FESTIVAL OF CREATIVE ARTS HIGHLIGHTS

Wollongong premiere of award-winning film, Black River

The first Wollongong screening of the controversial opera Black River will be held on Tuesday 14 June at 8pm in the Union Hall.

The screening will be a highlight of the Festival of Creative Arts.

Black River is based on an interpretation of the Human Rights Commission inquiry into race relations at Toomalah on the NSW-Queensland border.

The composer, Andrew Schultz, a lecturer in music in the Faculty of Creative Arts, has been closely involved with this project since it first originated in 1988.

‘Black River is set in a police lock-up in a country town,’ Dr Schultz said. ‘A flood forces its inhabitants to shelter in the lock-up in an unlikely combination.

There are only five characters. As Black River was originally performed on stage, both the setting and the music are meant to close in on you. ‘However, the film version is not as claustrophobic, it’s yet another interpretation but by no means the final version.’

He said the idea came about through his sister Julianne, who was working at the Human Rights Commission at the time of the Toomalah inquiry.

‘It’s only loosely based on the testimony, but it was the strong material about judicial treatment of Aborigines that formed its sense of character and place,’ Dr Schultz said.

He said at first the idea of an opera about black deaths in custody met with quizzical resistance.

‘Writing the music was easy after all the time it took to get support for Black River, although it took six months of revision afterwards.

‘Julianne’s libretto is fairly quick, succinct, generalistic and conversational in tone.’

Black River was first performed by the Sydney Metropolitan Opera in 1989.

Dr Schultz admits to being ‘very nervous about being presumptuous’ as he and his sister questioned ‘did we have the right to write this work?’

There were strong and varied reactions to Black River in Sydney and Melbourne.

However, Aboriginal mezzo-soprano Maroochy Barambah had been ‘totally supportive and committed from the beginning’.

Carmina Burana, a mega event with 200 musicians

If the June long weekend means a holiday for some, there are more than 200 musicians for whom it means work.

On Saturday 11 June the ever-popular Carmina Burana by Carl Orff will be presented as part of the Festival of Creative Arts.

The score calls for a large orchestra and chorus; and because the musical forces are quite diverse – three soloists, two choirs and a boys’ chorus plus an orchestra created by combining two existing bands – much of the work must be done independently.

The conductor David Vance has been fully occupied running from one rehearsal to the next.

On Monday nights Mr Vance, with the assistance of Robert Smith from the Illawarra Choral Society, trains the 140-strong chorus who sing Orff’s lusty music with enthusiasm.

On Tuesday evenings, Mr Vance works with the smaller chorus (a slightly enlarged University Singers) that is required for several numbers. On Fridays there is the boys’ chorus to rehearse, followed by a two-hour call with the BHP Youth Orchestra.

Then there are the soloists to meet for piano rehearsals, and an occasional trip to Richmond to work with the assistance of Robert Smith from the Illawarra Choral Society, trains the 140-strong chorus who sing Orff’s lusty music with enthusiasm.

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First event for Arts Festival
The hors d’oeuvre before the feast of creative arts events to be held from 3-18 June will be a reading of some of the very fine new plays by Writing students tomorrow evening (Thursday 2 June at 7pm) in the Writers Room at the Faculty of Creative Arts.

The plays will be read by actors drawn from a number of sources.

Bunder still in Maths
Some readers may have gained the impression from an article on University Day that Associate Martin Bunder had moved from the Department of Mathematics to the Department of Chemistry.

Not so, this was an error, please continue to contact him in the Department of Mathematics.

A crack in the armour
Due to the success of the Graduation Festival of Creative Arts 3-18 June Phone (042) 21 4214 for a brochure

Carmina Burana, a mega event with 200 musicians

From page one
the RAAF Air Command Band who provide the important brass and percussion component of the orchestra.

Black River’s Wollongong premiere

From page one
Dr Schultz said that during the first season the opera came to the attention of director Kevin Lucas and producer Aanya Whitehead.

Mustering funds for the film was a protracted process.

‘Eventually we had a budget close to $1 million,’ he said. ‘We played the original score through speakers throughout shooting on location.

‘All the characters mimed to the music in every scene, which was an amazing sight.’

The Bangarra Dance Troupe were added to the film treatment to build up the ‘mythical theme which was only hinted at on stage’.

‘For the film we needed more context than being as oppressively real as it was on stage.’

Black River has met with a lot of different reactions among Aboriginals.

Dr Schultz said that at the Sydney launch, Aboriginal people ‘seemed to own it, as they performed significant and creative roles from the beginning’.

It was awarded the 1993 Grand Prix Opera Screen Prize in Paris over 140 other films and has been screened at film festivals in Melbourne, London, Montreal and elsewhere to much acclaim and some controversy.

Black River merits attention precisely because it both invites and compels us to focus on the relationships between indigenous and European Australians through the topic of black deaths in custody.

Tickets for the premiere are $6/$4 concessions and are available at Union enquiry counter. Phone: (042) 29-7833.

This event is sponsored by Film Australia with the assistance of the University of Wollongong Union.

All funds raised at this screening will go towards establishing a Creative Arts Scholarship.

They will be holding one performance of their play at this university on 18 July. Watch What’s On for further details.

July commencement for new building
Tenders will be called soon for the construction of the “Sciences 2” building.

Construction is scheduled to begin next month with completion about mid-1996.

The building (8000sq m GFA, 4846 sq m UFA), costing $13m, will be linked to and located immediately north of the “New Science” building (Bld 41).

This building will provide laboratory, teaching and office space for Biomedical Science, Nursing, Psychology, Public Health and Nutrition, the Faculty Office of Health and Behavioural Sciences and the Department of Geography.

Mr Vance estimates that there will have been at least one hour’s rehearsal for each of the 60 minutes that Carmina Burana takes to perform.

This will be the first complete performance in Wollongong of this twentieth century classic.

But the concert has other modern classics on offer: the RAAF Air Command Band under the direction of its leader, Flight Lieutenant David Worrall, will play four of the Symphonic Dances from West Side Story by Leonard Bernstein, and Percy Grainger’s masterpiece for wind band, A Lincolnshire Posy, one of the most demanding pieces in the literature which dates, quite by coincidence, from the same year as Carmina Burana, 1937.

To complete the first half of the program, the distinguished tenor Gerald English is accompanied by The University Singers for a performance of Brigg Fair in Grainger’s haunting arrangement.

Bookings for Carmina Burana ($16; $12 concession) are available from the Faculty of Creative Arts (phone 214 214) for the one-night-only performance in the Union Hall on Saturday, 11 June at 7.30pm.

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Four representatives from the Fijian Ministry of Education began a 10-day visit to the Illawarra region on 4 May. These representatives were:

Principal, Natabua High School, Lautoka, Mr Bir Singh;
Senior Education Officer, Ministry of Education, Western, Lautoka, Mr Ayappan Raman; Head Teacher, Jasper Williams Primary School, Lautoka, Mrs Narieta Naivalacava; and Head of Department, Ba Provincial High School, Lautoka, Mrs Viniana Kunabuli.

Since 1982, University of Wollongong Faculty of Education students have made eight visits to Fiji to gain overseas teaching experience, as part of their professional development.

The initial visit to Fiji was organised by Dr Ted Booth, a former lecturer at the University of South Pacific, Suva and now part of the Faculty of Education at the University of Wollongong.

On each visit, the Ministry of Education has approved and facilitated the Fijian practicum, and organised valuable orientation programs.

Such overseas teaching experiences have provided students with extensive professional and cultural benefits.

In an era when teaching is an international profession, this pre-service opportunity has proved invaluable for the students involved.

In 1994, the Dean of the Faculty of Education, Associate Professor John Patterson, instituted the Fijian Fellowship to strengthen the links between the University of Wollongong and the Fijian Ministry of Education.

The four Fijian representatives in this inaugural visit have all been vitally involved in previous Faculty of Education visits to Fiji.

During their stay, the visitors were billeted by Faculty of Education staff members, Mr Pat Farrar and Ms Roz Westbrook.

The group were involved in Faculty of Education seminars and provided an orientation program for the 1994 Fijian practice teaching group.

An important aspect of the visit was liaison with the Department of School Education including visits to a range of schools in the Illawarra and the Australian Capital Territory.
Modern Languages hosts diplomatic visits

The Italian Consul-General, Dr Fabio De Nardis (left), visited the University last month to give a seminar on the political situation in Italy today.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Gerard Sutton (second from right) was very pleased to accept, on behalf of the University, a gift from the Consulate of a painting by Italian artist Salvatore Zoffrea.

There is a large exhibition of work by Mr Zoffrea in Rome. He is an Italian-born artist who lives in Sydney.

Also pictured are the Head, Department of Modern Languages, Dr Brian Moloney (right), and the Wollongong Consular Agent Mr Turo Chiodo, (left).

The University was also the venue for a series of lectures by representatives from the French Embassy which was organised by Dr Susan Yates from the Department of Modern Languages.

The speakers were Dr Laurent d'Ozouville, Attaché Scientifique, who spoke, in English, on “French-Australian Scientific Cooperation: a FAIR Connection”; Monsieur Francis Etienne, Cultural Counsellor “La France et l'Union Européenne” in French, and Monsieur Philippe Baude, French Ambassador, who spoke, also in French, on “La politique étrangère de la France de 1958 à nos jours”.

French Ambassador Monsieur Phillippe Baude, (second from right) speaking with (from left) Susan Yates, Department of Modern Languages; Isabelle Figueiredo, exchange student from Université d'Orléans, France; Joseph Benoit, Post Doctorate student in Chemistry, and Sylviane Miroux before the “La politique étrangère de la France de 1958 à nos jours” lecture in the Keira View conference room.

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IMB sponsors University Club Sports Program

At the University of Wollongong Recreation and Sports Association Annual General Meeting, the IMB Building Society became a proud sponsor of the Club Sports Program, encouraging staff and students of the University of Wollongong to participate in the healthy lifestyle activities on offer.

The IMB opened on campus in February this year offering full services and this sponsorship is another way they have shown their appreciation of the support they have received from the campus population.

Introduction to Tertiary Teaching course

The Faculty of Education, in cooperation with the Centre for Staff Development, wishes to advise that the Spring presentation of the Introduction to Tertiary Teaching course is now open for nominations.

This course is available free to all academic staff and suitably qualified non-academic staff of the University of Wollongong and interested persons are invited to enrol.

For non-academic staff the basic qualifications are the possession of a first degree or equivalent and a working environment which includes substantive and current teaching responsibilities.

The Introduction to Tertiary Teaching course (ITT) is an approved eight-credit point subject which requires regular attendance for 14 weeks of Spring session, from 20 July.

It targets what are generally considered as basic skills, strategies and methods of teaching in the university: communicating with students from diverse backgrounds, designing instructional episodes and subjects, lecturing, facilitating small group learning, assessing student performance, investigating alternative methods of instruction and developing a professional profile. It seeks also to investigate current issues in tertiary education in Australia.

The course is listed on the graduate timetable on Wednesdays 1.30-4.30pm and Thursdays, 9.30am-12.30pm, but alternative times may be negotiated to meet the specific needs of enrolling staff.

Graduates from the ITT course may continue studies in Education by enrolling in the Graduate Certificate in Higher Education and other higher level award courses.

In order to gain the Certificate they must complete two additional subjects - EDGA801: Instructional Design and EDGA803: Assessment and Evaluation.

They may then proceed with the study of other subjects from the Graduate Schedule in Education to achieve Graduate Diploma in Adult Education or Master of Education degrees.

Interested staff are requested to contact Dr Max Gillett in the Faculty of Education for further information or enrolment forms.

Dr Gillett is located in room 23/110 and is available on extension 4277.

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State-of-the-art video conferencing facilities available

Video conferencing is ideal for Australian universities, with the large distances between capital cities and regional centres, the high cost of travel and the time lost in travelling.

Since 1990 there has been an increasing presence of in-house video conferencing equipment, which enables small groups of people at different sites to see and hear each other for live interaction.

Bridging equipment enables many sites to be linked together simultaneously, to create an extended boardroom or classroom.

Information Technology Services provides a video conferencing facility, located in the Communications building, which can cater for up to 25 people.

This facility can be used for distance education, management meetings, interviewing job applicants or for any purpose where time or distance make personal attendance difficult.

A recent and important addition to the facility has been an equipment and software upgrade, enabling us to make and receive calls from any other site in the world whose equipment conforms to the H.261 standard.

This is a large increase in the number of video conference sites to which we can connect on a point-to-point basis.

Recently there was a video conference link with OTEN in Sydney when American educator Paul Hersey gave an address via a v/c link to OTEN, who beamed the signal to all of NSW via satellite.

For the last 30 minutes of the broadcast Mr Hersey answered questions phoned and faxed in from the receiving institutions.

If you would like to find out how video conferencing can help you, or if you would like to see a demonstration of the facility, or would like a list of facilities, call Elwyn Walker (ext. 3848).

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ITS Staff Computer Training Calendar for June

REGISTRATION: In order to attend one of the 3 hour courses listed below, staff will need to complete a Registration Form and have it signed by a Department Head or other person having delegated authority. Forms are available from ITS Reception (Carole Evans). All forms must be returned to: Vicki Ray - Staff Training Officer - ITS - Rm37, Bld 15. The cost of each 3 hour course is $30.

LAB LOCATION: The Staff Training Lab (Macintosh) is located in Building 22, Rm G03A, Building 22 is west of Keira View (Bld 67).

Submission of a signed form does not guarantee the applicant a place in the designated course. A course confirmation will be sent to each attendee by either E-Mail or Internal Mail. Should an attendee wish to cancel they would need to do so by giving 5 working days notice. Failure to do so will incur the full cost of the course ($30). Each attendee will have sole use of a computer throughout the training course. If you have any further questions call ext. 4403 or via E-Mail.

All courses listed below are for staff using Macintosh computers.

- Introduction to Excel 4.0 — 1.30-4.30pm, Tuesday June 7
- Introduction to Macintosh — 9.30am-12.30pm, Wednesday June 8
- Word Bridging 4.0-5.1 — 1.30-4.30pm, Tuesday June 14
- Introduction to Word 5.1 Pt 1 — 9.30am-12.30pm, Wednesday June 15
- Introduction to PowerPoint Pt 1 — 9.30am-12.30pm, Thursday June 16
- Excel Bridging 3.0-4.0 — 1.30-4.30pm, Thursday June 16
- Intermediate Word 5.1 — 1.30-4.30pm, Friday June 17
- Advanced Word Pt 1 — 1.30-4.30pm, Tuesday June 21
- Introduction to Word 5.1 Pt 2 — 9.30am-12.30pm, Wednesday June 22
- Introduction to PowerPoint Pt 2 — 9.30am-12.30pm, Thursday June 23
- Advanced Word Pt 2 — 1.30-4.30pm, Tuesday June 28

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Physical Education student Matt Evans with ball during University's 29-12 win over Wests

Books celebrate 10th anniversary

The University of Wollongong Rugby League Football Club, 'The Books', are celebrating their 10th anniversary this year.

The Books formed in 1984 and played in the University Cup for three years before entering the Carlton Illawarra League. They are in their seventh year of the local competition.

The club is leading both first and reserve grades in the competition.

A sponsorship deal with Manchester Unity has been extended for another year and further assistance is received from Sportsco, Illawarra Hotel and Warilla Chem-mart.

The Books will play Dapto at Uni Oval on Saturday 9 July and this day will hopefully see many former supporters and players at the game.

Former players who attend the match will be admitted free and will be invited to participate in the 'Golden Oldies' touch football match before first grade kick-off at 3pm.

After the game, the 10th Anniversary Ball will be held in the Union Function Centre.

Between 200 and 300 people, involving players and supporters, past and present, are expected to attend. Tickets are $35 per head which includes a seafood and carvery smorgasbord.

Guest speaker will be ABC television commentator and former NSW Origin coach John Peard and entertainment will be providied by Quini.

Dress is formal.

For further information contact: Chris Bannerman (phone a/h 832 393) or Paul Terzis (b/h 289 733).

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General
15-19 August: University Union Blue Stocking Week.
28 August: University Open Day.
30 August-3 September: Union Week.
4 September: Graham Park, Shoalhaven, Open Day.
The Illawarra Committee for Overseas Students (ICOS) has announced its calendar of events for this year. The events are: July 23 and August 6: Snowy Mountains one-day trip $25 (coach only).

Human Research Ethics Committee.


City of Wollongong Symphony Orchestra Concerts
26 November: Judy Glen’s Spaghetti Opera. Conductor: JWD, Judy Glen, soprano-comedienne. A comedy of arias interspersed with short pieces from the ‘classical favourites’ repertoire. All concerts at IMB Theatre, IPAC, on Saturdays at 8pm. Adults $20, concession $17, family of four $64, student rush $10.

The Art of Lunch

Stop Press
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