

SHOWBUZZ

An Encore Theatre Company Production

January 2014

encoretheatre.org.au

DRESSED FOR SUCCESS

Like the gothic novel upon which it is based, *The Phantom of the Opera* is set in Paris in the 1870s, a time of great excitement, opulence and passion.

"This period was a kind of golden, innocent moment in the history of France" notes director Belinda J King, "just before the Prussians hit the gates of Paris and the Franco-Prussian war began."

An overall look for the large cast of characters is required, many of whom perform three operas, two ballets and stage a masquerade ball within the main storyline. Various options were considered, however it was the Metropolitan Theatre in Newcastle that won Encore's hearts, drawing sumptuous fabrics from across the globe to creatively design some 300 costumes, which weighed in at 1.5 tonnes when shipped to Launceston. Like nothing you've ever seen, the costumes are just one dazzling element being assembled for Phantom.



14-29 March Princess Theatre

**Presentation
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Opposite Aurora Stadium

**LAUNCESTON
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'ALLO 'ALLO, SUE!

Encore's 2011 stage production of '*'Allo 'Allo* (based on the BBC TV Series) attracted attention far and wide, including that of original cast member Sue Hodge, who played the impish but feisty maid, Mimi Labong. She had just finished directing *A Chorus Line* for Twelfth Night Theatre in Brisbane, heard about Encore's production, and got a plane to come and see it!

Well, Sue is going to get on a plane for us again, this time around to star in Encore's November 2014 production of *The Vicar of Dibley*! The arrival of a new vicar shakes up the parish council of a sleepy English village - the vicar is female, gorgeously so, and with a decidedly irreverent attitude to religion! Dibley and its odd-ball inhabitants aren't yet ready for 20th century progress - or the wind of change that is Geraldine. All of your favourite characters from the hugely popular TV series - Alice, Hugo, Owen, Jim, David and of course Geraldine, will be onstage to create an evening of laughs.

BOOKINGS open soon, plus watch out for details of 2 very special performances of *MIMI & THE BOY*, where Sue relives memories of '*'Allo 'Allo and her colourful co-stars from the show.*

24 October – 15 November

TICKETS 6323 3666 theatrenorth.com.au

A stage play by Ian Gower and Paul Carpenter adapted from the original TV series
by Richard Curtis and Paul Mayhew-Archer. With kind permission of Tiger Aspect Productions



Major Partners



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HOT MUSICAL SUMMER

You probably know that Encore is run entirely by volunteers, but what happens if a production does well financially? That's easy.. not only does the company invest in good quality stage equipment and instruments, they also invest in the next generation of young Tasmanian performers.

This January, 17 talented young people enjoyed fully-subsidised Encore scholarship places in the Launceston College Music Summer School, participating in the Voice for the Stage 4-day workshop presented by Brett Budgeon. Encore audiences will remember Brett for his stunning turn as Jesus in *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and more recently he took to the stage as The Phantom, in last year's Hobart's production of *The Phantom of the Opera*.



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WHAT'S ON in TASSTIE?

**FRESH! 2014 Theatre North
Subscription Season**

Blitz 7-8 March, a Clare Dawson Production
(Earl Arts Centre)

The Phantom of the Opera 14-29 March
(Princess Theatre)

TICKET BOOKINGS

IN PERSON Princess Theatre Box Office,
57 Brisbane Street Launceston

ONLINE: theatrenorth.com.au

PHONE: 6323 3666

MORE INFO about ENCORE?

facebook.com/encoretasmania
www.encoretheatre.org.au

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Jamie Hillard 0433 999 248



DUELING DIVAS

Meet PHANTOM's leading ladies, Christine (Amelia Reynolds) & Carlotta (Di Briffa). Not only do they both have great dress sense, they both know how to hit the Top C's as stars of the Paris Opera!



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