

THE PLAYS

Mad as a Hatter

Cambridge 1891. A milliner uses mercury nitrate in his poorly ventilated workshop

WRITER - Rachel Thompson

A trained theatre designer, Rachel has worked for several years as an artist and teacher. She is currently writing a collection of plays, and a feature screenplay that explore themes of love, friendship, loss and hope.

DIRECTOR - Amy Tickner

Work includes new writing festivals with Colour and Light Productions (2018), Founding Fall Theatre (2018) and University College London (2018 - present). Amy wrote and directed *Jammy Dodgers* (Theatre N16, 2018; Etcetera Theatre, 2019). She is involved in training programmes at The City Academy and The National Youth Theatre.

Robert Dobson - Brian Merry

Classic stage credits include Oberon and Theseus, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (tour), Macduff, *Macbeth* (London Theatre), and Earl of Gloucester, *King Lear*, and Edward IV and Lord Stanley, *Richard III* (Rose Playhouse). Contemporary roles include Mr Smith, *The Bald Prima Donna* (Cockpit), Dr Rank, *A Doll's House* (Baron's Court), Theodore Leon, *The Western Trilogy* (Hen + Chickens). Spotlight: 4774-6720-5921

Walter Smith - Shaun Blaney

Shaun is an Irish actor with a career spanning theatre, film, television and radio. He is co-creator of the crime-drama series *Farr*, which premiered on RTE's international player and picked up five international awards, including two best Drama (Seriesfest, Colorado and ITVfest, Denvir), and two best actor awards for Shaun's performance. His latest play *The Man who fell to pieces* was named best play at the SA critic Awards Northern Ireland 2018. Spotlight: 6614-0165-9586

Mrs Crawford - Sarah Somerville

Sarah plays Jackie the Volunteer in the touring production of *Food Bank As It Is* ('The facts on the workings of the welfare benefits system are shocking, movingly illustrated by the cast.') Other recent credits include *Adpology* for International Women's Day 2018, satirising the ways women are portrayed in advertising, and *The Children Act* wth Emma Thompson and directed by Richard Eyre. Spotlight: 9175-6758-0401

Operation VS

The Government are interested in new software that Jacob created. But why?

WRITER - Catriona Clancy

A freelance theatre-maker of Irish heritage, Cat began her career as an actor and then moved into directing. For five years she ran Curious Cloud Productions, presenting adaptations of classic plays and devised comedy. Having written sketches for the company, she decided to commit to playwriting in a more focused way. She took the Playwriting Foundations course at The Arcola and received mentorship from playwright Stephen Brown. *Operation VS* is her first short play.

DIRECTOR - Helen Bennedict

After completing an MA in Acting at East 15 as a mature student, Helen worked in London as an actor before the call for travel and adventure saw her packing her bags and heading off to work on super yachts. Whilst travelling, she started writing. Now based back in London, she juggles a day job with acting, writing and directing.

Head of Operations - Colleen Prendergast

Colleen trained at RADA. Stage credits include *The Mortal Ash* (Bush Theatre), *Comedy of Errors* (Nuffield Southampton) and *The True History of Julia Pastrana* (Hope Mill Theatre). TV includes *Chandler and Co* (BBC) and *The Lightning Kid* (ITV). She has narrated over a hundred audiobooks, and has played everything from a three-year-old child to a talking teacake. Spotlight: 3063-5643-6799

Jacob - Ben Meyer

Ben is a recent graduate from the University of East Anglia but has also received training from Arts Ed, the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, National Youth Theatre and The Impulse Company in London and New York. Theatre credits include Angel in *Rent* and The Envoy in Jean Genet's *The Balcony*, for which Ben was nominated for the Spinks Award. Spotlight: 4772-4501-7830

INTERVAL OF 15 MINUTES

Win, Lose or Draw

Chaos ensues when two guys at the end of their tethers try to solve their problems

WRITERS - Joe Griffith and Charlie Jones

Joe is a graduate of the University of Manchester Screenwriting MA (2018), and was shortlisted for the Channel 4 Northern Writers Awards 2018. He has worked in development roles for 42 Productions and Hurricane Films. Charlie is a graduate of the Everyman & Playhouse Playwrights Programme 2017/18. He has developed scripts with both the Creative England shortFLIX programme and Random Acts North.

DIRECTOR - Jack Silver

Jack is an Offie-nominated director, writer and actor. He trained in acting at The Poor School, The Actors Class and The Impulse Company, and in Directing for Theatre at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. His semi-immersive version of Tennessee Williams' *Confessional*, set in a Southend pub, broke box office records at Southwark Playhouse.

Jack - Nathan Chatelier

London-based actor, experienced in film, stage and v/o work. Winner of IDSA's Clive Daley Actor of the Year Award, and recent lead in *The Rehearsal* (dir. Giovanni Montalvo), which placed as a semi-finalist of LA Cinefest. Currently working on a few short film projects and a new writing piece to be performed at TARA Theatre in June. Spotlight: 2617-9053-7061

Mrs Taggart - Carrie Cohen

Theatre includes Sandra in *Tick Tock* and Penny in *Blackstar* (both Arcola Theatre), Mrs Tarleton in Shaw's *Misalliance* (Tabard), Hetty in *Gelt* (Etcetera), Myfanwy in

Hula Hoops (The Space). Recent film includes Grace in *Just Saying* and Marion in *Mr Inanis*. Showreel & spotlight link at www.carriecohen.co.uk

Ben - Nicholas Waters

Theatre includes *Frontline* (Shakespeare's Globe), *Four Score and Ten* (Winchester Theatre Royal), *Twelfth Night*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Antic Disposition), *Macbeth* (Oxford Shakespeare Company), *The Great Gatsby* (Riverside Studios), *Paper Wings* (Southwark Playhouse). Screen includes *Thank God You're Here* (ITV/Talkback), *Jerusalem* (Amazon), *Incredibly Fast Courtroom Toilet Melodrama* (Levine Films). Spotlight: 7118 0164 3857

Are You Going To Leave Me?

British Amy and Romanian Mihai had their first date on 23 June 2016...

WRITER - Grace Bouchard

Grace trained as an actress with Fourth Monkey Theatre Company. She has worked as a theatre director with The UnDisposables, Greenwood Theatre Company and has produced a short film for Blindshot Productions. Grace has recently turned her attention to writing. *Are You Going to Leave Me?* is her first piece.

DIRECTOR - Thyrsa Abrahams

Thyrsa is currently studying Drama at Queen Mary University London. At university she devised and directed *Deadline* which she took up to Edinburgh Fringe Festival last year, as well as directing other productions with Queen Mary Theatre Company. Elsewhere she co-directed *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* with Chickapow Productions, and directed *Empty Your Pockets* for the Stop and Search Scratch Night at the Arcola.

Amy - Paula Gilmour

Paula hails from Edinburgh but moved south to train at Drama Studio London. Credits in training include: *Hermia* in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Peter/Emily* in *Earthquakes in London* (New Diorama Theatre). She recently played *Joy* in *Serve Cold* (Katzpace) - a darkly comic two-hander which she also produced, and has toured Liverpool and the North West as *Aladdin*. Spotlight: 1615-6753-8315

Mihai - Bogdan Silaghi

Having trained in both his native Romania and in London, at East15 Acting School, Bogdan has since worked in various theatre and film projects in the UK and abroad. Recent credits include *Jonah* in *Jonah* by Marin Sorescu (Kibo Productions), and *Boy* in *The Journey* and *Hirsh* in *Ashes to Ashes*, both by Steve Lambert for Badac Theatre Company. Spotlight: 3415-6724-7109

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Miranda Harrison (Page to Stage organiser, actor, v/o artist)
For all Page to Stage queries, contact Miranda on: page2stage@gmx.com
For her performance work, see Spotlight viewpin: 6296-7864-5315

Weds 24 April 2019
The Horse & Stables, SE1 7RW



THE PANEL

Sue Healy

Irish playwright Sue Healy is Literary Manager at the Finborough Theatre, an Associate Lecturer in Playwriting at the universities of Lincoln and Portsmouth, and tutor of Creative Writing at CityLit. Her play *Imaginationship* had a sold-out, extended run at the Finborough in 2018, later showing at the Stephen Joseph in Scarborough. Previous productions include *Cow* (Etcetera) and *Brazen* (King's Head), funded by Arts Council England. Her short work has been performed at the Arcola (Minaturists), Criterion, Hackney Attic, Claremorris Festival (New Writing Award winner), Brighton Festival (Sussex Playwrights' Award Winner) and Sterts Theatre, and has been developed by the Abbey Theatre, Dublin. Radio work includes nine plays broadcast on BBC Radio 4 (Opening Lines winner), WLR fm and KCLR96fm. Sue has a doctorate in modern theatre history (specialising in the Royal Court Theatre), and is a UEA Creative Writing MA alumna.

Georgie Bailey

Georgie is a poet, playwright, performer and digital producer. He is the current literary projects manager for the London Playwrights Blog, and a co-founder and Artistic Director of ChewBoy Productions (a multi-arts company dedicated to fostering emerging artists). In 2018 he had two full-length pieces, *Drag Me Out* (Hen and Chickens) and *Euam* (Tristan Bates Theatre) produced in London to five and four star acclaim. An alumnus of Soho Theatre's Writers Lab, HighTide's Writers Group and a current member of Papatango's South East Development Scheme, Georgie has also had numerous shorter pieces staged at showcases in regional and London venues. He works full-time for Chichester Festival Theatre, where he has led several creative writing projects with young people, as well as developing plays through script consultancy work.

Geoffrey Williams

A freelance director and playwright, Geoffrey specialises in developing new work. He is currently workshopping his new play *Game of Governments*, which will be showcased at the RADA festival in June. He is also preparing a tour of his play *Drowned or Saved?* which played at the Tristan Bates Theatre in 2018. Previous work as a director includes *Marzipan*, *The Android Kitten* by Roberto Trippini (The Space), *Five Card Stud* by Ross Howard (Lantern Theatre, Brighton) and *The Other Place* by Sharr White (GBS Theatre). Geoffrey has assisted on major productions such as *The Railway Children*, and taught acting in places such as the Identity School of Acting and the Pauline Quirke Academy. Geoffrey trained in directing at RADA, after studying Drama and Theatre at Royal Holloway College.