



From the *University Theatre Ensemble* comes

ANIMAL FARM

By *GEORGE ORWELL* Adapted By *PETER HALL*

Directed by *Steve Matthews*

RIVERINA PLAYHOUSE

23rd August – 6th September

“All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others.”

George Orwell, *Animal Farm*

George Orwell's classic novel *Animal Farm* is one of the great political works of modern literature and Peter Hall's adaptation skilfully maintains Orwell's satiric flair and insight, combining humour, heart and savage truths as it reveals the processes by which some animals become more equal than others. A timely tale from one of the greatest writers of the twentieth century.

Through its third year actors The University Theatre Ensemble is bringing to the stage Orwells' classic novel as adapted for the stage by famed British director Peter Hall.

While *Animal Farm* was Orwell's response to his disillusionment with Communism, it speaks to any despotic form of government. The animals of Manor Farm overthrow their cruel human master and undertake to run the farm themselves. They form a collective, sharing all the work and all the food. The pigs, smartest of the animals, band together to provide leadership to the other animals. They preach solidarity above all, and defence against their human enemies takes priority above food and freedom. Slowly and subtly the pigs begin changing the rules to give themselves more power and privileges. Soon the rest of the animals are no better than they were under the humans--once again they are starving and near destitute.

This production of *Animal Farm* will particularly offer teachers and students, as well as the general public, the opportunity to see a contemporary stage adaptation of this classic literary text. The play's *themes, motifs* and *symbolism* all particularly relevant to current English curriculum subject areas.

Teenagers are especially influenced by peer pressure. In exploring the skilful use of peer pressure used by the pigs to keep the other animals in line, the students can analyse their own lives and discover how peer pressure controls their actions.

UTE's production will be directed by guest director, Steve Matthews. Steve may be remembered for his last directing role with UTE which was a particularly energised, Bollywood version of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in 2005. *Animal Farm* features the graduating Third Year actors of Charles Sturt University's BA in Acting for Stage and Screen. Is designed and stage managed by Second Year students of the BA in Design for Theatre and Television.

***ANIMAL FARM* plays at the Riverina Playhouse from Saturday 23rd August – 6th September at 8.00pm.**

Tickets can be booked at the Civic Theatre Booking Office, telephone 6926 9688, or are available at the door. The University continues its policy of providing excellent value for money with tickets prices of \$22.00 full price, \$20.00 for groups, \$18.00 concession, and \$11.50 for students. Special pricing is available for the school performances

BOOK ON-LINE @ <http://www.civictheatre.com.au/>

For further information please call Steve Matthews on 6933 2573 or John Jones on 6933 2313 or e-mail ute@csu.edu.au

**CHARLES STURT
UNIVERSITY**

