## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

I and my family first arrived in Australia in the 1990's. While we loved the weather and the freedom, we found the at-times, delightful contradictions inherent in Australian culture quite perplexing.

Warrandyte Theatre Company first staged this work shortly after it was written in 1990, and its subjects and characterisations have not aged. The focus on the family and the tensions arising from love, responsibility and guilt overlaid with loyalties and cultural tensions are as relevant today as they were 30 years ago.

As one of her first works, Hannie Rayson's writing is a delight to bring to life. Each scene is like a panel in a quilt, making a statement about family life, love, responsibility and guilt. Sewn together they make a timeless masterpiece. No wonder this is regarded as a classic of Australian Theatre.

*Grant Purdy*

## OUR PROGRAM FOR 2025

Season 1 – ***When the Wind Blows*** by Raymond Biggs. Directed by David Tynan.

This play recounts a rural English couple's attempt to survive a nearby nuclear attack and maintain a sense of normality in the subsequent fallout and nuclear winter.

Season 2 – ***The Importance of Being Earnest*** by Oscar Wild. Directed by James Banger.

The all-time favourite comedy about the trials and tribulations of couples in love, where the audience knows the best lines.

Season 3 – ***Grey Nomad***. Written and directed by Dan Lee.

Dan, a local playwright, has just written this hilarious comedy about two couples who meet going round Australia.

Season 4 – ***The Follies***. Directed by Adrian Rice.

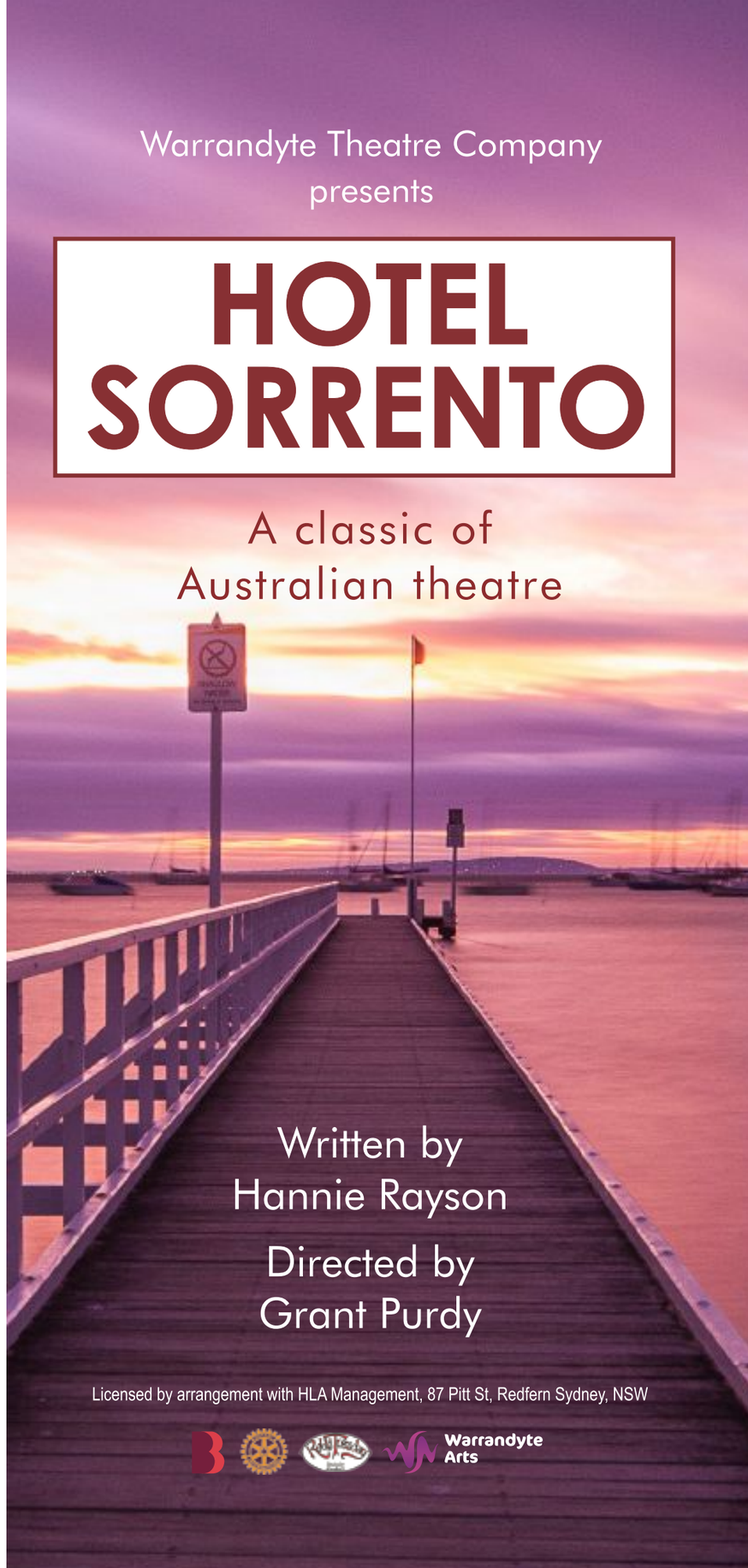
To round out the year, the return of our renowned and much-loved Follies. We don't know the theme yet, as its still being written, but we do know it will be over two hours of topical humour, songs and skits that everyone loves – even people from Templestowe!

WMIAA acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people of the Kulin nation as the traditional owners of the land in and around Warrandyte. We pay our respects to elders past, present and emerging.

Warrandyte Theatre Company
presents

# HOTEL SORRENTO

A classic of
Australian theatre



Written by
Hannie Rayson

Directed by
Grant Purdy

Licensed by arrangement with HLA Management, 87 Pitt St, Redfern Sydney, NSW

Warrandyte Arts

# CAST

## DICK — Don Nicholson

Don returns to Warrandyte after appearing as Francis Crick in *Photograph 51* at Williamstown Little Theatre earlier this year and as Polonius in Avid/Ardour's production of *Hamlet* late last year. He has appeared in Warrandyte productions such as *A View from the Bridge, Visitors, All My Sons* and *Elegy for a Lady*. He hopes you enjoy this thought provoking local classic.

## MEG — Danielle Carey

Danielle is a graduate of the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music who most recently played Rosie in *Things I Know to Be True* at Warrandyte Theatre Company. She also performs as a simulated patient/actor and cantor. Danielle is thrilled to play Meg Moynihan in her fourth show with Warrandyte Theatre Company.

## PIPPA — Francesca Carl

Francesca is always delighted to return to Warrandyte, previously appearing here in *The Glass Menagerie, Love/Sick, Follies, Contractions* and *The Lady From the Sea*. Most recently she has performed in *Still Alice* at the Lilydale Athenaeum, *Sense & Sensibility* at CPP Theatre, *Photograph 51* at The Basin Theatre, and *War of the Worlds* at the 1812 Theatre. She also appeared in a short film last year called *The Realtor* which screened at the Pivotonian Cinema in Geelong.

## WAL — Peter Smith

Peter's introduction to acting was in the Warrandyte Theatre Company's 2014 production of *Cicatrice,* playing the part of Lewis. He also appeared in the Warrandyte Theatre Company's *Money Follies* in 2015.

## MARGE — Rosie Cullinan

I'm thrilled to return to Warrandyte's stage after previously playing Kate in *All My Sons* and Melissa in *Love Letters*. Other favourite, earlier roles were: *The Lady in The Van*'s Miss Shepherd (Highway One); Rowena, *Piece of Mind* (Lilydale); Sue, *The Third Act* (Malvern); Linda, *Death of a Salesman* (Essendon); Mrs. Bramson, *Night Must Fall* (Peridot); M'Lynn, *Steel Magnolias* (Mooroolbark). Love your work, Warrandyte! Please enjoy.

## EDWIN — Mason Frost

British to the tee, Mason Frost has somehow been allowed to walk the boards of many stages in various plays in the past few years, including Eltham Little Theatre's *The 39 Steps* as Richard Hannay, Warrandyte Theatre Company's *The Glass Menagerie* as Jim O'Connor and *The Last Quiz Night On Earth* as Quizmaster Rav, Beaumaris Theatre's *The 3 Musketeers* as D'Artagnan and Hubert Laurie in *Night Must Fall* with Peridot. Mason is excited to bring to life the character of Edwin. Enjoy the show.

## HILLARY — Shivanii Cameron

Shivanii jumped into theatre last year with 1812's *Phantom Call*. This led to the housekeeper role in Theatrical's *Sound of Music*. She is delighted and thankful to be involved in *Hotel Sorrento* in a challenging but very fulfilling role. She extends warm thanks and appreciation to the whole Warrandyte team.

## TROY — Harry Gompertz

Harry first found his love of the stage as part of TDC in Sydney playing the King of Hearts in *Alice in Wonderland*. He was the youngest in the company and also the only boy! This love of performing has stayed with Harry, recently playing Pinocchio in *Shrek The Musical* for Monbulk College. He's so proud to join Warrandyte Theatre Company for this production.

# CREW

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| DIRECTOR AND PRODUCER | Grant Purdy |
| STAGE MANAGER | Jenny Ford |
| ASM | Andrew Scarborough |
| LIGHTING DESIGN | Grant Purdy |
| LIGHTING OPERATION | Sandi Miller, Harry O'Toole |
| SOUND DESIGN & OPERATION | Pam Ford |
| COSTUMES | Noelene Cooper, Denise Farran |
| SET DESIGN | Jock Macneish and Adam Gouge |
| SET ARTWORK | Marion Cooper |
| SET CONSTRUCTION AND PAINTING | Rosey Cullinan, Simone Kiefer, Adam Goudge, Jock Macneish, Don Nicholson, Adrian Rice, Jenny Ford, Stephen Smith, David Tynan, Grant Purdy |
| POSTERS AND PROGRAM | Alan Cornell |
| FRONT OF HOUSE | Hazel Rice |

With special thanks to Liz Atkinson for her permission to use her stunning photograph of Sorrento *Camerons Bight Jetty*.

With thanks for their continued support: Warrandyte Community Bank, Rotary Club of Warrandyte and Donvale, Manningham Council, Warrandyte Riverside Market, Ruby Tuesday Jewellers.