



EQUUS

by Peter Shaffer


The Nottingham
New Theatre

2nd-5th April 2014
Doors 7.00pm / Start 7.30pm (Sat Mat Start 2.30pm)
Tickets from £4
Reserve tickets at newtheatre.org.uk

Students' Union
UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM

CAST

Ben Williamson - Martin Dysart
Ajay Stevenson - Alan Strang
Amelia Gann - Dora Strang
Ben Hollands - Frank Strang
Grace Roberts - Hesther Salomon
Daniella Blackford - Jill Mason
Omid Faramarzi - Harry Dalton
Matty Hodges - Nugget/Horseman
Ruth Wogan - Nurse
Nick Cain, Kitty Martens, Oliver Smith, Hollie Blaber - Chorus

CREW

Director - Ricki Crook
Co-director and Producer - Charlotte Prosser

Technical director - Will Pimblett
Lighting designer - Tessa Denney
Assistant lighting designer - Adam Bergen
Operators - Nathan Penney, Tom Gloess, Hannah Doyle, Lyle
Fulton
Stage managers - Ollie Shortt, Dan O'Connor
Mask designer - Hugh Purves
Set designers - Chelsea Jayne Wright, Tom Selves, Joe Heil
Construction Manager: Aubrey Turner
Makeup - Madeleine Hardy, Hannah Gregory
Publicity designers - Ben Hollands, Ajay Stevenson

SPECIAL THANKS

The Used Tack Shop
Sebastian Frend
Sarah Stewart
Chris Truman

Ricki Crook – Director

Acting: CLEAN, Letting Go (2013, Nottingham New)

Coming to University and discovering the brilliance that is the Nottingham New Theatre, directing a play was always going to be something I wanted to do, however I did not expect myself to be taking it on so soon after arriving a mere 6 months ago. I think the fact that I felt comfortable and was encouraged to put forward a proposal so soon



is a big credit to the inner workings of the Theatre. Everyone has been so supportive and encouraging, allowing Lottie and I to put on the play that we wanted and our only constraints being what was logistically impossible.

When Lottie came to me with the idea of doing Peter Shaffer's *Equus* just before Christmas, I recalled seeing the play while it was on in the West End, and remember being blown away at the script and the themes of questioning normality and our society that Shaffer so expertly intertwined into this tale of a young boy "for whom society does not exist". We hope that the characters and questions that the play poses, will stick with you long after you have walked out this theatre and that, overall, you enjoy this production that we have put together.

Although I have directed and Lottie has produced, this is not our show. This production belongs to our cast. Every single one of them has been absolutely brilliant, from the moment we cast all those months ago, each one of them threw themselves, fully and unhinged, into this production. The result is a cast that uses each other to the betterment of themselves, I remember there were moments in rehearsals when I used to sit there and not have to say a word as these people bought our vision to life with a scary accuracy of how we envisioned it, thank you guys, you've been a joy and a pleasure to work with. The set and technical side of this production was not the easiest job in the world but after two or three discussions our team; Chelsea, Aubrey, Joe, Tom, Will, Tessa and Adam went off and did what needed to be done to the highest standard, I couldn't thank them enough.

My last words are to you, the audience. This has all been for you, so you could walk into this Theatre and be entertained. I hope you enjoy the show.



Ben Williamson - Martin Dysart

Acting: Talented Mr Ripley (2011) View From A Bridge (2011) A Midsummer Night's Dream (2011) Beauty Queen of Leenane (2012) Memory of Water (2012) East (2013) Comedy of Errors (2013) Titus Andronicus (2013) (Nottingham New) Memory of Water (NSDF Selected Show, Scarborough 2013)

Directing: Osama the Hero (2013) Fresher's Fringe (2012, 2013)



Ajay Stevenson - Alan Strang

Acting: Dr Faustus (Lakeside, 2014), Trainspotting (Out of the Blue Drill Hall, Edinburgh, 2013); Titus Andronicus (Nottingham New, 2013) Memory of Water (NSDF Selected Show, Scarborough, 2013); Red (2013), Osama The Hero (2013), Jack Aged Five and a Half (2012), Memory of Water (2012), Antigone (2012), All My Sons (2012), View From A Bridge (2011) (Nottingham New).

Amelia Gann - Dora Strang

Acting: 1984 (2012), East (2013), Comedy of Errors (2013), The Project (Edinburgh Fringe, 2013), Back to Oblivion (2013), Habeas Corpus (2013) (Nottingham New), Dr Faustus (Lake-side, 2014).



Ben Hollands - Frank Strang

Acting: (NNT) 2012: The Thirty-Nine Steps, 1984. 2013: East, The Comedy of Errors, Sorry Wrong Number, Habeas Corpus. 2014: The Rehearsal. (Improv) 2012: The Hamlet, Unstable Fables 2013: The Best Book I Never Wrote, Death by Murder.





Grace Roberts -Hesther Salomon

Acting: CLEAN (NNT, 2013)



Daniella Blackford - Jill Mason

Acting: Little Red (2013), Eight (2013),
The Pillowman (2011), Five Kinds of
Silence (2010, NNT), A Midsummer
Night's Dream (Gordon Craig 2010)

Omid Faramarzi - Harry Dalton

Acting: Back To Oblivion, Letting Go
(2013, NNT) Bussy Malone (2007)



Matty Hodges - Nugget/Horseman

Acting: Freshers Fringe (2013) Letting
Go (2013, NNT)





Ruth Wogan - Nurse

Acting: Lysistrata (2013, Lakeside & NNT)



Nick Cain - Chorus

Acting: Blue Remembered Hills (NNT, 2014)

Kitty Martens - Chorus

Acting: Hoop Doet Leven (2012, Netherlands)



Oliver Smith - Chorus

This is Oliver's first show at the New Theatre.





Hollie Blaber - Chorus

This is Hollie's first show at the New Theatre.

Charlotte Prosser - Producer

Acting: Little Red (2012), Conviction, CLEAN (2013, Nottingham New).



Ricki and I met acting in a New Theatre fringe production and we enjoyed ourselves so much we couldn't think of anything better than getting involved more. Although we both gained some experience before university, this is by far the largest project we've ever undertaken, being the first time we've worked behind the scenes at the New Theatre. I fell in love with the play when I first saw it on tour five years ago and after reading the script again we thought it would be a challenging and exciting show to bring to the New Theatre. Being so new we were so grateful to be given the opportunity and after the shock set in we got to work. Our aim was to stay true to the script and put our own stamp on it as well; by using the character of Dysart as our focal point we have attempted to create a space built around his mind, tracking his reflective perspective and experiences in treating Alan. As a cast we've had our ups and downs with illness and injury galore but with the help of a heap of painkillers and numerous packs of soothers we've made it through! It was a huge task taking on such a big production as relative newbies but everyone in the theatre, both cast and crew, have been so supportive; to say that we couldn't have done it without them seems cliché but couldn't be more true. Thank you to the many people who have supported us and we hope you enjoy the show as much as we enjoyed making it!

That Face

Students & Young
Adults 16-25

 The Nottingham
New Theatre

8th - 11th April 2014
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Tickets from £4
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