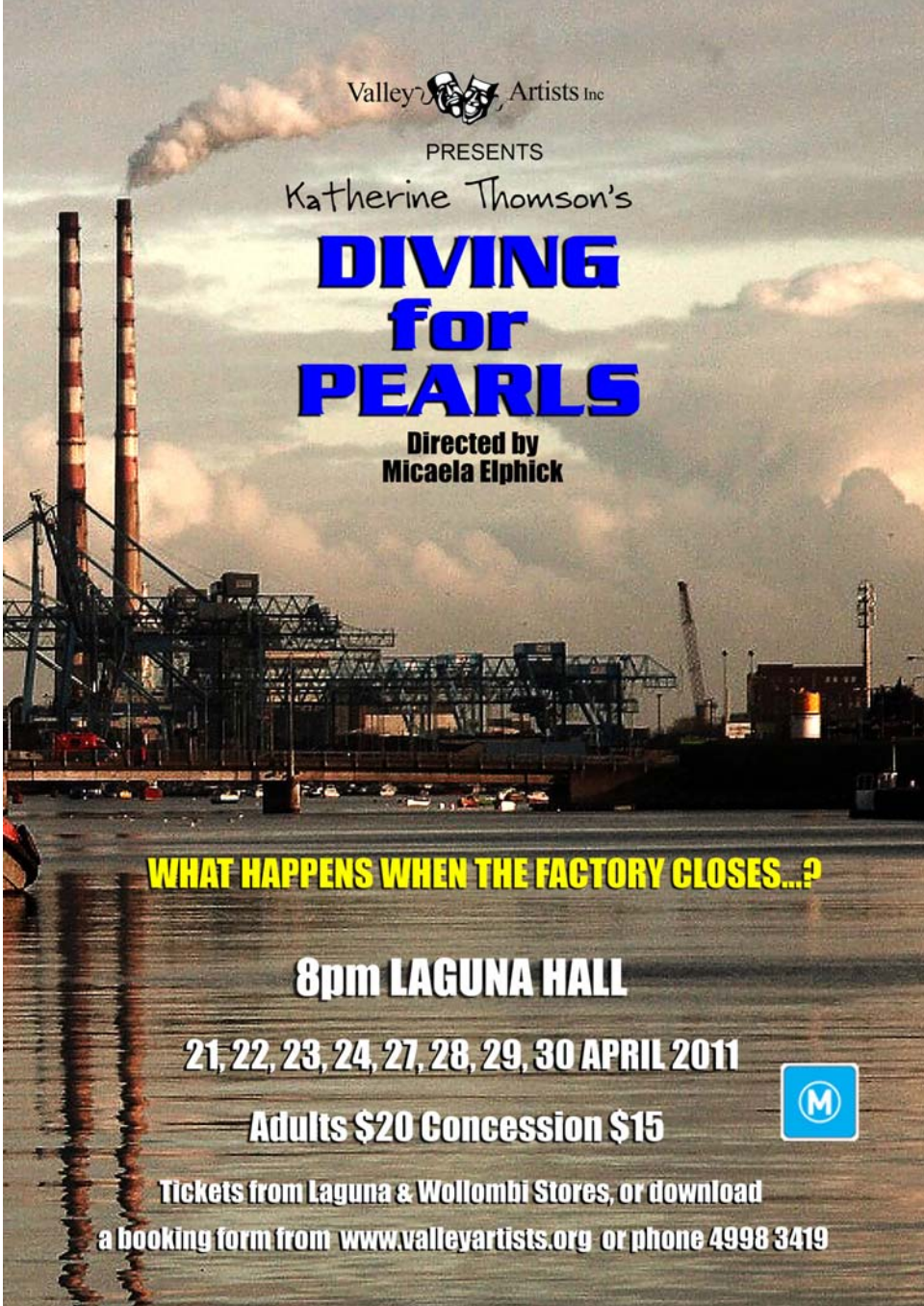



Newsletter April, 2011

“Pearls of Wisdom” is an age old saying. They are thoughts, quotes, comments, handed down throughout the years full of perspective and understanding, written and said in the belief that they will give you guidance throughout your journey in life.

During the hard times when the steel industry in Australia was dying, factories were closing, lines in the dole queues were extending. It was the early eighties and many of these workers would have felt comforted by remembering a few of the “pearls” they were told in life.

You will certainly find a few in *‘Diving for Pearls’*, opening 21st April, 2011.



Valley  Artists Inc
PRESENTS
Katherine Thomson's
**DIVING
for
PEARLS**
Directed by
Micaela Elphick


WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE FACTORY CLOSSES...?

8pm LAGUNA HALL

21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 29, 30 APRIL 2011

Adults \$20 Concession \$15

Tickets from Laguna & Wollombi Stores, or download
a booking form from www.valleyartists.org or phone 4998 3419



DIVING FOR PEARLS

Valley Artists is proud to present *Diving for Pearls* by award-winning contemporary Australian dramatist Katherine Thomson.

Set in a coastal industrial city very much like Wollongong in the 1980s, the play dramatises the true story of devastating job losses in the steel industry that continued for over a decade. It's a story both distinctively Australian and global – similar losses were happening in Europe and North America as newly industrial nations such as Korea and Taiwan became competitors in steel production. Alternative employment was negligible for thousands of redundant, mostly male, workers in their 40s or older, who had few portable skills. Women fared as badly, if not worse, in such industrial towns, with very few job opportunities even in good times.

In *Diving for Pearls* this big picture is seen from the vantage points of ordinary people caught up in it. The journeys of the two main characters, Barbara and Den, beautifully marry these dark public times with their impact on private lives. We identify with their hopes and fears, their struggles with self-esteem and relationships. We travel with them as they're forced to challenge their expectations – of themselves, each other, and their futures. Whether it's wry, funny, moving or shocking – the play is always convincing.

This VA production is being directed by Micaela Elphick, and features an ensemble of talented local players supported by a dedicated team of skilled volunteers in set design and building, costumes, stage management, technical production, publicity and catering.

We can promise you a great night's entertainment and the high standards you've come to expect from VA. So don't miss it!

Dates: Opening night 8pm Thursday 21 April, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 29, 30.

Venue: Laguna Hall

Cost: Adults \$20, \$15 concession

Tickets: Laguna and Wollombi Stores or www.valleyartists.org

HERE'S A FEW PEARLER'S

You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream.

C.S. Lewis

Be the change that you want to see in the world.

Mahatma Ghandi

Let's do it. Let's fall in love.

Col Porter

The best way to cheer your self is to cheer somebody else up.

Mark Twain

My partner calls me Pearl. I always thought it was a term of endearment until he told me that a pearl starts its growth as an irritation. The farmed ones are injected with sand to quicken the process. So now I just feel like an old cow.

J9

FOR THE DIARY.

Sponsors Dinner, Sat 7th May, 2011. 7 pm Laguna Hall.

Wollombi Valley Short Film Festival, Sat 1st October, 2011. 7 pm Laguna Hall
Entries now being accepted.

'**A Streetcar Named Desire**' written by Tennessee Williams and directed by Janine Oliver. Opening night 11th November, 2011.

Winter Workshops to be announced.

ENTRIES ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED

Valley  Artists Inc

**WOLLOMBI VALLEY
SHORT FILM FESTIVAL**

Saturday October 1st 2011 LAGUNA HALL 7pm

ANY GENRE 10 MINS OR UNDER

First prize \$1000
Second prize \$750
Third prize \$500
Peoples Choice Award \$250
proudly sponsored by Laguna Wine Bar

Download the entry form from
www.valleyartists.org
\$15 PER FILM TO ENTER

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES FRIDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER 2011

Enquiries: email filmfestival@valleyartists.org or www.valleyartists.org

