

Irish Theatre Players

Present

Lovers
by Brian Friel

22 July to 27 July

The Irish Club Theatre
Perth • Western Australia



A word from the President of the Irish Theatre Players

To our loyal friends and supporters,

Welcome to the Irish Theatre Players' production of *Lovers* by Brian Friel. We thank you for your continued support as we pass the half-way point of our 33rd year. This is one of a number of Brian Friel's plays that the Irish Theatre Players has undertaken in recent years and we sincerely hope that you appreciate and approve of our interpretation and execution of the master's work! This is Bobby Greaney's second time directing for the Irish Theatre Players as he turns his hand to *Losers* while Liam MacDonald makes his directorial debut for the Irish Theatre Players directing *Winners*.



We are excited to launch our new raffle at this production which is supported by local Subiaco and Irish businesses. We are also delighted to welcome Hettys Scullery Irish Bread who will be sampling her delicious bakes at our shows.

The Irish Theatre Players is looking to flourish and grow and we are always interested in recruiting new talent either on stage or off so if you wish to get involved in any capacity please contact us. On the 5th of August we will hold auditions at the Irish Club for our November production of Noel O' Neill's *The Big Casino*. Please come join us as we embark upon another new journey and strive to close out 2014 with a stand-out production.

Thank you to you, the audience, for coming to see the show, we hope you enjoy it.

Kind regards,
Fiona Murphy
President, Irish Theatre Players



Synopsis of Play

Lovers

Lovers is a play of two complimentary parts comprised of *Winners* and *Losers*. *Winners* and *Losers* are set in Ireland in the 1960s.

Losers

"to see a woman that had plenty of spark in her at one time and then to see her turn before your very eyes into a younger image of her mother, by God it's strange, I tell you, very peculiar..."

Losers tells the tale of an unhappy marriage between Andy and Hanna and how Andy struggles with the challenges presented to him by pious neighbours, dependent in-laws and his wife.

Winners

"You trapped me into marrying you - that's all right - I'll marry you. But I'll lead my own life. And somehow - somehow I'll get a degree and be a maths teacher. And nobody neither you nor your precious baby nor anyone else, is going to stop me!"

Winners is the story of two senior school students Mag and Joe who conceived a child out of wedlock and their impending marriage.

Order of Events

Introduction and Curtain at 8:00 pm

Part I: Performance of *Losers*

Raffle

Twenty minute interval with light supper served in the lounge area.

Part II: Performance of *Winners*

Directors, Cast & Crew

Artistic Director and Stage Manager - Mary Murphy

Mary has been involved in numerous productions in Ireland and Australia both on stage and off. In Ireland, Mary was a member of the Kilkumney Players in Kilkenny where she performed as Pegeen Mike in *The Playboy of the Western World*, Arte O'Neil in *The Shaughraun* and Sally in *All in Favour Said "No!"*, to name a few. In Perth, she is currently a member of both The Irish Theatre Players and The Garrick Theatre. Mary recently played Miss Lindell in The Garrick Theatre's production of *So Much to Tell You* and has appeared in many Irish Theatre Player productions including *Eternal Triangle* which earned her the best actress award at the 2013 ITA Dramafest.



Part I - Losers

Director - Bobby Greaney

Losers is directed by Bobby Greaney. Bobby previously directed Frank O'Connor's *Bridal Night* for the Irish Theatre Players and has appeared in numerous Irish Theatre Player productions including *My Three Angels*, *The Patriot Game* and *Struggle Session*.



Andy played by Rory Buckley

Cork born Rory grew up in theatre, performing extensively with the Cork Academy of Dramatic Arts in a wide variety of roles at the Cork Opera House and the Cork Arts Theatre. This is Rory's debut acting performance for the Irish Theatre Players. Rory's most recent performance on home soil was a role in *Up the Rebels* played alongside Cork comedians Cha & Mia.



Hanna played by Katie Toner

Katie recently arrived to Australia from England and is studying Theatre Studies at Notre Dame University. Katie comes to the Irish Theatre Players following her first Australian production *So Much to Tell You* where she performed the role of Kate at The Garrick Theatre earlier this year.



Mrs Wilson played by Clare Wilson

Clare has been acting for over 40 years and her acting experience ranges from pantomime to Shakespeare. Among her favourites have been the Irish Theatre Player productions of *The Cripple of Inishmaan*, *The Potato Eaters* (for which she was commended at the Fremantle Festival), *None the Wiser*, *Kevin's Bed*, and *Mary Lambert RIP*. In the Irish Theatre Players' production of Hugh Leonard's *The Last of the Mohicans* Clare won the Best Supporting Female Actor at the 2006 South West Drama Festival.



Cissy played by Siobhan Wright

Siobhan has been involved with the Irish Theatre Players for a number of years and has had major roles in many productions including *Moll*, *Red Roses & Petrol*, *Sharon's Grave*, *Weeping of Angels*, *The Playboy of the Western World*, *The Beauty Queen of Leenane*, *Philadelphia Here I Come* and *My Three Angels*. Siobhan has also written the award winning one act play *Mary Lambert RIP*.



For more information about The Irish Theatre Players contact us at 61 Townshend Rd, Subiaco
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Tel: 0406 085 620

Part II - Winners

Director - Liam McDonald

Before joining the Irish Theatre Players Liam was involved with the Wild Capers Theatre Group in Dunsborough over a five year period where he acted, directed and also assumed the role of Vice President. Liam produced and directed this year's *St Patricks Day Opening Festival* at Leederville attended by over 13,000 people. Liam has performed in a number of Irish Theatre Players' productions including *My Three Angels* and *Eternal Triangle* which performance earned him a fine actor award at the 2013 ITA Dramafest. Liam is making his directorial debut for the Irish Theatre Players with this production of *Winners*.



Assistant Director - Stanley O' Neill

Stanley O' Neill is a long-standing member of the Irish Theatre Players. In the last three years Stanley has performed in many Irish Theatre Player productions including *Juno and the Paycock*, *A Wake in the West*, *The Patriot Game*, *The Broken Jug* and *My Three Angels*. Stanley is heavily involved in the Irish Theatre Players off stage and is an active committee member.



Mag played by Sofie Reidy-Crofts

Sofie is studying Performance Studies at Curtin University. This is Sofie's first performance for the Irish Theatre Players but she has many shows under her belt following her time with The Midnight Youth Theatre Company. An accomplished solo singer in the jazz style Sofie will be performing later this year at the Fremantle Festival.



Joe played by David Buckley

This is David's first performance for the Irish Theatre Players as he makes a return to acting after a number of years out of the limelight. David studied acting at the Cork Academy of Dramatic Arts and has performed in a number of major productions at the Cork Arts Theatre and the Cork Opera House.



Male Narrator played by Joe Purcell

Joe is a veteran actor of the Irish Theatre Players and has played a diverse range of roles from belly dancer to bumbling cop! Joe's Irish Theatre Player performances include those in *The Playboy of the West World*, *The Trial of CY O'Connor*, *Brownbread*, *Philadelphia Here I Come* and *The Field*.



Female Narrator played by Maryse Aranda

Maryse has been involved predominantly in the corporate commercial arena for a substantial part of her working life and sees this production as a wonderful opportunity to change direction and allow her to pursue her lifelong passion of the Arts. Even though this is Maryse's first foray into the magical world of acting, she is planning for more.



Lighting and Sound - John Spurling

Following an on stage part in *The Trial of CY O'Connor*, John has moved offstage and into the bio box where he has assisted with many Irish Theatre Player productions over the last 15 years.



Make-up, Hair and Costumes

Irish Theatre Players' Crew.

Front of House

Friends and family of the Irish Theatre Players.

Music

"Maggie", the theme song for Part II *Winners* was recorded, mixed and produced by Tom O'Reilly and features local artists- Celtic soul singer, Cathy McDonald and guitar/mandolin maestro Derrick Buckley.

Lounge Event Styling

Chandelabra, Subiaco

The Irish Theatre Players gratefully acknowledges the support of the following businesses:



Thank You...

The Irish Theatre Players would like to thank Ivan, Jim and Lucy Motherway for their significant contribution to the Irish Theatre Players and wishes them the very best for the future following their departure from the group.