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THE EXORCISM

A CHRISTMAS GHOST STORY

BY
DON TAYLOR

Kucom Theatre would like to take this opportunity to thank all sponsors, directors, actors, stage crew and front-of house volunteers, the staff of Mackay Entertainment Centre, organisers of the Mackay Festival of Arts - and most of all thanks to you, our valued patrons, for your loyalty and support during this landmark year.



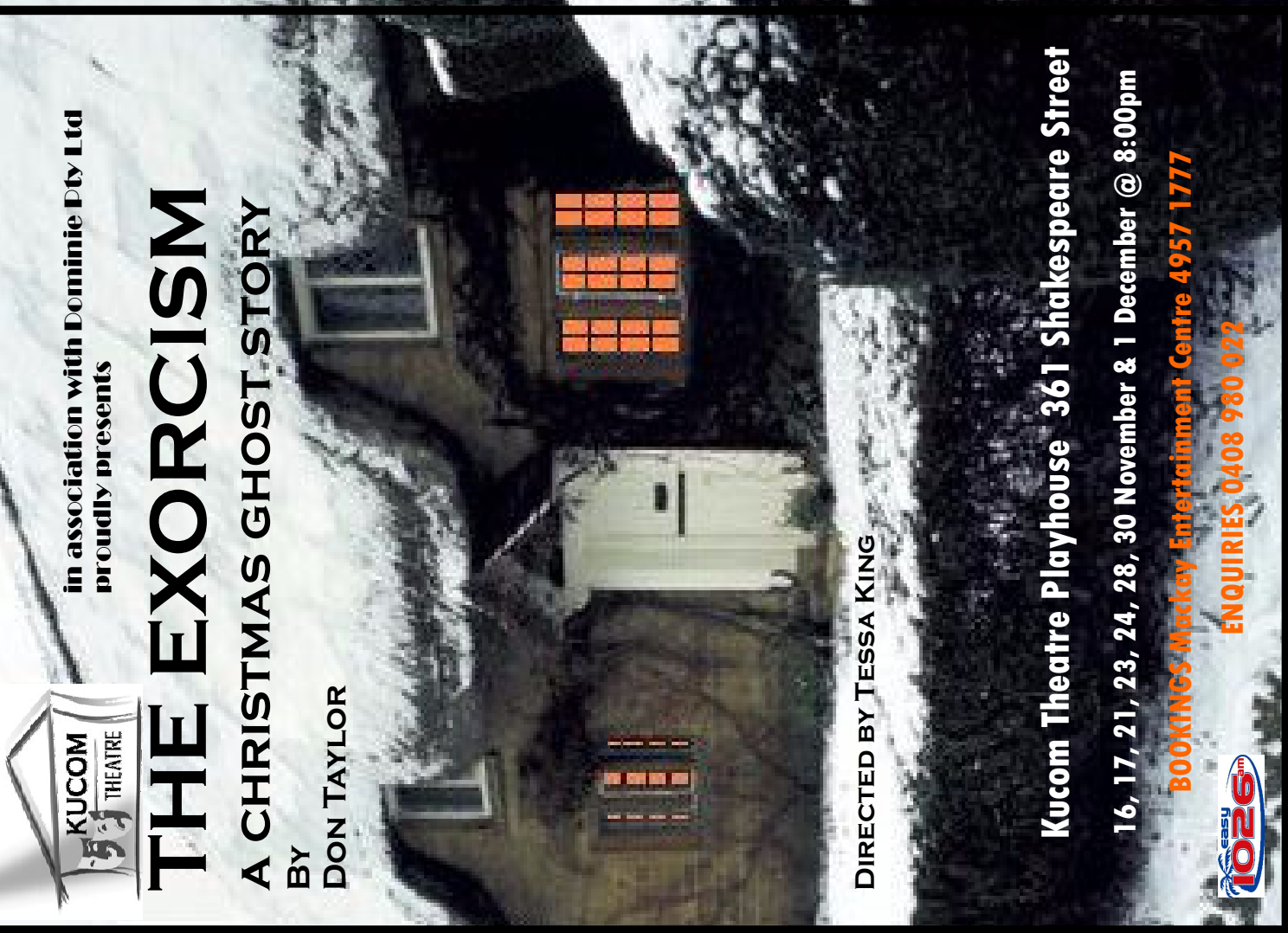
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DIRECTED BY TESSA KING

Kucom Theatre Playhouse 361 Shakespeare Street

16, 17, 21, 23, 24, 28, 30 November & 1 December @ 8:00pm

BOOKINGS Mackay Entertainment Centre 4957 1777

ENQUIRIES 0408 980 022



THE EXORCISM



TESSA KING

I believe that in order to successfully direct a play you first have to find a play that inspires you. I was first introduced to this play when I appeared in a semi-professional production in Adelaide several years ago. I then went on to direct it again for another company a few years later. It has remained in my mind as one of my favourite plays, not only because it's a thought provoking story but also because of the creative challenge it presents and the conflicting emotions it evokes. I have been extremely fortunate in having found such a talented cast to help me shape this production. I thank them for all their hard work and dedication. I would also like to thank my husband for overcoming all the technical challenges I have thrown at him. It might not be your traditional Christmas story but it certainly embodies the true spirit of the season - thinking of people less fortunate than yourself. It is with pride that I bring this production to you and hope you get as much pleasure from watching it as I have had in its making.

The world that lives in us! How would it be if that world in some way took over?

If the inner world and the outer world changed places?

So that the ordinary external world, the world of physical reality, becomes subservient to the world of dreams and desires!

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

WHAT'S NEXT AT KUCOM?

KUCOM THEATRE Inc.
presents

February/March 2008

Agnes of God
by John Pielmeier
directed by Jim Kelly

*Auditions will be held at Kucom Playhouse
on Sunday 2 December 2007 at 2pm*

Season dates:

February 29, March 1, 5, 7, 8, 12, 14 and 15
2008

at Kucom Theatre Playhouse
Shakespeare Street, Mackay

BOOKINGS

MACKAY ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE 4957 1777
FREECALL: 1800 646 574

THE PLAYWRIGHT

DON TAYLOR

Born in 1936 into a solid English working class background, Don Taylor spoilt it somewhat by studying at Oxford and then joining the BBC in 1960. Some three years later, after a series of artistic disagreements with the newly-appointed Head of BBC Drama, he left to concentrate on his writing and theatre directing career, returning in 1972 to direct a television version of his own play *The Exorcism* (for *Dead of Night*) and *The Roses of Eyam* the following year. *The Roses of Eyam* is probably his best-known work - a play telling how the villagers of Eyam in Derbyshire shut themselves off from the outside world when they discovered the plague amongst them and so prevented it spreading to near-by communities. Other plays written by him include *When the Actors Come* (1978), *In Hiding*, and *A Last Visitor for Mr Hugh Peter* (1981). He also directed his own new translations of classic Greek drama.

KUCOM COMMITTEE 2007

President Bronwyn Grannall
Vice President John Atkinson
Secretary Carolyn Thompson
Treasurer Tessa King
Committee Sam Hassett
Stan Hillard
Amanda Murphy
kucomtheatre@hotmail.com
Email: 0408 980 022
Ph: <http://kucommackay.spaces.live.com>
Website:

THE EXORCISM

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THE CAST

In order of appearance:

Dan
Edmund
Margaret
Rachel

John Atkinson
Wayne Hughes
Bronwyn Grannall
Donna Priddle

*The action takes place in a tastefully converted
seventeenth-century country cottage somewhere
in England*

*There will be a 20-minute interval between Act I and Act II.
The bar will be open and drinks are permitted into the theatre.*

*We respectfully request that patrons observe our new Liquor
Licensing requirements as displayed in the foyer.*

THE PRODUCTION CREW

Director
Stage Manager
Sound and Lighting
Set Design
Set Construction and Painting

Tessa King
Letitia O'Brien
Laurie King
Tessa King
Laurie King
Tessa King
John Atkinson
Donna Priddle
John Atkinson
Taffy's Typing Service

Front of House Coordinator
Program

Special thanks to
Petar Grulovic
Stan Hillard

THE EXORCISM

Dan



JOHN ATKINSON

During his 17 years with Kucom Theatre, John has performed in over 30 full-length and short plays, playing every character imaginable - from a young medical student (*Doctor in the House*), to an extremely elderly Russian servant (one of the great *Coarse Acting* plays); from a cross-dressing drama adjudicator (in the first *Farndale* comedy) to an Australian ocker (*The Shifting Heart*) - and has enjoyed every minute of it. Well, most minutes anyway. Recent plays have included *Rumours*, the *Farndale Ladies'* version of *The Mikado*, and of course the

irrepressible Dan in the present production. When not on stage, John can be found painting sets, tending bar, or trying to organise other actors as a stage manager. While currently Vice-President of Kucom, John does have another life beyond this and can be found working as a mild-mannered librarian at the Mackay Campus of CQU. Little do they know what lies within

Edmund



WAYNE HUGHES

Wayne's love of performance was pursued seriously in 1997 after seeing Kenneth Branagh's performance in Shakespeare's *Henry V*. It was not long after that he joined City Drama Studio in Sydney and subsequently spent four years studying and playing a range of roles in several productions including *King Lear* (*King Lear*), *Lysander* (*Midsummer Night's Dream*), *Mr Packer* (*Vinegar Tom*) and a *Psycho Nut-Case Assassin* (*Find Me*). He has also enjoyed many years of experience in writing, composing and directing of kids' musical dramas. Wayne first

moved to Mackay in 2006 and auditioned for the role of Ernest in Heather MacTavish's production of *Rumours*. Though work commitments took him away for several months, he returned to Mackay in time to audition for *The Exorcism* and was delighted to be cast yet again with some of his old stage partners.

THE EXORCISM

Margaret



BRONWYN GRANNALL

Fresh from University, Bronwyn joined the Genesian Theatre in Sydney and later studied acting at the Ensemble and Independent Theatres. Her overseas experience ranges from fringe revue at the Edinburgh Festival to pantomime in Lae, Papua New Guinea. Stage credits include *Last Tango in Little Grimley*, *Chinamen*, *The Flesh Game*, *The Odd Couple*, *What's for Pudding?*, *Fatal Attraction*, *The Winslow Boy*, *Men at Arms*, *Relatively Speaking*, *The Donahue Sisters*, *Steaming*, *Entertaining Mr Sloane*, *Red Peppers*, *Steel Magnolias*, *Hotel Sorrento*, *Fawcety Towers*, *Misery*, *My Three Angels*, *Beautiful Thing* (which won the Canberra Critics Circle Award in 2004), and *Barefoot in the Park*. She has twice received the Canberra Area Theatre (CAT) Award for Best Actress - in 2000 for Kath in *Entertaining Mr Sloane* and again in 2003 for her chilling portrayal of Annie Wilkes in Stephen King's *Misery*. Recent appearances for Kucom include *Skate*, *Farewell Brisbane Ladies* and *Shirley Valentine* (2005), *Beautiful Thing* and *Rumours* (2006). Offstage, Bronwyn has been Secretary and is currently President of Kucom, and in July this year she directed her first-ever production, *Secret Bridesmaids' Business*..

Rachel



DONNA PRIDDLE

Donna joined Kucom in January 1996 when she finally got up the gumption to audition for a one act play, *George's Room*, in which she was cast as 'Woman' by her first director Maureen Coleman. Since then Donna has appeared in numerous Kucom productions including *Doctor in the House*, *The Odd Couple* (female version), *Down came a Jub-buck*, *A Christmas Carol - Farndale*, *The Audition is Over*, *Recognition Scene - Anastasia*, *Shifting Heart*, *Educating Rita*, *Stage Directions*, *The Mikado - Farndale*, and *Memory of Water*. Donna has also worked hard for Kucom behind the scenes, serving as secretary for three years and as a committee member for another three. Donna has organised the Theatre Sports Mackay program since 2002. Currently Donna is Kucom's Youth Theatre Co-coordinator enabling our talented local youth to shine in *Cosi*, *Blackrock*, *Skate* and most recently *Blurred*.

THE CAST