

●
THE INDEPENDENT ARTS
IAF
FOUNDATION (S.A.) INC.

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***All monies raised go to support the
Arts in South Australia***

IAF is proudly supported by:

Arts SA

Carclew Youth Arts

Trak Cinema

Wakefield Press

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REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Once again the IAF Book Lovers' Breakfast was a splendid occasion in the gardens of Government House and painted a beautiful picture of our celebration of Writers' Week. The Governor, His Excellency Rear Admiral Scarce and Mrs Scarce graciously participated in the event. Thank you to Laura Kroetsch, Director of Writers' Week for organising our guest speaker, Adriaan Van Dis who recounted the fascinating, exotic life-story of his Indonesian and Dutch heritage and how it had influenced his writing.

We were fortunate to have a quality sound system supplied by Proshow for the event, generously donated by a supporter of IAF so that all attending could hear the speakers clearly. Many thanks to Michael Bollen for acting as MC.

The \$10,000 Neil Curnow Award was presented to a recent graduate from The Adelaide College

NEWSLETTER JULY 2014

of the Arts, Jhon Mendez who only a few years ago emigrated from Columbia. Jhon will use his Award to do advanced studies at one of New York's most prestigious acting schools. We are grateful to Amanda Pepe and the Helpmann Academy for administering the Neil Curnow Award. It is very gratifying that IAF is able to assist artists to further their careers. Congratulations to Convenor, Beverley Miller and IAF Board Members who put so much effort into making the day such a success.



Neil Curnow Award recipient, Jhon Mendez with Angiel Mondria, Margaret Kellett and Amanda Pepe



Frank Ford AM and Adriaan van Dis, Guest Speaker



The Governor, His Excellency Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce, Beverley Miller, Frank Ford AM, Diana Laidlaw AM and Mrs Liz Scarce



Ian Butterworth, Claudine Butterworth,
Ivan Kenda, Maria Kenda AM

IAF has supported some very innovative local artists already this year, such as theatre director, David Lampard who brought the young New York composer, Scott Evans Davis to present his highly successful musical theatre “Picture Perfect” at the Adelaide Cabaret Festival. It was a wonderful experience for our local artists to work with this brilliant composer. Davis also gave a stunning Master Class for young cabaret performers that instantly improved their performances.

In May, IAF members attended a highly enjoyable performance of “Admission :One Shilling” starring Patricia Routledge in which she recounted the moving story of pianist Dame Myra Hess and her wartime concerts at the National Gallery in London. Renowned classical pianist, Piers Lane played excerpts from the concerts.

In August, we have an IAF group booking for the brilliant violinist, Niki Vasilakis’ Cocktail Concert at Lyrics, Adelaide Festival Centre. IAF supported Niki in the early days of her career.

In October, IAF will present a performance of the award winning South Australian production of *Solitary Choice*, produced and directed by Michael Allen, on the eve of its departure to New York to perform at *United Solo*, the largest one-person theatre festival in the world. The performance, which has toured the world, will be held at Carclew and followed by supper.

In November, Brenton Shaw will perform and talk about his experience in the USA at our Christmas Party to be held at the Crystal Room, Stamford Plaza. See his report in this Newsletter.

Since our January newsletter IAF has awarded grants to the following artists:

Eleanor Stankiewicz, actor/coach who will visit London to undertake *The Workshop on the voice*

and Shakespearean text with the Voice Studio International.



Kate Cheel, early career actor who has been accepted into advanced Shakespeare and



Chekhov intensive specialised training courses at the Stella Adler Studio of Acting, a world class institution in New York.

Sally Chance dance artist who was supported to tour her work, *This [Baby] Life*, to the New Victory Theater, New York in February 2014.

Alexandra Blue –winner of the IAF Best Emerging Producer at the South Australian Screen Awards

David Lampard, theatre director, *Picture Perfect*

(Reports from Sally, Alexandra and David are in this newsletter.)

The support we give artists is greatly aided by the generosity of our sponsors and we gratefully thank them: Maria Kenda AM, Em-Kay Design Jewels and Skye Cellars. Carclew Youth Arts kindly make their facilities available to us. We also thank the generosity of many members and supporting sponsors who assist our activities throughout the year.

Already this year we have had many enjoyable activities and events and many more are

planned for the rest of the year thanks to the chairs and their club committee members: Lynn Crosby (Film); Cheryl Appelkamp (Literary); Beverley Miller (Convenor, Book Lovers' Breakfast and Christmas Party) ; Jessica Dames AM (Clare Regional).

We have been fortunate in having a very enthusiastic and diligent IAF Board and I particularly wish to thank our Treasurer Mary Odlum, Secretary Jeanette Roulston and Membership Secretary David Gosnell for their many hours of IAF work. Margaret Kellett and Mary Odlum have done an excellent job editing our Newsletters. John Hillier is still pursuing Tax Free status for gifts to IAF. Also a special thank you to Barry Elsom for co-ordinating bookings.

During 2013/14 IAF member, Vincent Burke conducted the Research and Survey Project that IAF is undertaking to develop ways of encouraging older people to attend arts and entertainment events. The project's IAF committee, Board Members Frank Ford and Tina Turci with Greg Mackie OAM (Former Head of the Dept. of Ageing), met regularly to review the progress of the report which will be presented this year.

Thank you to all members and their friends who have attended IAF activities which allow us to continue supporting young emerging artists and arts organisations. Please encourage your friends to join IAF as we welcome new members to join us in actively supporting the creative life of our State.

Frank Ford AM - Chair

SENIOR ARTS PROJECT

The IAF's 'Boomers or Bust' project has now reached a critical stage of how do we achieve the outcomes we set for ourselves in 2012? We will be publishing the results of our investigation and research quite soon. In the meantime, we are exploring opportunities with the Government and elsewhere.

We are also meeting with the major SA arts companies to urge them to do more to attract older people to be regular attendees at arts events. We are putting forward practical suggestions on how to fill empty seats at an affordable price.

At a time when the financial situation for so many older people and pensioners is clearly worsening, it is all the more important that we convince arts organisations to adopt more

flexible pricing arrangements, including better group discounts.

Vincent Burke, Project Co-ordinator

REPORTS FROM EMERGING ARTISTS

The IAF has donated grants of \$1000 to support the following emerging artists-

Sally Chance

Sally took her show *This [Baby] Life* to the New Victory Theater, New York –

I am so grateful to the Independent Arts Foundation for supporting the tour of my work, This [Baby] Life, to the New Victory Theater in February 2014.

Together with my wonderful company of dancers, Stephen Noonan and Felecia Hick, and musician, Heather Frahn, we embraced the energy and excitement of working on 42nd Street, immersing ourselves in the cultural feast on our Central Park doorstep (just round the corner from Yoko Ono) and negotiating the subway (and the snow!) like native New Yorkers.

The New Victory (www.newvictory.org) is New York City's first and only dedicated performing arts theatre for children. Described as "a cultural rite of passage for the youngest of New Yorkers" the venue has "radically altered the very way we think of children's entertainment ... (and)... reclaimed kids from decades of saccharine, intellectually offensive offerings" (Sunday Arts).

It was a privilege to contribute to this rigorous cultural tradition.

In fact, This [Baby] Life was the New Victory's very first performance for audiences of babies. It's early days in the US for this specialist area of performance practice, so it was a great honour not only to represent Australian Theatre for Young People but to help pioneer and showcase ways of meeting audiences as young as four months.



This baby's name is Adelaide. Here she is attending This [Baby] Life and meeting musician Heather Frahn, with her grandfather.

The season involved us in 18 well-attended performances. An important aspect of our schedule was a master class presented as part of the New Victory's Labworks program, where we met about 25 theatre and dance artists and shared the ideas underpinning the show with lots of talk and plenty of practical activity.

The entire experience was expertly supported by the New Victory team. Everything was created with care and attention, from front of house (a playful environment, complete with pram parking, snow boot storage, fuzzy felt play and the front of house team led by the calmly efficient Seth) to technical production (the warm and friendly Geoff held us all together) to the preparation of a real Broadway playbill (which included a short Q and A with each cast member and acknowledged the support of the Independent Arts Foundation).

At all times everyone involved maintained an acute awareness of the VIPs at the heart of the whole exercise – the babies who came to the show.



Spreading the word...!

Huge thanks to the Independent Arts Foundation for supporting this wonderful experience.

Alexandra Blue

Winner of the IAF Best Emerging Producer at the South Australian Screen Awards

I was honoured to receive the Independent Arts Foundation Award for Emerging Producer of the Year at the South Australian Screen Awards. I have been producing short films in Adelaide for the past 5 years, and my latest short film 'Welcome to Iron Knob' went on to take out 4 awards at the SASA's as well as Best Short Film at St Kilda Film Festival, and Best Screenplay at Sydney International Film Festival. The prize for the Emerging Producer of the Year was \$1,000 cash, which enabled me to travel to the

prestigious Palm Springs Film Festival for the international premiere of Welcome to Iron Knob.

During the festival I attended seminars from industry professionals including the independent film guru Ted Hope and many others. It was a great networking and learning opportunity. At the festival my film was voted by the audience as part of Best of the Fest - meaning we were in the top 10% of over 300 films. I was able to generate many new contacts and interest in the film from being there.

I was also invited to be part of a Q&A after my screening where I talked about my film and the Australian film industry. Shortly after this trip I was offered a Screen Australia scholarship to undertake an internship in London with Element Pictures, who produced films like The Wind that Shakes the Barley, The Guard and Frank. I am so grateful to the Independent Arts Foundation for opening doors and helping progress my career through their support of this award.



Alexandra at Palm Springs

Brenton Shaw

Singer/songwriter undertook studies in musical theatre at the Minnesota University



I cannot begin to express my gratitude and deepest thanks to IAF for assisting in my studies at Minnesota State University, Mankato in the

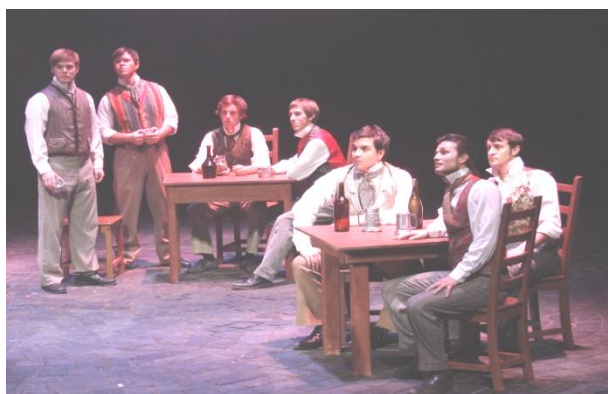
USA from August to December of 2013. My time at MNSU was one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences I've ever had as a student. I have gained a greater insight into how the professional musical theatre world works, and how to, for want of a better word 'break in' to the theatre scene in the USA.

The MNSU Theatre Program, under the direction of Dr. Paul Hustoles, is one of the most successful musical theatre programmes in the USA.

I had the privilege to join the Bachelor of Fine Arts students in music and theatre classes - including Theatre Speech II, Music Theatre Acting II, Private Voice, Jazz Pedagogy and Improvisation, Music Theory III, Jazz Voice, and Theatre of Diversity. As well as these classes, I was active in college campus life, participating in several music events, as well as performing with the exclusive Jazz Singers, where I was one out of eight in the ensemble. Also I was fortunate enough to be cast in the Mainstage sold out season of Les Miserables at MNSU.



Brenton performing in LesMiserables



The production featured former West End actor, Neil Dale as Jean Valjean, as well as a cast of 32, in which I was cast as one of the students - Courfeyrac, as well as several other chorus roles. MNSU came with it lifelong friendships and lessons and times I will never forget. It has reinvigorated my passion for the arts, and has

definitely prepared me for (what I hope is) a wonderful relationship with theatre and musical theatre.

David Lampard

David Lampard received support from IAF as an emerging director to support development of the piece, Picture Perfect with music and lyrics by Scott Evan Davis as part of the 2014 Adelaide Cabaret Festival.

Composer/lyricist Scott Evan Davis and David worked collaboratively in the lead up to rehearsals, with David restructuring the song cycle to create thematic segments. David also dissected the original title number (Picture Perfect) to create transitional pieces that complemented each new section of the work, as well as provide a unifying thread through the work and a cathartic 'resolved' ending (these 'new' sections were arranged by James Clarke). During conversation, one song was also redeveloped through lyric changes to create a vastly new intent. The opening and closing numbers were also vocally rearranged to suit the dramatic purposes of this new version of the show – a process led by David.



Rehearsal Team

The development process in the rehearsal room was intense and fast-paced with only four days to work with Scott (who travelled from New York to work with David and the team) and the cast of David Harris, Johanna Allen, Amity Dry, Naomi Eyers and Paul Talbot.



On the stage

As director, David found the experience of working with high-level professional artists over a very short time period to be both exhilarating and challenging. While his creative vision was simple and appropriate for the Cabaret Festival setting, development of a new work and collaborating with artists from around Australia and overseas required new skills and focus on quality in short, sharp segments. Working in the commercial festival setting also provided development for David, finding balance between artistic vision and the constraints of a multipurpose venue with quick turnarounds. The team worked hard over four days to produce the work at a high standard, which received widespread acclaim from critics and audience members alike.



Production Team

The opportunity to develop *Picture Perfect* as a completely new work, premiering in Adelaide, South Australia as part of a festival with international profile was unique and provided an opportunity to develop new skills while reinforcing the strengths David has as a director. David was also able to network with producers, artists and key personnel over the rehearsal and performance period, which will further support his directing career in the future.

**Article Written by Hayley Horton,
Footlight Events**

UNKEMPT DANCE WINS AWARD

Unkempt Dance received IAF funding in 2012 when the trio performed in the Adelaide Fringe Festival. They were very appreciative as the money helped with ticketing and programme printing. This year they performed for Perth Fringe World in February. The show, entitled *Paperland*, was presented by the Blue Room Theatre Summer Nights. The programme consisted of three pieces...."The space between" by Toyi-Toyi Theatre, "A dance with no home" by Emma Fishwick and "Creature of habit" by

Unkempt Dance. The show won the City of Perth Award for Best Dance at Perth Fringe World 2014.



Unkempt Dance: Amy Wiseman, Carly Armstrong and Jess Lewis

Thank you IAF for supporting emerging artists

Article written by Sue Wiseman

NEIL CURNOW AWARD

Applications for 2014 / 2015 close
Friday 28 November

For further information visit

www.helpmannacademy.com.au

(Administered by the Helpmann Academy on behalf of the [Independent Arts Foundation](http://www.independentartsfoundation.org.au))

MEMBERSHIP

I have to report that in the past six months the number of folk joining the Foundation have not kept pace with members not renewing their membership. Total membership is now down to 247. Please, if you know of anyone who might be interested in our endeavours and social programme, let us have their names and addresses and I will mail them an application form.

We must acknowledge and thank the members who made kind donations to our cause:-

*Pauline & Francis Brooks
Denise Goward. & Debra Thurgarland.
Jean Medley.*

David Gosnell – Membership Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT

We have had a good financial year. We raised a total of \$8,685 after expenses and donated a total of \$12,000. Our term deposits have brought in a total of \$2038 during this period.

Membership fees brought in \$5,745 providing a valuable source of revenue that assists us in meeting our aim of providing much needed support for emerging artists in SA. Please continue to renew your membership and encourage your friends to join.

For a full and comprehensive report on our financial situation and all donations made, I encourage you all to attend the AGM on 19th August.

Mary Odlum - Treasurer

FILM CLUB

Our first two film evenings for 2014 were very well attended. Over 60 members and friends enjoyed "The Grand Budapest Hotel" in April. This was the largest Film Club attendance ever. We did not hold a film evening in June, due to the Public Holiday, or in July as we have been negotiating with the Trak management. Look forward to seeing you all at the movies in August at the usual time!

Lynn Crosby - Chair

LITERARY CLUB

The Literary Club, held on the third Tuesday of the month, commenced its 2014 season at the Public Schools Club on 15 April with an entertaining talk by Philip Butters about his book, 'An Unsentimental Bloke', recently published by Wakefield Press, which sponsors the Literary Club. The book tells the story of C.J. Dennis, widely known for his book, 'The Sentimental Bloke'.

Wakefield Press is a great source of interesting guest speakers and May's was no exception. Dino Hodge was going to travel to Adelaide from Melbourne the day after our meeting to attend the launch by Wakefield Press of his book, 'Don Dunstan, Intimacy and Liberty', and agreed to come over a day earlier in order to be our May guest speaker. His talk and the subject of his book provoked much lively discussion and commentary, proving that Don Dunstan continues to be a controversial figure, even this long after his death.

Our June guest speaker was Philip Jones, an author and historian based at the South Australian Museum, whose main field of research is Aboriginal art, history and material culture. Philip was already well-known to many Literary Club attendees, having been our guest speaker on a couple of previous occasions, and he once again gave a very interesting and informative talk on his topic, this time the Yuendumu Doors, the subject of his recently published book, 'Behind the Doors: An art history from Yuendumu'.

Thanks to Michael Bollen, Publisher of Wakefield Press, for continuing to sponsor the Literary Club

and to Susan Bardy for taking the phone bookings and greeting guests at the door, as well as to David Gosnell for organising the monthly raffle

Cheryl Appelkamp – Chair

CLARE REGIONAL BRANCH CLARE VALLEY FILM CLUB

The Movie Club has gone from strength to strength since we moved from the Blyth Hotel to the Blyth Institute in November 2013 for our after film dinners. We average between 35 to 50 people each month.

People arrive at 6.45 pm and are served wine from one of our world renowned Clare Valley Wineries together with nibbles prepared by the Movie Club committee. We enjoy a film in the quirky Blyth Cinema while just a few metres away Rae Edwards and the Blyth Institute Committee prepare a delicious meal. The wines enjoyed before the film may be purchased to accompany the meal.

There are experienced film buffs (on the committee) who review the film and a quiz is conducted to test everyone's knowledge. Altogether a lovely stimulating evening. June was a particularly cold wintry evening yet we had 39 people attend and they loved it.

On our committee Francis Walling and Putu Suta (White Cedars Café) have a SALA exhibition opening on the 20th July called **BALI 2 BURRA** with artists Neil Austin & Wayan Dudug – this exhibition will continue until the 31st August 2014 open Tuesday to Sunday.

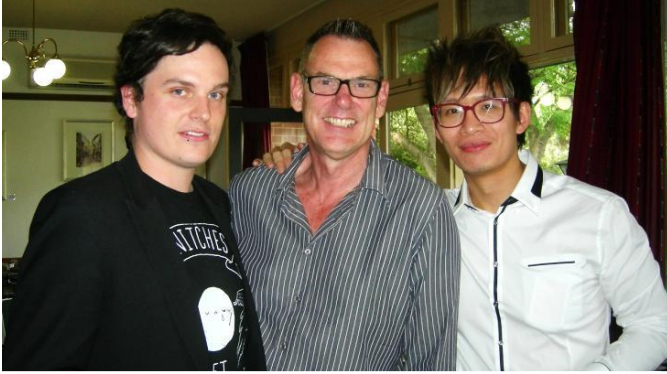
Also worth a visit during SALA is the exhibition at the beautiful Burra Art Gallery. Their website is well worth a look. Our IAF Clare Valley committee were involved in organising the 2008/09 SALA Festivals. The communities across the Clare Valley Region have embraced this lovely Festival. which is held during July/ August each year.

There is an a cappella festival occurring in October this year. I experienced it last year and it was delightful. Visit the Burra Festivale website to find out more-
www.electronicswagman.com.au/imagesDB/3dis/sue/burrafestivale/index.html

Look forward to seeing you up this way

Jessica Dames AM - Chair

IAF Fringe Preview, February 2014....



Greg Clarke, Fringe Director (centre) with amazing entertainers of deception, Matt Tarrant and Vinh Giang



Steph Thomson and Bronagh O'Doherty

Booklovers' Breakfast, Government House, April 2014



David Gosnell, Alan Elsom, John Hillier and Barry Elsom



Frans and Margaret de Zwart, Nick Canny and Barbara Mayfield

At the Cabaret Festival Gala, June 2014 - 100 tickets sold by IAF to members and friends..



Marshall Steer & Marjorie Fitz-Gerald OAM



Roger Shepard, Peter Goers and Jane Turci

COMING EVENTS - DIARY DATES

19th August	AGM, Public Schools Club followed by Literary Club
21st August	Niki Vasilakis' Cocktail Concert, Lyrics, Adelaide Festival Centre
23rd October	A Solitary Choice, Carclew Youth Arts
28th November	Christmas Party, Stamford Hotel, featuring Brenton Shaw
Film Club	Second Monday of each month generally
Literary Club	Third Tuesday of each month until November
Clare Film Club	Fourth Wednesday of each month until November