexuality and the effect it has on the people in their lives.

Jamie lives with his solo mum Sandra, while Ste lives with his drug dealing abusive brother and his alcoholic father next door. After Ste gets a beating from his brother one night, Sandra invites Ste to stay at their flat. Sleeping top to tail in the same bed, Jamie realizes that he is attracted to Ste. As Ste spends more and more time with Jamie, they find themselves drawn together...

A story about all the intense feelings of the first time you fall in love in an often humorous, tough and tender way. Contains coarse language, drug use, sexual and adult themes.

About the director

Bruce Brown is a graduate from UNITEC's Performing Arts Bachelor programme. He's been involved as both a writer and director with Short+Sweet Auckland and has directed several productions with Ellerslie Theatrical Society including Shakespeare's THE WINTER'S TALE, April Phillips' MOTEL and Terry Johnson's THE GRADUATE. In 2016 he premiered his first solo Basement Theatre show HOOK-UP BOYS to sell-out audiences. He's also the creator and artistic director behind the successful LEGACY PROJECT, now in its fifth year. Most Friday nights he can be found hanging out with friends playing an assortment of board games (but mainly Killer Bunnies) and obsessively watching Steven Universe.

Contact Details — Bruce Brown

email: brucebrowndirect@gmail.com

telephone: 027 530 5813

Rehearsals

Commence Tuesday 19 June 2018, Tuesdays and Thursdays each week from 7.30pm, Sundays from 12.30pm

Season

Thursday 23 August to Saturday 1 September 2018 - 10 performances including 2 matinees

Audition Address

Stables Theatre, 138 Main Highway, Ellerslie, Auckland

Audition

There is no need to learn audition pieces but do please get an e-copy of the play from Bruce Brown to read.

Cast Required

- * The ages are only suggestions and should only be treated as guidelines. If you are outside of this age range but feel you are perfect for the role, please come along to audition.
- * All the characters in the play except Tony have broad south-east London accents.

Characters

- **Jamie** male 18-25 - (should look 16). A plain looking lad.
- **Leah** female 18-25 - (should look 16). Jamie's neighbour, attractive in a rough way.
- **Sandra** female 35-40 - Jamie's mother. Attractive and sexy, barmaid at a local pub.
- **Ste** male 18-25 - (should look 16). Another neighbour, attractive and athletic.
- **Tony** male 25-35 - Sandra's younger boyfriend. Middle class trying to rough it up.

what's on at other theatres

Dolphin Theatre	www.dolphintheatre.co.nz	An Inspector Calls by J.B Priestly — season: 22 Jun to 7 Jul
Howick Little Theatre	www.hlt.org.nz	The House by the Lake by Hugh Mills — season: 5 to 25 May
Titirangi Theatre	www.titirangitheatre.co.nz	Dead Man's Cellphone by Sarah Ruhl — season: 5 to 16 Jun
Mairangi Players	www.mairangiplayers.co.nz	Peter Pan by J.M Barrie— season: 6 to 14 July
Company Theatre	www.companytheatre.co.nz	Popcorn by Ben Elton — season: 12 to 26 May