



*Kia Ora Everyone*

*I keep hoping for better news, but we just have to box on when and where we can. Our thoughts are with Auckland and Waikato at the present as restrictions are so frustration. To the rest working around being in level 2, well done it has required some creative shuffling in performance spaces but The Show Must Go On! - when it can be performed safely.*

*Remember 'The Mousetrap' by Agatha Christie, rights are available for next year, still time to book your slot.*

*In this issue:*

- *What's New*
- *New to perform – rights released*
- *Updated*

*With the changing situation I have not included 'What's On Around the Country' as things change on a daily basis*

Kind Regards

Helen

# The Play Bureau Newsletter

## October 2021

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## What's New?

### HOT OFF THE PRESS!!

#### The Storm In The Barn

By Eric Coble

Drama

7 - 20 either

In 1937 Kansas, 11-year-old Jack Clark faces many challenges: local bullies, his father's desperate attempts to keep his family intact, an older sister getting sicker by the day, and a little sister with an eye for trouble. But he's also facing the epic disaster of the Dust Bowl—which means families disappearing overnight, tempers flaring in his small town, and the steady spread of the mysterious illness "Dust Dementia." So, can Jack even trust his own eyes when he makes a terrifying discovery in the abandoned barn next door? Is the sinister shadow with a face like rain—a creature with a plan to deprive humans of water forever—real?

#### The Book Club Play

By Karen Zacarias

Dramatic Comedy

3 M 3 F

Loads of laughter and literature collide in this smart hit comedy about books and the people who love them. Ana is a Type A personality who lives in a letter-perfect world with an adoring husband, the perfect job and her greatest passion: Book Club. But when her cherished group becomes the focus of a documentary film, their intimate discussions about life and literature take a turn for the hilarious in front of the inescapable camera lens. Add a provocative new member along with some surprising new book titles, and these six friends are bound for pandemonium. Sprinkled with fun theatrical references to documentaries and novels galore from Moby Dick and Age of Innocence to Twilight and The Da Vinci Code, this buoyant comedy on contemporary culture will have everyone laughing ... and reflecting. The Book Club Play is a delightful new play about life, love, literature, and the side-splitting results when friends start reading between the lines.

#### All Mod Cons

Dark Comedy

by Erica Murray

2 M 2 F

Finding a house is hard. Finding a place to call home is harder. When their mother dies, Jean and Gary are suddenly back together and getting to know each other all over again. On the surface, things look different but it's funny how little has changed. When old friend and useless estate agent Ian offers to help them find a place together, long-buried tensions threaten to derail their already strained relationship. Can they ever escape their pasts? A compelling new comedy-drama exploring our capacity to accept change in others as well as ourselves, All Mod Cons engages directly with current conversations about our complex relationship with gender, consent, and individual responsibility.



## In Our Veins

Drama

by Lee Coffey

3 M 3 F

The worst slums in Europe. That's where Dublin came from. Out of the shit and into the world. Life-long Dublin docker Patrick has passed away surrounded by his beloved wife Esther, his son and his grandchildren. As they remember his life, Esther recounts a tale they are yet to hear. In *In Our Veins* follows their family through 100 years of Dublin, from the notorious madams of the Monto to love in the dark tenements.

This is the story of a Dublin City that no longer exists, where it came from and the people that helped build it.

## The Hatmaker's Wife

Romantic Comedy

By Lauren Yee

3 M 3 F

When a young woman moves in with her boyfriend expecting domestic bliss, their new house reveals the magical tale of its previous inhabitants: an old hat-maker and his long-suffering wife, who runs away with his favourite hat. This sweet and surreal story bends time and space to redefine the idea of family, home, and true love itself.

## Deposit

Dramatic Comedy

By Matt Hartley

2 M 2 F

A bittersweet and vital play that throws a spotlight on 'Generation Rent' and the lengths they will go to in order to get that first step on the property ladder.

Rachel and Ben want to buy a flat in London. And so do their friends, Melanie and Sam. But what with rent, tax, student loans and bills, it's impossible to save for a deposit.

So the foursome come up with a fast-track solution to the problem: live together. Sneakily split the rent and bills on a tiny one-bedroom flat for a year. But with paper-thin walls and space growing sparser by the day, which will they sacrifice first – the friendship, the relationship, or the dream of buying their own property?

## Leaving Iowa

Dramatic Comedy

By Tim Clue / Spike Manton

3 M 3 F

The spark behind 'Leaving Iowa' comes from being children of parents from the now dubbed 'greatest generation'. The story is a toast to their idealism and character and a little roast of their undying dedication to the classic family road trip. More specifically, it is the story of Don Borwning, a middle-aged writer, who returns home and decides to finally take his father's ashes to his childhood home, as requested. But when Don discovers Grandma's house is now a grocery store, he begins traveling across Iowa searching for a proper resting place for his father. This father-and-son road trip shifts smoothly from the present to Don's memories of the annual, torturous vacations of his childhood. Don's existential journey leads him to reconcile his past and present at the centre of the United States.

## Rinse, Repeat

Drama

By Domenica Feraud

2 M 3 F

After fighting for her life for four months, Rachel finally goes home for a trial weekend. But what happens when the people you love most, the ones you believe want the best for you, are the ones causing the most damage without even knowing it? Where do you go when the place you feel you most belong might be the place that almost killed you in the first place? *Rinse, Repeat* sharply conveys the painful truth about a woman's fight for her life in the face of an eating disorder.

## Don't Forget about these Recent Releases:

Waiting For God by Michael Aitkens 4 M 4 F

The Revlon Girl by Neil Anthony Docking 5 F

A Bunch of Amateurs by Nick Newman/Ian Hislop 3 M 4 F

Dracula – the bloody truth by John Nicholson 4 M

The Mad Sisters by Devon Williamson 6 F

## New To Perform – Rights Just Released:

The Welkin

The Ferryman

Little Wars

Swive

## Updated:

Over Paid, Over Sexed and Over Here by Devon Williamson