



The Sixth Annual Kangaroo Valley Buster Keaton Silent Movie Festival

starring **Robert Constable**, piano

7.30pm Sat August 30 2008
Kangaroo Valley Hall, Kangaroo Valley

program:

1. **My Wife's Relations** [1922]

Buster Keaton collides head first with unholy matrimony in this hilarious two-reel comedy. A burly Irishwoman thinks Buster has broken a window and has him brought before a judge who is Polish and can't speak English ...

written & directed by **Buster Keaton & Edward F. Cline**; produced by **Joseph M. Schenck**; cinematography by **Elgin Lessley**; starring **Buster Keaton, Monte Collins, Wheezer Dell, Harry Madison, Kate Price, Joe Roberts & Tom Wilson**

2. **The Paleface** [1922]

Buster Keaton stars in this silent classic as an innocent butterfly collector who stumbles into the middle of a land dispute between some greedy oil men and the Native American tribe which occupies the land. When the tribe vows to kill the first "paleface" who enters their village, our butterfly collector is the unfortunate target. After surviving a burning at the stake due to some hilarious acrobatics and some fire-resistant clothing, the butterfly collector is made a member of the tribe (as "Little Chief Paleface") and assists them in foiling the plans of the oil men.

directed by **Buster Keaton**; produced by **Joseph M. Schenck**; cinematography by **Elgin Lessley**

intermission (free refreshments!)

3. **The Seven Chances** [1925]

Buster plays a struggling lawyer who will inherit a fortune if he marries by 7p.m. of his 27th birthday - the very day he receives notice of the potential windfall. When his longtime sweetheart turns him down, he frantically searches for someone - *anyone* - to wed. The movie's reputation rests almost solely on its outrageous finale, a brilliant cascade of comic invention that begins with a church full of blushing brides and builds to a surreal chase of epic proportions. The hapless groom is pursued by an angry mob of women clad in white lace and veils and ends up dodging rolling stones and massive boulders while fleeing an avalanche, never once losing his trademark deadpan ...

starring **Buster Keaton** with **Lori Bara, T. Roy Barnes, Bartine Burkett & Rosalind Byrne**

Robert Constable is a well-known Australian pianist, composer and improviser. He has a particular fascination with improvising accompaniments for silent films (at least three of his great-aunts and -uncles used to play professionally for the "silents" in the period following World War 1) and has been presenting some of the classics in this genre for many years. His work with silent films transcends mere background music, combining his various pianistic, composing and improvising abilities to create an instant soundscape for the images on the screen. With this approach he enters into a genuine artistic partnership with the film. He has a particular affinity with Buster Keaton and over the last ten years has interpreted most of the Keaton classics. Having retired as Professor and Dean of Music at the University of Newcastle, Robert is now Head of the School of Music, University of Auckland, New Zealand.

presented by **The Kangaroo Valley-Remexio Partnership**
(financing projects in East Timor - see www.wesley-smith.info/kv-rp.html)

donations (tax-deductible) eagerly sought - contact **Paul Turnock**: 4465 1357

Buster Keaton films previously shown in this series include **The Blacksmith** [1922], **Cops** [1922], **The General** [1927], **The Goat** [1921], **The Haunted House** [1921], **The High Sign** [1921], **The Navigator** [1924], **Neighbours** [1920], **One Week** [1920], **Our Hospitality** (1923), **The Playhouse** [1921], **Steamboat Bill Jr** [1928], **The Scarecrow** (1920) & **Sherlock Junior** [1924]

for comprehensive notes, see www.shoalhaven.net.au/~mwsmith/bk2008.html

