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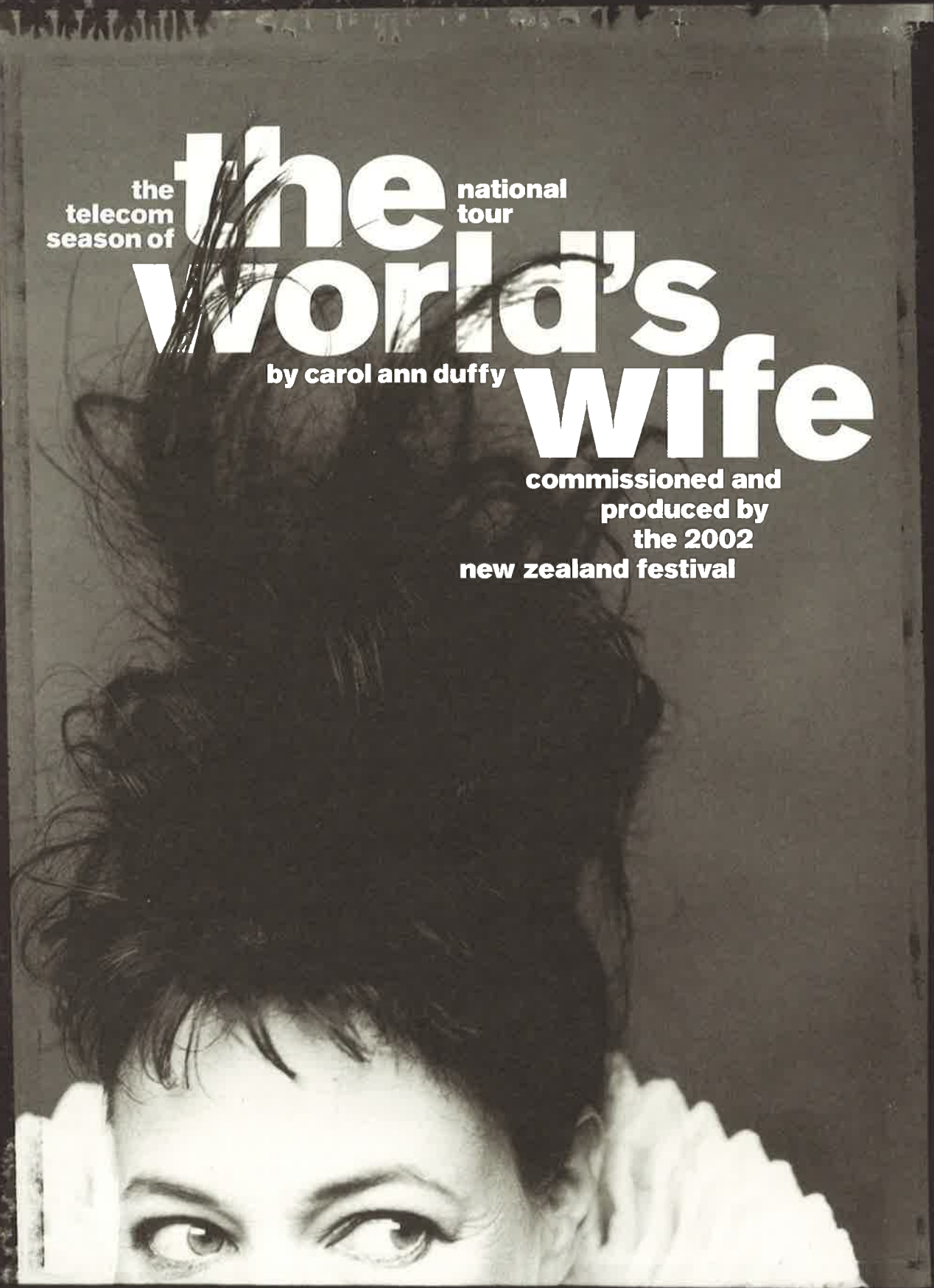
the  
telecom  
season of

national  
tour

# the world's wife

by carol ann duffy

commissioned and  
produced by  
the 2002  
new zealand festival





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for life



PROUD SUPPORTER OF  
**DANIELLE CORMACK**  
ACTRESS OF THE YEAR



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FOR MANY YEARS VOLVO HAS BEEN A PLATINUM SUPPORTER OF THE AWARD WINNING AUCKLAND THEATRE COMPANY. THIS YEAR WE'VE EXTENDED OUR SUPPORT TO INCLUDE A NEW

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RIVER 3/09

## the telecom season of the world's wife

fiona samuel, miranda harcourt and their cast and crew are to be congratulated for bringing carol ann duffy's book of poems to life with such passion and vivacity.

Telecom feels privileged to be involved in *The Telecom Season of The World's Wife*. One of our aims is to ensure New Zealand's best creative potential is realised. What better show to achieve this? It's a great example of some of our best artistic craftspeople working together – featuring Don McGlashan's music, Marilyn Sainty's costumes and Miranda Harcourt's direction.

Inspired by the creativity in the poems and the performance, we have set-up a website, [www.telecom.co.nz/worldswife](http://www.telecom.co.nz/worldswife), where people can unlock their own creative potential through a competition based on the characters in the play.

We are proud to be bringing such a great production to a wider audience – be it online or through the tour.

I hope you enjoy the show.

**theresa gattung**  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
TELECOM

## VOLVO for life

welcome to the auckland debut of carol ann duffy's wonderfully sharp "the world's wife", a future classic I'm sure.

They say that behind every great man stands a great woman. In "The World's Wife", it appears that behind some great men stand great women not averse to handing out what the critics have called a "no-nonsense swipe", a "dish of clout" and a "quick witted wallop" where they see fit.

At Volvo I'm proud to say that doesn't make us flinch in fear one bit. After all we're experts at minimising the effects of unexpected swipes, clouts and wallops.

Enjoy the show.

**robert nash**  
GENERAL MANAGER  
VOLVO

QUOTES FROM THE TIMES REVIEW  
OF THE WORLD'S WIFE BY  
CAROL ANN DUFFY, PICADOR, 1998

AUCKLAND  
THEATRE  
COMPANY

ATC COMING SOON...  
GUY MASTERSON AND TTI PRESENT

WRITTEN AND  
PERFORMED BY  
DEB FILLER  
MAIDMENT THEATRE  
2 OCTOBER —  
1 NOVEMBER

# FILLER

New Zealand-born Deb Filler has toured North America, Australia and New Zealand to rave reviews and packed houses at festivals from Edinburgh to Melbourne. Filler exploits the comic possibilities of women's relationship to food in a society which worships the holy grail of Size 10. As the dough rises, Filler serves up some tasty stories, accompanies herself on guitar, visits a Californian fat-farm and demonstrates outside Weight Watchers. This funny and touching show is a rite-of-passage story about a woman from an immigrant Jewish community striking out into the wider world. At the end, the finished challah bread makes its final appearance with impeccable timing.



**"AN HILARIOUSLY  
FUNNY WOMAN, PART  
RUBY WAX MIXED  
WITH TRACY ULMAN  
AND A SPRINKLING OF  
NIGELLA LAWSON."**

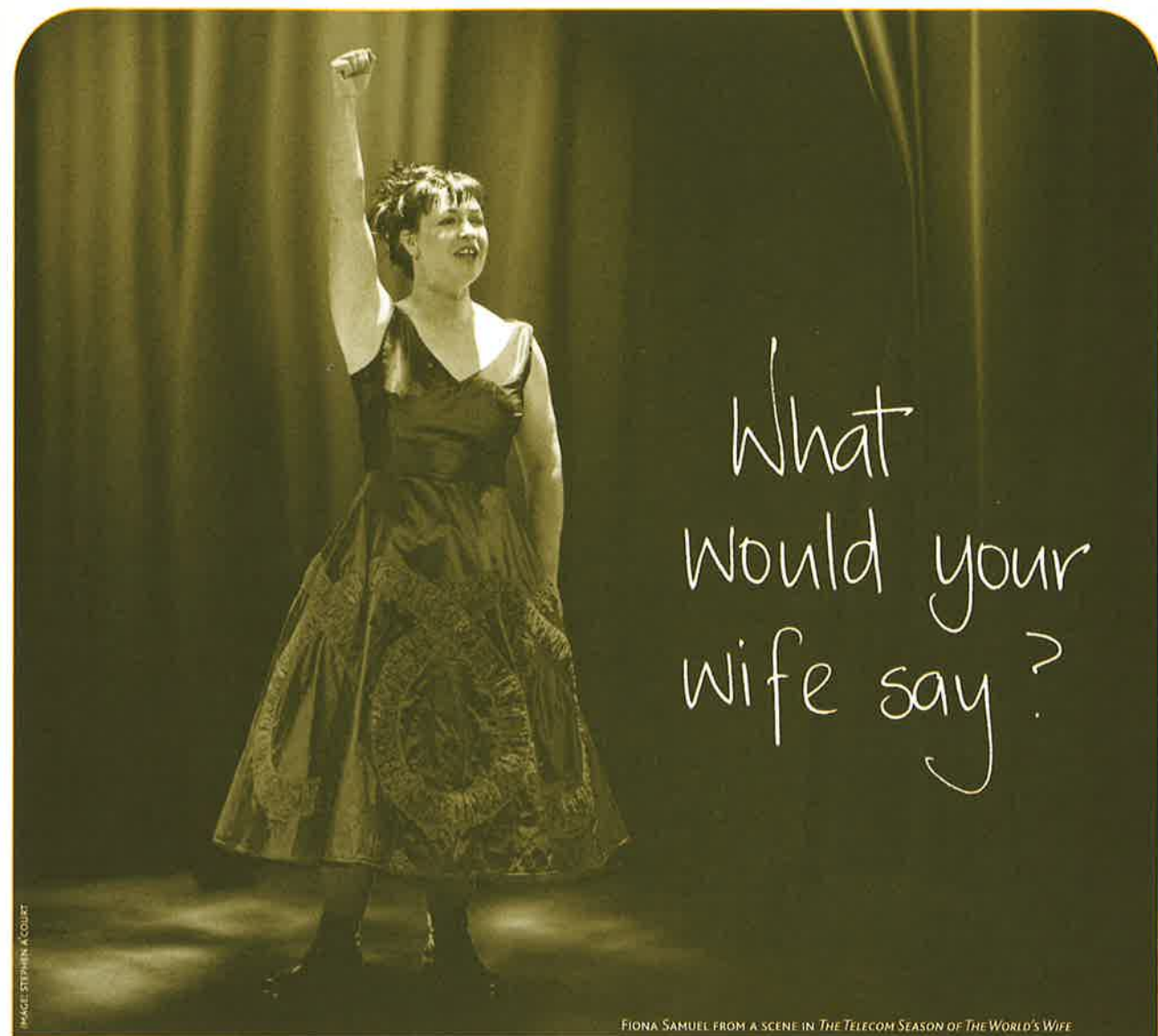
The Times, London

Prices: \$47 full, \$41 group  
\$40 students and senior citizens  
Preview Performances:  
2 & 3 Oct at 8pm, all tickets \$33

**BOOKINGS:**  
Maidment Theatre  
**09 308 2383**

(Booking fee & special conditions may apply)

# UP



FIONA SAMUEL FROM A SCENE IN *THE TELECOM SEASON OF THE WORLD'S WIFE*

What  
would your  
wife say?

**I CLUNG TIL DAWN TO HIS THRASHING FUR, FOR  
WHAT LITTLE GIRL DOESN'T DEARLY LOVE A WOLF?**

FROM *LITTLE RED CAP*, FROM *THE WORLD'S WIFE* BY CAROL ANN DUFFY, PICADOR, 1999.

EVER WONDERED HOW MRS QUASIMODO GOT TINNITUS? AND WHAT ABOUT QUEEN KONG? DID SHE EVEN LIKE NEW YORK? QUESTIONS LIKE THESE CAUSED BRITISH POET CAROL ANN DUFFY TO WONDER SO MUCH SHE WROTE *THE WORLD'S WIFE*, A SERIES OF POEMS TELLING THE STORIES OF THE WOMEN LIVING WITH THE MEN THAT MAKE UP OUR HISTORY AND FICTION.

NEW ZEALAND ACTOR/WRITER/DIRECTOR FIONA SAMUEL WAS SO INSPIRED BY THE THEATRICAL POTENTIAL OF THE POEMS SHE TURNED DUFFY'S SLIM VOLUME OF POETRY INTO A SPARKLING PIECE OF CONTEMPORARY THEATRE, STARRING HERSELF, RACHEL HOUSE, ELIZABETH McRAE AND DIRECTED BY MIRANDA HARCOURT. IT DEBUTED AT THE 2002 NEW ZEALAND FESTIVAL TO CRITICAL ACCLAIM.

TELECOM IS BRINGING *LITTLE RED CAP*, *MRS QUASIMODO*, *QUEEN KONG* AND THEIR PEERS TO A STAGE NEAR YOU. *THE TELECOM SEASON OF THE WORLD'S WIFE* IS GOING ON TOUR, STARTING IN

AUCKLAND IN JULY AND TRAVELLING AROUND THE REST OF THE COUNTRY UNTIL THE END OF SEPTEMBER.

THE CREATIVITY IN THIS PLAY IS NOT JUST RESTRICTED TO THE STAGE. THERE'S AN OPPORTUNITY FOR EVERYBODY TO UNLOCK THEIR POTENTIAL BY ENTERING TELECOM'S WORLD'S WIFE COMPETITION AT [WWW.TELECOM.CO.NZ/WORLDSWIFE](http://WWW.TELECOM.CO.NZ/WORLDSWIFE). YOU COULD WIN A \$1599 KYOCERA SMART PHONE, ONE OF 13 WEEKLY PRIZES OF A \$50 CREDIT ON YOUR TELECOM ACCOUNT, OR ONE OF OUR SPOT PRIZES.

THE WEBSITE ALSO CONTAINS INFORMATION ABOUT WHERE THE PLAY IS TOURING, HOW TO GET TICKETS AND MORE ABOUT THE CHARACTERS, CAST AND CREW.

BY BRINGING *THE TELECOM SEASON OF THE WORLD'S WIFE* TO MORE NEW ZEALANDERS, BE IT ON STAGE OR ONLINE, TELECOM IS HELPING TO ENSURE NEW ZEALAND'S BEST CREATIVE POTENTIAL IS REALISED.

the world's wife  
by carol ann duffy

ENTER THE COMPETITION AT  
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new zealand festival 2002

creative nz



commissioned and produced by the  
2002 new zealand festival

1 hour 30 minutes (no interval)

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Thanks to Minnie Cooper

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Paul Barrett Jason Hoyte Greg Johnson  
Written & Directed by: Geraldine Brophy



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think outside the box

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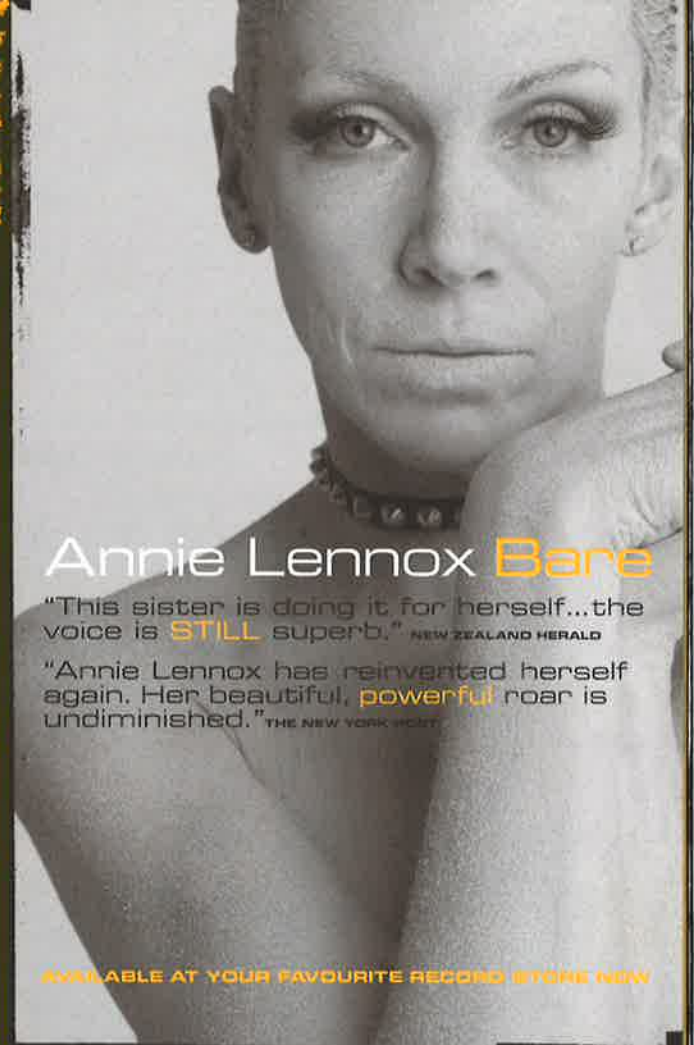
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Elizabeth McRae  
Fiona Samuel

**director** Miranda Harcourt

**concept designer** Fiona Samuel

**music composed by** Don McGlashan

**music arranged by** Don McGlashan  
David Long

**lighting designer** Paul O'Brien

**costume designer** Marilyn Sainty

**producer** Fenn Gordon for Tandem

**production manager** Robrecht Ghesquiere

**stage manager** James Kearney

**lighting operator** Rhed Clift

**sound operator** Robrecht Ghesquiere  
Steven Morrison

**stage hand** Anna Dodgshun

programme

tonight's programme will be selected from the following poems

Little Red-Cap  
Mrs Beast  
Mrs Quasimodo  
Mrs Darwin  
Anne Hathaway  
Queen Kong  
Frau Freud  
Mrs Aesop  
Mrs Rip Van Winkle

Eurydice  
The Kray Sisters  
Medusa  
from Mrs Tiresias  
Mrs Icarus  
Mrs Faust  
Mrs Midas  
Elvis's Twin Sister  
The Devil's Wife  
Queen Herod  
Demeter

the telecom season of

by carol ann duffy

# the world's wife national tour



## a message from the director

*The World's Wife* has toured to great success around the country after its initial packed out season at the New Zealand Festival in 2002. It is now our great pleasure to present it to you. It has been a joy and a privilege to work with this constellation of people on this collection of poems.

Carol Ann Duffy was persuaded by Fiona Samuel to allow us to present her brilliant text, and Don McGlashan and David Long coupled it with their extraordinary music. Rachel, Liz, Fiona and Geri have enlivened these age-old stories with their own remarkable skills. Thanks to Telecom, all at Auckland Theatre Company, Lawson Field Theatre, Blossom Festival & Hawkes Bay Opera House, Centrestage, Marlborough Centre, Nelson Arts Festival & Theatre Royal, the New Zealand Festival, to our crew and to the cast, Don and David and Fenn for inviting me to join the party.

**miranda harcourt**

**miranda harcourt**  
ONZM  
DIRECTOR

Miranda Harcourt is currently head of acting at Toi Whakaari: NZ Drama School. She has acted in most of New Zealand's theatres, played many screen roles and toured New Zealand and internationally, notably with *Verbatim* and *Flowers from My Mother's Garden* (commissioned for the 1998 New Zealand Festival)

She has won awards as a director for Best Short Film (*Voiceover*), Best Production (*Much Ado About Nothing*) and as Best Actress (*A Doll's House*). She is a graduate of Toi Whakaari and studied drama therapy in London as a Winston Churchill fellow before returning to New Zealand to work with the deaf, on self-devised projects and with prison inmates and victims of violence on stage and screen. Most recently Miranda has directed for Downstage, the NZ Festival, Auckland Theatre Company and Toi Whakaari, and has this year made a return to acting with major roles in Colin McColl's *Top Girls* at Downstage and in Stuart McKenzie's feature film, *For Good*, selected for the Montreal Film Festival along with Miranda's short film *Needles and Glass* (co-directed with Rawiri Paratene).

In 2002 Miranda was awarded an ONZM for services to Theatre and the Community.



**'it has been a joy and a privilege to work with this constellation of people on this collection of poems.'**



**fiona samuel**

CONCEPT AND PERFORMER

Fiona Samuel trained at the New Zealand Drama School, graduating in 1980. Since then she has worked as an actor, writer and director in theatre, radio, television and film. She has travelled the country with two plays: *Oracles and Miracles* and *Lashings of Whipped Cream – A Session with a Teenage Dominatrix*, a solo show she wrote herself. Her most recent theatre work includes *Dancing at Lughnasa*, *Social Climbers* and *Take a Chance on Me*, all for Auckland Theatre Company. Fiona's first major written work for television was the drama series *The Marching Girls*; more recently she has written and directed *Face Value* – three monologues for women; *Home Movie*, voted best television drama of 1998, and her first documentary *Virginity*, which screened in 2001. She is currently developing several projects for television and film, and is in recent post-production with her daughter Queenie, born in March this year.

**'i hope you will love these words as much as I do. they make the ancient art of poetry new all over again...'**

'I discovered Carol Ann Duffy on the northwestern motorway. I turned on my car radio and she was reading 'Mrs Midas' in a soft, flat, riveting voice that had me instantly spellbound. Listening to the interview that followed, I made it my mission to track down the book of poems she talked about – *The World's Wife*. I wolfed it down in one sitting and knew these poems had to be on stage. Many weeks, phone calls, faxes, emails and brainstorms later, here they are. Thanks to everyone who made the journey with me, and to the New Zealand Festival for backing us to the hilt and sharing our faith that a slim volume of poetry could make dazzling theatre.

I hope you will love these words as much as I do. They make the ancient art of poetry new all over again, and reveal strong, witty, tender and shocking female truths that have grabbed me and not let go!

© THE WORLD'S WIFE  
BY CAROL ANN DUFFY,  
PICADOR, 1999

**carol ann duffy**  
AUTHOR

Carol Ann Duffy was born in Glasgow in 1955. Her poetry has received many awards, including the Whitbread and Forward Prizes for her 1993 *Mean Time* collection of poems. *The World's Wife* was shortlisted for the 1995 Forward and T S Eliot prizes. Duffy was awarded an OBE in 1995 and caused some controversy in 1999 when she and Andrew Motion were frontrunners to be British Poet Laureate. Motion's appointment was considered to be a safe and traditional one, whereas Duffy had raised concerns within the establishment because of her sexuality, her insistence that the position be thoroughly overhauled and her refusal to write poems for the Royal Family. Carol Ann's most recent release is a book of poems titled *Feminine Gospels* (Picador, 2002).



**elizabeth mcrae**  
PERFORMER

Elizabeth McRae is a distinguished actor with a long career on stage and screen. Her theatre work in the last decade includes Woman B in Albee's *Three Tall Women*, the grandmother in *Ricordi* for the 1996 New Zealand Festival, Marina in *Uncle Vanya*, Kath in Roger Hall's *Social Climbers*, Mammy in *The Cripple of Innishmaan*, and Ruth in *Collected Stories* (directed by Miranda Harcourt). Her film work includes *Return Journey*, *Death in the Family*, *The Secret*, *Jubilee* and *His Father's Shoes*. Elizabeth was in Fay Weldon's *Growing Rich* for Anglia TV. She played Thea in Fiona Samuel's *Home Movie* and was Marj Brasch in the first four years of *Shortland Street*.

**rachel house**  
PERFORMER

A Graduate of Toi Whakaari: the New Zealand Drama School, Rachel has worked on many theatre productions such as *Nga Pou Wahine* by Briar Grace Smith, Hone Kouka's *Waiora*, *King Lear* and *Savage Hearts* with Theatre at Large, *By Degrees* and *The Bellbird* with Auckland Theatre Company and *Serial Killers*, *Wit* and *An Enemy of the People* at Circa Theatre. She has also been a part of the *Mataku* series, *The Life and Times of Te Tutu* and the films, *Whalerider* and *Crime Story*. She has won three Chapman Tripp Theatre Critics awards including Most Outstanding Performance for Witi Ihimaera's *Woman Far Walking* and Director of the year for Mitch Tawhai Thomas' *Have Car Will Travel*.



**don mcglashan**  
COMPOSER, ARRANGER AND MUSICIAN

Don McGlashan was a member of the percussion group *From Scratch*, the band *Blam Blam Blam*, and the theatre/music/film duo *The Front Lawn*. He recorded and performed with his band *The Mutton Birds* from 1991 to 2002, winning many awards and an international following. McGlashan has also written music for TV and film, including Jane Campion's *An Angel at my Table*, Sam Neill and Judy Rymer's *Cinema of Unease*, and the TV series *Street Legal*. He is currently writing songs for his first solo album.



**david long**  
MUSICIAN

David Long was a member of the Wellington band *Six Volts* in the late 1980s before forming *The Mutton Birds* with Don McGlashan. He has composed and performed music in many spheres, including series two of *The Strip*, dance scores for Douglas Wright and Shona McCullagh and, with Plan 9, Hobbit music and *The Sound of the Ring* for the three *The Lord of the Rings* movies. He has also produced albums for others and won Producer of the Year award for the *Fur Patrol* album *Pet*. A solo album, *Come On In* was released last year and a new album *Acid and Alkaline* with *The Lab Coats* will shortly be released.



**paul o'brien**  
LIGHTING DESIGNER

Paul O'Brien has worked as a lighting designer for New Zealand performance for the last 12 years. His most recent work includes: *Flowers from My Mother's Garden*, *Blue Smoke*, *The Candlestick Maker*, *The Underwatermelon Man*, and seasons with New Zealand percussion group, *Strike*.



**andrew thomas**  
DESIGNER

Andrew Thomas has designed for theatre, dance, film and opera productions, as well as museum and gallery exhibitions. He has won Best Set Designer for *Much Ado About Nothing* and *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, and the 1999 UNESCO Arts Prize for *Alley*, a 1998 New Zealand Festival production.



**marilyn sainty**  
COSTUME DESIGNER

Marilyn Sainty is a self-taught fashion designer who has been making clothes for more than 30 years. This is the first time she has designed for the theatre.



the freedom  
of home  
in a hotel

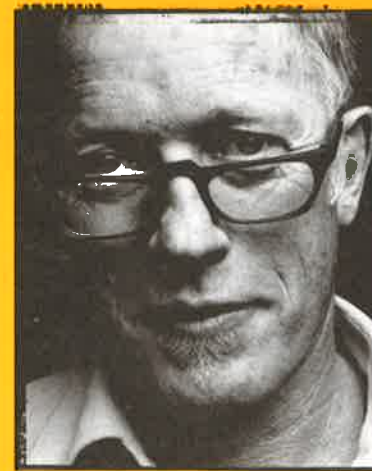


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QUEST ON EDEN



**a message from  
atc artistic director  
colin mccoll**

**its celebration of the  
eloquence of language  
is one of theatre's great  
sustaining strengths.**

ATC and Volvo welcome you to Carol Ann Duffy's *The World's Wife*, the fourth production in the 2003 season of *Stage*.

Its celebration of the eloquence of language is one of theatre's great sustaining strengths. The way writers take, as their raw material, words and phrases in common usage and fashion them into arrangements that set off new associations and insights always strikes me as miraculous. Words become poetry – craft becomes art. Put actors into the mix with their ability to lift words off the page, breathe life and character into them and you have something that touches our hearts and minds and allows us to view the world in a new way.

So, Auckland Theatre Company takes great pleasure in bringing you *The Telecom Season of The World's Wife*, British poet Carol Ann Duffy's extraordinary collection of poetry brought gloriously, theatrically to life.

We welcome back to ATC three actors of immense talent and ability: Rachel House, Elizabeth McRae and Fiona Samuel (who conceived the idea of adapting the poems). We welcome back too, director Miranda Harcourt, one of New Zealand's foremost theatre professionals.

Settle back and enjoy this delightful evening of energy, subversions, poignancy and cheek as the women behind the famous men tell you their side of the stories.

*Colin*

COLIN MCCOLL  
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR  
AUCKLAND THEATRE COMPANY



## auckland theatre company

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technician	Geordie McCallum
front of house manager	Justin Hardingham

## atc trust board

Tim MacAvoy (chairman)
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This is the fourth production in the Volvo 2003 season of *Stage*.  
*The Telecom Season of The World's Wife* previewed on Tuesday 22 July 2003 at The Maidment Theatre.

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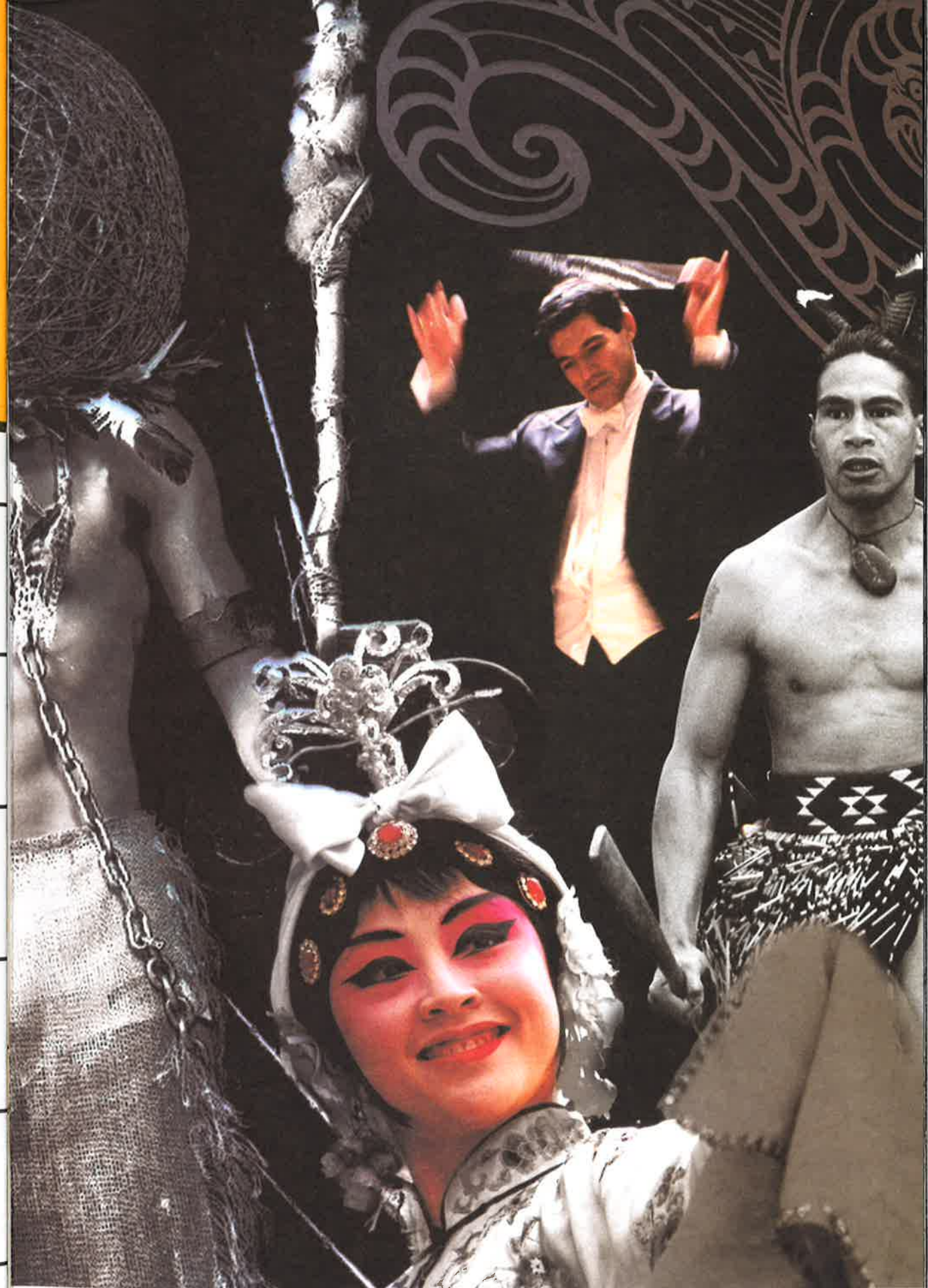
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