

Media Release

Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

Tuesday 22 September

The plague wreaks havoc in Launceston

There are no preliminary symptoms. The autopsies have revealed nothing. Science is helpless. No one is safe when 'the sickness' begins to invade. Community leaders struggle to maintain control while paranoia and panic spread through the population.

As chaos ensues one thought remains - we can't all die...can we?

That sets the scene for *The Killing Game*, which will be presented by first year theatre students at the Tasmanian College of the Arts this month.

Written by master of the Absurd Eugène Ionesco, *The Killing Game* introduces 95 characters, all of them doomed to an imminent death.

It's a comedy.

Directed by lecturer Dr Helen Trenos this production forces the actors and the audience to acknowledge the presence of death and to question what it means to face it and experience it.

"Far from being hopelessly bleak, the absurd position challenges us to face a world devoid of grand narratives (History, Science, God...) and to do so with courage, humanity, love and, above all, humour," Dr Trenos said.

"*The Killing Game* is very, very funny."

This semester, the Theatre Program at TCoTA is mounting two works from the Absurdist canon: Ionesco's *The Killing Game* by the First-Year Theatre students and, in October, Genet's *The Balcony*, by the Third-Years.

What: *The Killing Game* by Eugène Ionesco, directed by Helen Trenos.

Where: Annexe Theatre, Inveresk.

When: 7pm, 23 to 26 September.

How much: \$10. Call 6324 4450 to book.

Information released by:

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