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Our Country's Good

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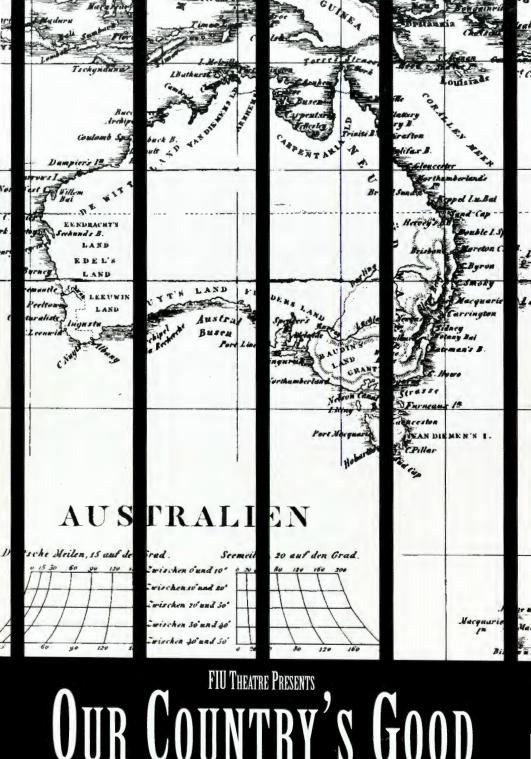
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OUR COUNTRY'S GOOD

By Timberlake Wertenbaker

Our Country's Good

by Timberlake Wertenbaker

based upon the novel The Playmaker by Thomas Keneally

Directed by Therald Todd

Costume Design ... Marilyn Skow

Scenic Design ... M.P. Amico

Lighting Design... Nicholas Scott

Stage Manager..Damaris Palma

Vocal Director ... Lesley-Ann Timlick

A Play in Two Acts

The Characters

Captain Arthur Phillip, RN	Michael Walters
Major Robbie Ross, RN	Paul J. Lobeck, Jr.
Captain David Collins, RM	Boris Kievsky
Captain Watkin Tench, RM	Rey Dabalsa
Captain Jemmy Campbell, RM	Jose A. Lopez
Reverend Johnson	Lilly Bernal
Lieutenant George Johnston, RM	Dawn Plummer
Lieutenant Will Dawes, RM	Jennifer Smith
2nd Lieutenant Ralph Clark, RM	Danny G. Pino
2nd Lieutenant William Faddy, RM	Justine Chichester
Midshipman Harry Brewer, RN	Jose A. Lopez
Aboriginal Australian	Mark Branche
John Arscott	Rey Dabalsa
Dabby Bryant	Justine Chichester
Black Caesar	Mark Branche
Ketch Freeman	Paul J. Lobeck, Jr.
Liz Morden	Jennifer Smith
Duckling Smith	Dawn Plummer
John Wisehammer	Michael Walters
Mary Brenham	Lilly Bernal
Meg Long.	Jenny Kelchner
Robert Sideway	Boris Kievsky

Time: 1788/89
Place: Sidney, Australia
There will be one intermission

Production Staff

x i ou u ction Stair		
	Technical Director	E. Marcus Smith
	Costumier	Vivienne Turkington
	Scenic Artist	Nicholas Scott
	Stage Manager	Damaris Palma
	Assistant Stage Manager	Jennifer King
	Assistant to the Lighting Designer	Emily Rose Olivares
	Lighting Board Operator	Shawnda Thomas
	Lighting Crew	Technical Theatre Lab
	Sound Operator	Amy Berson
	Scenery/ Construction	Technical Theatre Lab
	Properties	Gracie de Arellano, Aliya Killion
	Wardrobe Mistress	Tara Paragian
	Costume Construction Assistants	Louise Petrine, David Eisenmann
	Wardrobe Crew	Jenny Kelchner, Thelma Gutierrez,
		Pascal Mayer
	Costume Construction	Costume Class and Construction Lab
	House Manager	Phillip Aleman
	House Ushers	P.R./ Management Lab
		Theatre Appreciation
	Secretarial Staff	Jennifer Fabre, Clint Hooper

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Bill Maguire, Lee Ann Hebert, and the FIU Publications Bureau.

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Florida International University Department of Theatre and Dance Faculty

Dr. Therald Todd, Chair

Lee Brooke, Dance

Yyvone Daniel, Dance
Gary Lund, Dance
Wayne Robinson, Acting
Andrea Seidel, Dance
Lesley-Ann Timlick, Voice

Phillip Church, Acting
Donald F. Hebert, Management
Lesley Neal, Dance
Nicholas Scott, Resident Designer
Marilyn Skow, Costume Designer

The Background

In 1787, 11 vessels sailed from Portsmouth, England for Australia to establish a colony. Of the nearly 1,500 people on board, half were convicted criminals (564 men and 192 women.) The remainder included sailors and Royal marines to guard the convicts. The government authorities planning the venture knew little about the destination. Their only knowledge was from a short visit (paid 17 years before) by Captain Cook, the famed English explorer.

The journey was completed without loss of ship and with only 48 deaths (a very low figure, considering the miserable conditions). Cook's glowing reports about the place proved far from accurate. Colonists were forced to live on the limited and poor quality supplies brought from England. They faced continual hunger, miserable dwellings, a hostile environment and complete isolation from home.

On June 4, 1789, to enrich this bleak life, convict actors presented a play, the Restoration comedy The Recruiting Officer, under the direction of young Marine Lieutenant Ralph Clark. This surprising event served as the basis for Thomas Keneally's novel The Playmaker, which in turn inspired the author of Our Country's Good. Today we find parallels between this living history of 18th Century convicts and many of today's concerns, such as crime and criminals, the redemption of human beings, and hope.

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by Lee Blessing	
FIU Dance Ensemble	December 1 through 4
Bonjour, La Bonjour	February 16 through 26
by Michael Tremblay	
The Taming of the Shrew	April 20 through 30
by William Shakespeare	