

WHAT'S NEXT AT KUCOM?

Run For Your Wife, by Ray Cooney
directed by Peter Rosier
at the Lynnette Denny Space, MECC
26, 27, 28, 29 June 2013
with a 2pm matinee on 29 June
Auditions: 2.30pm on Sunday 21 April
Salvation Army Rooms, Gregory Street

* * *

Aladdin

a pantomime by James Barry, directed by Joe Clutterbuck
at the CQU Conservatorium
20, 21, 22, 23 November
with a 2pm matinee on 23 November

BOOKINGS: MECC 4961 9777
or book online through the Kucom website
www.kucom.org.au/bookings

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By arrangement with Origin Theatrical Pty Limited and SAMUEL FRENCH

A Year in the Death of Eddie Jester by T. Gregory Argall

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

5 PERFORMANCES ONLY

In The Lynette Denny Space—MECC

WEDNESDAY	10th APRIL	7.30pm
THURSDAY	11th APRIL	7.30pm
FRIDAY	12th APRIL	7.30pm
SATURDAY	13th APRIL	2.00pm
SATURDAY	13th APRIL	7.30pm

Winner of the 2002 Samuel French Inc. Canadian Playwriting Contest

Bookings: MECC 4961 9777



A YEAR IN THE DEATH OF EDDIE JESTER

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Working on this show, *A Year in the Death of Eddie Jester*, has been a fantastic experience. It was my fiancé, Petar, who first introduced the play to me, and I loved it from the moment I laid eyes on the first page. It is rare to find a play that is modern, witty, emotionally charged and poignant. The characters, what they go through, their reactions and relationships are the aspects which stand out in such an affecting way. I think this is what sold it to me – the characters. Everyone goes to the theatre to see the relationships; whether the play is new or has been seen a thousand times, it is the characters and their enveloping realities that truly touch an audience. I have enjoyed watching the cast grow and develop together to form such an amazing team of artists who bring these complex characters to life. Even from the first read through, their sincerity and vulnerability touched me – I truly and honestly hope that the message, the lives and essences of each character touches you, in the audience, and allows you to share with us, the mind and world of Eddie Jester.

Jessica Krause

THE PLAYWRIGHT



T. GREGORY ARGALL

In 1996, famed actor William Poulin, seeking a play to direct, asked short-story hobbyist T. Gregory Argall to try his hand at writing a script. The script became the one act version of *A Year in the Death of Eddie Jester* and made its premiere in June of 1997. Spurred on by positive audience response, Argall continued writing short plays, many of which were produced on the community theatre stage over the next several years.

He has now written more than 20 plays, several short stories and a book for children. *A Year in the Death of Eddie Jester* was later expanded into a full length two act play and won the 2002 Samuel French Inc. Canadian Playwrights Competition. For more information about T. Gregory Argall, visit his website titled *T. Gregory Argall Is A Very Tall Playwright*: <http://www.tgregoryargall.com/1973/>

A YEAR IN THE DEATH OF EDDIE JESTER

Director



JESSICA KRAUSE has been involved in performing since the age of five, and has appeared in many local productions including: *The Sound of Music* (Maria), *The Boy From Oz* (Karen) in 2012; *Beauty & the Beast* (Belle) in 2007, *Fame* (Serina) in 2008, *Les Miserables* (Cosette) in 2009, *Pirates of Penzance* (Edith) in 2009, and *The Secret Garden* (Alice) in 2011. She has also co-directed and co-choreographed the MMCP's 2012

Theatre Restaurants *Hyperspace* and *Warpdrive*, and now the Australian premiere of *A Year In the Death of Eddie Jester* for Kucom Theatre. Jessica has been involved with performing for many local companies such as Mackay Choral Society, Mackay Musical Comedy Players, Mackay Big Band, and Wasted Space Productions. She has been teaching singing privately for six years, and has been training students to perform for Dance and Music Theatre around the Central Queensland region for the last six years. Jessica loves sharing her passion for the performing arts, and helping students to achieve their utmost potential in these areas. This year, alongside Petar Grulovic, Jessica has also co-founded Triple Threat Theatre Academy group for Mackay's music theatre students. Jessica has thoroughly enjoyed working with the cast of "A Year In The Death of Eddie Jester" and has found it a rewarding experience to work with such professional local talent.

A YEAR IN THE DEATH OF EDDIE JESTER

THE CAST

Dr Jimmy



CONNOR BASHFORD

Connor has immensely enjoyed playing the role of 'Dr Jimmy', and has found James Gilford a fun and invigorating character. Working with a reliable group, harbouring more than their fair share of strengths, it has expectedly been a fantastic experience and very welcome. Surrounding himself with such people, Connor looks forwards to similar future endeavours.

Nurse Jayne



ELISHA GRECH

Elisha has been involved in performing arts and dancing eisteddfods since 1999. She started her love for theatre in 2006, where she became involved with her school's production. Since then, Elisha has been involved in multiple musicals with the Central Queensland Conservatorium of Music, has worked with Wasted Space Productions and Mackay Musical Comedy Players. This will be

Elisha's first time taking on a Kucom production. Elisha looks forward to continuing her involvement and love for theatre throughout the years to come.

THE PRODUCTION CREW

Director
Stage Manager
Props
Sound
Lighting

Jessica Krause
Sheryn Dempster
Sophie Power
Anne Elliott
Dan Grace

Assisted by the Staff of the MECC

A YEAR IN THE DEATH OF EDDIE JESTER

THE CAST

In order of appearance:

Eddie Jester
Susan
Jennifer
Max
Dr Jimmy
Nurse Jayne

Petar Grulovic
Elaine Power
Lizzie Davis
Gordon Lowe
Connor Bashford
Elisha Grech

The play is set in Eddie's hospital room

There will be a 20-minute interval between Act I and Act II

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A YEAR IN THE DEATH OF EDDIE JESTER

Eddie Jester



PETAR GRULOVIC

Petar started acting, singing and dancing at an early age, and first worked with Kucom Theatre over a decade ago, playing Doug in *Cosi*. He went on to perform in numerous Kucom plays, culminating in the 2002 Central Queensland Drama Festival-winning performance of *Duchess on Thursday*, alongside Heather MacTavish, directed by Jim Kelly. Over recent years, Petar has also performed in numerous local musicals including *Singin' in the Rain* (Don Lockwood), *The Boy From Oz* (Peter Allen) and *The Sound Of Music* (Captain Von Trapp). Currently, Petar is a full-time teacher at Whitsunday Anglican School, and also teaches Tap for the Leisa Payne School of Dance, and the Conservatorium of Music. He is also the Co-Founder & Co-Principal of Triple Threat Theatre Academy, a new Performing Arts school for the Mackay region. Petar is excited to be taking up the challenge of playing Eddie Jester, and would like to thank his director/fiancée, Jessica, and the very talented cast for all their support.

Susan



ELAINE POWER

Elaine has performed as a professional dancer from 1984 to 1998 in numerous productions and theatres around the world. Having the opportunity to return to the stage in *Grease* and *Hyperspace/Warp Drive* last year for the Mackay Musical Comedy Players saw Elaine catch the performing bug again! She is enjoying her first non-musical acting role, and is thoroughly enjoying the opportunity to work on this production.

THE CAST

A YEAR IN THE DEATH OF EDDIE JESTER

Jennifer



LIZZIE DAVIS

Lizzie is a newcomer to Mackay's Theatre scene. Since her arrival, she has been a part of many local productions, including *The Boy From Oz* with Wasted Space Productions, and the *Hyperspace* and *Warp Drive* Theatre Restaurants for Mackay Musical Comedy Players. Previously, Lizzie has also been involved in the Warragul Theatre productions of *Cats* (2008), and *Seussical the Musical* (2009); she has also been a part of Perth's Gilbert and Sullivan production of *The Mikado* (2005). Lizzie has enjoyed preparing for her debut performance as an actress and hopes that you will all have a fabulous time!

THE CAST

Max



GORDON LOWE

Gordon has been in multiple productions for various Theatre companies in Mackay. His Kucom involvements include *The Lion In Winter* last year, as well as *Death In the Limelight* a couple of years previous. Last year, Gordon's performance in the Mackay Musical Comedy Players' Theatre Restaurant shows *Hyperspace* and *Warp Drive*, were among his first experiences with performing in a musical-featured show; he thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Gordon works full time as a Photocopier Technician, but loves auditioning and performing in whatever shows that he can.