



## A peek at Sideshow Alley

**M**OTORED up the freeway on Saturday night to take a peek at the world premiere of the musical *Sideshow Alley*.

Five years in the making, winner of the 2002 Pratt Award for a New Musical Theatre, *Sideshow Alley* is proudly what Australia hasn't seen for a long time – a musical with an original Australian story, score and lyrics.

Set in the outrageously masked 1950s when, behind the suburban-perfect dream, life was anything but, *Sideshow Alley* takes you into a colourful and bizarre world of country shows and, in particular, the boxing troupe similar to the old roam-

ing Jimmy Sharman stoush tents.

The music was haunting and catchy, the sets clever and innovative, the live musos exceptional and the cast extraordinary.

From the bearded lady, half-man/half-woman to the tiniest of little people, all the cast sang and performed their hearts out.

The three leads, Silvie Paladino as Rita, Alex Rathgeber as Billy and Christopher Parker as Alex, were worth the standing ovation at the end of the show.

Get up to the Playhouse Theatre and have a look. Theatre-goers won't be disappointed.