



Naked ambition

> page 30



COVER STORY

SPEED-DATING, websites, blind dates and text messages – courting in the 21st-century is complicated.

Misadventures on the path to finding a "soulmate", faced by the growing number of single men and women in their 30, is told in full, vivid detail in the aptly named dark comedy *Often I Find Myself Naked*.

Thomas plays unlucky-in-love woman and career-focused protagonist, Jezebel, in the Fiona Sprott script, which has become Australia's answer to *Bridget Jones's Diary* and *Sex and The City*.

"This is the reason I fell for the script, these characters are very real and I relate to the situations she finds herself in," she said.

"I was in America, and I was buying runners, and the guy behind the counter asked me if I'd like to go for a drink. I was shocked, we don't do that here."

The production is directed by Shane Jones and Sam Clark plays the male lead.

Often I Find Myself Naked runs at The Judith

Wright Centre from Thursday, August 13, to Saturday, August 15.

Visit www.judithwrightcentre.com.au or phone 3872 9000.

THE pride of Paris has chasséd, pliéd and passéd its way into the hearts of Brisbane's ballet set, taking to the QPAC stage in spectacular style.

After the arrival of 14 containers of props, tonnes of scenery and costumes, **Paris Opera Ballet's** 100-strong company of the finest dancers has dazzled Brisbane theatregoers with its Australian premiere of Rudolf Nureyev's *La Bayadère*.

Together with **The Queensland Orchestra**, the production by the centuries-old company is augmented by Brisbane dancers. Set in Royal India, *La Bayadère* is a story of love, mystery, fate, vengeance and justice. The ballet's QPAC season is the company's only international performance this year and signifies the completion of multi-million renovations of Lyric Theatre.

For tickets, phone Qlix on 136 246 or visit www.qtix.com.au.

