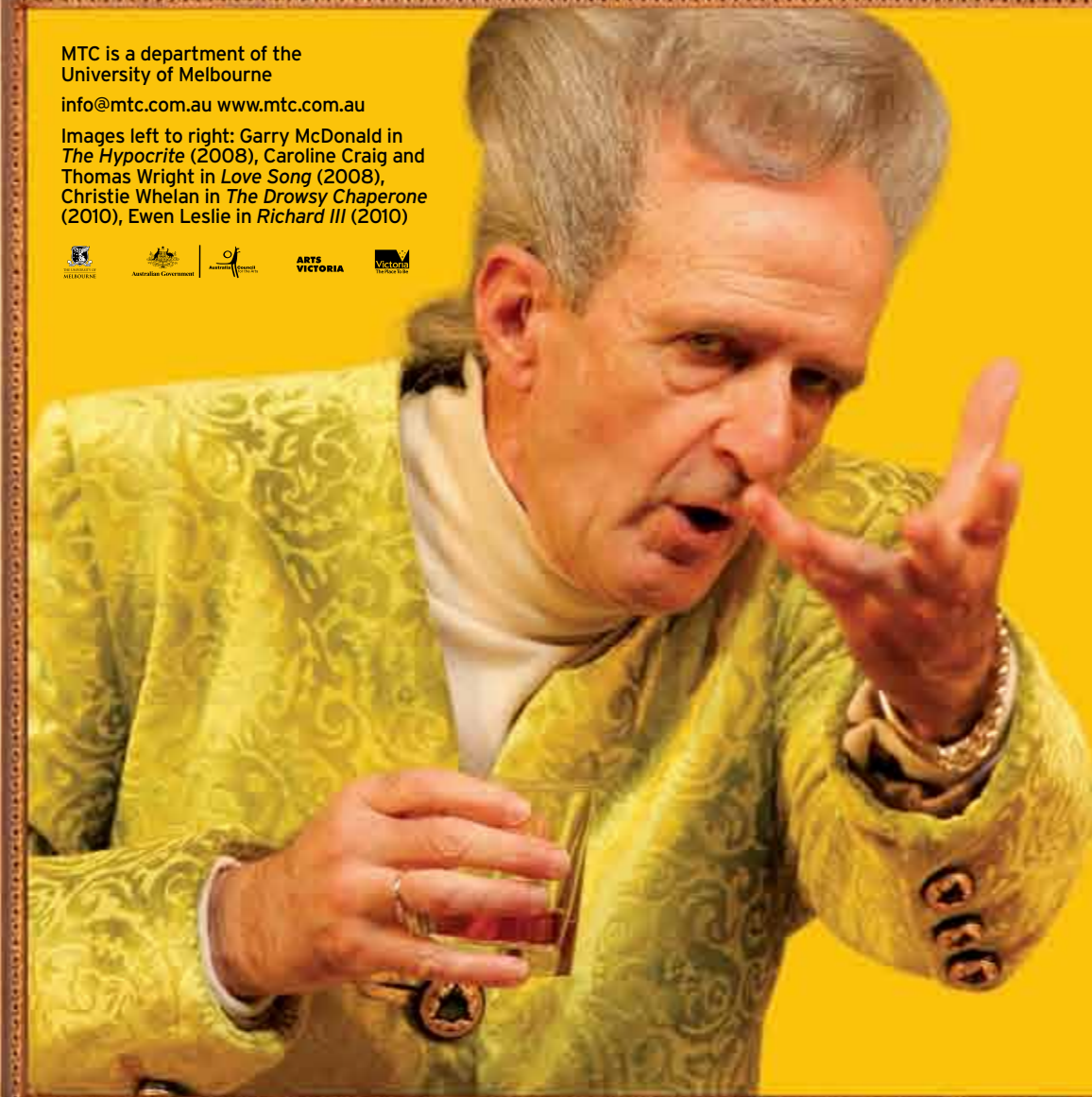


MTC is a department of the
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Images left to right: Garry McDonald in
The Hypocrite (2008), Caroline Craig and
Thomas Wright in *Love Song* (2008),
Christie Whelan in *The Drowsy Chaperone*
(2010), Ewen Leslie in *Richard III* (2010)



Philanthropy,
the **vital** gesture

MTC MELBOURNE
THEATRE
COMPANY



Philanthropy, the vital gesture

The theatre is all about vital gestures - tight direction, clever staging, subtle movement, a shower of light, a magic touch - gestures that when brought together form great drama. It's these vital gestures that bring a show to life, that animate the stage and take audiences on a journey to places that challenge, reassure and reward.

Theatre creates many journeys. The emotional journey a young person takes as they experience their first performance, the developmental journey a play takes from the seed of an idea to a working script, or the experiential journey a young director takes from wide eyed graduate to polished professional. Plotting these journeys is an important part of MTC's core activities. They are the strength, energy and life-force behind Melbourne theatre, and are our own vital gestures to shape an industry that goes well beyond the stage.

Join us behind the scenes and appreciate the vital work that goes on every day to make sure that our shows keep bursting to life on stage. Work that promotes creativity; work that generates new art. Work that ensures future audiences and artists are nurtured and encouraged.

We invite you to make a vital gesture of your own. Your gesture could be as simple - and as effective - as the flourish in your signature on the bottom of a cheque. Philanthropic gestures such as those made by our valued Patrons help us where it's needed most.

Your support through making a donation enables us to soar to new creative heights. It allows us to take the risks necessary to explore new frontiers and move the time-honoured traditions of theatre forward. It allows that extra splash of glitter, sparkle and wonder that transports audiences on a journey from the everyday to the extraordinary.

More importantly, your support ensures that we are able to continue vital work in areas that don't often take the spotlight - education, artistic development, nurturing new talents and properly acknowledging the skills of those whose work is transformational.

Join us as an MTC Patron and make your personal gesture to shape Melbourne theatre for future audiences.

Thank you.

Simon Phillips
Artistic Director, MTC

Personalise your support

We recognise that our Patrons are individuals, and have individual passions, and we would like your donation to support your individual area of interest.

Those Patrons making a Leading Donation of \$2,000 or above may nominate an area of behind-the-scenes activity that they would like to support. Patrons will have opportunities to learn more about their selected activity, to meet the people behind the scenes and to learn of our plans for the future.

The vitality of Education

Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could give every Year 11 student in Victoria the opportunity to see live theatre? We know that early exposure to the arts has a highly positive effect on young people. We know that involvement in theatre by young people leads to gains in motivation, improved learning and higher levels of empathy and tolerance for others. We know that all this enhances their lives and ultimately makes them better students.

Introducing theatre to young adults is vital to MTC: it is investing in our future audience. We provide subsidised theatre tickets, assistance toward transport costs and informative teaching kits.

Help students to experience the passion, the tragedy, the laughs and the gasps of being part of a live theatre production by directing your support to Education.

The vitality of Wardrobe

The clothes maketh the man, but who maketh the clothes? To best represent the era, to meet the gruelling needs of on-stage wear-and-tear and to look as great from the back row as from row A, our costumes are most often created from scratch by a team of amazing artists. Costumes undergo constant maintenance throughout the term of their production, and need to be hardy enough to survive daily dry-cleaning. Our Wardrobe artisans are always under pressure to come up with creative solutions to costume challenges - to create beauty and originality with very limited materials, working under very precise time constraints.

With your support, we can continue to transform our productions into an exciting world of colour and movement that will impress and inspire our audiences.

The vitality of Artistic Development

Part of our mission every year is to present new productions from the best writers around the world. And it's important to hear Australian voices within that mix. Every year we not only commission Australian playwrights to come up with vibrant new works for us, but we also help them to develop their scripts by directing and running workshops and readings, providing the playwright with valuable insights into how to improve their play. Some plays will also be presented as part of MTC's play readings program, a staging that gives playwrights vital opportunities to see how an audience reacts to the script.

All of these activities help to further develop future masterworks for MTC audiences to enjoy.

Help us to put Australian voices and stories on to Melbourne stages by nominating Artistic Development as your personal area of support.

The vitality of mentoring the careers of Young Artists

While schools naturally play an important role in preparing directors, designers and stage managers for the challenges they will face in the real world, nothing beats first-hand experience to teach them how professional companies work on big productions. Even those who have worked with smaller companies on more intimate projects can find making the jump to a large production house like MTC an intimidating experience. Under our program of providing graduates with mentoring by established professionals, artists are given a vital opportunity to learn and develop their craft by shadowing someone who has been doing it successfully for many years.

Support our mentoring programs with your donation, and give our future professional artists and theatre workers firm foundations on which to develop their craft, and hopefully become mentors themselves one day.



How you can make your vital gesture

If you have the capacity to support our work, you may wish to join our Patrons Program. To become a Patron, make a tax-deductible donation of \$750 or above. Donors giving \$2,000 or above may also nominate which of the four key activities outlined here that they would like to support*.

Our philanthropy department is able to provide assistance with making your donation. We can also provide expert and confidential assistance in areas such as gifts of shares and realisable assets, offering support via a trust or foundation, and making a bequest to MTC in your will.

For more information on the Patrons Program, or to discuss how you can best support MTC, please contact Rupert Sherwood, Philanthropy Manager on 8688 0953.

Our gesture of thanks

MTC is committed to ensuring that your gift remains fully tax-deductible and so is compliant with all ATO rulings related to philanthropic donations.

All MTC Patrons are offered access to a personalised and priority booking service for tickets and subscription processing, with preferential seating allocations in all MTC venues. You will also receive a copy of our quarterly newsletter, *Scenes*, plus informative and entertaining email bulletins exclusive to Patrons.

In addition, you will be invited to our VIP Season Launch and given the opportunity to purchase tickets to various meet the cast events and special functions during the year.

As a gesture of our appreciation and with your consent, MTC will provide public recognition of your support in our performance programmes and on our website.

Leading Donors who have donated \$2,000 or above and specified an area of support will be recognised under your nominated activity. You will also have opportunities to learn more about your nominated area of support, to meet the people behind the scenes and to learn of our plans for the future.

* MTC is committed to spending in the areas of Education, Wardrobe, Artistic Development and Mentoring Graduate Artists. Should we no longer be able to use your donation for a specific area of funding, MTC pledges to use your donation for the closest project available, at our discretion.

Yes, I would like to join Melbourne Theatre Company's Patrons Program

Your Details

Name

Additional Name/s

Address

Postcode

Telephone (business) (home) (mobile)

Email address

I would like to become a Patron at the following level \$

or check box below

Supporting Patrons \$ 750.00 \$ 1,000.00

Leading Patrons \$ 2,000.00 \$ 3,000.00 \$ 4,000.00 \$ 5,000.00 \$ 10,000.00

I/We would like to be acknowledged in performance programmes as

or I/We wish to remain anonymous

For donors of \$2,000 or more, please indicate which activity you would like your donation to support

Education & youth activities Artist & playwright development Wardrobe Graduate mentoring

Payment Details

I enclose a cheque payable to Melbourne Theatre Company

or please charge my credit card Visa Mastercard Diners Amex

Card number / / / Expiry /

Cardholder's Signature Dated / /

Please issue receipt in the name of

Please tick here if you would like to make your donation in quarterly instalments

Please tick here if you would like us to send information regarding making a bequest to MTC

Please return this completed form to:

Rupert Sherwood, Philanthropy Manager
Melbourne Theatre Company 252 Sturt Street
Southbank Victoria 3006
Telephone 03 8688 0953 Fax: 03 8688 0901 Email: r.sherwood@mtc.com.au

Melbourne Theatre Company is endorsed as a charity and has DGR and TCC status.

All donations to MTC over \$2 are tax deductible. ABN 283 0235 9029

Thank You!

