

June 3, 2010

Hello MercWingers!

We have had quite a ride over the last few weeks. I will try to keep this relatively short and sweet.

Mercury's Wings has been chosen by the new Arts Centre Gold Coast to be part of the IGNITION program. This is a touring program that will see us performing *Carbon Dating*, a comedy by Australian writer Ron Elisha. The production will be directed by Jennifer Flowers and will have a season at the Arts Centre and then will embark on a regional tour. This is very exciting for us and we are proud and humbled to be invited to participate. We have just handed in a grant application to the Australia Council and we will be keeping our fingers crossed! The grant is for actors' wages etc, so that we will be able to spend four weeks rehearsing full time and getting paid to do it so we can engage our full creativity on the project.

We are off to the *Artour* conference next week with Destry from the Arts Centre as our chaperone. This is a great opportunity for us to network with venue operators from around Qld in the hopes that we can tour to their venues in the future. The touring circuit is a very difficult market to break into and we are thankful to have Destry Puia and Cheryl Jorgenson's experience to guide us.

On the home front, I am doing another physical theatre workshop in June. I intend to run these on a regular basis with a view to gathering a regular group to work on new material. The June workshop will focus on the Suzuki Actor Training Method and Frank Theatre improvisation/grounding exercises. We will also spend some time on some text from *Macbeth*. This will be the first stage of development for a version of *Macbeth* for sometime in January (at this stage). If you would like to be involved in the workshop please see www.mercuryswings.com.au for details. Doing the workshop is not a commitment to being in the show nor is the workshop an "audition" for the show.

Mercury's Wings is also on the lookout for a corporate sponsor. As the company profile grows the need for support grows and thus we are in a better position to become attractive to potential sponsors. We are looking for a production sponsor for *Twelfth Night* in November/December this year. If anyone knows of a company or business that would like to support a local theatre company please contact us at info@mercuryswings.com.au.

Please have a look at the new theatre alliance blog. This is a forum for us to talk about local theatre issues and to network with each other. See the alliance website or www.mercuryswings.com.au for links.

Cheerio for now,
James Anderson
Artistic Director