

Director, Janine Oliver, aims to take you
on a rollercoaster of emotions in our
November production

'A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE'.

Following is a little excerpt from the play
written by Tennessee Williams.

Blanche DuBois: You're married to a madman.

Stella: I wish you'd stop taking it for granted that I'm
in something I want to get out of.

Blanche DuBois: What you are talking about is desire
- just brutal Desire. The name of that rattle-trap
streetcar that bangs through the Quarter, up one old
narrow street and down another.

Stella: Haven't you ever ridden on that streetcar?

Blanche DuBois: It brought me here. Where I'm not
wanted and where I'm ashamed to be.

Stella: Don't you think your superior attitude is a little
out of place?

Blanche DuBois: May I speak plainly?... If you'll for-
give me, he's common... He's like an animal. He has
an animal's habits. There's even something subhuman
about him. Thousands of years have passed him right
by, and there he is. Stanley Kowalski, survivor of the
Stone Age, bearing the raw meat home from the kill in
the jungle. And you - you here waiting for him. Maybe
he'll strike you or maybe grunt and kiss you, that's if
kisses have been discovered yet. His poker night you
call it. This party of apes

SEE IT AT LAGUNA HALL FROM NOVEMBER 11 TO 19

Auditions

Sunday 31st July, 2011, from 11am at WCC.

For the role of **Blanche** in '*A Streetcar Named Desire*'.

Director: Janine Oliver

Performance dates 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19th November, 2011.

Rehearsals (*first read through all cast*) begin 20th August, 2011.

Please email info@valleyartists.org for audition time.

Anyone wanting to be involved in other aspects please ring Janine 4998 8282

WORKSHOP IN – **lighting design** – TUTOR: DAVID GLOVER

David Glover has many years of experience in theatre (NIDA) and amongst other things is Event Director for TEDxSydney.

The Workshop will be held over the weekend of 13th & 14th August, 2011, at Laguna Hall, from 10am.

David will teach us the following –

1. Properties of light and what you can do with it on stage. This is more artistic (though practical) and is of value to directors, designers (lighting and scenery).
2. Practicalities of lights and controls (mainly of interest to those who will be rigging/focusing/operating/designing). This won't be too technical, but will help people understand what each light can do and how to use it, safely and effectively.
3. Lighting design. Script breakdown, director/lighting designer/set designer collaboration, documentation, planning, rehearsal etc. Essential for prospective designers, directors etc.

Those that complete the workshop will be encouraged to work on the November production of '*A Streetcar Named Desire*'.

If you are interested please email info@valleyartists.org or ring Janine 4998 8282 or Alan Glover 4998 1656

WOLLOMBI VALLEY SHORT FILM FESTIVAL

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



Valley Artists welcome films from people in the Wollombi Valley or from the broader community. If you know a filmmaker, tell them about the Wollombi Valley Short Film Festival. Encourage them to send us their film. We want to see all styles and themes.

All you need are a few characters and a simple story idea. Use local locations, actors and basic props. We want to be entertained, engaged and connected through the medium of film. Make a film that reflects your personality and what is happening around you.

If you're a romantic at heart, go with romantic piece. If you're into sports, a sport drama about the cricket team that almost made it could be good. And, if you're a bit wacky, perhaps an experimental film about, well, anything. You're only limited by your imagination.

This annual event is on Saturday 1st October, 2011. It always proves to be a great family night of entertainment. Don't forget – entries close 9th September, 2011. Download entry forms from our website.

Review of Valley Artists' April 2011 production – 'Diving for Pearls'



Valley Artists have recently completed an eight-night run of Katherine Thomson's *Diving for Pearls*, directed by Micaela Elphick and performed at Laguna Hall.

Thomson is skilled at creating often gritty, occasionally funny, and always believable characters. The roles in *Diving For Pearls* are testament to this and, when cast and directed as they were here, with real expertise, they populate an entire world.

Ken Barnett as Den painted the picture of a kind and thoughtful character whose unambitious life is dismembered by the addition of Barbara and the closure of the factory. Barbara, played with skill and gusto by Robyn Blackwell, aspires to move up in the brave new world of tourism. But that career proves as alien to Barbara as the monetary ideas turning Den out of work, and ultimately out of home, are to Den. The delightfully played Verge (Sally Jackson) just wants love, joy and affection. But there is no place for those parts of the human condition in Thomson's grim story.

Attempting to straddle the world of business buzz words, family and his own career, Ron, the educated consultant, it seems fails them all as the pursuit of money becomes an unstoppable soulless thief of life, time and values. Ron's conflicts never reach Hamlet's proportions but are real enough and Peter Firminger's skilful portrayal of Ron's many facets made the whole play both believable and sad. Barbara's sister, Marj, acted by Cassandra Holdom, shares no such conflicts: Cassandra showed Marj, whose concerns are money, the latest dress, the right thing, to be the embodiment of the system of values that destroys all around in this play.

One should not though think the play was all grim. A precise and expert direction and an impeccable production were brilliantly punctuated with shafts of light and laughter. The audience were given an enjoyable evening with much to think about.

Gareth Thomas