

Running a restaurant is truly a business of battle...

Melbourne: Thursday 20th July 2017 - In the 1980's chef Christine Matheson, was running one of Brisbane's most iconic restaurants, *Possums Australian Food* in New Farm. She was serving everyone from mafia characters and politicians, to the lead players of the Fitzgerald Inquiry such as Terry Lewis and Warren Armstrong. This week thirty years after the inquiry she launches her memoir, ***Theatre of War: The art of running a restaurant***. The book relives the tough times with husbands, business partners and staff, as she rocketed through ten businesses, including a huge outlet at Expo 88 and details the massive struggles that she experienced as one Australia's pioneer female chefs.

Set during one of greatest political upheavals in Australia's history the book has some very explosive and hilarious moments as Christine provides a front row seat to the backyard dealings of the Fitzgerald inquiry's characters.

Christine says. *"I felt like I needed to tell this story about an era when criminals rubbed shoulders with their mates, the lawmakers and in doing so share my lessons and lift the curtain backstage on the world of chefs and the restaurant industry - where the pressure so often explodes!"*

The story which covers her hugely eventful life will be three volumes and will have great appeal to a wide range of people from foodies, hospitality workers, to MasterChef viewers who read cookbooks and follow celebrity chefs.

Today Christine is a resident of Hobart and works as an author, restaurant consultant and food critic. She is known for her brutally honest and entertaining restaurant reviews through her website www.justthesizzle.com. She is also working on a web-driven support system for chef's experiencing mental health issues.

About the Author:

Christine Matheson was born in Mackay but hails from Brisbane, Australia. Christine attended *Brisbane Girls Grammar School*. Her father was a policeman and ended up as the head of ASIO for Queensland. As a child, she fell in love with the performing arts and appeared on the 1960'S TV talent show, *Cottee's Happy Hour* as well as various other shows with Channel 7. At age 12, she was performing with the *Queensland Ballet Theatre* and studied acting under Joan Whalley working and acting alongside Australian icons like Barry Otto and John Stanton. She also worked as a Drama Specialist in Education in Australia and Japan, and is now a judge for *The Errol Awards*, Tasmania's theatre awards. She has also been a judge for *the Royal Hobart Show Fine Food Awards* for several years alongside Glenn Flood, former food producer for MasterChef. She is currently living and working in Hobart, Tasmania.

Christine Matheson is available for interview. For media enquiries or to request a review copy of the book please contact, Aisling Gilhooly - Publicist on 0424 520 345, aisling@aislingenterprises.com.au

The book is available for purchase for \$AUD29.95 on her website www.justthesizzle.com or via Amazon.