

 the new theatre
presents



The University of
Nottingham

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head

By Jim Cartwright

2nd - 5th May 2012

LAKESIDE

 Students' Union
UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM

 pwc

A note from the Artistic Director of Lakeside Arts Centre...

It's been another successful year for New Theatre, whose dynamic and energetic approach to producing and presenting some 20 productions in their own venue, plus inclusion in the Edinburgh Festival and prize-winning productions at the National Student Drama Festival, is little short of exceptional.

I've enjoyed watching several productions by New Theatre in their own Studio over the last 9 months, and never cease to be moved by the commitment of the entire team of performers, production and promotion staff. Their achievements are all the more impressive when you discover that the entire company are self-taught. Since September New Theatre's President, Megan Salter, and I have been in discussion with locally based professional theatre director Martin Berry to look at the possibility of delivering a unique programme of skills development for New Theatre members across performance, direction, technical and production. We've submitted a funding application to support this idea, and if successful will be able to introduce a professional creative team to lead and be mentors for a New Theatre project for delivery at Lakeside in 2013 and 2014. This would be a very exciting new development for both organisations, and would produce a legacy well into the future in terms of the cascading of skills through the New Theatre membership.

In the shorter term, we look forward to hosting two performances of their 2012 Edinburgh shows at the Djanogly Theatre on 25 and 28 September. We hope to welcome you back to Lakeside then!

Wishing the company a successful run of performances with Bed,

Shona Powell

Director

Lakeside Arts Centre

LAKESIDE

A note from the President of The New Theatre...

I speak on behalf of everyone involved in The New Theatre when I say we are thrilled to be doing a show at Lakeside. Since the beginning of this academic year, Shona and I have been thinking of ways in which The New Theatre and Lakeside could collaborate. We had decided to apply for funding to do a show together in 2013 since we had both already programmed our seasons for this year, so it was a surprise when Shona rang to say that a slot had opened up and that she wanted to offer it to New Theatre. We snapped up the opportunity, and I couldn't be happier that we have been given the chance to bring 'Bed' back to life.

Cartwright's plays are always a treat to read and watch, but 'Bed' in particular is an absolute gem. Having the chance to recreate one of the best shows I've seen at New Theatre, on a professional stage, is incredibly exciting - I have absolute faith that it will be even more magical and touching than it was the first time.

Megan Salter

President

The New Theatre

James McAndrew: Director

Studying Film and Television Studies and Cultural Sociology
(Third year)

Previous work:

ACTING

The Fallibroome Academy: Ensemble in *Oh What A Lovely War!* (2004); Grantaire in *Les Miserables* (2005); Zebulun in *Joseph and The Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat* (2007); Algernon in *The Importance of Being Earnest* (2008). The New Theatre: Dithers in *His Lordship Entertains* (2010); Count Scriczevinsky in *Flare Path* (2010); Basil in *Fresher The Musical* (2011). Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2011 (The New Theatre): Hermit/Bridgekeeper in *Chasing Dragons*. Lakeside Arts Centre: Rapunzel's Prince in *Into The Woods* (2011). Nottingham Arts Theatre: Christopher Belling in *Curtains* (2012).

DIRECTING

The Fallibroome Academy: *Over and Over Again* (2006, Short Film). Garrick Theatre Altrincham (Shakespeare Schools Festival): *Julius Caesar* (2008). The New Theatre: *Bed* by Jim Cartwright (2011)

UPCOMING

Directing: The New Theatre: *Charley's Aunt* (June 2012). Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2012 (Musicality): *Wild West End* (Paulden Hall Productions). Acting: Lakeside Arts Centre: Orin The Dentist in *Little Shop of Horrors* (2012).

A note from the director...

If you told me this time last year that come May 2012 I'd be directing a play at Lakeside Arts Centre, I would probably have tried to get you sectioned. This has been an exhilarating yet bizarre experience and to be able to revisit a production that I was pretty happy with the first time round, has been an absolute pleasure to do so.

This play is something that for a long time was just 'that weird but kind of funny play I once saw some Year 13s do at school'. But now it will likely remain my favourite piece of theatrical writing for quite some time. Jim Cartwright might not be as prolific as his modern dramatist contemporaries but the work he has created is that of such high quality and beauty that I've never been entirely sure if what I wanted to do with it was indeed the right thing to do. Ultimately the cast and myself have simply trusted what was on the page and strived only to play the truth of what's written. A unique and brilliant mixture of the surreal and the natural, the funny and the sad, renders *Bed* a truly distinguished piece of theatre. And I truly hope that you leave the auditorium feeling you've experienced something you never have before.

There are a host of people who need not just thanking but the highest of praise. Firstly the cast, who are the eight most dedicated and lively performers I've ever worked with. It's a huge achievement to be able to inhabit such difficult and unique characters as well as you have. Then there's everyone who's been working tirelessly behind the scenes building set, painting set, helping out backstage and just generally being extremely helpful. Also to everyone who helped with our original production last December, without whom we likely wouldn't have been given this chance. And, apologies to everyone else, but Nick Stevenson is certainly deserving of a name check not least because without him there wouldn't be a show. The title 'King of Organization' gives you an idea of his skills but ultimately doesn't really cut it. Thanks Nick, I'd be pretty hopeless without you.

Finally I'd like to say a brief word on behalf of The New Theatre. As a final year Nottingham University student, coursework, revision, essays, lectures and post-grad applications can certainly take their toll on your sanity. But our very own New Theatre has always been an outlet to simply let off steam in an environment that is quite unbelievably creative, friendly and just so damn fun. And without whom I wouldn't have caught the directing bug. So thank you to pretty much everyone I've ever met, talked to or been shouted at in The New Theatre.

Enjoy the show and as Nick Ross would (used) to say, "Don't have nightmares."

James McAndrew

Director



Nick Stevenson: Producer

Studying LLB Law (First year)

Previous work:

DIRECTING

Chorley Youth Theatre (Vice Chairperson 2008-2009): Assistant Director: *Guys and Dolls* (2008). Director: *Wyrld Sisters* (2009).

PRODUCING

Chorley Youth Theatre: *Little Shop of Horrors* (2007). Blackburn Thwaites Empire Theatre: *The Country* (2010)

The New Theatre: *Bed* 2011.

MUSICAL DIRECTING

Winstanley College: Assistant Musical Director: *Our House* (2010). Nottingham Arts Theatre (Musicality): Musical Director: *Curtains* (2012). Musical Coordinator of Musicality Committee 2011-2012.

UPCOMING

The New Theatre: Producer: *Charley's Aunt* (2012). Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2012 (Musicality): Musical Director: *Wild West End* (Paulden Hall Productions).



A note from the producer...

We are all incredibly excited to be putting on 'bed' at Lakeside Arts Centre, and personally it has been a pleasure to work on the show again. As a producer, 'bed' provides many challenges – the set being the biggest. Fortunately, I couldn't have asked for a better team of set designers who have worked tirelessly to put together the amazing and endless different components on the stage. Having to build the biggest chest of drawers I've ever seen together is certainly more interesting than building the conventional set! It has been great to work with the cast again, a group of immensely talented actors who never cease to make rehearsals seem like fun rather than work!

I would like to thank Shona for giving us this amazing opportunity and Fran Piddlesden for her constant help and advice and putting up with my endless emails! I would also like to thank everyone who helped with the show at The New Theatre. It really is an incredible place and the highlight of my first year at university.

And finally of course I would like to thank James McAndrew. This is now the second show I have produced for him and the third show I have been involved in with him. And with two more to go before August, one of which being a four week run at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, I can safely say it's no longer a coincidence. He is an incredibly talented actor and director and it is a pleasure to be able to work with him once again.

I hope you enjoy the show!

Nick Stevenson

Producer

Conrad Cohen: Captain

Studying Mathematics (Third year)

Previous work:

DIRECTING

Nottingham Arts Theatre (Musicality): *Curtains* (2012). The New Theatre (Treasurer 2010-2011): *His Lordship Entertains* (2010). Hutchesons Grammar School: *The Elysian Fields* (2009).

ACTING

The New Theatre: Captain in *Bed* (2011); Old Bors in *Deus Vult* (2011); Azdak and others in *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* (2010); Lionek/Geivish in *Ghetto* (2009); Arthur William Lipson in *The Last Draft* (2009). Sandfield Theatre (Musicality): Pop in *The Pajama Game* (2010); Big Jule in *Guys & Dolls* (2011). Nottingham Arts Theatre: Chorus in *H.M.S. Pinafore* (2010). Hutchesons Grammar School: Lord Caversham in *An Ideal Husband* (2009); Louis in *Private Lives* (2009); Ko-Ko in *Hot Mikado* (2009); Tevye in *Fiddler on the Roof* (2008). Eastwood Park Theatre: Captain Bracket in *South Pacific* (2007); Chorus in *Cinderella* (2001); Palace Herald in *Puss in Boots* (2002), Brutus the Palace Guard in *Dick Whittington* (2007). Clarkson Theatre: Chorus in *Return to the Forbidden Planet* (2006); The Magic Mirror in *Snow White and the Seven Dwarves* (2006).

UPCOMING

Acting - Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2012 (The New Theatre): Monster in *The Hand-Me-Down People*



James Townend: Charles

Studying History and Ancient History (Third year)

Previous Work:

ACTING

Maidstone Grammar School: *We Will Rock You* (2008). The New Theatre: *The Importance of Being Earnest* (2009); *His Lordship Entertains* (2010); *Bed* (2011).

PRODUCING

The New Theatre: *Flare Path* (2010); *Hand and Heart* (2011), *Rope* (2011). Sandfield Theatre (Musicality): *Guys & Dolls* (2011). Nottingham Arts Theatre (Musicality): *Curtains* (2012).

UPCOMING

Producer - Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2012 (The New Theatre): *The Hand-Me-Down People*



Flo Haggood: Spinster

Studying Art History (Second year)

Previous work:

ACTING

LAMDA (One Year Foundation Course 2008-2009): *Twelfth Night* (2008); *Three Sisters* (2009); *A Lie of the Mind* (2008); *Harper Regan* (2008); *The Christening* (2009); *Nina* (2009). National Youth Theatre: Member since 2004. The New Theatre: *Bed* (2011); *After The End* (2011); *Arcadia* (2010); *Hedda Gabler* (2010); *Blithe Spirit* (2009); *His Lordship Entertains* (2010). Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2010 (The New Theatre): *Only One Wing*. Sandfield Theatre (Musicality): *The Pajama Game* (2010); *Guys & Dolls* (2011). Riverside Players: *The Taming of the Shrew* (2006).



Nick Jeffrey: Sermon Head

Studying International Relations (First year)

Previous work:

DIRECTING

Henslow – Alleyn Project: The Government Inspector (2010)

ACTING

The New Theatre: Bed (2011).

Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2009: A Grave Situation. Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2010: Soho Stories. Pleasance Islington: A Grave Situation (2009). Salzburg Global Seminar (Austria): Max Reinhardt Invites (2011).

UPCOMING

Acting – The New Theatre: 39 Steps (May, 2012); Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2012 (The New Theatre): Porphyria



Amy Brough-Aikin: Woman

Studying American and Canadian Studies (First year)

Previous work:

ACTING

The New Theatre: Bed (2011)

UPCOMING

The New Theatre (Uncut): Accidental Loss of a Baby (June, 2012)



Jono Lake: Man

Studying Industrial Economics (Second year)

Previous work:

ACTING

Bristol MYP: Les Miserables (2009); Foot Loose (2009); 42nd Street (2008). The New Theatre: Flare Path (2010); Bed (2011); All My Sons (2012).



Ellie Cawthorne: Marjorie

Studying History (Second year)

Previous work:

ACTING

The New Theatre: Cradle Me (2011), Bed (2011).

Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2011 (The New Theatre): Beef.

DIRECTING

The New Theatre: The Beauty Queen of Leenane (2012).



Suzie Roope: *Bosom Lady*

Studying French and Spanish (Second year)

Previous work:

ACTING

King Edward VI School Southampton: *Teechers* (2005); *South Pacific* (2008); *Confusions* (2009)

The New Theatre: *Bed* (2011)



CAST

Charles – James Townend

Captain – Conrad Cohen

Sermon Head – Nick Jeffrey

Man – Jono Lake

Woman – Amy Brough-Aikin

Spinster – Flo Hapgood

Bosom Lady – Suzie Roope

Marjorie – Ellie Cawthorne

CREW

Stage Managers – Chelsea Jayne Wright and Elin Stenner-Matthews

Set Design – Jess Courtney, Phil Geller and Grace Lowe

Set Construction – Jess Courtney, Grace Lowe, Gareth Morris, Nick Stevenson and Chelsea Jayne Wright

Lighting Design – Matt Leventhall

Original Music – Chris Walters

Original Publicity Artwork – Conrad Cohen

Technical Director – Bora Hunja

Make-up Artist – Emily Heaton

SPECIAL THANKS

Lakeside Arts Centre, Shona Powell, Fran Piddlesden, Richard Statham, Martin Berry, Matt Leventhall, Meg Salter, The New Theatre Committee, Cast and Crew of 'Too Far Away'.

COMING SOON @ THE NEW THEATRE

2nd to 5th May

Too Far Away by Adam H. Wells

9th to 12th May

The 39 Steps by Patrick Barlow

16th to 19th May

The History Boys by Alan Bennet

13th to 16th June

Charley's Aunt by Brandon Thomas

www.newtheatre.org.uk