

COMPANY ARTISTIC REPORT

Throughout April for three weeks, Julia Cotton and Margaret Davis conducted intensive workshops developing materials for the main stage production, SAVANT. Julia is the director and Margaret is the dramaturg. All the actors, including Mike, improvised and created many visual pieces. SAVANT is getting into shape and coming out really well and exciting. The whole production of the play is starting to get into motion now.

Following the intensive workshops, one week was spent on re-rehearsing SHAPE UP! for the Queensland tour and running around getting everything prepared for the tour and NTD Summer School such as visas, bank, costumes, and etc.... On 27 April, all the four actors departed Sydney in the new van to Queensland for a six weeks tour. We received Queensland Arts Council's assessment sheets of SHAPE UP!, and they were very positive. Caroline was selected as the tour manager of the group and she has been in touch with us a few times. Everything went smoothly and SHAPE UP! was very well received. It is a very successful tour.

The tour ended on 4 June and the actors came back to Sydney for two nights and flew straight to USA for the NTD Summer School. Mike will be visiting NTD during his holidays overseas and he will talk to some of the staff of NTD about the future's possibility of exchanging actors, and any other way of working together. And of course, Mike will check on our actors' progress with the Summer School.

Lastly, we have already started the second term of DDOP. Brett Casey was invited to teach the classes for some time. It is going well and they will start working on some kind of a performance for the last term.