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on behalf of Dramatists Play Service, Inc - A Concord Theatricals Company

ALMOST, MAINE

by John Cariani

Directed by Melody Thorburn

16TH SEPTEMBER TO 4TH OCTOBER 2026

PROGRAM

Bookings: www.mrt.org.au
4933 2766
Tickets $27/$32

MAITLAND REPERTORY THEATRE

About *Almost, Maine*

Almost, Maine is John Cariani's most well-known play. Developed at the Cape Cod Theatre Project in 2002, it opened Off-Broadway in 2006 and was featured in Smith & Kraus' *New Playwright's: Best Plays of 2006.*

On a deeply cold midwinter night, the townsfolk of Almost experience the life-altering power of the human heart. Under the mystical energy of the aurora borealis, relationships begin, end and change immeasurably as strangers become friends, friends become lovers and lovers turn into strangers.

Almost, Maine is a series of 9 interlocking tales about love. Knees are bruised. Hearts are broken. Love is found and life for the people of Almost, Maine, will never be the same.

Director's Note

About two years ago, during a period of reading anything and everything I could get my hands on, I happened upon the works of John Cariani. There was something about *Almost, Maine* that stayed with me; its simplicity, humour, tenderness, and the unusual ways it explores very ordinary experiences of love. I knew immediately that this was a play that I wanted to direct.

Almost, Maine explores love in all its complicated forms. Each story captures a different state of love: the closeness and distance between two people; healing after heartbreak; the struggle to move on; the vulnerability of allowing yourself to feel; the desire for commitment; and the surprise of falling for someone you never expected. We also see what happens when love is neglected, when opportunities are missed, when regret arrives too late, and when we finally recognise what has been right in front of us all along.

I hope these stories make you laugh, perhaps make you ache a little, and remind you of those wonderfully unexpected moments when love catches us by surprise.

Welcome to Almost.

Melody Thorburn

CAST



Jack Andrew



Chiara Carmelita



Aimee Cavanagh



Kaysia Dowie



Melinda Francis



Andrew Hall



Joel Latham



Tegan Linguini



Sam Luff



Corbin Martin



Jennifer Masson



Ashley Menegon



Chad Mitchison



Leanne Mueller



Xanthie Olympia



Gary O'Toole



Kathryn Piggott



Matthew Robinson



Connie Voisey - Barlin



Melody Thorburn

Director

Production Credits

Director	Melody Thorburn
Assistant Director	Kathryn Piggott
Production Manager	Aimee Cavanagh
Stage Manager	Alexandra Comber
Set Designer	Melody Thorburn
Set Construction /Realisation	Ian Robinson, Danny Shaunessy, Louis Ryan, Alexandra Comber, Melody Thorburn, Dimity Eveleens, Robert Comber, Mersa, Paul Acnam, Michael Smythe and the Saturday Morning Crew
Costumes	Kaysia Dowie
Makeup/Hair	Cast
Properties	Dimity Eveleens
Lighting Design	Riordan Munnoch
Lighting Operators	Robert Comber and Louis Ryan
Sound Operators	Robert Comber and Louis Ryan
Poster Realisation	Zac Smith
Photography	Sonya Solomou and Matt Scoles
Program	Alexandra Comber
Publicity	Alexandra Comber, Ian Robinson and Tyler Dean-Brinkley
Catering Officer	Linda Wallace

Thank You

To Pullins Carpets, Peter Hellier and Daniel Dawkins.

To our volunteer members who make this show possible.

To The CONDA Judges

Joanna Andrew, Christine Fletcher, Larnie Christie, Jackie King, Sascha Okenhall, Wendy Ratcliffe, Dan Stranger and Claire Williams.

To Our Patrons - Meryl Swanson MP, Mayor Philip Penfold, Keith Cockburn.

To Maitland City Council, 2NUR-FM, ABC Radio 1233, The Sign Shop, Scott Deamer (Jim's Test and Tag) and to our audiences for their continued patronage.

Program proudly sponsored by
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We acknowledge the Wonnarua People as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land upon which Maitland Repertory Theatre stands.

The Scenes and Cast

ACT 1

Prologue

Man - Sam Luff
Woman - Kaysia Dowie

Her Heart

East - Gary O'Toole
Glory - Leanne Mueller

Sad and Glad

Jimmy - Joel Latham
Sandrine - Chiara Carmelita
Waitress - Melinda Francis

This Hurts

Marvalyn - Kathryn Piggott
Steve - Ashley Menegon

Getting it Back

Gail - Tegan Linguini
Lindell - Corbin Martin

They Fell (Female Version)

Deena - Melinda Francis
Shelly - Jennifer Masson

Interlogue

Sam Luff and Kaysia Dowie

ACT 2

They Fell (Male version)

Randy - Gary O'Toole
Chad - Chad Mitchison

Where it Went

Phil - Jack Andrew
Marci - Xanthie Olympia

Story of Hope

Hope - Connie Voisey-Barlin
Man - Matthew Robinson

Seeing the Thing

Rhonda - Aimee Cavanagh
Dave - Andrew Hall

Epilogue

Sam Luff

Agatha Christie

MAITLAND REPERTORY THEATRE

A Murder is Announced

Adapted by Leslie Darbon

Directed by Steve Ryan

Nov 18 to Dec 6, 2026

Tickets $27/$32

Bookings: mrt.org.au

or 02 4933 2766

By Arrangement with ORiGiN™ Theatrical On Behalf of Samuel French A Concord Theatricals Company