

A black and white close-up portrait of a middle-aged man with glasses, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and dark tie with a repeating logo. He has a cigarette in his mouth and is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background is dark and out of focus.

Roger Hall

Market  
Forces



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## AUCKLAND THEATRE COMPANY

Welcome to *MARKET FORCES*, the third production of the 1996 International Season.

In August 1976, Roger Hall's *GLIDE TIME* premiered at Wellington's Circa Theatre. The send-up of the public service, which introduced John, Hugh, Jim and Beryl to NZ audiences, became one of the country's most-performed theatre pieces and a long-running TV series. Twenty years later, NZ is a very different country. The "quarter-acre-pavlova-paradise" is gone and the pains of privatisation explored in *MARKET FORCES* have taken their social toll. Roger poses the question "What's it all for?" At least in this case, the answer is delivered with a fine sense of humour.

ATC welcomes some new faces to the creative team. Stuart Devenie and Brenda Kendall, last seen together as zombies in the cult movie *BRAINDEAD*, lead less metabolically-challenged lives as John and Beryl. Stuart will be well-remembered for his slinky turn as Frank 'N' Furter in the *NEW ROCKY HORROR SHOW*, and the Sondheim musicals *INTO THE WOODS* and *ASSASSINS* (Watershed Theatre). Brenda last appeared on stage in 1986 in *A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE* and *PASS IT ON* (Downstage Theatre) and has since worked as a dialogue writer on *SHORTLAND STREET* and on film and TV. Fresh from their *TRAVELS WITH MY AUNT* sellout season, Ian Watkin (Jim) and Ross Duncan (Hugh) slip into two familiar characters, completes the fabulous foursome. Andrew Laing (Brian) and Alison Bruce (Julie) represent the dastardly agents of downsizing. Andrew's credits include *HAMLET*, *ENTERTAINING MR SLOANE*, and *THE GLASS MENAGERIE*, for which he won a Chapman Tripp Theatre Award. Alison, last seen with the ATC in *THE SEAGULL* (1994), recently appeared as Roxanne in Theatre at Large's highly acclaimed *CYRANO*. We welcome original cast member Katherine Beasley, who created the role of the much-put-upon Raewyn. It is a treat to see the actress renew her acquaintance with the character. Director Cathy Downes has worked on both sides of the Tasman, and recently directed a much-acclaimed production of *TZIGANE* at Downstage. Designer John Verryt (*SOMEONE WHO'LL WATCH OVER ME*, *LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR*) completes a first-class line-up.

ATC is indebted to the sponsors listed in the back of this programme, and especially thanks The National Bank for its generous support as production sponsor for *MARKET FORCES*. We gratefully acknowledge the continuing support and assistance of Hewlett Packard and Creative New Zealand.

*UNCLE VANYA*, our last production for 1996, opens on 10 October. In 1997 ATC celebrates its 5th anniversary and we look forward to "upsizing" our contribution to Auckland's cultural scene.



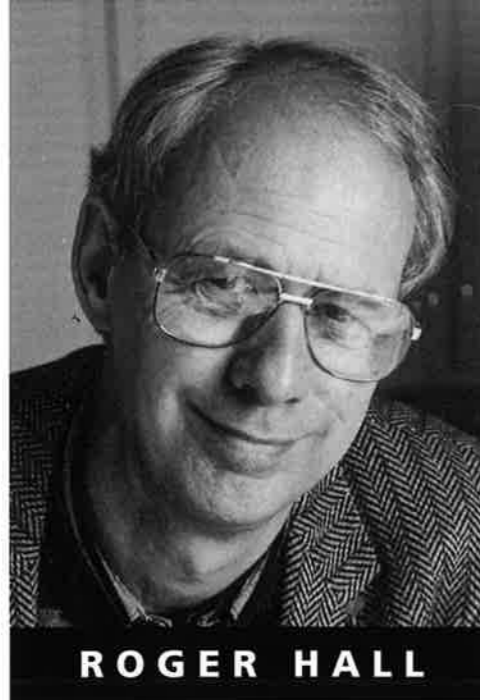
With best wishes

Simon Prast  
PRODUCER

New Zealand's most prolific playwright **Roger Hall** has delighted audiences throughout New Zealand and Great Britain with a series of box-office smashes, ranging from **GLIDE TIME** to the 1991 Mercury hit **CONJUGAL RITES**, later made a popular television series in the UK. His latest play, **MARKET FORCES** comes to Auckland after sell-out productions around New Zealand.

**GLIDE TIME** was Roger Hall's first stage play and it was an immediate success, hatching productions in New Zealand, Australia and the United Kingdom, a New Zealand tour and the television series **GLIDING ON**, which ran for 5 years.

He has written 18 stage plays since then, including **MIDDLE AGE SPREAD, PRISONERS OF MOTHER ENGLAND, FIFTY FIFTY, HOT**



**ROGER HALL**

**WATER, THE SHARE CLUB, AFTER THE CRASH, CONJUGAL RITES;** with other writing credits including musicals, pantomimes, radio plays and children's books.

Roger Hall's **BY DEGREES** (Ilona Rodgers, Judie Douglass, Judith Gibson and Rachel House; directed by Alison Quigan) was produced by **ATC**

in 1994 and is still one of the most successful productions the company has ever presented.

Roger Hall was recently awarded the Hon Doctorate of Literature at Victoria University.

Before the world premiere in Wellington Roger said, "I am even more nervous for **MARKET FORCES** than I was for the opening night of **GLIDE TIME** 20 years ago. But I am very excited to see how the characters cope with the nineties (and yes, this is my protest at how badly so many people are treated by management these days.) It's been great to be back where I started in August 1976 - as far as I'm concerned, I'll be home again."

Look out for Roger Hall's most current play **SOCIAL CLIMBERS**, coming soon!

## CATHY DOWNES - DIRECTOR



Cathy is a professional actor, director, producer and writer based in New Zealand but works in theatre and television on both sides of the Tasman. She graduated from NZ Drama School in 1973 and since then has worked continuously in professional theatre.

In 1976 Cathy travelled to Europe. In Amsterdam and London she formed the professional theatre companies **ESTA, The Heartache and Sorrow Theatre Company**. and developed the highly acclaimed **THE CASE OF KATHERINE MANSFIELD** with which she toured Great Britain, United States, the Netherlands, Australia and New Zealand, winning two awards in Britain (Edinburgh Festival Awards) and one in Australia, (Best Radio Play).

In 1980 she took **THE CASE OF KATHERINE MANSFIELD** to Australia, and was invited to become a member of the **Nimrod Actors Company, Sydney**. Roles at Nimrod included:

Masha - in **THREE SISTERS**, Anat in **WELCOME THE BRIGHT WORLD** (Stephen Sewell) and Marianne in **TALES FROM THE VIENNA WOODS**. Her Australian film credits include **WINTER OF OUR DREAMS** for which Cathy won the Australian Film & TV Award and an AFI nomination for Best Actress.

In 1986 Cathy returned to New Zealand and now works freelance as an actor/director/writer. Recent acting performances include **MACBETH** (Lady Macbeth); **THE SECRET RAPTURE** (Isobel) - Circa, Wellington; and in Circa's highly acclaimed production of **JOYFUL AND TRIUMPHANT** (Brenda), which won three Chapman-Tripp Theatre Awards and toured New Zealand, later transferring to Sydney and Adelaide and played a season. In 1995. Cathy toured New Zealand as Kate Sheppard in **FAREWELL SPEECH** (which she dramatised from Rachel McAlpine's novel); and Sara in **THE GLASS MERMAID** at Playbox Theatre in Melbourne in 1994 for which she won two Australian theatre award nominations. Cathy returned to Melbourne in 1995 and 1996 for further seasons of **THE CASE OF KATHERINE MANSFIELD**.

Cathy's writing credits include: **THE CASE OF KATHERINE MANSFIELD, THE HEARTACHE AND SORROW SHOW** (performed in Europe, UK and Australia); and **FAREWELL SPEECH** - winning Best New NZ Play Award (Chapman-Tripp 1993).

As a director, her many credits include **SHORTLAND STREET** (TVNZ) and for stage: **ORACLES AND MIRACLES, THE WOMAN IN BLACK, THREE TALL WOMEN, EUGENIA, THE RIVERS OF CHINA, A LONG UNDRRESSING, GOOD WORKS** (winner Best Downstage Production 1995, and **TZIGANE** at Downstage. Cathy makes her directorial debut with Auckland Theatre Company with **MARKET FORCES**.

## JOHN VERRYT DESIGNER

Auckland theatregoers will be familiar with John's work as a designer because of the many memorable productions with which he was associated at Theatre Corporate and Mercury Theatre. In 1986 John became a freelance designer. In 1987 a Fullbright Scholarship provided him with the opportunity of studying in New York. From 1990-92 John was Head of Design at Mercury Theatre. His designs included **CAROUSEL, THE BARBER OF SEVILLE, THE SEX FIEND, AMADEUS** and **PORGY & BESS**, Auckland Opera's production of **CARMEN** and ATC's acclaimed **SOMEONE WHO'LL WATCH OVER ME** and **THE LEARNER'S STAND**. John has designed Sets and Costumes for **CYRANO DE BERGARAC** (Theatre at Large) and New Zealand Opera's outstanding production of **LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR**.

## CAST

### KATHERINE BEASLEY



Katy has been working as a professional actor for over twenty years, training at City Literacy Institute in London and the New Zealand Drama School. Her career began in 1975 in Dunedin in Play School. However, most of her time in her profession has been spent in Wellington including leading roles at Circa, Downstage and Depot Theatres, such as **STRIP, THE SUICIDE** and **GLORIOUS RUINS**. Katy has performed on stage all over New Zealand including Fortune (Dunedin), Court Theatre (Christchurch) and Centrepoint Theatre (Palmerston North). Her experience in television includes presenting a children's programme, fronting a magazine show and a range of dramatic roles such as **CLOSE TO HOME, COUNTRY GP, SHORTLAND STREET, HERCULES** and comedy such as **LYNN OF TAWA**.

Katy is probably most remembered by New Zealand television viewers as Raewyn in **GLIDING ON** - a character Katy presented for five consecutive series, and repeats for stage here in Auckland following the sell out World Premiere in Wellington earlier this year.

### ALISON BRUCE



Alison has played many roles on television, film, radio and stage. Alison trained at Auckland Youth Theatre, Theatre Corporate and at various workshops. Her theatre credits include, **KING LEAR, TALES OF HOFFMAN, LES LIAISON DANGEREUSE, SAVAGE PLAY** and Theatre At Large's production of **CYRANO DE BERGERAC** both in Auckland and at the recent Wellington Festival of the Arts.

In film, Alison played a lead role in **USER FRIENDLY** and **OLD SCORES** and support roles have included **THE END OF THE GOLDEN WEATHER, ALEX, AN ANGEL AT MY TABLE**.

For television, Alison has appeared in programmes such as **SHORTLAND STREET, COVER STORY** (guest lead), **STAR RUNNER** (lead), **HERCULES** and **XENA WARRIOR PRINCESS**.

Alison last appeared with ATC as Masha in **THE SEAGULL** (Director: Colin McColl, ATC 1994).

### STUART DEVENIE



Stuart has worked in theatre, television, film and radio in New Zealand for the past 23 years. He has been an Associate Artistic Director for Centrepoint Theatre (Palmerston North); and was a founding councillor for Circa Theatre (Wellington). Last year he toured as 'Frank 'N' Furter' in **THE NEW ROCKY HORROR SHOW**. His most recent stage work in Auckland was as 'Byck' in **ASSASSINS** at The Watershed and directing **RAW** at The Basement Theatre. This is Stuart's first engagement with ATC.

## ROSS DUNCAN

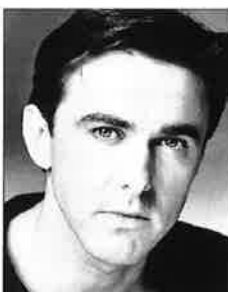


In 1971 Ross attended The New Zealand Drama School in Wellington. In 1972 he became an apprentice actor with Mercury Theatre. Between 1974 and 1980 Ross appeared in and directed many plays around New Zealand. In 1981 Ross joined Theatre Corporate not only conducting a full year performing in schools with the community theatre company but also appearing in such plays as **WAITING FOR GODOT, THREE SISTERS, KING LEAR, A WINTERS TALE** and **TOM & VIV**, plus many more. Between 1986 - 92 Ross appeared in many Mercury Theatre productions such as, **THE SOUND OF MUSIC, HAMLET, WEED, SINGLE SPIES, THE CRUCIBLE** and **SHADOWLANDS**.

Television appearances include: **HUNTERS GOLD, KURT VONNEGUT: MONKEY HOUSE, SHORTLAND STREET, MARLIN BAY, PLAINCLOTHES, HERCULES**. Recent stage work

includes **MY FAIR LADY, DAUGHTERS OF HEAVEN (ATC)** and **LADIES NIGHT - RAGING ON, DANCING AT LUGHNASA (ATC)** and **TRAVELS WITH MY AUNT (ATC)**.

## ANDREW LAING



Andrew is a graduate of The New Zealand Drama School (Toi Whakaari). His theatre work has included **HAMLET, CONQUEST OF THE SOUTH POLE, ENTERTAINING MR SLOANE**, and **THE GLASS MENAGERIE** for which he was awarded the Chapman-Tripp Wellington Theatre Award for Best Supporting Actor. The last few years have seen him on tour around Australasia, first with **BLOOD BROTHERS** - playing Sammy, then with **THE NEW ROCKY HORROR SHOW**. Based in Sydney in 1995, he appeared in Nigel Triffitts **THE FALL OF SINGAPORE** for the Sydney Theatre Company. His last appearance in Auckland was as John Wilkes Booth in **ASSASSINS** at the Watershed Theatre.

## BRENDA KENDALL



This is Brenda's first appearance in a play since 1986 when she performed in **A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE** and **PASS IT ON** at Wellington's Downstage Theatre.

Brenda has spent the ensuing years as a stand-up comic, a dialogue writer on **SHORTLAND STREET** and acting in film and television. Her film credits include roles in Jane Campion's **ANGEL AT MY TABLE** as Miss Botting, Peter Jackson's **BRAIN DEAD** as Nurse McTavish, and Niki Caro's **THE SUMMER THE QUEEN CAME**, as Mum. Her television roles include **MORTIMER'S PATCH, MARCHING GIRLS, BETTY'S BUNCH, TRUE LIFE STORIES** and was last seen as Lilly in **PLAINCLOTHES**.

## IAN WATKIN



Ian has performed extensively in theatre throughout New Zealand since 1970, with the latest plays including Berkoff's **EAST** and **KVETCH**, directed by Roger Morton, and even more recently the sell-out New Zealand premiere season of Graham Greene's **TRAVELS WITH MY AUNT (ATC)**. Ian was in the original cast of the Circa production of **MARKET FORCES**. He has appeared in many outstanding films including **SLEEPING DOGS, UTU, GOODBYE PORK PIE, JUST ME AND MARIO**, and **BRAINDEAD**. He has appeared in many television productions, including **CLOSE TO HOME, MARLIN BAY, SAVAGE PLAY, COUNTRY GP, WHITE FANG, ENID BLYTON SERIES, HERCULES** and **SHORTLAND STREET**.

Ian Watkin is also a writer of comedy and drama.

## AUCKLAND THEATRE COMPANY

PRESENTS

# Market Forces

Roger Hall

World Premiere - CIRCA Corp., Wellington - March 1, 1996

Auckland Premiere - AUCKLAND THEATRE COMPANY - Thursday July 25, 1996  
Herald Theatre, Aotea Centre

### CAST

(Alphabetical Order)

Raewyn	Katherine Beasley
Julie	Alison Bruce
John	Stuart Devenie
Hugh	Ross Duncan
Brian	Andrew Laing
Beryl	Brenda Kendall
Jim	Ian Watkin

DIRECTOR CATHY DOWNES

SET DESIGNER JOHN VERRYT

PRODUCTION MANAGER TERESA SOKOLICH

STAGE MANAGER FRITHA WALKER

LIGHTING DESIGNER ROBIN PENTECOST

WARDROBE ELIZABETH WHITING

SOUND/LIGHTING OPERATOR SEAN LYNCH

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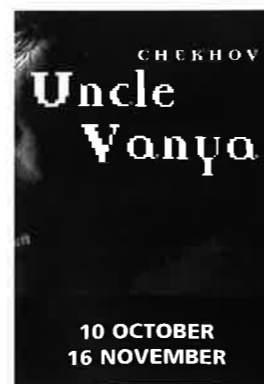
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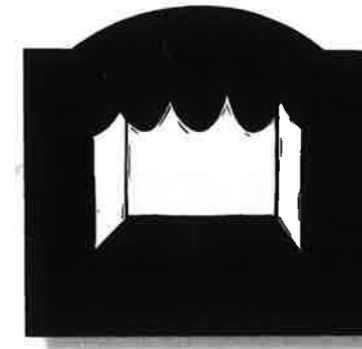
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