

MEDIA RELEASE

6 October 2009 For Immediate Release

ENTERTAINMENT, INSPIRATION AND LIVES TRANSFORMED IN QUEENSLAND THEATRE COMPANY'S 2010 SEASON

See lives transformed on stage in Queensland Theatre Company's 2010 Season as characters discover family secrets, fall in and out of love, follow their dreams and even spin straw into gold.

Queensland Theatre Company's 2010 Season was launched by Premier and Minister for the Arts Anna Bligh MP, who congratulated Artistic Director Michael Gow and his team on programming a season likely to attract many to the theatre.

Ms Bligh says, "Queenslanders can expect a great season of plays in 2010, including heart-warming and sharp-witted comedies, epic family tales from the past and the future, love stories with unexpected twists and a family show full of adventure, fantasy and fun to cap off the year.

"The State Government is a proud supporter of the major performing arts companies in Queensland, contributing more than \$10 million annually across the art forms – \$3.3 million of which supports Queensland Theatre Company's production and touring programs."

Artistic Director Michael Gow added, "The key to the 2010 Season is transformation. During 2010 you'll see characters discover the one element that inspires who they choose to become. We'll see lives transformed by joy, love, terror and the magical Golden Goose."

Season 2010 kicks off with *The Little Dog Laughed* (8 FEB – 13 MAR), Douglas Carter Beane's tale of sex, lies and Hollywood glamour. Hot actor Mitchell is on the path to making it big, but his "recurring case of homosexuality" seems to be getting in the way of marriage, megabucks and superstar branding. His desperate agent Diane resorts to ruthless and creative tactics to keep the truth from coming out.

Next up is *Thom Pain (based on nothing)* (15 MAR – 10 APR), a smart and menacingly funny one-man show by Will Eno. Thom Pain is armed with a razor sharp wit, a wicked attitude and a broken heart. He is an everyman trying to make sense of the world and his place in it.

See Noosa's playground for the rich and retired become a comic battleground in David Williamson's *Let the Sunshine* (12 APR – 15 MAY). With a cast that includes Robert Coleby, Andrea Moor, Jacki Weaver and Gold-Logie winner John Wood, *Let the Sunshine* is Williamson's latest romantic satire that reflects on issues facing a modern Romeo and Juliet.

King Lear (5 – 22 MAY) is Shakespeare's tale of jealousy, betrayal, hatred and madness, and is an epic way to celebrate Bell Shakespeare's 20th birthday in 2010. Starring John Bell as King Lear, we see what happens when Lear arranges his succession amongst his three daughters by posing them a question: who loves me the most? When his favourite

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daughter Cordelia refuses the challenge, an enraged Lear banishes her, little realizing how his own vanity has blinded him to the purest expression of love and loyalty.

Discover whether love is all you need in Neil LaBute's ***Fat Pig*** (31 MAY – 26 JUN) - a short sharp tale of love and stereotypes. Helen and Tom are in love. Helen is beautiful, smart, funny and just a little on the large size. But to Tom's self-obsessed work buddies, she's plain gross. Can you be too shallow to stay in love?

Hate house cleaning? You'll enjoy ***The Clean House*** (28 JUN – 31 JUL) – Sarah Ruhl's award winning romantic comedy with a sprinkle of magic realism. Lane is depressed – her cleaner hates cleaning and would rather tell jokes, her husband has fallen in love with his patient and her sister is secretly doing her housework. ***The Clean House*** is set in a whimsical world where four strong women meet all that life has to offer them with passion and humour.

Nobel Prize-winner Harold Pinter shows us secrets that have lasted for years in ***Betrayal*** (6 SEP – 9 OCT). Lifelong friends Jerry and Robert are rivals in the publishing world, but also rivals for the love of Robert's wife Emma. Jerry and Emma believe they have created the perfect private romance that no one will discover, until they begin to learn how hard it is to keep a secret.

Hailed as a new Australian classic, Andrew Bovell's ***When The Rain Stops Falling*** (20 OCT – 6 NOV) is a multi award-winning and enthralling tale that spans generations. When Gabriel Law retraces his father's footsteps in an attempt to solve the mystery of his disappearance, he is forced to confront the truth of a family secret and find the strength to accept what has gone before, in order to follow a new life.

Enjoy an end-of-year family treat with ***Grimm Tales*** (8 NOV – 11 DEC) – adapted by Carol Ann Duffy and dramatised by Tim Supple. The stories of the Brothers Grimm have enthralled children and adults alike for centuries. From *The Golden Goose* to *Hansel and Gretel*, these modern adaptations infuse the Grimms' original fables with a fresh vitality and humour.

2010 Season Tickets

on sale now!
Call: 1800 355 528 or www.qldtheatreco.com.au

Opening Night Premium Season Ticket:	\$829
5, 7 or 9 play Season Ticket:	\$170 - \$342, with a range of flexible or pre-planned dates
Under 30s 3 or 5 play Season Ticket:	\$75 - \$115
8 Pass	\$400

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