# THE PLAYS

# Paddle Your Own Canoe

The whirlwind life of music-hall performers in Sheffield, 1858.

WRITER - Holly Baynes

Holly trained at Fourth Monkey, and has been working as an actor since graduating. This is her first full-length play. Harry Clifton is Holly's great-great-great grandfather - she was inspired by his story to create a play about this now mostly forgotten music-hall pioneer.

**DIRECTOR** - Alan Phillips

Starting his career at the BBC in the 1980s, credits include devising, co-producing and directing *In Motion* for BBC Studios and BBC Worldwide (2000). Alan also adapted, produced and directed Sophocles' *Oedipus Rex* for BBC Studios (2013). He has directed many plays for Slam King's Cross and the New Writers Festival at venues such as the Arcola, the Pleasance and the Vaults.

Harry - Chad Patterson

Theatre includes Hamlet (Chicago Shakespeare Theatre), The Drowsy Chaperone (Oregon Cabaret Theatre), As You Like It, My Fair Lady and others (Pacific Conservatory Theatre), A Midsummer Nights Dream, King Lear, Moon over Buffalo and others (San Diego Performing Arts). Film/TV includes: ManicMan (lead), EXILE (lead), Raja 420 (supporting), Ghost (lead), Marvél (AB Entertainment), Two-Faced (lead). Spotlight: 5099-7835-6503

Charley - Alex Guersman

Born in Tucumán, Argentina, trained in California, now based in East London, Alex is an actor-singer musician. He can be seen in *The Split* 3 (BBC) as series regular Gael, and plays Hugo in *Arthur's Whiskey* (upcoming feature film). Theatre includes Orlando (*As You Like It*, Central Coast Shakespeare Festival) and Demetrius (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Pacific Conservatory Theatre). Spotlight: 5733-1279-6594

Annie - Morgan Szarvas

After leaving college, Morgan trained and toured with the TIE company Peer Productions. They played Haemon in *Antigone*, Seren in *Losing It*, and Jack in *The Space Between (my head and heart)*, which they also helped to devise. Morgan is currently training at Rose Bruford College, where they are studying a degree in European Theatre Arts. They also studied acting at Eolia Conservatory in Barcelona for 4 months.

Mary Ann - Rachel Sparkes

Rachael is an actor, writer and East 15 graduate, based in London. Since graduating, roles range from playing Mark Antony in the only original Roman theatre in the UK, to taking her own one-woman show to the Edinburgh fringe, and seeing herself on the largest screen in the UK, BFI IMAX (although she's not sure how much she enjoyed seeing herself on that scale). She is particularly passionate about new writing. Spotlight: 1174-6753-4366

A Journey's End

Nick is helped on their journey through grief by a familiar figure.

WRITER - Paul Whitby

Paul has been scribbling for years and only recently found that play writing suits him as he lacks the stamina to finish a novel. He is a boring introvert who escapes into fictional worlds to avoid the unpleasantness of modern life, its emptiness and meaninglessness. Works a treat.

**DIRECTOR - PK Taylor** 

PK is an actor and director. While he is passionate about any form of performance creation, new writing/devising holds a special place for him. PK believes that Page to Stage (and other such events) are invaluable for the development and nurturing of new or established talents and ideas. Spotlight: 1532-4500-2448

Nick - Simon Balcon

Simon trained at Drama Studio London and the Actors Temple. Theatre credits include Templeton in *Charlotte's Web*, Demetrius in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Antonio/Mercutio in *Romeo & Juliet*, Reynaldo/Francisco in *Hamlet* (Actors Temple Company), Gethin Price in *Comedians* (Chelsea Theatre), which he also co-produced, and Kulygin in *Three Sisters* (Cockpit Theatre). He toured the UK with *The House on Cold Hill*. TV includes *The Nevers* and *Grantchester*. Film credits include *Requiem* and *Young Woman and the Sea*. Spotlight: 0515-4503-8471

Chris - Tori Louis

Tori trained at Drama Studio London and The Free Association Improv school. Since then she has appeared in various stage, TV commercials and web series. An excellent comic actor and improviser, she's worked with writers and directors at previous Page2Stages prior to the infamous lockdown. Tori loves being a part of Page2Stage and is hoping to snare future partners in crime for general mischief and mayhem in the acting world. Spotlight: 2298-5649-2217

#### INTERVAL OF 15 MINUTES

# **Firetail**

A wildlife photographer teaches a rookie but both have a secret...

WRITER - David Pearson

David has had short plays performed in London, including at the Camden Fringe Festival, Bedford, Bromley and Reading. He retired from acting at the top of his game at the age of six, after a moving and acclaimed performance as both Mary and Joseph in the Year 1 school nativity.

DIRECTOR - Amelia Sciandra

A US creative based in London, Amelia (she/they) is an audiobook narrator, actor, director, producer, educator and coach. Recent directorial credits include Winter's Tale, Waiting for Lefty and Coriolanus at Arts Ed on the MA Acting programme and You Give Me Fever - The Phaedra Cabaret at Riverside Studios for LynchPin Productions. Amelia also works as a producer for young people making their first films with Young Film Academy.

Tim - Michael Ohren

Michael is an experienced actor who has done a lot of comedy, and describes his type as a figure of authority on the verge of, or in the throes of, incompetence. Theatre includes Neville's Island, Way Upstream, The Borrowers, The Rivals. He founded theatre company Re:Actors, and was part of 3-man comedy act the Serious Actors. Spotlight: 0770-7830-1920

Marcus - Richard Stranks

Richard is an actor, voice actor, and professional nerd. Stage includes *Dick Whittington* (touring), *SLAMinutes Does Mens' Mental Health* (Arcola Theatre), *Art from the Heart* (Southwark Playhouse), *Charles Darwin: Collapsing Creation* (Brockley Jack Theatre). V/o includes *Eiyuden Chronicle: Hundred Heroes* (505 Games), *Alexa Game Control* (Amazon), 123 Number Squad (Sky Kids), *Team Zenko Go!* (Netflix). Spotlight: 0619-9056-0661

# Penguin Cafe

An Emperor Penguin opens a fine dining eatery in Ealing.

## WRITER - Penelope Grant

Penelope has been a member of the Richmond Scriptwriters workshop for some years, and is now a member of Director's Cut and Actors and Writers, London. She has had short pieces performed at OSO, Barnes, and at Southwark Theatre with Director's Cut.

# DIRECTOR - Kira Gaudynski

Kira is an American actor, director, theatremaker, facilitator, and acting coach. She trained at Rose Bruford, where she received an MFA in International Theatre Practice and Performance; she holds an undergraduate degree in theatre from Cornell College (Iowa). Kira's work centres around creating magical theatrical events of well-crafted truthful storytelling, whether that's reimagined experiences, or innovative new works. As a friend to artists, Kira is always looking to connect with other creatives: www.kiragaudynski.com

## Apollonius - Maria Cole

Maria is an actor, writer and skilled improviser. Theatre credits include one of the Chorus of Women in the world premiere of *Mary* (Hampstead Theatre), the fun-loving R in The *Plunge* (The Space), and the no-nonsense matriarch Irene in the world premiere of *Tenancy* (Hampton Hill Theatre). Short film credits include the quirky Mildred in *Losing It* (Sky Arts/Creative England) and the dangerous Eve in *Insider*. Spotlight: 9095-7867-8692

#### Hester - Carrie Cohen

Carrie's recent theatre work includes June Wright in *Triggered* at Lion & Unicorn and White Bear theatres, Sandra in *Tick Tock* and Penny in *Blackstar*, both at Arcola Theatre, and various roles with SLAMinutes, Pleasance London. TV includes *Starstruck* and *Mandy*. Film credits include the lead roles of Rose in *Skeletons* and Grace in *Just Saying*. For full cv and showreel, see <a href="https://www.carriecohen.co.uk">www.carriecohen.co.uk</a>

#### Roberto - Melanie Lam

A Mauritius-born writer and actor, based in London. Acting credits: Young Vic Theatre, Network Theatre, Theatro Technis, Broadway Theatre Catford, Phoenix Arts Club, Barons Court, Golden Goose, Arcola, Pleasance. Digital projects: The Show Must Go Online 2020, Quarantine Players All the world's a stage Shakespeare Solos 2020. Writing credits: Honey Theatre's Winter Writers Showcase 2023, SLAMinutes 2022, Chinese Write Now Festival 2022, Creating Apart 2021 ESEA, Show Face Festival 2020. Spotlight: 3336-8975-0398

#### Perfideas - Catherine Allison

Catherine has wide-ranging theatre, voiceover and screen experience. Recent credits include *Call the Midwife* (TV), *Mentalising* (film), *Sheba* (v/o), *A Plague On All Your Houses* (Theatre - Riverside Studios). Catherine regularly comperes at Hackney Empire and Troxy. Spotlight: 9259-9085-0016

## Randolph Radish - Miranda Harrison

Trained at LSDA. Theatre includes Viv, Norfolk (Arcola), Vagina Monologues (Bread & Roses Theatre), Florrie, Skin (Park Theatre), Nurse, Romeo and Juliet (Leicester Square Theatre). TV includes UTU (BBC World TV). V/o work includes audio for Bletchley Park and BBC Children in Need. Miranda co-runs Page to Stage London. She is also a regular actor for short story event Liars League. Spotlight: 6296-7864-5315

Remaining dates for 2024: Mon 23 September, Mon 25 November

# Page to Stage London: 24 June 2024 The Water Rats, WC1X 8BZ



# THE PANEL

## Angela Ekaette Michaels

Angela is a theatre director, specialising in new writing or novel approaches to classic works (e.g. a contemporary town-centre promenade of *The Merchant of Venice* for Studio 3 Arts). Directing includes *Mami Wata* by Bisola Alabi, *Red Dirt* by Patricia Cumper, *The Tragedian* by Glen Wilson, *Look to the Sky* by Courttia Newland, *Begin/End* by Davis Lane, *Locked in* and *We are Shadows* by Fin Kennedy. She was Associate Director on *Conundrum* at the Young Vic. She is co-founder of Tell Tarra Theatre, showcasing new writing by writers under-represented in the industry. As Associate Director at Half Moon Theatre, she developed pieces with actors, dance practitioners, poets and spoken-word artists. Angela has also directed for East 15, Goldsmiths, LSBU, Identity Drama School, Drama Studio, University of Greenwich and Brunel University.

## Suzette Coon

Suzette is a playwright, living and working in London. Her plays have been produced at theatres including Southwark Playhouse, Arcola Theatre and Theatre503, amongst others. Her play *Killer Whale* will have a small UK tour in late 2024 and her play *In a Key of Her Own* will headline the 2024 Taking the Stage Festival at the MK Gallery in October. Suzette has been part of the Sphinx Theatre Lab, a development programme which supports female British playwrights, and the Criterion Theatre New Writing Programme, and her plays have been supported by Arts Council England. Suzette's theatre company, Little Pieces of Gold, produced over 400 short plays. Her anthology *Short Plays with Great Roles for Women* is published by Routledge Books.

## **Niall Phillips**

Niall is a classically trained actor, award-winning theatre director and a qualified theatre practitioner. He runs Lonesome Workshops, which is the 'safest workshop space in London' - providing text-based acting workshops to explore a broad range of industry-specific skills. He has worked in New York City, Europe, Turkey, Africa and all over the UK, at theatres from the Arcola to the Edinburgh fringe, and drama schools such as East 15, Arts Ed, RADA, Italia Conti, Royal Birmingham Conservatoire and IDSA. Niall is also Head Coach at online drama school IAMPRO.

Organisers: Miranda Harrison (Spotlight: 6296-7864-5315) and Georgina Periam (@georginaperiam)

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