

Le Souffleur

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Bonne Année pour les 30 ans du MFT !

For 2007, MFT is presenting two shows
only in May and later in the year.

2006 Season

January – *Les Bonnes* by Jean Genet



MFT leased the innovative venue of 45
Downstairs in the City to stage this
wonderful project conceived, performed
and directed by Michael Bula. The show
was accompanied by live music and was
performed with English surtitles,
attracting a very diverse audience,
including people like Julia Zemiro [Rock
Quiz, Kirsten von Bibra [director *Les
Fausses Confidences* 1992 and *Antigone*
1994] from St Martins].



May – *Le Dîner de Cons* by Francis
Veber



MFT, with Morgan Dowsett's direction,
honoured this cult comedy classic,
performed by the right cast for the job
being Bruno Gutton as Pierre Brochant,
Judith Dallez as Christine, Michael Bula
as Archambaud, Eddy K. Fatha as
François Pignon, Jean-François Delvaen
as Juste Leblanc Chloé Brugale as
Marlène and Clifford Edouard as Cheval.
Eddy K. Fatha drew critical acclaim. One
audience member wrote saying that when
she closed her eyes she imagined the late
Jacques Villeret in the role! A near
box-office success [record =
Boeing-Boeing, May 2005] attended the
show at the Collingwood Town Hall.



August / September – *On Purge Bébé*
by Georges Feydeau



Great Feydeau enthusiast who has
brought this wonderful author to
prominence in MFT, and in Australia,
Michael Bula took the reins to direct [and
could not resist a small role] this
vaudeville period piece, with a twist.
Historically, a previous venue, The Open
Stage at the University of Melbourne,
Parkville, with its "Black Box" studio

format, proved most appropriate for the show, as did the cast – Aurélien Mondon as Follavoine, Aurélia Gachet as Julie Follavoine, Maeva Veerapen as Rose, their maid, Heidi Bula as Toto, their son, Eddy K. Fatha, played Chouilloux, Janaina Dal Zotto Boff as Clémence Chouilloux and Michael Bula as Horace Truchet, her lover. Second generation Heidi Bula [then eight years of age and playing a boy!] to the pride of her father, Michael, brought the character of Toto to life. Aurélien Mondon [*L'avare* 2001] ably interpreted the delusional Follavoine, and newcomer and talented actress Aurélia Gachet provided a stunning performance. The play was presented in French with video-projected English surtitles.



Committee et al.

The 2006 committee comprised Michael Bula (Executive Director), Angèle Cadge (Secretary), Dominique Gibert [who has returned from Tunisia], Jean-François Delvaen, Morgan Dowsett (Artistic Director) and David Gorrie, a founding member.

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 2007 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 previously, 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, as we are no longer the recipient of the French Government grant, 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 has an archive section for plays from 1999 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

2007 Programme

- *Huit Femmes (Eight Women)* by Robert Thomas – 8 to 12 May.
- *Le Petit Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry will be conceived as a touring show for schools, the general public and possibly an overseas tour.
- Restaurant evenings – PERIODIC

English Surtitles

Again, all year 2007 productions and beyond shall have PowerPoint slide video projected English surtitles. Please tell your non-French-speaking friends and acquaintances.

Multicultural Award

Michael Bula was honoured to receive Victoria's award for excellence in multicultural affairs – service delivery to multicultural Victoria – Arts, in December 2006 at Government House, in recognition of his contribution to French language and theatre in Victoria.

Editorial

Editor, Art, Photos & Layout - Michael Bula
Secretarial – Emily Collin & Melanie Henry

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.

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