

Theatre of the Deaf

153 Dowling St., Potts Point, N.S.W. 2011. 357 1200

THEATRE OF THE DEAF

REPORT: APRIL - MAY 1987

Most members of the company spent the first two weeks of April in Adelaide participating in four different events; The ASSITEJ Congress, which is a series of conferences for people involved in Theatre-in-Education and young peoples theatre, The Come Out Festival for which our actors performed MOON BETWEEN TWO HOUSES in schools all over Adelaide, The Designer's Conference who we also performed for, and our company attended the T.I.E. Conference which was being held simultaneously. Needless to say when those who attended returned to Sydney, they were oozing with knowledge and enthusiasm, although a little tired!

During the week that followed, the Theatre of the Deaf held pre-rehearsal workshops and a refresher course in sign-language and acting technique for those who were new to the company. This was followed by an intensive 5 - 6 week rehearsal period for both MOON BETWEEN TWO HOUSES, which has been re-cast, and our new play by Tony Strachan, BEHIND THE WINDOW.

Our sign-language classes on Tuesday evenings at the Trust have continued with a lot of success, participants having requested another course when this one terminates at the end of May.

The demand for workshops in schools and other organizations is rapidly increasing. Nola Colefax is an expert with these groups and is certainly being kept very busy.

The company has employed a bookings person on a casual basis, to sell DON QUIXOTE to upper primary and secondary schools. We will perform a 4 week season at Belvoir Street Theatre in September.

Opening dates for our T.I.E. shows are May 18 for MOON BETWEEN TWO HOUSES, and May 25 for the premiere of BEHIND THE WINDOW. We are now booked out until term 4!

The Theatre of the Deaf is one of 4 companies who have been invited to perform at the Seymour Centre for a large group of teachers. For this "Playday" we will perform BEHIND THE WINDOW. The day has been organized by the Education Department and will take place on Saturday May 23.

Altogether a very full and busy 2 months!

Maggie Johannsen
COORDINATOR