



Two weddings and a revolution (图)

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[摘要] 14 May 2007, University of Southern Queensland second year acting students have been busy perfecting their Romanian language skills ahead of their first major public performance Mad Forest in the USQ Arts Theatre this month (10-19 May 2007).

[关键词] weddings:revolution



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University of Southern Queensland second year acting students have been busy perfecting their Romanian language skills ahead of their first major public performance Mad Forest in the USQ Arts Theatre this month (10-19 May 2007).

Audiences will hear accounts of people who experienced the terrifying Romanian Revolution through the verbatim theatre style of the production.

Amidst the madness and terror of the revolution are two weddings, and the story of two families joined by the engagement of their children.

USQ Associate Lecturer Bernadette Pryde joins the cast of students as Irina Vladu, mother of bride-to-be Lucia.

Bernadette is also the actors' dialect coach and said she enjoyed performing and working with the students.

' It's really good for me to make sure I can practice what I preach.

When I've got the dialect coach hat on, in class or after a rehearsal I can give notes on their Romanian pronunciation. But when I'm on the floor I'm in tune as an actor. You're too inside the journey of the character to keep with the original script, Romanian dialect is used throughout the play.

There have been two other Mad Forest productions in Australia in the last couple of years but as far as I know we're the only ones who have actually spoken any Romanian. We're respecting the script as it's written. Second year theatre student Caroline Levien who plays the role of Lucia, said the actors used a special technique to help them with the Romanian dialect.

' We ended up translating Romanian into phonetics which was easier than trying to learn the whole language.

' Once you've got your mouth around the sounds it works quite well,' Caroline said.

' We have to dance and speak Romanian at the same time which can be a challenge!'

Bernadette said she spoke with a girl who experienced the revolution and is now living in Brisbane.

She was a little girl when the revolution was on and lived through it. She talked about her experience and went home and got her family to talk about their experiences as well.

' Her father's stuff is amazing. He grew up amongst the whole Ceausescu government.

Hearing their experiences was really helpful to learn the accent and how to speak Romanian but it provided a deeper insight into the experience itself and what they went through.

' It's quite scary to think that this has all happened in our time.'

Mad Forest previews at the USQ Arts Theatre on Thursday 10 May at 7:30pm. The season continues on the 11, 12, 18 and 19 May, with matinee performances on Thursday May 17 at 11am and Sunday May 20 at 2pm.

