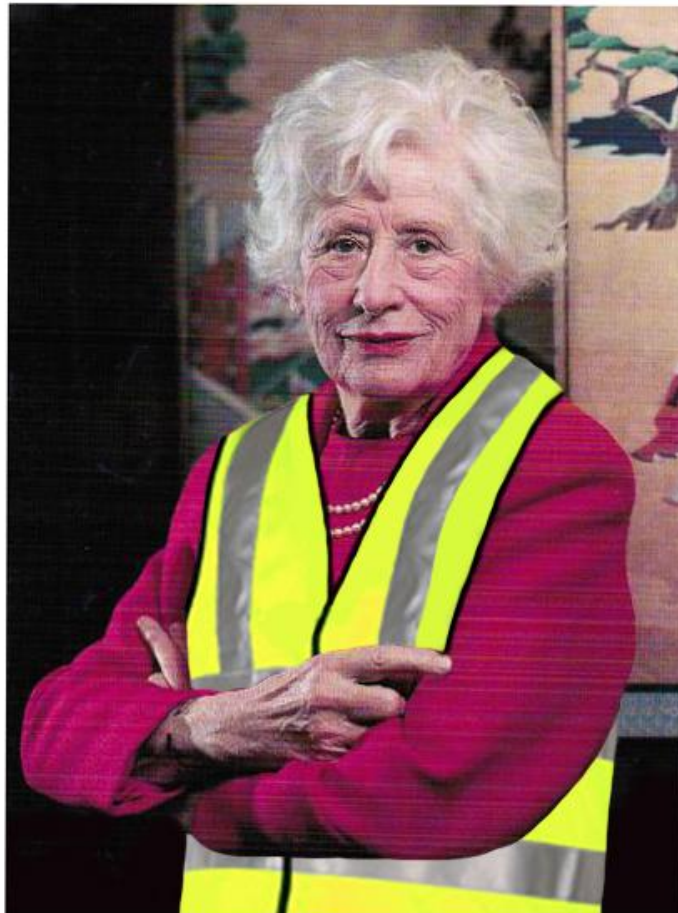


Ngaio On The Quake Case

“Ngaio Marsh – Crime Queen”
A Film Screening – One Night Only



“.....a masterpiece.” Trevor Agnew, The Press

A fundraising screening for The Court Theatre

Hosted by Peter Elliott as Detective Inspector Roderick Alleyn

One Night Only

When: Monday 26 September 2011, 7.30pm **Cost:** \$25 per ticket
Where: The Aurora Centre for The Performing Arts, cnr Greers Rd & Memorial Ave
Run time: 70 mins – plus a Q & A for 20 minutes with the film makers.

“Ngaio Marsh – Crime Queen”

DVD’s: DVD’s of Ngaio Marsh – Crime Queen will be sold with tickets and on the night at a reduced price **Cost:** \$20 – with all proceeds also going to “The Shed.”

Books: Harper Collins NZ is presenting the compendium of Ngaio’s detective stories and a signed copy of Joanne Drayton’s biography of Ngaio Marsh which will be raffled. Raffle numbers will be sold with tickets and on the night. **Cost:** \$10 per ticket (Retail value \$300+)

All funds raised will go to the Court Theatre’s fundraising appeal for “The Shed.”

Ngaio Marsh is “on the quake case” to raise funds for The Court Theatre’s new home in Addington, “The Shed”. ‘**A Night With Ngaio**’ will see the screening of “**Ngaio Marsh – Crime Queen**”, a film that celebrates the life of one of Christchurch’s most internationally renowned and acclaimed citizens.

Dame Ngaio loved her city and she loved the theatre; this is her night to help out.

The filmmakers will hold a Q & A following the screening, which will include producer/director Aileen O’Sullivan, and actor Peter Elliot who features as Ngaio’s Detective Inspector Roderick Alleyn in **Ngaio Marsh – Crime Queen**.

NZ on Air and TVNZ funded the making of “Ngaio Marsh – Crime Queen”.

This event is funded by Creative New Zealand and tickets are available online www.courttheatre.org.nz or by phoning the box office 963 0870 and emailing the box office at bookings@courttheatre.org.nz

For more information contact – Ali Jones, Ali Jones PR (for The Court Theatre) on 027 247 3112

“Ngaio Marsh – Crime Queen”

(The Unsolved Mystery)

Detective Inspector Alleyn on the case of his creator, Ngaio Marsh

Chief Inspector Roderick Alleyn (Peter Elliot), the urbane English police officer and the detective who stars in all thirty two of Ngaio Marsh's internationally renowned best selling detective novels, comes to life to go in search of his creator, Ngaio Marsh.

In his investigation Alleyn is teased by glimpses of Ngaio as she walks down a London street, sits reflecting in a café or slips into a radio studio for a recording. 'Ngaio' is adept at luring her Detective on, only to evade and escape revelation. This is a cat and mouse game played by two professionals. Who is stalking who and why? Does Ngaio want to be discovered, to finally reveal who she is behind her masks? If anyone can coax out the fact behind the fantasy, it is her Detective Inspector.

Alleyn leads the investigation into what is behind the masks and hidden in the fantasies - the contradictions and controversies of his mistress's life. Ngaio Marsh has been the architect of his fictional world; now he explores her factual world. Does his investigation enable him to better understand the complex nature of his creator?

Does he discover that Ngaio Marsh's fictional and factual worlds blur – or that he, a fictitious creation, is, in fact, an essential character in his mistress's life. *Ngaio Marsh – Crime Queen* is on the case.

Peter Elliott the award winning New Zealand actor who will host our one night only screening of the film *Ngaio Marsh - Crime Queen* has this to say:

“I found playing Detective Inspector Roderick Alleyn one of the most peculiar experiences of my life. It was like shipping coals to Newcastle, interviewing Eton and Oxford educated personalities in England as a private school University educated, upper class character. It was a phenomenon both very odd and most enjoyable, this process of sleuthing around.

Ngaio Marsh has joined the company of people to whom I am very grateful. She came to feel like a compatriot, a parent, a friend. I came to feel like one of Ngaio's Boys."



Peter Elliott is an award winning New Zealand actor with credits for stage and screen. Peter played Dysart in the stage production of *Equus*, Rex Redfern in the iconic television series *Gloss*, presented the documentary series *The Captain's Log* and won Best Supporting Actor for his role as the lawyer, Gibson, in the film, *Until Proven Innocent*.