

### Chelsea McKissack and the Melbourne French Theatre



*'The Melbourne French Theatre (MFT) is a theatre group that regularly performs plays in French with English surtitles in the Melbourne area. After seeing one of the MFT's plays earlier in the year, I was offered the opportunity to be a part of the team creating the surtitles for their latest play Espèces Menacées ('Funny Money').*

*Our task began with the translation of the French script into English which was both challenging and a lot of fun. At the start, there were times I had trouble with unfamiliar slang and expressions. But as the opening date grew closer and I became more familiar with the script I found myself understanding and laughing at the different jokes and using new words and phrases when speaking with the cast.*

*When the play finally opened I had a fantastic time. Not only was I able to watch as the play became better and better, but as I was doing the surtitles I found myself understanding exactly what was happening, even when the actors improvised or skipped certain parts of the play.*

*For me, it was an incredible experience, one that allowed me to improve my French and completely immerse myself in both the play and the French Culture. I met some amazing people and had a fantastic time working with everyone involved. I highly recommend this to anyone interested in theatre or French translation and Interpretation as the MFT are always looking for people to help with surtitles for various plays.'*