

# Le Souffleur

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Newsletter*

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Edition 1 - 2012  
[www.mftinc.org](http://www.mftinc.org)



## Bonne Année – 2012 – 35 ans du MFT [founded 1977] !!

In 2012, in addition to the 2 shows in May and September, to be confirmed is a new Napoleon work – The Australian Connection by Marijke Eysbertse and a *Concours Théâtre* – School's Theatre Competition for Victorian primary and secondary schools.

### 2011 Season

May - Molière Double Bill – *Le Médecin Volant* and *La Jalousie du Barbouillé*



**Eddy, Will, Brune and Nihary**  
*Le Médecin Volant*

*Photo by Richard Markowski*

For the first time in years MFT engaged a French director, Iris Gaillard, who brought her expertise and *commedia dell'arte* – physical theatre style to this wonderful double bill presented at Collingwood College to a near record 955 people and a record 279 attendances at the Friday Matinee. The plays were previously unknown in Melbourne and were discovered and researched for selection by Michael Bula.

The cast for the two plays comprised veterans, Michael Bula, and Eddy K. Fatha, as well as newcomers Yves Bessard, Sonia Davoine and Nihary Ratsimbazafy.

Will Tait brilliantly played the roles of Sganarelle and the Doctor respectively in the two plays. Brune Munier from *Run for your Wife* and Mehdi Khallouk from *Elle t'attend* completed the energetic and well cast line-up.



**Eddy, Will and Michael**  
*Le Médecin Volant*

*Photo by Richard Markowski*



**The Flying Mehdi**  
*Le Médecin Volant*

*Photo by Richard Markowski*



**Sonia, Brune, Mehdi, Eddy and Yves**  
*La Jalousie du Barbouillé*

*Photo by Richard Markowski*



**Yves and Will**  
*La Jalousie du Barbouillé*

*Photo by Richard Markowski*

August – *Absent Friends* [Mariages et Conséquences] by Alain Ayckbourn



**Victoire, Yoann, Matthew, Sonia, Geoff, Izabel and Yves**

Photo by Michael Bula

Matthew O'Sullivan [Director - *Elle t'attend* by Florian Zeller - 2009] came back to direct this wonderful lounge-room piece.

Yoann Vidorr [Clément] brought his own brand of energy to a cast with Sonia Davoine, [Daneille], Yves Bessard [returning after the Molière Double Bill as Paul], Victoire Mazounie [her second performance after *L'Emmerdeur* by Francis Veber in 2010 – Evelyne], with first-timers Izabel Henri as Marianne and Geoff Denans as John.

The red modernist set and intimacy created were commented upon by all.



**Victoire, Geoff, Yves and Sonia**

Photo by Michael Bula



**Sonia, Yoann and Izabel**

Photo by Michael Bula



May to December 2011 - *Des Courtes Lignes de COURTELINE / Some Short Lines from COURTELINE - Schools Tour and Seasons*



*Des Courtes Lignes de Courteline* has now gone into the MFT books as the longest running school tour [2010 and 2011] to over 30 schools.

The project was conceived, produced and directed by Michael Bula with the Jacques Villeret of Melbourne, Eddy K. Fatha and three female actors during the two year period – Sabrina Manac'h, Deborah Morgan, Claire Dumans and finally Hélène Kalma.

The show was ably supported by the following stage crew and members of supporting staff, who offered both time and high levels of expertise-

In 2010 Margaux Lasaygues previously Stage Manager + Production and Surtitles Assistant Estelle Petit + Kate Lovig previously + Surtitles/Sound Operators and finally in 2011 Sally Borrell - Stage Management + Surtitles/Sound Operator with Veronica Hibbs – PowerPoint presentation of surtitles

Poster Design – Eddy K. Fatha + poster computer graphics/layout – Bianca Elias

There were three public performances of the show for MFT members at Theatre HUSK in May 2010, at *La Maison de Maître* Building in December 2010 and then finally again at *La Maison de Maître* building in December 2011 – all shows were well attended or booked out.

The season throughout 2010 and 2011 was so successful that it may continue in the future.

See the link on MFT Home Page website. The show consisted of four specially selected short pieces for primary, secondary and general public/university level [as adapted] –

- o *Monsieur Badin – Mr Badin* = a public servant who never shows up for work!

- o *Une lettre chargée – A Registered Letter* = a letter is trapped by a post office official
- o *L'Extra-Lucide – The Super Clairvoyant* = a sleepwalking fortune teller with a 6<sup>th</sup> sense!
- o *Avant et Après – Before and After* = a picnic goes wrong between Marthe and René

The female roles have been played by Sabrina Manac'h, Deborah Morgan, Claire Dumans and finally Hélène Kalma [Ovide, L'Employée, Madame Prudence and Marthe]. Eddy Fatha played Monsieur Badin and René with Michael Bula in the other roles of Monsieur le Directeur, Monsieur Labrige and Monsieur Ledaim.

In 2010, Ovide was also played by Olivia Bula, Michael's daughter, 10 at the French Festival Paris to Provence at Abbotsford Convent and at Camberwell Primary School and at *La Maison de Maître* Building.

The show toured with English surtitles prepared by translation by Michael Bula and converted to PowerPoint by Veronica Hibbs.



## Subscriptions

Just a reminder that subscription fees for 2012 are due in January - go to our website [www.mftinc.org](http://www.mftinc.org) for the form.

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.

## Special Thanks

Special thanks again must go to all actors, directors, backstage, artistic and administrative staff mentioned in the programs – some 50/60 + souls for each show without which MFT would no longer exist. They all volunteered their time tirelessly. Our gratitude is extended to Life Member Angèle Cadge, former MFT Secretary and Catering Director for 25 years of service and all the unnamed *aficionados* who made the shows possible.

## MFT Website

The site is currently being refreshed and modernised and has been since 2011. We hope to be up in 2012 and thank Frédéric Salmon in France for this work. MFT requests that you use the website extensively, as we do not have adequate staff to deal with the myriad of telephone enquiries and of course bookings, in order to communicate with us [email contact form], download forms and information at

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

## 2012 Programme

- May - *Don't Dress for Dinner / Pyjama pour six* by Marc Camoletti
- September - *Don Juan on Trial / La Nuit de Valognes* by Eric-Emmanuel Schmitt
- *Après les roses, le poison - Napoléon et le lien australien / From Roses to Poison - Napoleon and the Australian Connection* by Marijke Eysbertse - a rehearsed reading [to be confirmed]
- *Concours théâtre - Theatre Competition - Victorian Primary and Secondary Schools* [to be confirmed]
- SCHOOL TERMS - TOUR TO SCHOOLS - *Des Courtes Lignes de COURTELINE / Some Short Lines from COURTELINE* for Primary and Secondary Schools and Universities

## English Surtitles

Again, all year 2012 productions and beyond shall have one or two PowerPoint slide video projected English surtitles. Please tell your non-French-speaking friends and acquaintances.



## Rehearsal Space

As stated previously the new *La Maison de Maître* Building now serves as rehearsal space in Carlton for MFT since 2011. It is momentous that after 34 years MFT finally has a home for rehearsals at least.

## Venue - La Maison de Maître Building



[www.lamaisondemaître.com.au](http://www.lamaisondemaître.com.au)

Multi-use fully renovated building available for hire for presentations, conferences, classes, arts performances, rehearsals, meetings, corporate functions and meals, gallery space, cocktail venue, wine tastings, cooking demonstrations, commercial kitchen, product launches and unlimited uses in the heart of Carlton



203-205 Canning Street, CARLTON  
corner Neill Street  
[Melway Ref: Map 43 K2]  
grey-blue building

## Assistance/Venues

MFT is currently seeking :

- directors
- actors
- technicians for conversion of VHS to DVD of MFT videos
- sponsorship manager + officers
- publicity officers
- ticket secretaries
- production managers
- set designers & constructors

- graphic artists
- stage managers
- costume coordinators
- admin & publicity staff
- drivers/general help 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 to us – 1 attachment through our website [see below] and alternative theatre venues and rehearsal spaces and request you advise us through the contact page on the website.

## Sponsorship

MFT is in financial stress as it has lost its Multicultural Arts Victoria funding and survived a difficult year in 2011. It is seeking corporate sponsorships for 2012, 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.

Details of our exciting sponsorship packages are on the website and interested parties are asked to contact our Sponsorships Manager on 03 9349 2250 or [productions@mftinc.org](mailto:productions@mftinc.org).

Special thanks to all our present sponsors, without whom MFT could not exist.

## MFT contact

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[The Post Office Box has been cancelled].



## Editorial

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