



ACT 1 THEATRE

PRESENTS

MOTHER AND SON



Arthur wants to take his new girlfriend on a vacation, but his mother, Maggie, and his scheming brother, Robert, get in the way. The play is a modern adaptation of the beloved sitcom of the same name, written by Geoffrey Atherden.



Act 1 Theatre

238 Gympie Road, Strathpine

www.act1theatre.com.au



DIRECTORS NOTES

Directing the stage version of "Mother & Son" has been a nostalgic and fulfilling journey, rekindling my childhood love for classic comedies like this one, as well as iconic shows such as "Are You Being Served?" and "Keeping Up Appearances." I've had the pleasure of performing in stage productions of those two beloved shows, and now, directing "Mother & Son," I believe it will not only delight audiences but also attract new patrons to community theatre, thanks to its enduring appeal.

This project has been an incredible learning journey for me as well, especially as it marks my first time solely taking on the role of director. The audience can expect a faithful adaptation of the much-loved TV show, staying true to the original humour and character dynamics, while introducing new material and updating the setting to the modern age with elements like mobile phones and Skype sessions.

I've been involved in theatre for some 14 years, but from a very young age, I knew that acting was my destiny, a talent I inherited from my late father. Theatre is my 'happy place,' and my primary goal is to provide audiences with high-quality productions where they can fully immerse themselves in the experience. I trust this will be the case for you with Mother & Son. The talented cast, whom I've had the privilege of working with, has been fantastic, bringing their skill and love of their art to life in the characters they portray.

Directing for the first time evokes a range of emotions—excitement, dread, fear, but above all, a sense of accomplishment. Transitioning from acting to directing has given me a newfound appreciation for the hard work involved in bringing a production to life. I immensely dislike the term 'amateur theatre' because there's nothing amateur about the passion and dedication that goes into making a show. I'm incredibly fortunate to have an amazing production crew. My husband, Mark, has been invaluable, taking on numerous projects, including the intricate task of dismantling and reconstructing the dentist chair. I am deeply grateful to the talented Royce Leivesley, who transformed my vision for the set into reality with his exceptional craftsmanship.

Our stage manager, Deb Hossack, has been indispensable, attending every rehearsal and offering invaluable support with costumes and props. I am also thankful to Andrew Munslow for his support and technical expertise in organising the Skype sessions. Together, they have made this daunting task manageable and an enriching learning experience.



From the bottom of my heart, I hope you've had the chance to immerse yourself in the magic of live theatre. Whether it's your first time or your hundredth, I sincerely hope you enjoy "Mother & Son."

Michelle Whitmore



Sheryl Salmon (Maggie) was bitten by the acting bug in 1958, when she played an angel in her school's Christmas play. She was 6 at the time. Ever since then her passion for the theatre has grown, doing many comedies and the odd drama mostly at Sandgate Theatre. This is her 2nd production with Act 1 theatre, the first being in 2017 in Hotel Sorrento. She is looking forward to entertaining you.



Adrian Fetzer (Arthur) is new to the theatre and has been with ACT1 for less than a year. He has performed as a PI and a dancing ghost for previous roles with the group. Mother and Son is Adrians first major role and he enjoys the wit and humour of the play.



Richard Muller (Robbie) has been appearing on the stage from a very early age appearing in Oliver Twist when he was just 6 years old. Even since then, Richard has appeared in over 30 musicals. After having a break for a few years Richard decided to get back into theatre and saw the audition for Mother and Son and jumped at the opportunity. He hopes you enjoy his character of Robbie as much as he enjoys performing him.



Leown Russell (Liz) After her first ever theatre performance back in 1994 at Mercury Theatre, Manly, the patron of that theatre told Leown that she reminded them of Judy Morris. At the time, Leown didn't know who Judy Morris was. She discovered later of course. When Mother and Son auditions came up for Act1 Theatre, Leown was drawn to the role of Liz, originally played by Judy Morris. Full circle! Leown has acted in many plays, some musicals and film since, and this will be her 5th performance with Act1 Theatre.



Natalie Jayne (Anita) may have stepped away from her passion on stage to pursue her Mummy duties many moons ago, but she couldn't resist a come back this year at Act 1 theatre in the musical Panic in Pipton. Natalie is looking forward to her Second appearance at Act 1 and first non musical performance ever. She is excited to be apart of bringing laughter to the audience as Anita.



John Scandurra (Steve) has become a regular performer at ACT1 Theatre since the beginning of 2023, performing in a range of productions including musicals, comedies, mystery & drama. In Mother & Son, John contributes diverse supporting roles in bringing to life this classic Australian comedy.



Jessica Fetzer (Monica) has been with this theatre for a year now and has been in most of the plays. My first play was in NZ. Here in Australia my first play was with Sandgate. Absolutely love acting.



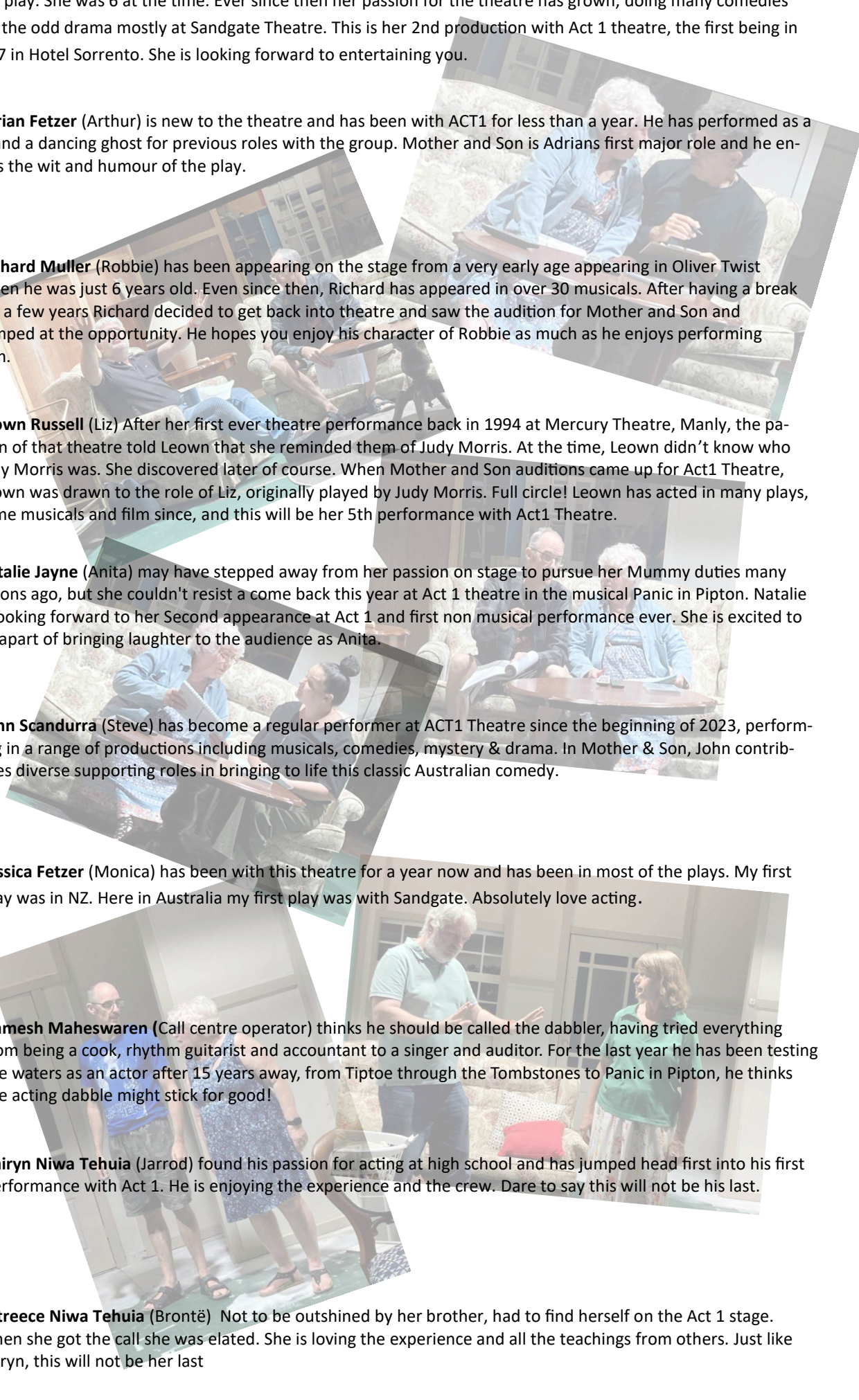
Ramesh Maheswaram (Call centre operator) thinks he should be called the dabbler, having tried everything from being a cook, rhythm guitarist and accountant to a singer and auditor. For the last year he has been testing the waters as an actor after 15 years away, from Tiptoe through the Tombstones to Panic in Pipton, he thinks the acting dabble might stick for good!



Kairyn Niwa Tehuia (Jarrod) found his passion for acting at high school and has jumped head first into his first performance with Act 1. He is enjoying the experience and the crew. Dare to say this will not be his last.



Pateece Niwa Tehuia (Brontë) Not to be outshined by her brother, had to find herself on the Act 1 stage. When she got the call she was elated. She is loving the experience and all the teachings from others. Just like Kairyn, this will not be her last



Director: Michelle Whitmore

Stage Manager : Deb Hossack

Crew: Talon Chorlton(DSM),

Jo Barry & Terry Fuller

Lighting & Sound:

Mark Whitmore

& Andrew Munslow

Set Builder: Royce Leivesley

Assistant: Mark Whitmore

*SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR FRONT OF HOUSE CREWS
FOR THEIR EFFORTS ON THE FRONT LINE.*

Coming March 2025



As night falls and fog descends on Monument House Hotel and Alternative Health Spa, Hecuba Tomb and her niece Drusilla receive a series of unexpected visitors. Novelist Philippa and her assistant Daphne are seeking refuge from a mysterious follower they fear may be the notorious "Norfolk Strangler"