



PAGE TO STAGE – March 4th
THE PANEL

- **MARK BROWN**

Mark was a founding member of *joinedupwriters*, who produced over 50 plays in 4 yrs. Mark himself wrote 12 of those plays. After *joinedupwriters* he formed two companies, *Brainehownd films*, which has produced 3 short films and is developing its first feature, and *Backbone productions*, which is theatre based and has produced two sketch comedy shows and 2 one act plays. Mark is also working on two sitcoms.

- **EMILY AGNEW**

Emily Agnew is a regular panellist for Page To Stage and the Artistic Director for *Mokita Productions* – one of the founders of the *New Writing Collective*. Most recently for Mokita she directed the sell-out show, 'Involution' at the Pleasance Theatre for the Edinburgh Festival. Mokita are currently co-producing, 'A Christmas Carol' for The King's Head Theatre, Islington, for which Emily will be the Associate Director.

- **MIKE SHEPHERD**

Mike Shepherd is a founder member of the award-winning Ten in a Bed Theatre, who most recently received the 2009 Fringe Report Award as the best encouragers of new talent. He has worked as a writer, performer and director and his sketches and plays have been performed across the London and Edinburgh fringes.

- **ANDY MARCHANT**

Andy Marchant is a writer and director (occasionally dabbling in acting). He is Kensington Drama Company's (KDC) New Writing Coordinator, and has taken responsibility for the New Writing Programme, incorporating Round Table Readings of new pieces, rehearsed readings and one act seasons. He is dedicated to new work and its development and acts as the first point of contact for writers interested in enhancing their scripts. If you would like to submit anything to him he is always on the lookout, so please write to new.writing@kdctheatre.com.

THE PIECES

1) One Day On The Train - Alexander Williams

A man and a woman, strangers, begin a conversation on a train. All too soon they're revealing things about themselves they had no intention of sharing, and their relationship turns out to have a sting in the tail.

Alexander Williams - my passion for writing plays really took off at university where I produced several of my own scripts, mostly comic pieces including 'Dinner and a Doughnut'. Since leaving university I now work as a full time English teacher and have developed a more dramatic and esoteric style in writing verse plays such as Thyestes which ran at the Battersea Arts Centre and was given three stars in a Guardian review. I'd like to start working with comedy again and think this would be a fantastic step towards that.

CAST:

LIN: Anna Lindup

Trained at LAMDA - actress of the year award, credits include:

Dead Funny, Vaudeville; directed by Terry Johnson; The Beaux Strategem, directed by Peter James; Yerma; The Pimp; Lunatic & Lover; The Maids; Lysistrata; Ghost Sonata; Blithe Spirit; Buddy Holly at the Regal(National Tour); Glass Menagerie; Hitting Town; When We Are Married; The Maids; Gaslight; Red Devils; Richard II; Merchant of Venice; The Matchmaker; Therese Raquin; Stags and Hens; Steaming; Mother Courage;

TV: *Tenko; The Flying Lady; Woman in White; The Bill; Casualty; Voyage Inheritance*

Film: *The Jazz Detective; Wycliffe- The Morning Star; The Eleventh Commandment; Ladykillers; In My Head*

Radio: *Leyla Nazli's The Hamam Bride; Maximum Credible Accident; Whale Music - both written and directed by Anthony Minghella; Fixed Images; Glaring Lack of Ambition; Fish Hooks*

Founder member of The Poetry Show. Readings at: Glastonbury; London Poetry Festival; Poetry Café; Barn Theatre; Old Operating Theatre

XAN: Sam Curtis

Sam graduated from Manchester Metropolitan School of Theatre with a First Class Honours. His theatre credits include Soul Play (Trestle/Junction/Mercury), Three Tall Women (Oxford Playhouse/Cambridge Arts/Yvonne Arnaud), and Kes (Royal Exchange) Film and Television include Dalziel and Pascoe (BBC), Why Don't You Dance? (NFTS) and the feature film Awaydays (Red Union/Optimum Releasing) which will be released in April 2009. Work for BBC Radio includes, The Prospect, Blood Wedding, The Crowded Street and Madame Bovary. Sam also hosts "The Shwizz" his comedy quiz show night at Shoreditch House.

BLUE: Joseph Dalton

STU: Damien Cooper

Damian has just finished playing Malcolm in Macbeth at the Sparkenhoe Ark Theatre in Leicester, and since graduating from Drama Studio London this year has also been fortunate to appear as Out in Holoray Holiday at the Arcola during the Grimeborn Festival. He has also played Rumpelstiltskin in a UK panto tour and is the face of ZiDesigns.com and Zihost.com. During his training he played Richard III and Konstantin in The Seagull, amongst other parts. Damian is a big fan of working with new writing having, before his training, toured Ireland with Loveslost and winning the Cameron Mackintosh Award playing Steve in Mikey The Pikey in a sell out Edinburgh festival run. He is contactable through his website www.damiancooper.com.

2) The Stay - Oliver Schnitzer

Alex arrives home, after being away for seven years, to find someone else living in his house. He finds Alan sitting on the sofa. He learns that his family have moved away and that Alan is now the owner of the newly purchased house. At this point Alan also informs Alex that the family decided to move away due to the death of his mother. Alan speaks of his mother and father's undying love for one another but what Alex realizes is that Alan is lying to him. Their conversation continues and builds up with lie after lie as they try to gain dominance over their counterpart. From acting out murder scenes to divulging hidden past stories they build up the tension until Alex' father enters the house. At this point Alex comes to realize that Alan has also lied to him about his own identity, where in fact his real name is Richard.

Oliver Schnitzer was born in 1986 and grew up, for the most part of his life, in Greece. He attended University of Winchester in 2005 for a degree in combined honours in Drama and Creative Writing, which he later changed to single honours in Drama. He obtained his BA (Hons) with a 2.1 in Drama in 2008 and is currently attending Royal Holloway University of London where he is obtaining his masters in Theatre (Playwriting). This is Oliver's first piece of work in writing.

CAST:

ALEX – David Bibby

David can be seen performing in Abandon Theatre's improvised comedy show, 'Your Line Or Mine?' in London and Belfast. Previous theatre credits include Len in Saved at The Theatre Royal Haymarket, Vince Fontaine in Grease and Joel in Ruby Saturday at Teatro Technis. David was Team Captain on TV Panel shows My Way or The Subway and World's Worst Web. Credits whilst training include Jean-Paul Marat in Marat/ Sade, Bri in A Day in the Death of Jo Egg and Tony in Abigail's Party. David is passionate about new writing and relishing the opportunity to read in this exciting venture.

ALAN - Simon Furness

Simon studied at the Guildford School of Acting and the Actors' Temple London. Theatre: Romeo and Juliet, What the Butler Saw, Writings in the Sand, The Importance of Being Earnest, The Taming of the Shrew, Pygmalion, Antony and Cleopatra, 'A Hug Away from Happiness'. Film/TV:

'Lord Rochester's Monkey' (Rochester) 'Mysterious Discoveries' (Lord Byron), 'Get Me out of Here' (also co-wrote); 'Crimewatch File'. Agent: Scott-Niven Associates. He taught acting in Milan for five years on the principles pioneered by Sanford Meisner and is now one of the lead tutors at The Actors' Temple.

TIM – Richard Ward

Richard trained at Drama Studio London. Theatre credits include "We The People" (Shakespeare's Globe) and "The School For Scandal" (Bridewell Theatre). TV and film includes "Midsomer Murders" and a short film for "Blue Peter". Richard also specialises in rehearsed play readings, reads audio books and undertakes corporate role play. Spotlight 9376-9059-3054.

3) I Should Be So Lucky – Sue Casson

Tim and Sarah, ex-lovers, have been left stranded on stage to fill ten minutes because Sarah's new boyfriend didn't email them the script, through jealousy about them performing together, but true love wins out in the end.

Sue is an actor and writer who attended drama workshops at the West Yorkshire Playhouse in Leeds for five years, where she wrote, directed and performed several short pieces for theatre. She is now based in Derbyshire and performed recently at the Sheffield Crucible Theatre. She's had a play performed by the Birmingham Youth Theatre and also attended a week-long writers' workshop run by the Soho Theatre Company in relation to a play she wrote called 'Tomodachi'.

CAST:

TIM: - Damian Cooper

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SARAH: Sarah Alborn

Originally from Leicester, Sarah was a Drama teacher for a number of years before she re-trained at Birmingham School of Acting to follow her true passion. Since then she has played Anitra in Peer Gynt at the Hackney Empire with Dale Teater Kompani, Sybil Chase in Private Lives at the Marie Bornson Open Air Theatre and has toured nationally in Mr Humbug and Burglar Bill with Pandora's Box Theatre Company amongst others. She has also completed a number of short films, a feature film, three radio plays, two rehearsed readings and a Bollywood music video! Sarah most recently appeared as God in Chav Scum Kills God at the Courtyard Theatre who more than resembled a 'life sized Barbie'!

DIRECTED PIECE

'The Best Way' - Nikki Williams

An elderly, eastern European woman with dementia is visited by her 'cleaner' who is really just paid to give her company. Through various means the conversation turns to death and the old woman's want for euthanasia. Comically the piece plays out with an absurdist twist at the end.

Nikki studied Drama at Hull and took a short writing course at Hull Truck Theatre. Her work was entered into a festival of new writing there and put on. Once returning to London she worked on HighTide Festival (a new writing theatre and film festival) in an administration role. Simultaneously she took part in the YWP at the Royal Court and subsequently had a short performed as part of Rough Cuts in the theatre upstairs. She is now doing a playwriting MA at City University.

Director: Jamie Rocha Allan

Jamie is a freelance director who recently graduated from the Birkbeck MFA in theatre directing. He was recently resident Assistant Director at the Lyric Theatre Hammersmith, where he assisted on numerous productions including Water, Metamorphosis, Beauty and the Beast, and Arturo Ui. He has also assisted on Frantic Assembly's Othello and Radium Girls and As You Like It, both at Arts Educational drama school. Jamie is about to direct Scratched Out, an Urban Musical that will be performed at Oval House and Riverside Studios.

CAST

Hilda - Gina Peach

Gina trained at BSSD and Middlesex University. Theatre includes; Gina in 'The Full Monteverdi' (Chichester Festival Theatre and International tour), Keane in 'Mine' (Bristol Old Vic & UK tour), The Fiancee in 'Lulu' (ENO), Isabella in 'The White Devil' (Greenwich Playhouse), Ismene in Antigone (Etcetera Theatre), Hermia in 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' (Edinburgh Fringe); Squealer/Clover in Animal Farm (Teatro Europa). TV includes: Gina in 'The Full Monteverdi' (SkyArts & S4C). For BBC Radio: Narrator - Sleepovers (BBC 7).

Annie: Polly Eachus