

MEDIA RELEASE

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2010 YOUTH AND EDUCATION PROGRAM LAUNCHED

Queensland Theatre Company has launched its 2010 Education program – with three Education performances including Deborah Mailman and Wesley Enoch’s modern Australian classic *The 7 Stages of Grieving*, Samuel Beckett’s absurdist masterpiece *Waiting for Godot* and a new comedy for 3 – 8 year olds, *Hurry Up and Wait!*.

Queensland Theatre Company Artistic Director Michael Gow commented, “The Youth & Education program in 2010 continues the success of the 2009 program and includes three performances, a variety of workshops for both students and teachers, the annual Young Playwrights Program and Theatre Residency Week and our new Student Advisory Group for 2010.”

The first show of the season is Samuel Beckett’s *Waiting for Godot*, on 22 April – 7 May. Two men wait on a desolate road for another man, Godot, to arrive. Senior drama students are set to puzzle over this absurdist drama and ask questions that have arisen in Beckett’s audiences for decades - will Godot ever arrive? Will anything ever happen?

Showing from 27 July – 6 April is *The 7 Stages of Grieving* by Deborah Mailman and Wesley Enoch. *The 7 Stages of Grieving* is a contemporary Indigenous performance starring Lisa Flanagan, and chronicles one woman’s journey through love, anger and loss. Students will find parallels between this groundbreaking show and their studies in Australian culture and history.

The final performance is a new deBASE Productions and Queensland Theatre Company collaboration – *Hurry Up and Wait!* on 19 July – 13 August. This play explores how two clowns waiting have no choice but to pass the time by using their imaginations. They dine on food that appears out of thin air, use simple items to create amazing new worlds and discover an entire universe inside a hat! The show tours regional Queensland and is created specifically for students in Prep – Year 4.

The Company also continues many popular programs and initiatives including Theatre Residency Week, Young Playwrights Program and student and teacher workshops across Queensland. The Company also introduced the new Student Advisory Panel, where members meet the Queensland Theatre Company team and check out Education and main stage shows and participate in workshops with Company actors and directors during 2010.

Queries about the Company’s Youth & Education programs should be directed to Education Liaison Officer Katie Stewart on 07 3010 7623.

Bookings for Student groups can be made via QTIx Groups on 3840 7127. All tickets for general public are available through QTIx on 136 246.

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For Further Information:

Amanda Doellinger
Publicity and Communications Coordinator
Queensland Theatre Company
Tel: 07 3010 7600
Mob: 0423 148 213
Email: adoellinger@qldtheatreco.com.au

