

Introductory notes for The Coven on Grey Street

The Theatre Space.

As you enter Circa 2, the stage is to your left. The raised, fold-down seating is to your right.

The Set.

As you sit facing the stage, in front of you is an exterior scene in what is the patio of a wealthy New Zealand home. Right at the back, in the middle of the stage is a Pohutakawa tree with a thick trunk and branches laden with flowers, spreading wide across a flagstone patio. To the right side of the tree, as you face the stage, is a wooden picket fence framing the patio as it reaches out to the end of the stage. Halfway along, it is overlapped by a second picket fence which comes downstage at an angle, framing the set and creating an entrance indicating a driveway that leads off the patio area. To the left of the Pohutakawa, as you face the stage is the back door to the house, set in a purple weatherboard wall, with a small white deck and a step down to the patio. On the patio, centrestage, is an oval dining table covered in a white embroidered tablecloth, with four chairs around it. There are flowers and plants in beds and pots scattered around.

All this gives the impression of a cosy and often used outdoor seating area.

The Characters (in order of appearance)

There are four characters in this play.

Daphne, a witch.

Daphne is the middle child of the 3 Weird Sisters. She is tall and slim, with shoulder length silver blond hair cut in a feathered style. She appears to be in her mid 70s. When she first appears, she is wearing a mid calf length, flowing dress in a pale pink, with ruffles and pleats, and covered in a design of flowers. She has sandals on her feet and an engagement ring on her finger. She is a peacekeeper, a dreamer, an optimist and trusting. Her energy is light and fluttery.

Ted, a human.

Ted is Daphne's fiancée. He is a little taller than Daphne and is comfortably plump. He has silvery white hair around a bald pate and kind eyes. He appears to be in his mid 40s. He is a lecturer at Waikato University, and a secret Shakespeare nerd. When he first appears, he is wearing casual dark blue trousers and a blue and red checked long sleeve shirt with the cuffs rolled up. He wears a watch on his left wrist and black shoes. He also has a dark blue

apron around his waist and a tea towel flung over his left shoulder. His energy is impish and jolly.

Fay, a witch.

Fay is the youngest of the 3 Weird Sisters. She is also the shortest. She has a slim build, and very short silver white hair. She appears to be in her mid 70s. She wears a mid calf length loose and wavy sleeveless dress with swirly patterns in retro brown, orange and white, over a full length shirt of deep brown. She wears chunky drop earrings and her glasses are on a chain around her neck. Fay is the joker of the family, opinionated and filled with disdain for ageing and all that comes with it. Her energy is forceful and strong.

Sybil, a witch

Sybil is the oldest of the Weird Sisters. She is average height, very slim, with silver blond hair cut in a fringe on her forehead and swept up into a messy bun at the back. She appears to be in her mid 70s. She is dressed all in black- trousers, top, jacket and boots. When she first appears, she is wearing sunglasses, and a cast on her left hand. The cast is black as well. The sunglasses come off pretty soon after she arrives. Sybil is a hermit at heart and does not like being made to go to social occasions. Her energy is stubborn and judgemental.

Programme Credits

Starring-

Helen Moulder as Daphne

Peter Hambleton as Ted

Hilary Norris as Fay

Irene Wood as Sybil

Written by- James Cain

Director- Harriet Prebble

Set design- Lucas Neal

Lighting Design- Isadora Lao

Costume Design- Aimée Sullivan

Sound Design- Patrick Barnes

Operator- Xanthe Curtain

Stage Manager- Deb McGuire

Producer- Cassandra Tse

The show runs for 90 minutes, including a 15 minute interval.

Enjoy the show!

Sameena.