„Exit” Theatre from Healesville

**Exit Theatre Inc.**emerged from the Yarra Valley Youth Theatre Group in February 2007. Until 2009 it successfully staged five productions (Kate Walker’s *Aboriginal Poetry and Stories*; various one-act plays by Mrozek and Chekov, *Fly Guardian*by S. Figura, *Goodbye Judas*by I. Iredynski) in various venues of Healesville.

Most members of Exit Theatre Inc. live in the community of the Shire of Yarra Ranges, though the group often invites artists from Melbourne, as they believe in a strong connection between regional arts and Melbourne. Exit Theatre Inc. intends to build a strong network of artistic people who are able to provide a dynamic and stimulating theatrical contribution, culminating in high quality performances. This network forms a foundation for a potentially thriving theatre culture in Healesville.

Exit Theatre Inc. received five awards in June 2007 from the GemCo One Act Play Festival: Best Youth Male, Best Youth Female, and Best Youth production, Judges for the Set and Costumes, and the Judges Award for Best Physicality.
It was also awarded in the Victorian Drama League Awards in October 2008, with Goodbye Judas for the best translated script.

Theatre Exit website: http://www.theatre-exit.com

**About the production.**

**„ Springer” by Stefan Mrowiński**

**Director:Leslie Simpson**

**Presented in Fairfax Studio on December 28, 2015 at 6:0pm; Duration – 50 minutes**

*Springer –* a monodrama – arose from an adaptation of a short story of the same title. The story, with a narrative centring around sport, gained its first literary prize in the short prose field at the Polish National Literary Competition in 1970.

 In the seventies *Springer* was perceived in Poland as a story of a unique individual – that of an ambitious sportsman, a heavyweight boxer, an Olympic champion. In the play, the sportsman reflects on his past life, a reflection prompted by a recent brain tumour diagnosis.

 The perspective on the play, in the context of modern Polish politics, has shifted over the past forty years.

Played in today’s reality, both in Poland and internationally, Springer is a monodrama about betrayal and loneliness in the face of a verociously consumerist world; a world in which emotions can become an unforgivable liability.

FinallySperzyna is a monodrama from the world of Becket and Ionesco. It is theatre of the Absurd from the likes of Witkackiewicz and it should be presented in this convention.

It is clear that this monodrama contains authentic elements from the playwright’s life along with precious insights into the lives of a few Olympic boxers, forgotten Polish sporting heroes.

Springer is a monodrama about betrayal and loneliness in the face of a ferociously consumerist world; a world in which emotions can become an unforgivable liability.

The writing brutally highlights the paradox of a simple, naive man, whose fierceness and strength underlay his success, yet who was indefensible to all that was morally vacuous around him.