

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



Environment vs. Jobs battle played out on CentrStage

In 1882, one of the world's greatest playwrights, Henrik Ibsen, wrote what is arguably the first environmental protest play – *An Enemy of the People*. Fast-forward to Tasmania 2009 and *An Enemy of the People* is still disturbingly, shockingly relevant.

This is why director Helen Trenos, newcomer to the Launceston theatre scene & new theatre lecturer at the School of Visual & Performing Arts has chosen *An Enemy of the People* as her offering to CentrStage's 2009 season:

“What attracted me to An Enemy of the People”, says Helen, “is not only its relevance to the environment versus jobs debate which is at the heart of the Gunn’s pulp-mill dispute—but also how the play explores political corruption, power broking and the pitfalls of being an eco-hero. The play raises some very provocative questions’, says Helen, “when, for example, does an idealist become a fascist?”

Helen has once again joined forces with award-winning playwright David George, who has adapted the original Ibsen especially for this CentrStage production.

In what is another first, Helen has cast local actors John Ball and his son Jeremy Ball (NIDA graduate, now Launceston City Council aldermen) as the warring brothers, Peter and Thomas Stockmann. As well as this impressive father-son team, *An Enemy of The People* features an exciting local cast: Stephanie Briarwood, David Henty, Betty Hall, Stan Gottschalk, Clare Leonard & Zen Hunter.

An Enemy of the People is playing at the Annexe Theatre, Inveresk from the 22nd - 25th April starting at 7pm.

Adults- \$20 Concession/uni staff- \$15 Students- \$8

For Bookings call The Princess Theatre: (03) 63233666

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