



Queensland Theatre Company presents

Mother & Son

*Everyone's favourite forgetful mum is back, and she's taking over the Playhouse stage!
From the creator of the hit TV series comes a brand new stage comedy featuring
Maggie, Arthur and Robert in delicious form.*

**Queensland Theatre Company presents a Joint Ventures/Lascorp Entertainment/Fractured Limb
production**

***Mother & Son* by Geoffery Atherden**

18 February to 15 March at the Playhouse, QPAC

Director - Roger Hodgman

Set Designer - Shaun Gurton

Costume Designer - Esther Marie Hayes

Lighting Designer - Nigel Levings

**Cast - Noeline Brown, Darren Gilshenan, Rob Carlton, Nicki Wendt,
Rachael Beck, Robyn Arthur and Sharon Davis**

One of Australia's greatest comedies in the iconic ***Mother & Son*** is set to open at the Playhouse on 18 February as part of Queensland Theatre Company's powerful Season 2015.

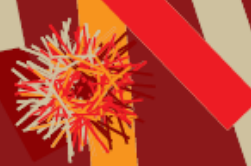
Geoffrey Atherden penned the first episodes of *Mother & Son* in 1984 creating an instant classic. Now, 30 years later he has done it again.

Fresh from the world premiere season at Melbourne's Comedy Theatre, stage and screen doyenne **Noeline Brown** and **Darren Gilshenan** take on the roles made famous by **Ruth Cracknell** and **Garry McDonald** in this nostalgic trip down loss-of-memory lane from the series' original writer (cast biographies available on request).

Mother & Son reinvigorates a treasured Australian comedy icon with Atherden's distinctive brand of acerbic wit, mixing together the sweet, the sharp, the savage and the sad in Maggie and Arthur's complex, dysfunctional relationship.

It's an achingly funny play for anyone who's part of a family but has caught themselves, even for a second, wishing that they weren't.

This fresh, up-to-the-moment version of the beloved Logie Award-winning show finds long-suffering second son Arthur Beare hoping for the chance, at long last, to take a few weeks away and pursue a little fling with his new flame, Anita. His only chance for a holiday involves recruiting help from his successful but selfish brother Robert – but the firstborn favourite has enough on his hands. The philandering dentist has been doing distinctly unhygienic things with his hygienist after hours – and when his wife finds out, Arthur's troubles double as Robert lands on the doorstep. It doesn't help that manipulative Maggie is in fine form and sabotaging Arthur's chances of romance at every turn.

**From the Producer:**

Producer Spencer McLaren said it is a huge thrill to bring the play to the Playhouse stage for Brisbane audiences.

“It is 30 years this year since the ABC TV series first hit our screens and introduced us to the unforgettable characters of Maggie and Arthur played so beautifully by Ruth Cracknell and Garry McDonald, and we are once again blessed to have a wonderful cast bringing this show to life,” he said.

“The pedigree of *Mother & Son* has been a magnet to the calibre of talent assembled for the Brisbane season of this premiere production - A cast of Australia’s finest comic artists.

“When we first discussed the idea of bringing *Mother & Son* to the stage Geoffrey Atherden was immediately keen and almost instantly delivered the first draft of the play. What we were initially presented with is in essence what you see on stage. His skill as a writer handling characters he knows so well meant he was able to re-visit their world with such ease and produce something entirely fresh yet comfortingly familiar.

“Watching rehearsals I have been struck by the craftsmanship and care the cast and creative team are taking with this work and am reminded how rare it is to see new Australian works presented on the commercial stage. We are thrilled and honoured to be able to present this show in Brisbane - enjoy the ride.”

Tickets are available at queenslandtheatre.com.au or by calling 136 246.

SEASON 2015.....

Queensland Theatre Company presents *Brisbane*

By Matthew Ryan

11 April to 3 May at the Playhouse, QPAC

Queensland Theatre Company and Queensland Performing Arts Centre present *Country Song*

By Reg Cribb / Original concept by Michael Tuahine

4 July to 8 August at the Cremorne Theatre, QPAC

Queensland Theatre Company presents *Happy Days*

By Samuel Beckett

18 July to 15 August at the Bille Brown Studio, The GreenHouse

Queensland Theatre Company presents *The Seagull*

By Anton Chekhov / Adapted by Daniel Evans

29 August to 26 September at the Bille Brown Studio, The GreenHouse

Queensland Theatre Company presents *The Odd Couple*

By Neil Simon

17 October to 8 November at the Playhouse, QPAC

Queensland Theatre Company in association with Queensland Performing Arts Centre presents *Ladies in Black*

Book by Carolyn Burns / Music and lyrics by Tim Finn / Adapted from the book THE WOMEN IN BLACK by Madeleine St John

14 November to 6 December at the Playhouse, QPAC



Queensland Theatre Company presents a Grin & Tonic Theatre Troupe production

The 7 Stages of Grieving

By Wesley Enoch and Deborah Mailman

17 March to 28 March at the Bille Brown Studio, The GreenHouse

Queensland Theatre Company presents the little red company production

Rumour Has It

Created by Adam Brunes & Naomi Price

8 July to 11 July at the Bille Brown Studio, The GreenHouse

Queensland Theatre Company presents a Force of Circumstance production

Home

14 July to 25 July at Studio 2, The GreenHouse

Queensland Theatre Company presents *Grounded*

29 July to 15 August at Studio 2, The GreenHouse

Queensland Theatre Company presents a Dead Puppet Society production *Argus*

5 May to 17 May at the Bille Brown Studio, The GreenHouse

Queensland Theatre Company and Queensland Government present *Oedipus Doesn't Live Here Anymore*

By Daniel Evans / After The Theban Plays by Sophocles

23 May to 13 June at the Bille Brown Studio, The GreenHouse

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