

COMPANY THEATRE

presents

fifty

fifty

by ROGER HALL

CAST

George	Bill Borlase
Sarah	Penny Skyrme
Michael	Freddy Woods
Barbara	Yvonne Burgham
Tony	Peter Fitzgibbon

CREW

Director	Neil Burgham
Production Asst.	Leanne Watkins
Stage Manager	David Kemp
Set Design	Neil Burgham
Set Construction	Freddy Woods
Lighting Design	Anne Potter
Sound & Lights	Leanne Watkins
Props & Furnishings	Mark Oswin
Front of House	Rosalind Clews
Publicity & Programme	Wendy Kristensen
Wardrobe	Kate Exton
Prompt	David Kemp
	Rosalind Clews
	Kirsten Hanna

SYNOPSIS

Scene 1	Saturday Morning
Scene 2	Saturday Evening

15 Min. Interval

Scene 3	Sunday Morning
Scene 4	Monday Afternoon

Director's Notes

This play is one that, when I first saw it at the Mercury Theatre several years ago, moved me more than any I had seen for some time prior or since.

Although "Fifty-Fifty" is unusual for a Roger Hall play, in that it is set in London, it could, with only minor changes, be translated to Wellington, New Zealand. I defy anyone not to see something of either themselves, or someone they know well, in the characters it portrays. Similarly, its background theme of marital breakdown, unemployment and redundancy are very much contemporary New Zealand.

I promise you it is not as depressing as it sounds and hope you enjoy our presentation.



Neil Burgham - Director

Neil's first experience of theatre was in New Plymouth in the late fifties, early sixties, where as a callow youth he performed as a singer and dancer in several musicals. At this time he was employed as a radio programmer.

Until he joined Company in 1983, his major artistic interest was choral singing, and he has been a member of the Auckland Choral Society for approximately fifteen years. Neil's performances for Company have been in "Blithe Spirit", "Dear Departed," "Dear Delinquent" and the 1987 Music Hall. This is Neil's first venture into directing.

Bill Borlase - George

This is Bill's first role for company. He has previously played leading roles for Arena Theatre and Dolphin Theatre. As well as straight drama, Bill enjoys musicals. Roles include Jud Fry in "Oklahoma" for North Shore Operatic Society and Harold Hill in "The Musician" for St. Thomas Operatic Society.



Yvonne Burgham - Barbara

Charges of being "excessively noisy in the playground" and "sleeping during lectures", led to Yvonne's coercion into her first two major stage roles; "I Have Five Daughters" at school and "The Tinder Box" at teachers' college.

Since joining Company, Yvonne has played major roles in "Blithe Spirit" and "Who's Who", a role in "Dear Delinquent" and several one act plays.

Freddy Woods - Michael

Fred joined Company in February, having come to New Zealand at Christmas. Already he has been involved in set construction for Company's last three productions, as well as performing Edgar Allen Poe's "Tell Tale Heart" in Company's recent production, "The Fifth Dimension".

Back home, Fred's roles have been, Danny in "Night Must Fall", Wilfred in "Spring and Port Wine", "Buttons" and even Woody Allen in his play, "Play it Again Sam".



Penny Skyrme - Sarah Lang

During several years at Victoria University, Penny appeared in a large number of plays, play-readings and reviews (several written and/or directed by Roger Hall). She spent a few years teaching English in Spain where there is little call for English plays and so co-wrote and acted in some pantomimes, sketches etc. at the school.

During her two-year stay in England, Penny appeared in a couple of local productions. This is her first play she's acted in since returning to New Zealand.



Bill Borlase, Peter Segrove, Yvonne Burgham, Freddy Woods



Peter Fitzgibbon - Tony

Peter is the victim of an office dare! This is the first role he has played since several leading roles in high school performances. (He refuses to tell us precisely how long ago this was!).

He has only fairly recently come to Auckland from Christchurch, where for the past few years he has been operating light or sound boards for the Christchurch Operatic Society and Stardust Cabaret Season.



Freddy Woods, Bill Borlase

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Bill Bolase, Penny Skyrme



Bill Bolase, Peter Fitzgibbon



Freddy Woods, Bill Bolase, Yvonne Burgham



Bill Bolase, Yvonne Burgham