

Dead White Males

By David Williamson



Genesian Theatre

3rd July - 7th August 2010

*The action takes place on the campus of
New West University and in the Judd Home.*

Act I - 55 mins

There will be an interval of 15 mins

Act II - 1 hour

Dead White Males is produced by arrangement with the Cameron Creswell Agency

Arm chair supplied by



About the Production

Opening with a literal depiction of Roland Barthes *Death of the Author*, *Dead White Males* positions itself with a bang! as David Williamson's entry into the debate on literary theory which came to a head in the mid 1990's.

It strikes me as a play that is grounded in the mid 1990's but still speaks to us fifteen years later through an exploration of universal themes. This is somewhat fitting, as at the heart of the play stands this literary debate on whether such universal themes are even possible or if they are entirely constructed out of received ideology.

On another level is the beautiful depiction Williamson gives us of three generations of an Australian family. The typical 'Aussie battler' grandfather, in a character that subverts that cliché and gives respect by translating him into Lear. The father made redundant by the 'recession we had to have', the career mother struggling with feelings of guilt at not being there for her daughter. Both Angela's mother and father are failures to an extent according to their understanding of prevailing ideology. And yet they love each other and they make it work.

David Williamson has earned his place as a great Australian playwright, and I am honoured to be the first director to bring his work to the Genesian stage. I am grateful for all the hard work the production team and cast have put in to make this such a strong production.

Tom Massey



SOPHIE BLACKLAW - Angela Judd *Dead White Males* is Sophie's first production at the Genesian. Sophie graduated from PLC Sydney as Drama Captain and has had experience in drama; *The House of Bernarda Alba*, *Aftershocks*, and musicals; *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Matchgirls*, *Grease*, *The Sound of Music*. She has enjoyed the creative process at the Genesian, and is honoured to be part of such a high calibre cast.

DAVID WOODLAND - William Shakespeare David has studied at both Screenwise and NIDA. Over the last four years he has mainly appeared in short film and television roles. His theatre performances include The Short and Sweet festival: *A man's not a fruit*, *Erosion* and *#6707,304,491*. David has performed with the Impulse Theatre Company in Shakespeare's *As You Like It* and The Ryde Argyle Performing Arts Company in the *Oily Rag Murder*.



MATT JONES - Grant Swain Matt trained with the National Youth Theatre of Great Britain and the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama. He has acted in London, Edinburgh and Barcelona as well as various provincial theatres and has appeared in TV and film for HTV, S4C, and BBC. *Dead White Males* marks Matt's Sydney stage debut.

EMILY POTTS - Melissa Doherty Emily is thrilled to be playing the role of Melissa in *Dead White Males*. Emily graduated from the University of Notre Dame with a major in Theatre Studies. She has played lead roles in the Artes Christi *Joseph*, and in the Santa Sabina productions of *Mikado* and *How to Succeed in Business*. Emily is excited to be involved with the Genesian Theatre and hopes to continue to gain roles in the Sydney Arts scene.



MATTHEW BLACKWOOD HUME - Steve Matt loves being alive, and the band Muse. He hates rude people and the 9-5 cog in the machine death camp. Matt collects movies, especially anything in technicolor, he loves travelling. His favourite place: Mother Earth, let's give her what she gives us. Matt has recently performed in the lead role in the feature film *Muscle Car* produced by Amazon Entertainment.

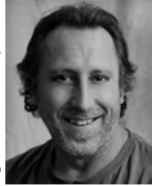
MARTY O'NEILL - Col Judd Marty's first role with the Genesians follows leading roles with the New Theatre in the 70s/80s, attempts (unappreciated by the industry) to be a professional, an acting break, the occasional tour-de-force in the Blue Mountains and recent appearances with RLE at Parramatta Riverside and his warm rendition of Rev Humphrey in *See How They Run* for the Woodstock Players at Burwood. Cheers!





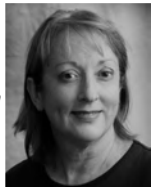
GOLDA BAKER - Grace Judd Golda last appeared in the 2009 production of Lorca's *The House of Bernarda Alba* as the eccentric old grandmother. She has also appeared at the Genesian as Lady Laura Plymdale in *Lady Windermere's Fan*. Golda has been a member of Balmain Theatre Group and Chester Street. She is looking forward to the *Dead White Males* season and considers it a humorous and well worth play.

ENRICO BABIC - Martin Judd Enrico graduated from the Ensemble Studios in 1990. Theatre credits include *Tony & Tinas Wedding*, *Boys Own Macbeth*, *Love Lemmings*. On TV Enrico was a regular cast member of the first season of *Water Rats* and appeared in the US ABC TV film of the week *Meteorites!* He appeared in the film *Mr Accident*. *Dead White Males* is Enrico's second theatre production after a 10 year hiatus from acting.



JULIE ZIMMERMAN - Sarah Judd Julie is making her Sydney stage debut as Sarah. She has worked in short and independent films in Australia, and appeared in *All Saints*, *Home and Away*, and the TV film *Murder in the Outback*. Her US stage experience includes *Kiss Me Kate*, and *Sweeney Todd*. She is a student of the Actor's Centre and Red Stitch. During the day she fights for female corporate autonomy as an IT Project Manager.

MEG MOONEY - Jessica Squires Just as happy working behind the scenes, Meg is enjoying the challenge of playing the pretentious Jessica in *Dead White Males*. Other roles with the Genesians include *Twelfth Night*, *Morning Sacrifice*, *The School for Scandal*, *Hedda Gabler*, *A Murder is Announced*, *Mad About Men*, and *Intent to Murder*. She also directed a recent production of *The Real Inspector Hound* for the Genesian Theatre.



KARENZA STEVENS - Monica Judd This is Karenza's first production with the Genesian Theatre. In recent years she has mostly performed in TV and Film: in *All Saints* and *Home and Away* and several commercials. Karenza completed the Screen Actors course at NIDA, and has attended many short courses with NIDA, TAFTA, and Screenwise. Until recently she was a presenter on 89.7FM. Karenza is enjoying her time being back on the stage.

PRODUCTION

Director

Assistant Director

Set Design

Costume Design

Lighting Design

Sound Design

Raked Stage Consultant

Production Manager

Set Construction

Set Detailing

Assistant Costume Design

Photography

Graphic Design

Rehearsal Prompt

Elizabethan Choreography

Transport

Acknowledgments

Tom Massey

Shane Bates

Catherine Lock

Susan Carveth

Eric Bicknell

Tom Massey

Owen Gimblett

Roger Gimblett

**Paul Gilbert, Owen Gimblett, Members of
the Company**

Catherine Lock

Nicola Griggs, Tanya Woodland

Craig O'Regan

Tom Massey

Shane Bates

Susan Carveth

Debbie Smith

Timothy Bennett, Paul Barbary,

Paul Treacy, Frances Milat, Di Henderson,

Wendy Greenfield, Wendy Gimblett,

Michael Schell, Grant Fraser, Greg Grebert,

Nanette Frew

CREW

Stage Manager

Lighting Operation

Sound Operation

Dee Read

Janina Olmos-New

Kathy Curran

CAST

Angela Judd

William Shakespeare

Grant Swain

Melissa Doherty

Steve

Col Judd

Grace Judd

Martin Judd

Sarah Judd

Jessica Squires

Monica Judd

Sophie Blacklaw

David Woodland

Matt Jones

Emily Potts

Matthew Blackwood Hume

Marty O'Neill

Golda Baker

Enrico Babic

Julie Zimmerman

Meg Mooney

Karenza Stevens

About the Genesian Theatre

Born in 1944 and named for St Genesius, Patron Saint of Actors, The Genesian Theatre Company has developed into a strong community-based organisation that boasts among its alumni numerous household names in Australian theatre.

The Company is a non-professional group operating from an historic church in Kent Street. While still retaining links with our origins, the Catholic Church, we do not shy away from meeting the challenges of plays that comment on the human condition.

The building which houses the Company was originally St John's Church, and dates from 1868. It has served as a church, a poor school, and was the first Matthew Talbot Hostel. Since 1954 it has been the home of The Genesian Theatre Company.

Over the years The Genesian Theatre Company has become a community theatre group providing a training ground for young actors and a place where those who love the theatre can meet, share, and extend their knowledge of the performing arts. The Genesian Theatre is one of Sydney's most active theatre companies. In addition to six main stage productions each year we run classes, workshops and many other activities.

Membership

If your interest is in acting, directing, stage management, sound, lights, publicity, admin, etc, or if you just want to experience being a member of the group, we would welcome you as a member. You don't need to be experienced, we can provide training and can cater to different levels of involvement. Please see our web site for further information.

Coming next to the Genesian Theatre...

Agatha Christie's

**AND THEN THERE
WERE NONE**



21st Aug - 2nd Oct 2010

**Subscriptions are available
www.genesiantheatre.com.au**