



Dominique Gibert of Ashburton is performing in a production with the Melbourne French Theatre.

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## Ooh la laugh out loud

**Words:** Cassie Maher  
**Picture:** Paul Loughnan

ASHBURTON resident Dominique Gibert is confident audiences will love Melbourne French Theatre's latest production.

"If you don't laugh at this play, you will never laugh at anything," the French expatriate proclaimed.

Gibert, who joined the foreign language theatre group after migrating to Australia in 1995, said

its May production *Caught in the Net* (Chat et Souris) was one of its best.

The English-subtitled comedy is about a French taxi driver and bigamist, Jean Martin, who has been successfully married to two women for 18 years.

However his double-life begins to unravel when romance blossoms between his oblivious teenage son and daughter from separate mothers.

Gibert plays Jean's dopey neigh-

bour, Gibert, who tries to help keep the families a secret from each other.

Gibert said he met his own wife, Anna, through the theatre group.

"I was declaring my love for her on stage every night (as actors), and that's how it started," he said.

Gibert said the group kept him in touch with his European roots and gave non-French people an insight into French drama.

"You will want to come if you have an interest in the French

language, but if you learn it or know it, it's even better," he said.

"If your French is a bit shaky there are subtitles to help but this show in particular it's a very visual, slapstick comedy, so that makes it even easier for people to follow."

» *Caught in the Net* is at Collingwood College Theatre, corner Cromwell St and McCutcheon Way, from May 5-9. Details: mftinc.org or 9349 2250.

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—Dominique Gibert