

Email from Roger Hall



Dear Richard

you'll be pleased to know that the two couples who used my comps enjoyed the play very much.

One of them even cried--which is a very fine compliment to the acting (and direction, no doubt).

I hope the season is going well.

Cheers

RH

You are all
AMAZING !

2nd - 16th July 2011

At The Rose Centre, School Road, Belmont

Evenings Wednesday - Saturday at 8pm

Matinées - Sunday 3rd & 10th July at 2pm

\$25 Adults • \$20 Concessions

Bookings 445 9900 or email rosecentre@xtra.co.nz



COMPANY THEATRE

Four Flat Whites In Italy

by Roger Hall



Stop the Gondola,
I want to get off!

Directed by Richard Parmée

THE DIRECTOR'S THOUGHTS

Why "Four Flat Whites In Italy"? Well for me there is only one reason to direct a particular play and that is that I love the play. "Four Flat Whites In Italy" is a great play which I absolutely love and which has provided me with lots of wonderful challenges.

In putting together this production I have had the support of a fantastic group of people who've put in a huge amount of time, energy & love! The names of this group without whom there would be no "Four Flat Whites In Italy" are in the programme below but special mention must go to Phil Davis, creator of our incredible moving props, which are such a unique and spectacular part of this particular production – thank you Phil for the huge amount of time and effort you dedicated to your creations.

To the rest of the dedicated and tireless team of cast and crew who have helped create this particular piece of magic all I can say is a massive thank you for all your efforts. To you, our wonderful audience, I wish an enjoyable, fun filled & thought provoking evening and to echo Mr Hall's sentiment that there's always time for magic in your life!

Richard Parmée, Director

THE PLAY

When plans for a holiday with friends go awry for the retired librarians they are faced with two choices: cancel the holiday, or go to plan B. In this case plan B means going on holiday with their new neighbours, Harry and his sexy younger wife Judy.

So when the two (patently mismatched) couples set off for a holiday to see the sights of Italy you just know that huge fun and a touch of frustration are on the way! Culture, class & values all come under the microscope, not to mention those passionate, funny, take-you-out-of-your-comfort-zone Italians...!

AUDITIONS AUDITIONS AUDITIONS

Auditions for "IMPROBABLE FICTION" by Alan Ayckbourn, Directed by Lynne Davis
 2pm at The Rose Centre on Sunday 31 July 2011
 Enquiries phone Lynne on 021 591 300 or 445 2645
 3 Males Age 30 – 65 • 4 Females Age 20 - 45
 Production Dates 11 to 26 November

2nd - 16th July 2011

At The Rose Centre, School Road, Belmont

Evenings Wednesday - Saturday at 8pm

Matinées - Sunday 3rd & 10th July at 2pm

COMPANY THEATRE NEW MEMBERS!

For Membership please phone Richard Parmée on 445 9900 or
 email rosecentre@xtra.co.nz www.companytheatre.co.nz

To meet and join in with Company Theatre members, come to our Playreading of
 "Under Milkwood" by Dylan Thomas on Wednesday 20 July at 7.30pm
 at The Rose Centre.

Membership of Company Theatre is only \$10 per year!

THE CAST

Adrian	Max Golding
Alison	Sue Gross
Harry	John Clarke
Judy	Julie Collis
Count/Italian Males	Phil Tarbox
Countess/Italian Females	Kath Hair

THE PRODUCTION TEAM

Director	Richard Parmee
Production Manager	Sue Gross
Stage Manager	Sheila Stevens
Assistant Stage Manager	Phil Davis
Stage Hands	Phil Tarbox, Kath Hair
Prompt	Peter Collis
Set Design	Richard Parmée & Phil Davis
Set Construction	Phil Davis
Set Painting	Caroline Parker, Tony Sandy
Lighting Design/Operation	Scott Thomas
Projection Design	Richard Parmée
Sound Design	Richard Parmée, David Adkins
Properties	Doreen & Fred Gould
Costumes	Nadine Gibson, Kayla Setter
Publicity	Kathy Gent
Poster Design	Richard Parmée, Melanie from Copy & Offset Printing
Photos & Billboards	Sherry Ede
Programme Production	Richard Parmée
Front of House Manager	Lynne Davis
Bar Manager	Ruth Chapman
Box Office, Front of House & Bar Staff	Members of Company Theatre

CAST PROFILES

Max Golding - Adrian

Last year Max played Alan in the 2010 Company Theatre production of "Who Wants to be 100". Following this he, and his wife Sue, were in their own MSM Theatre Co production at The Rose Centre of "We're Strangers Here", which was reprised at the Ellerslie Stables Theatre later in the year. Since then he has appeared in "Impossible Fiction at The Dolphin Theatre, Onehunga and "1984" at Mairangi Players Theatreworks.

Sue Gross - Alison

Sue has been actively involved in Company Theatre for many years - on stage, back stage, Committee and past President - last seen at The Rose as the wicked murderess in "Murdered to Death". Sue still obtains great personal satisfaction being involved with a wonderfully talented cast and totally supportive crew of an amazing production! Sue hopes that you enjoy our short emotive trip to Italy and that it will bring as much laughter, sunshine and wishful thinking into your lives as it has ours!

John Clarke - Harry

John has performed in Company Theatre productions on many previous occasions. He has also had many roles over the years in TV drama, and films. He can also be seen occasionally in TV commercials, and was at one stage well known as the first 'Viagra' face in NZ! John says he has found FFWII a huge challenge! "Not only has there been lots of dialogue to learn, but there are more costume changes and props to remember, than in any previous production I have ever been involved in!" John wants to thank Roger Hall for writing this classic kiwi comedy, but would like him to consider giving the actors and crew more time between entrances in his future works! "Phew I'm exhausted!" Or is this what happens at a certain age? "Everybody, cast and crew, have to work extremely hard in this play, I hope the hard work has paid off, and you the audience enjoy the experience!"

Julie Collis - Judy

In the words of Harry Warren "It's Getting To Be A Habit With Me!" This is Julie's 5th winter production with Company Theatre, and hopefully there will be more. She is finding the role of 'Judy' a refreshing change from homely 'Vera' in 'Brassed Off' and the formidable 'Mrs Potter' in 'Tom, Dick and Harry'. Now playing the glamorous, blonde and well-endowed Judy, (in her husband's eyes anyway)! Yet again teamed up with a cast and crew of enthusiasm, talent and good humour "Who Could Ask For Anything More?" Maybe it's time for a musical...

Phil Tarbox - Italian Male/Count

Phil started his acting career playing Toto in "The Wizard of Oz" at age 4. Following a 24 year break he joined the Barnes Charity Players in London playing a huge variety of roles. This is Phil's first play in New Zealand since moving here with his wife 18 months ago. Phil says he's had great fun working with such a talented and dedicated cast & crew and would relish the opportunity to work with any of them again.

Kath Hair - Italian Female/Countess

Kath has been involved in Auckland theatre for a number of years, predominantly designing lighting for the Shakespeare in the Park, Maidment Theatre, and what is now known as the Basement Theatre. Returning to Auckland after giving the farming life a go (she was surprised to discover there was no theatre in the countryside!) Kath directed a one act play 'Foreplay' which was nominated for Best Director in the 2010 ACTT awards. After a 10 year hiatus from treading the boards Kath has been pleased get back on stage and has thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity FFWI provides to portray several characters in the one show.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS...

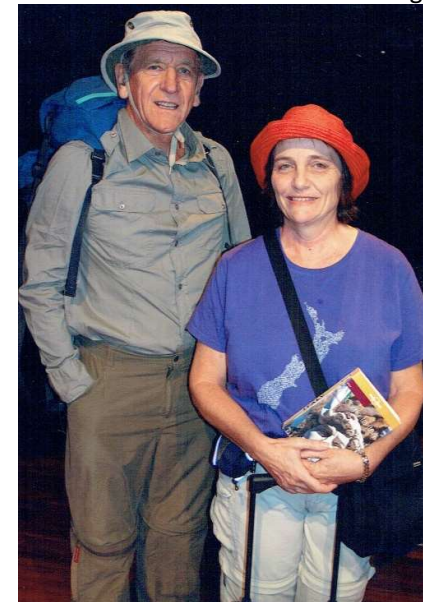


Abigail of Devonport, Mat Lark,
Residents of Fairview Village, Donald Melville Antiques

2011 FOUR FLAT WHITES IN ITALY



Max Golding, Sue Gross, Kath Hair, Julie Collis, John Clarke



Max Golding, Sue Gross



Phil Tarbox, Kath Hair



John Clarke, Julie Collis

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Four flat whites in Italy – and at the Rose Centre

Are you dreaming of long hot summers under Mediterranean skies, drinking cappuccinos by a Venetian canal, thirsting for culture in Italian churches and museums? Then stop the gondola -- a trip to the Rose Centre for Company Theatre's production of *Four Flat Whites in Italy* is the ticket.

With a copy of *The Lonely Planet* guide in one hand and an Italian phrase book in the other, recently retired librarians Adrian and Alison feel prepared to face the excitement of *La Bella Italia*.

But when their best friends drop out are they really ready to share their precious holiday with their new neighbours?

As in all Company Theatre productions, some well-known faces are joined by newcomers to the Society. Julie Collis, who plays Judy, John Clarke, who plays Harry, Max Golding, who plays Adrian, and Sue Gross, who plays Alison, have all appeared in previous Company Theatre productions. Both Max and Sue live locally and all live on the North Shore. For Kath Hair and Phil Tarbox, this is their first time on the Rose Centre's stage. They have had huge fun rehearsing for this comedy by Roger Hall in which many middle-aged Kiwi travellers will see themselves and their holiday dilemmas.



Four flat whites...just the tonic for winter evenings

Four Flat Whites in Italy is billed as "a hilarious play with a touch of pathos – a perfect antidote to cold Winter evenings."

Director Richard Parmee previously directed *Noises Off* and *Boeing Boeing* for Company Theatre and is delighted to bring

another comedy to the Rose Centre.

• Performances at The Rose Centre are from 2-16 July, Wednesday – Saturday at 8pm and Sunday matinees at 2pm. Tickets are \$25 or \$20 for concessions and can be booked on 445 9900 or rosecentre@xtra.co.nz.

Kiwis do Italy in great comedy by Roger Hall

'*Four Flat Whites in Italy*', by Roger Hall

Stop the gondola, I want to get off!

Holidays were never such hellish fun as in Company Theatre's hilarious production of leading playwright Roger Hall's '*Four Flat Whites in Italy*' now on at the Rose Centre, July 2 to 16.

Venice, Rome, Tuscany ... with a copy of *The Lonely Planet* guide in one hand and an Italian phrase book in the other, recently retired librarians Adrian and Alison feel prepared to face the excitement of *La Bella Italia*.

But when their best friends drop out, they're forced into an awkward decision – cancel the holiday or switch to plan B, which means going abroad with new neighbours Harry and the sexy, younger Judy!

When the two patently mismatched couples set off on their sightseeing adventure culture, class and



Holiday gone awry: Max Golding and Sue Gross play Adrian and Alison.

values all come under the microscope – as does coping with passionate, funny Italians who take you out of your comfort zone.

Roger Hall manages to capture the essence of being Kiwi attitudes abroad and infuses it with humour and pathos.

Director Richard Parmee has selected a fabulous cast for Company Theatre's midwinter production at The Rose Centre, aided by Phil Davis'

ingenious, movable set. At a time of year when we would all like to escape for a European holiday, join these four Kiwi holidaymakers on their trip of a lifetime.

Bookings are essential and many performances are already sold out.

■ July 2-16 at the Rose Centre. Tickets are \$25 or \$20 for concessions - phone the Rose Centre box office on 445-9900 or email rosecentre@xtra.co.nz.