

Jake Beach - Producer
BA English & Philosophy (3rd Year)

Previous Experience -
Production Assistant: Pornography (NNT)



Much like Will's secret child, the idea of putting on *Someone Who'll Watch Over Me* was conceived in the smoking area of Ocean. Despite me expecting his slurred description of the play to be yet another agonisingly offensive joke – 'An Irishman, an Englishman and an American walk into a Lebanese hostage cell...' – I was hooked by the promise of bizarre re-enactments of a Ladies Tennis final and Sam Peckinpah films.

Although the reality of which McGuinness' play is based on is far from a laughing matter, the way in which his characters utilise dark humour as a weapon against the unfortunate situation that they find themselves in is something that resonated with me. Not only did I realise that this is something I do myself, but bizarrely I was also able to draw parallels between the way in which Adam, Edward and Michael interacted. Having lived with NNT's very own Ollie Shortt and Will Berrington last year, I couldn't help but feel that we also walked the delicate tightrope between hilarity and losing our sanity. Plus, whilst our other housemates won't appreciate the comparisons to terrorists, our bathroom sadly resembled the conditions of a terror cell (or so I'd imagine).

Humour aside, I'd like to take this chance to publicly thank Will, for involving me in such a challenging yet rewarding project, and to our lovely assistant Becca, for having to endure the both of us for such an extended period of time! Also, a huge thanks to the terrific triumvirate of Chris, Gil and Sam for making rehearsals such a fun experience without a single dull moment. Finally, a huge thanks to everybody else who was involved throughout the project – it's been an absolute pleasure.

I hope you enjoy the production as much we have enjoyed working on it!

Will Berrington - Director
LLB Law (3rd Year)

Previous Experience -
Directing: Sex Cells (NNT)
Acting: Yours and Mine, The Glass Menagerie,
Infirmary, Punk Rock, The Final Act,
A Servant To Two Masters, The Rehearsal,
Habeas Corpus (NNT)



If *Someone Who'll Watch Over Me* proves one thing, it is that survival is an art. In this play, based on the experiences of Brian Keenan and John McCarthy, McGuinness takes the challenge of survival to the extreme, but shows us that the art remains the same – learn to be loved & love in return, and you can keep going through anything. *Someone Who'll Watch Over Me* is a play that offers itself a tribute to those who struggle through every day, even when those struggles seem minor in comparison to the difficulties those involved in the Lebanese hostage crisis faced, and carries with it one message - keep going.

Now that the soppy part is over, a few thanks are in order... To the boys, you have absolutely smashed this process. Even if we probably did spend far too much time being distracted by Leicester's title hopes, we've produced an absolutely incredible show, and you should all be incredibly proud of yourselves. Also – buy a watch.

To Becca, your dedication to this production has exceeded that expected of any production assistant, and in reality you've functioned more as an Assistant Director than anything. Coping with Jake and me for 2 months is an achievement alone, but your constantly inspired ideas have been incredibly valuable in the process, and have shaped what this play has become.

And finally, to Jake 'Boyard' Beach. I'm not sure I could have quite pulled this off without your humour, ability to get things done, and skill at keeping me calm. Having someone else with this dark of a sense of humour helps me feel slightly saner (albeit that belief may be misplaced), and this production would have been nothing without your input.

Enjoy the show folks, and remember – don't cry, laugh.