

Backstage *Scene*

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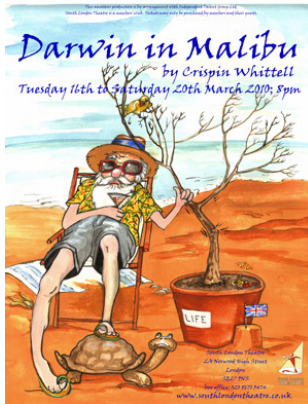


A Midsummer Night's Dream

Weds 3rd to Sat 6th March , Bell Theatre

The SLT's youth group take on the bard's most endearing comedy. Lysander is in love with Hermia but she is betrothed to Demetrius.. as far as her mother is concerned. When the lovers flee into the forest they unknowingly stumble upon a feud between the immortals.. and once Puck begins his meddling all hell breaks loose...

Stuart Draper, director



Darwin in Malibu

by Crispin Whittell

Tues 16th to Sat 20th March,
Prompt Corner

"No, really, who needs evolution when you have plastic surgery?"

Malibu, California. The present. Charles Darwin has wound up in a beach house overlooking the Pacific with a girl young enough to be his daughter. One hundred and forty-five years have passed since the publication of *The Origin of Species*, and over a hundred and twenty years since Darwin's own death. But

his peace is rudely disturbed when his old friend Thomas Huxley washes up on the beach, closely followed by the Bishop of Oxford. Darwin suddenly finds himself entangled in a sparkling comedy of life and death, love and loss, and the sex lives of hermaphroditic barnacles.

Darwin in Malibu premiered at Birmingham Repertory Theatre where it was nominated for the TMA Award for Best New Play.

"Fiercely intelligent, an exceptionally spry play, with big ideas and a big heart. You should see it - not just because it's there, but because we are here. Along with the barnacles and stars." *The Guardian*

Charles Darwin – Peter Medd, Sarah - Roberta Zurich, Thomas Huxley – Simon Gleisner & Samuel Wilberforce - Michael Wilson

Darwin in Malibu was originally submitted by Mark Bullock, who unfortunately had to pull out of the directorial seat. It was a daunting experience, taking over a play that had already been cast, but what a cast! Rehearsals are proving to be a lot of fun, and with a wonderful mix of science, history, religion, and humour, I'm proud to be bringing this to Prompt Corner in March. Whether you are an expert on Darwinian theory, or don't know your Eve from your evolution, this is an entertaining, though-provoking play for everyone.

Naomi Liddle, director

A Royal Double Bill

Brandy by Matthew Davies

The Other Cleopatra by Jenny Gammon

2 one act plays with fabulous parts for women and two high profile parts for men.

Auditions

Sun 7th March, Rehearsal Room: 6-10pm for The Other Cleopatra & 8-10pm for Brandy

Mon 8th March Prompt Corner: 8-9m for The Other Cleopatra & 9-10pm for Brandy

Tues 9th March the Bell Theatre: 8-9pm for The Other Cleopatra & 9-10pm for Brandy

Performances

Tues 6th - Sat 10th July Bell Theatre

Brandy

Brandy is set in 1711 towards the end of Queen Anne's reign when Sarah Churchill, Duchess of Marlborough, is Keeper of the Privy Purse and the most powerful woman in the country after the Queen. The two women were friends from a young age when Anne was entranced by Churchill's wit and fearless attitude but their relationship has soured over the years as Sarah treats Anne with increasing contempt. Churchill's conceit, however, is such that she never foresees how precarious her position has become and even when facing banishment is unable to beg for the Queen's forgiveness. The third character in the play is Mary, a chambermaid, to whom Sarah is eventually forced to hand over her symbol of office.

Characters

Queen Anne – playing age 50 +

Sarah Churchill, Duchess of Marlborough - playing age 50 +

Mary - playing age late teens

The Other Cleopatra

Mystery surrounds the fate of the missing Cleopatra. Rarely mentioned in historical documents, did she die as a child or was she murdered? And why did her mother suddenly vanish? With Egypt buckling beneath the Roman Empire, how different the outcome might have been if she or her other sisters had ruled instead of the more well known - Cleopatra, Queen of the Nile. As members of the royal household still fight for supremacy, which one will reveal who really is to blame for the disappearance of a princess?

Characters: playing ages can be flexible

Bakari – soldier at the palace and in love with Berenice

Julius Caesar – a great leader of men and a fine seducer of women

Berenice – the eldest sister and Queen of Egypt

Cleopatra, ‘Queen of the Nile’ – became the next sister in line to the throne

Arsinoë – youngest sister

Cleopatra Tryphaena – their mother who ruled as Queen with Berenice

Little Cleo (aged about 9 years old) - non speaking role.

Irás & Charmian - two servant women to Cleopatra (above) who died with her in her suicide.

NB: for Irás and Charmian I am looking for black actresses as well who could be cast and if one or other character can sing then even better as there is a beautiful lament to be sung at the end of the play but this is not compulsory!

For more details, please contact **Jess Osorio**, director of Brandy or **Jenny Gammon**, director of The Other Cleopatra

Bash: Latter Day Plays

by Neil LaBute

Auditions

Weds 10th and Thurs 11th March 8pm, Sun 14th March 6pm

Performances

Tues- 20th – Sat- 24th July, Prompt Corner

Bash is a triptych of darkly brilliant one-act plays, presenting apparently moral characters telling us their less-than-moral tales. They combine the American dream with Greek tragedy and the rigidity of religion. All three are unblinking portraits of the evils that astound in everyday life; each is distinguished by writing that is raw yet lyrical. They present a great opportunity for SLT actors of both sexes.

The Play(s) & Casting:

Iphigenia in Orem : A Utah businessman confides in a stranger in a Las Vegas hotel room, and confesses to a chilling crime.

Monologue: 1M. Playing age 30s/40s. Unnamed Utah businessman: Middle management type. Clean, well dressed, intelligent, yet he has an air of apology and loneliness about him, as if carrying a heavy weight.

A Gaggle of Saints : A young Mormon couple recount the violent events of an anniversary weekend in New York .

Duologue: 1M & 1F. Playing age for both 18-early 20s (first/second year of college). Both are from New York .

John : Bit of a jock. Sweet, funny, a bit goofy, but with an amazing reservoir of anger and intolerance.

Sue : Pretty, passive, focused, yet aroused by violence. Quite unnerving in her devotion to John.

Medea Redux : A woman tells of her complex and ultimately tragic relationship with her junior high-school English teacher.

March Diary

Weds 3rd	A Midsummer Night's Dream See Page 1	8pm	Bell Theatre
Thurs 4th		8pm	Bell Theatre
Fri 5th		8pm	Bell Theatre
Sat 6th		8pm	Bell Theatre
Sun 7th		Auditions for "A Royal Double Bill"	6pm
Mon 8th	See Page 2	8pm	Prompt Corner
Tues 9th	Auditions for Bash See Page 3	8pm	Bell Theatre
Weds 10th		8pm	
Thurs 11th		8pm	
Sun 14th		6pm?	
Tues 16th	Darwin In Malibu	8pm	Prompt Corner
Weds 17th		8pm	Prompt Corner
Thurs 18th		8pm	Prompt Corner
Fri 19th		8pm	Prompt Corner
Sat 20th		8pm	Prompt Corner

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Monologue: 1F. Playing age late 20s. Unnamed woman. Uncommunicative at first, almost naïve in her responses, as if she has stalled mentally at a younger age. However as her story progresses we see a steeliness and bitterness more fitting her age.

The "latter-day" of the title refers to the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints, or Mormons, of which Neil LaBute was a member for many years.

American accents are required for each of the plays. Don't worry about a specific accent; this can be worked on after casting. Just show me you can sustain one. Playing ages are for guidance only.

Please read the play before auditioning. Please contact me saying which section of Bash you are interested in and I email copy. Copies can be viewed from the SLTC Members' Club Bar. If you would like to discuss any aspect of the play, auditions or rehearsals, please don't hesitate to contact the director, Stephen East, east_sd@hotmail.com

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