

28th August 2024

Limelight Theatre is proud to present the fast-paced comedy and West Australian Premiere performance of *Bleak Expectations* this September. Written by Mark Evans originally as a radio play, this award-winning show then had its first live stage performance at the Watermill Theatre Newbury in the UK in 2022, and then to London's West End the following year. The show featured a medley of well-known actors and comedians like Julian Clary, Stephen Fry, Tom Allen to name a few.

The play directed by Barry Lefort is best described as a glorious 'Dickensian Romp' that Charles Dickens himself may have written after drinking too much gin, and follows half-orphan Pip's extraordinary exploits with sisters Pippa, Poppy and best friend Harry Biscuit.

Patrons will follow the heroic misadventures as Pip battles mistaken identities, contemptible conspiracies and surreal plot twists in his quest to save his family and find true love. Watch as they attempt to escape the calculating clutches of the dastardly Mr Gently Benevolent, defeat the hideous Hardthraasher siblings, and deflect disaster at every turn.

Lefort who's celebrating over 50 years involvement in all aspects of community theatre, after many years of acting in a wide array of productions, comedy, drama, reviews, musicals and children's plays, "there came a time for the hard stuff... directing", he said.

"I'd worked under many of the best directors around and felt very comfortable moving into that role. I have found it very satisfying and challenging. Some of the most memorable ones would include *On The Razzle*, *The Exorcism*, *Not Now Darling*, *Play it Again Sam*, *Full Circle* and so many more."

When asked what appealed to him to produce this current season, Lefort said "It's new, very funny and is a fast-paced comedy mash up that send up Britishness with oodles of silliness. It zings along with intelligence, imagination and comic anarchy."

"Along with my young and very talented cast and crew, we believe that the silly imaginary world which the audience will enter will provide a welcome temporary diversion from the much scarier real world outside, because we could all do with a bit of cheering up," he concluded.

Featuring: Gordon Park, Shayla Brown, Mary Del Casale, Natalie Wiles, Jack Riches, Tomas Kinshela, Peter Giles, Gareth Bishop, Jason Pearce.

Performance Dates:

September 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28 at 7.30pm
and September 22 at 2pm

Doors open 45 minutes prior to curtain.

Limelight Theatre: Civic Drive, Wanneroo (next to Aquamation)

Tickets: \$27 Full \$22 Concession +processing fees apply

Bookings: www.TAZtix.com.au/limelight or phone TAZ Tix 9255 3336



Contact TAZ Tix for interview opportunities – taz@taztix.com.au