

# Le Souffleur

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Edition 1 2006  
[www.mftinc.org](http://www.mftinc.org)



## Bonne Année pour les 29 ans du MFT !

For 2006, MFT, is experimenting with 4 shows, being 2 small productions in January/February and November and 2 full productions of a modern play in May and a classic in August/September.

### 2005 Season

#### February - *Pénétration* by Joris Lacoste

For the first time, MFT hired the atmospheric Erwin Rado theatrette in Johnston Street, Fitzroy.

The play was made possible by the generous sponsorship of Michael Bula Solicitors in paying for the airfare and director's fee of Joris Lacoste, the playwright, who also directed, adapted and acted in the show in Melbourne with the strong cast consisting of Mandy Mouellic, Pascal Rigaldiès, Miranda Nation and Adam Cass.

The show attracted a different profile of audience and brought an MFT production to a cross section of the community not otherwise involved.

The play was performed in a bilingual version, with the English version translated by Michael Bula.

#### May - *Boeing Boeing* by Marc Camoletti

From Eddy Fatha's stunning and colourful poster image to director Morgan Dowsett's 60's spoof version, *Boeing Boeing* was a success from the start, with a sizzling-hot cast which included Jean-François Delvaen as Bernard, the famous architect, Dominique Gibert as Robert, his friend, Elise Pioch as Berthe, Bernard's maid, Florence Rivière-Meyer as Jacqueline, the French air hostess, Catherine Pierce as Judith, the German air hostess and Cynthia Sica as Janet, the American air hostess.

This play broke all box office records for the past 28 years attracting more than 1,535 people.

The play was staged in the magnificent

heritage building Central Hall in Brunswick Street, Fitzroy.



#### SEPTEMBER - *Le Jeu de l'amour et du hasard* by Marivaux

A newcomer to the MFT was director Karen Berger, who brought a fresh influence on one of Marivaux's most successful and well known plays, which was also performed in the wonderful surrounds of Central Hall. This was the 3<sup>rd</sup> presentation of the work by MFT in 29 years, the last were in 1986 and 1988.

The play was presented in a boxing ring/catwalk stage with the audience seated on the existing stage and on the ground in a transverse fashion.

The cast included: Henry Mera as Monsieur Orgon, Michael Bula as Mario, his son, Catherine Pierce as Silvia, his daughter, Amanda Sergent as Lisette, her *femme de chambre*, Bruno Gutton as Dorante, *gentilhomme* and the triumphant return of MFT co-founder David Gorrie as Arlequin, his valet.

This was the most successful Marivaux play ever in attracting more than 800 spectators.

The play was presented in French with video projected English surtitles.



#### November - *Théâtre Sans Animaux* by Jean-Michel Ribes

MFT was honoured to welcome another new female director, Miki Oikawa who brought a distinctly Japanese style in the interpretation and presentation of these wonderful sketches from Jean-Michel Ribes, the director of the *Théâtre du Rond-Point*, in Paris.

The cast included: Michael Bula, Mélanie

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Gollain, Henry Mera, Angélique Mie, Romain Hermelin, Mandy Mouellic, Annabel Pemberton, Vanessa Peltier, and Franciska Toubale.

Five out of the original ten sketches were presented in a rehearsed reading, similar to the format for *Pénétration*, to cap off an intense year of productions for MFT in 2005.



## Committee et al.

The 2005 committee underwent some changes and comprised Michael Bula (Executive Director), Angèle Cadge (Secretary), Jean-François Delvaen and Dominique Gibert, who left us for Tunisia unfortunately and a new appointment of Morgan Dowsett later to be appointed Artistic Director.

A subcommittee for publicity, sponsorship, and marketing continued with Aurélie Ferreira and Angélique Sirjean. The other subcommittee for recommendation of plays included Morgan Dowsett and Henry Méra.

## Wine bar

The wine bar proved so popular and profitable for MFT, that it has become a permanent fixture. We shall continue to offer wine, soft drinks, tea and coffee and assorted foods to enhance that unique Melbourne French Theatre experience.



## Subscriptions

Just a reminder that subscription fees for 2006 are due in January - go to our website for the form.

### Special offer

As MFT policy, MFT offer subscribers a **10% reduction** in fees if they supply their email address.

*As advised last year, the general mailing list has now been significantly reduced. If you want to be kept informed, we appeal to you to join. Do read the NEW benefits and complete the*

form and support our activities as it provides important fundraising revenue, so MFT can continue to present its wonderful productions with much needed funds! Please join/rejoin today.

## Tax Deductible Donations

In the subscription form, we urge you to consider a fully tax deductible donation of \$100 or more, for which we issue a tax receipt. You can reduce your taxable income and benefit a worthy cause.

## MFT Web Site

The site continues to improve and now has an archive section for plays from 2002 including photos and news. Security encryption for orders offers protection. Please consult the new pricing policy section. MFT requests that you use the website, as we do not have adequate staff to deal with the myriad of telephone enquiries, in order to communicate with us (email contact form), download forms and information at

[www.mftinc.org](http://www.mftinc.org)

## 2006 Programme

- *Les Bonnes (the Maids)* by Jean Genet - **31 January to 4 February.**
- *Le Dîner de Cons* by Francis Veber - **2 to 6 May**
- *On Purge Bébé* by Georges Feydeau - **29 August to 2 September**
- *Fin de Partie (Endgame)* by Samuel Beckett - **28 November to 2 December.**
- Restaurant evenings - **PERIODIC**

## English Surtitles

Again, all year 2006 productions and beyond shall have PowerPoint slide video projected English surtitles. Please tell your non-French-speaking friends and acquaintances.

## Editorial

Editor - Michael Bula

Secretarial – Fiona Curnow and Patricia Bordes

Art, Photos and Layout - Michael Bula

## Rehearsal Space

MFT is proud to announce that the City of Yarra continues to be a major sponsor of MFT, since 1999, providing rehearsal

space for free and performance spaces at a greatly reduced cost. MFT gratefully thanks the City of Yarra.

## Production

MFT is currently seeking :

- sponsorship officers
- publicity officers
- directors
- actors
- ticket secretaries
- production managers
- set designers & constructors
- graphic artists
- stage managers
- costume coordinators
- admin & publicity staff
- strong drivers with vehicles.

To save time see our website and **only** send your CV through the Contact page on our website completing the form or by email, fax or post to us (see below).

## Sponsorship

MFT is seeking corporate sponsorships for 2006, for which extensive publicity on posters and programmes and complimentary tickets are available, as well as advertising on our video screen by projection of logos at shows. Special thanks to all our present sponsors, especially the French Embassy and Consulate General, without whom MFT could not exist.

## MFT contact

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