

# **Altrincham Garrick Playhouse**

## **Actor's Guide**

**2022 / 2023 SEASON**



**Altrincham Garrick  
PLAYHOUSE**

## **Introduction**

Welcome to the Actor's Guide for the 2022/ 2023 Season at Altrincham Garrick Playhouse.

You will find information about each production, important dates and character lists within this pack, and I hope it will help you to plan which production, or productions, you may wish to get involved with in the upcoming Season.

I have tried to create a Season that challenges and excites all of our current actors whilst appealing to new talent to join the theatre, as well as entertaining and enriching our ever expanding audience, and also a Season that ultimately will push the boundaries of the Altrincham Garrick Playhouse.

As always, working closely with the Artistic and Casting Team on creating this Season has been wonderful, and I would like to thank them for all their hard work, effort and commitment to the Theatre.

I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Best wishes,

**Joseph Meighan**  
**Artistic Director**

### **Autumn/ Winter 2022**

The Habit of Art  
Blue Stockings  
The Sound of Music  
All My Sons  
Dick Whittington  
The Importance of Being Earnest

### **Spring/ Summer 2023**

Shakespeare in Love  
The Father  
The Jungle Book  
Our Town  
Witness for the Prosecution  
Into The Woods

### **Lauriston Studio - A Season of LGBTQ+ Stories**

Queers  
Love! Valour! Compassion!  
The Laramie Project  
Pronoun  
Last Summer at Bluefish Cove

# **The Habit of Art**

## **By Alan Bennett**

**Monday 19th - Saturday 24th September 2022**

**Directed by John Cunningham**

Exploring friendship, rivalry and heartache this multi layered masterpiece examines the joy, pain and emotional cost of creativity.

Actors are rehearsing a play called "Caliban's Day" at the National Theatre about Benjamin Britten, sailing uncomfortably close to the wind with his new opera "Death in Venice", who is seeking advice from his former collaborator and friend, W H Auden. During this imagined meeting in 1972, their first for twenty-five years, they are observed and interrupted by, amongst others, their future biographer and a young man from the local bus station.

Alan Bennett's play is as much about the theatre as it is about poetry or music. It looks at the unsettling desires of two difficult men, and at the ethics of biography. It reflects on growing old, on creativity and inspiration, and on persisting when all passion's spent: ultimately, on the habit of art.

***The Habit of Art*** premiered in November 2009 at the Lyttelton Theatre at the National Theatre, starring by Alex Jennings as Britten and Richard Griffiths as Auden (the latter replacing Michael Gambon, who had to withdraw from the production due to minor ill health).

**Auditions** - Tuesday 5th July 2022

**Rehearsal Start Date** - Sunday 14th August 2022

### **CHARACTERS:**

**Fitz (W.H Auden)** - 60s. Actor playing Auden. Fitz is somewhat cutting and sarcastic. An old stager. He is far from word-perfect as Auden.

**Henry (Benjamin Britten)** - 50s. Actor playing Britten and also standing in for Brian as Boyle. Henry is calm and not given to outbursts like Fitz.

**Donald (Humphrey Carpenter)** - 20s. He is precious and feels he needs to explore his character more deeply.

**Tim (Stuart)** - Late 20s/ Early 30s. He is precious and feels he needs to explore his character more deeply.

**Neil** - Any Age. Author of "Caliban's Day".

**Kay** - 40s/50s. Stage Manager of "Caliban's Day" - standing in for Penny.

**George** - Any Age. Assistant Stage Manager of "Caliban's Day" - standing in for Brian.

# Blue Stockings

## By Jessica Swale

**Monday 3rd - Saturday 8th October 2022**

**Directed by Su Mowat**

*“They say you don’t have the capacity to be scholars. So read everything. Learn everything. Know the philosophers, and then think for yourselves.”*

A moving, comical and eye-opening story of four young women fighting for education and self-determination against the larger backdrop of women's suffrage.

1896. Girton College, Cambridge, the first college in Britain to admit women. The Girton girls study ferociously and match their male peers grade for grade. Yet, when the men graduate, the women leave with nothing but the stigma of being a 'blue stocking' - an unnatural, educated woman. They are denied degrees and go home unqualified and unmarriageable.

In Jessica Swale's play, **Blue Stockings**, Tess Moffat and her fellow first years are determined to win the right to graduate. But little do they anticipate the hurdles in their way: the distractions of love, the cruelty of the class divide or the strength of the opposition, who will do anything to stop them. The play follows them over one tumultuous academic year, in their fight to change the future of education.

**Blue Stockings** received its professional premiere at Shakespeare's Globe, London, in August 2013.

**Auditions** - Tuesday 12th July 2022

**Rehearsal Start Date** - Sunday 28th August 2022

### CHARACTERS:

#### The Girton Girls

**Tess Moffat** - a curious girl

**Celia Willbond** - a fragile hard-worker

**Carolyn Addison** - an early bohemian

**Maeve Sullivan** - a mystery

#### The Boys

**Ralph Mayhew** - student at Trinity

**Lloyd** - student at Trinity

**Holmes** - student at Trinity

**Edwards** - student at Trinity

**Will Bennett** - a student at King's and Tess's friend

#### The Staff

**Elizabeth Welsh** - Mistress of Girton College

**Mr Banks** - a lecturer at Girton

**Professor Collins** - a lecturer at Trinity

**Professor Radley** - Board member at Trinity

**Mr Peck** - the gardener and maintenance man

**Dr Maudsley** - psychiatrist

**Miss Blake** - a lecturer at Girton

**Professor Anderson** - Trinity

**Minnie** - a housemaid

**Miss Bott** - a chaperone

**Billy Sullivan** - Maeve's brother

**Mrs Lindley** - shopkeeper

# **The Sound of Music**

Music by Richard Rodgers

Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II

Book by Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse

Suggested by "The Trapp Family Singers" by Maria Augusta Trapp

**Monday 24th - Sunday 30th October**

(7.30pm Monday - Saturday, 2.30pm Saturday and 4.00pm Sunday)

**Directed by Joseph Meighan**

**Musical Direction by Neil G Bennett**

**Choreography by Louise Pettitt**

The inspirational story, based on the memoir of Maria Augusta Trapp, follows an ebullient postulant who serves as governess to the seven children of the imperious Captain von Trapp, bringing music and joy to the household. But as the forces of Nazism take hold of Austria, Maria and the entire von Trapp family must make a moral decision.

Featuring a trove of cherished songs, including "Climb Ev'ry Mountain," "My Favourite Things," "Do Re Mi," "Sixteen Going on Seventeen" and the title number, ***The Sound of Music*** won the hearts of audiences worldwide, earning five Tony Awards and five Oscars.

The final collaboration between Rodgers & Hammerstein was destined to become the world's most beloved musical and ***The Sound of Music*** has inspired audiences around the globe with its story of love and freedom.

Altrincham Garrick Playhouse brings you a Musical for October Half Term that is perfect for all generations.

**Auditions for von Trapp Family/ Adult Ensemble - Sunday 17th July 2022**

**Auditions for Principals - Tuesday 19th July 2022**

**Rehearsal Start Date - Sunday 11th September 2022**

## **PRINCIPALS**

3 Women

5 Girls (ages 5, 7, 9, 13 and 16)

2 Men

2 Boys (ages 11 and 14)

## **FEATURED**

4 Women

2 Men

## **ENSEMBLE**

Neighbors of Captain von Trapp, nuns, novices, postulants, and contestants at the Festival Concert

## CHARACTERS

**Maria Rainer** - a Postulant at Nonnberg Abbey - 20s

**The Mother Abbess** - The Mother Abbess is an inspirational leader for all the nuns at the Abby - 40s +

**Sister Berthe** - Mistress of Novices - 25+

**Sister Margareta** - Mistress of Postulants - 25+

**Sister Sophia** - 25+

**Captain Georg von Trapp** - A retired Austrian naval captain. He is a widower - 40s

**Franz** - the butler in the von Trapp household - 40+

**Frau Schmidt** - the housekeeper of the von Trapp household - 40+

**Baroness Elsa Schraeder** - A very wealthy widow, who is president of her late husband's corporation - 30s/ 40s

**Ursula** - A Maid in the von Trapp household

**Max Detweiler** - A theatrical agent and First Secretary of Education and Culture – a personal friend of Von Trapp - 40s/ 50s

**Herr Zeller** -A sort of district governor appointed by the Nazi Regime to prepare the Anschluss - 40+

**Baron Elberfeld** - A neighbour of the von Trapps and one of the “Old Guards” of Austria - violently opposed to the takeover of his beloved country by Nazi Germany - 40+

**Baroness Elberfeld** - A neighbour of Captain Von Trapp and wife to the Baron Elberfeld - 30+

**Admiral von Schreiber** - An important figure in the Austrian Navy and appears to be much respected by Captain von Trapp. - 30+

**Liesl von Trapp** - age 16 (played by 18+)

**Friedrich von Trapp** - age 14

**Louisa von Trapp** - age 13

**Kurt von Trapp** - age 10

**Brigitta von Trapp** - age 9

**Marta von Trapp** - age 7

**Gretl von Trapp** - the youngest

**Rolf Gruber** - age 17 (played by 18+)

**Neighbours of Captain von Trapp, nuns, novices, postulants, and contestants at the Festival Concert**

# **All My Sons**

## By Arthur Miller

**Monday 14th - Saturday 19th November 2022**

**Directed by Carole Carr**

America, 1947.

Despite hard choices and even harder knocks, Joe and Kate Keller are a success story. They have built a home, raised a family and established a thriving business. Summer wedding plans are afoot for their son and his fiancée. Shadows of the war are slowly fading.

But nothing lasts forever and their contented lives, already darkened by the loss of their eldest boy to war, are about to shatter. With the return of a figure from the past, long buried truths are forced to the surface and the price of their American dream is laid bare...

This compelling masterpiece, based on a true story, established Arthur Miller (***Death of a Salesman, The Crucible, A View from the Bridge***) as one of the greatest playwrights of the 20th century.

**Auditions** - Tuesday 16th August 2022

**Rehearsal Start Date** - Sunday 9th October 2022

### **CHARACTERS:**

**Joe Keller** - 60s

**Chris Keller** - 32

**George Deever** - 31

**Sue Bayliss** - 40

**Lydia Lubey** - 27

**Kate Keller** - 50s

**Ann Deever** - 26

**Dr. Jim Bayliss** - 40

**Frank Lubey** - 33

**Bert** - 8

# Dick Whittington

The Garrick Pantomime Paved With Gold!

Directed by Dan Ellis

Musical Direction by Peter England

## Performance Schedule:

Fri 9th Dec	7.30pm
Sat 10th Dec	1.30pm and 5.30pm
Sun 11th Dec	1.30pm and 5.30pm
Thu 15th Dec	7.30pm
Fri 16th Dec	7.30pm
Sat 17th Dec	1.30pm and 5.30pm
Sun 18th Dec	1.30pm and 5.30pm
Wed 21st Dec	7.30pm
Thu 22nd Dec	7.30pm
Fri 23rd Dec	7.30pm
Tue 27th Dec	1.30pm and 5.30pm
Wed 28th Dec	1.30pm and 5.30pm
Thu 29th Dec	1.30pm and 5.30pm
Fri 30th Dec	1.30pm and 5.30pm
Sat 31st Dec	11.30am and 3.30pm
Mon 2nd Jan	1.30pm and 5.30pm

Dick Whittington's heading to that there London to seek his fame and fortune – he's heard the streets are paved with gold! With his trusty cat by his side, he gets a job at Alderman Fitzwarren's Store but the city is under attack from the most villainous vermin of them all; King Rat!

With the help of his new love Alice, Fairy Bow Bells, Sarah the Cook and her silly son Idle Jack, will Dick be able to vanquish the vermin? Oh Yes he will! For this is a Garrick Pantomime after all!

Book now for this purrfect Christmas treat – it'll be a Whitting-tonne of fun!

**Auditions** - Sunday 4th September 2022

**Rehearsal Start Date** - Sunday 30th October 2022

### **KING RAT**

The villainous vermin.

### **ALICE FITZWARREN**

Alderman's Daughter. Principal Girl.

### **ALDERMAN FITZWARREN**

Owner of the local store.

### **DICK WHITTINGTON**

Our Hero! Principal Boy.

### **SULTAN VINEGAR**

The powerful and commanding Sultan of Morocco.

### **FAIRY BOW BELLS**

The magical spirit.

### **IDLE JACK**

Lazy and slightly silly!

### **SARAH THE COOK**

The Dame.

### **THE CAT**

Dick's furry companion.

### **ENSEMBLE/ DANCERS**

# **The Importance of Being Earnest**

## **By Oscar Wilde**

**Monday 16th - Saturday 21st January 2023**  
**Directed by Nick Sample**

*"Ignorance is like a delicate exotic fruit; touch it and the bloom is gone."*

What happens when two pretty girls both fall in love with men they believe to be called Ernest? Will they learn that a rose by any other name still smells as sweet?

Bachelor Jack Worthing and his best mate Algernon Moncrieff hope to marry society's most eligible ladies, Gwendolen Fairfax and Cecily Cardew. But the lads' courtship of the women is far from straight forward! With double identities, plenty of 'Bunburying' and a number of hostile encounters with the formidable Lady Bracknell, the pair become embroiled in a web of mistaken identities with hilarious consequences.

A well-manicured comedy of handbags, button-holes and flying coat-tails.

**Auditions** - Tuesday 27th September 2022  
**Rehearsal Start Date** - Sunday 4th December 2022

### **CHARACTERS:**

**John Worthing, J.P**

**Algernon Moncrieff**

**Rev. Canon Chasuble, D.D**

**Merriman (Butler)**

**Lane (Manservant)**

**Lady Bracknell**

**Hon. Gwendolen Fairfax**

**Cecily Cardew**

**Miss Prism (Governess)**

# Shakespeare in Love

Adapted for the stage by Lee Hall

Based on the screenplay by Marc Norman and Tom Stoppard

**Monday 6th - Saturday 11th February 2023**

**Directed by Joseph Meighan**

**Performed by The Garrick Ensemble**

Young Will Shakespeare has writer's block! The deadline for his new play is fast approaching, but he's in desperate need of inspiration. That is, until he finds his muse... the feisty, brilliant and beautiful Viola. This crafty young woman is Will's greatest admirer and will stop at nothing (including breaking the law) to appear in his next play.

Against a bustling background of mistaken identity, ruthless scheming and backstage theatrics, Will's love for Viola quickly blossoms, inspiring him to write his greatest romantic masterpiece.

The Oscar-winning film *Shakespeare in Love* starred Gwyneth Paltrow, Joseph Fiennes, Judi Dench, Geoffrey Rush and Tom Wilkinson and won 7 Academy Awards, including Best Screenplay.

This romantic comedy transports audiences back to Shakespeare's London in a production that is full of energy, colour, spectacle and love.

**The Garrick Ensemble** is a company of 18 – 30 year old aspiring actors from Greater Manchester and Cheshire who perform one production each year as part of the Altrincham Garrick Playhouse Main House Season. **The Garrick Ensemble** aims to make theatre that is fresh, innovative and exciting. See the very best of local, up and coming talent before they move forward in the next stages of their careers in the Arts.

**Auditions** - Tuesday 4th October 2022

**Rehearsal Start Date** - Sunday 11th December 2022

## CHARACTERS:

**WILL SHAKESPEARE**

**RALPH**

**VIOLA DE LESSEPS**

**HENSLOWE**

**MOLLY / MISTRESS QUICKLY**

**SIR ROBERT DE LESSEPS**

**NURSE**

**MARLOWE**

**ADAM / BOATMAN**

**NED ALLEYN**

**FENNYMAN**

**NOL**

**ENSEMBLE MEMBERS / MUSICIANS / ATTENDANT**

**TILNEY**

**KATE**

**QUEEN ELIZABETH**

**ROBIN / FREES**

**BURBAGE**

**SAM**

**PETER / BARMAN**

**WABASH**

**WESSEX**

**LAMBERT / GUARD**

**WEBSTER**

# **THE FATHER**

By Florian Zeller  
Translated by Christopher Hampton

**Monday 27th February - Saturday 4th March**  
**Directed by Charlie Tomlinson**

***The Father (Le Père)*** is a play about a man called André. Now 80 years old, André was once a tap dancer. He lives with his daughter Anne and her husband Antoine. Or was he an engineer whose daughter Anne lives in London with her new lover, Pierre? The thing is, he is still wearing his pyjamas, and he can't find his watch. He is starting to wonder if he's losing control...

A sobering and realistic family story, and an unsentimental, emotionally intense look at the world through the eyes of a man experiencing dementia.

***The Father***, in this English translation by Christopher Hampton, was commissioned by the Ustinov Studio, Theatre Royal, Bath and premiered in October 2014. The production transferred to the Tricycle Theatre, London, in May 2015, and subsequently to Wyndham's Theatre in the West End. *The Father* was awarded the Moliere Award for Best Play and the Olivier and Tony Awards for Best Actor. In 2020 a film version called ***The Father*** was released starring Anthony Hopkins and Olivia Colman, which won the Academy Award for Best Adapted Screenplay, while Hopkins won the Academy Award for Best Actor.

**Auditions** - Tuesday 29th November 2022  
**Rehearsal Start Date** - Sunday 15th January 2023

**Anne**

**André**

**Man**

**Woman**

**Laura**

**Pierre**

# **The Jungle Book**

By Rudyard Kipling  
Adapted by Stuart Paterson

**Friday 31st March - Sunday 16th April**  
**Directed by Val Watkinson**

An Easter Holiday Jungle Adventure for all the Family awaits at Altrincham Garrick Playhouse!

Saved from the jaws of Shere Khan the tiger, Mowgli must learn the Laws of the Jungle from Baloo the bear and Bagheera the panther to survive. A brave little man cub grows into a confident and care-free young boy, but danger is never far away and Shere Khan is hungry for revenge. As Mowgli faces each peril and pitfall, he must decide whether he belongs in the world of men or with the animal kingdom.

Stuart Paterson reimagines Kipling's much-loved stories for a new generation in a vibrant, colourful family adventure that's full of surprises.

This adaptation was first staged by Birmingham Stage Company in 2004.

**Auditions** - Tuesday 3rd January 2023  
**Rehearsal Start Date** - Sunday 12th February 2023

**Mowgli**

**Shere Khan**

**Raksha/ Messua/ Luna/ Tima**

**Akela/ Ban/ Hunter**

**Baloo/ Hunter/ Rama**

**Bagheera/ Buldeo**

**Tabaqui/ Taak/ Hunter**

**Kaa/ Village Woman**

# **Our Town**

## **By Thornton Wilder**

**Monday 8th - Saturday 13th May 2023**  
**Directed by Joseph Meighan**

*"NICE TOWN, Y'KNOW WHAT I MEAN?"*

Love and marriage, birth and death. Seen from a distance they're just the rhythm of everyday life: but when you're caught up in the middle and they are happening to you, they are the whole world.

As the sun rises on another ordinary day, the townsfolk of Grover's Corners go about their business: newspapers are delivered; people go to work; gardens are tended to. And a boy and girl fall in love. But as life's events unfold and a community comes together, one question remains: "do any human beings ever realise life as they live it? Every, every minute?"

Thornton Wilder's Pulitzer Prize-winning small- town epic of human existence remains as theatrically fresh and as topical as ever; it explores what it means to live and the bonds that unite us all.

**Auditions** - Tuesday 21st February 2023  
**Rehearsal Start Date** - Sunday 2nd April 2023

<b>STAGE MANAGER</b>	- Any gender, any age.
<b>EMILY WEBB</b>	- Female. 18 - 30
<b>GEORGE GIBBS</b>	- Male. 18 - 30
<b>DR. GIBBS</b>	- Male. 40 - 60
<b>MRS. GIBBS</b>	- Female. 40 - 60
<b>MRS. WEBB</b>	- Female. 40 - 60
<b>MR. WEBB</b>	- Male. 40 - 60
<b>JOE CROWELL</b>	- Male. 18 - 25
<b>HOWIE NEWSOME</b>	- Male. 30s
<b>REBECCA GIBBS</b>	- Female. 18 - 25
<b>WALLY WEBB</b>	- Male. 18 - 25
<b>PROFESSOR WILLARD</b>	- Male. 50s
<b>SIMON STIMSON</b>	- Male. 50s
<b>MRS. SOAMES</b>	- Female. 40 - 60
<b>CONSTABLE WARREN</b>	- Male. 40s
<b>SI CROWELL</b>	- Male. 18 -25
<b>SAM CRAIG</b>	- Male. 18 - 30
<b>JOE STODDARD</b>	- Male. 18 - 30

**PEOPLE OF THE TOWN** - Any gender, any age.

# **Witness for the Prosecution**

## **By Agatha Christie**

**Monday 22nd - Saturday 27th May 2023**  
**Directed by Mike Shaw**

Do not miss Agatha Christie's gripping story of justice, passion and betrayal.

Leonard Vole stands accused of murdering a rich widow. The stakes are high with shocking witness testimony, impassioned outbursts from the dock and a young man's fight to escape the hangman's noose.

Generally regarded as one of Christie's most accomplished plays, this suspenseful thriller keeps audiences guessing until the very end.

**Auditions** - Tuesday 1st March 2023  
**Rehearsal Start Date** - Sunday 16th April 2023

**Greta**  
**Mr. Mayhew**  
**Sir Wilfred Robarts**  
**Plain-clothes Detective**  
**Clerk of the Court**  
**Alderman**  
**Court Usher**  
**Warder**  
**1st Barrister**  
**3rd Barrister**  
**5th Barrister**  
**1st Member of the Jury**  
**3rd Member of the Jury**  
**Dr. Wyatt**  
**Mr. Clegg**

**Carter**  
**Leonard Vole**  
**Inspector Hearne**  
**Romaine**  
**Mr. Justice Wainwright**  
**Mr. Myers, QC**  
**Court Stenographer**  
**The Judge's Clerk**  
**2nd Barrister**  
**4th Barrister**  
**6th Barrister**  
**2nd Member of the Jury**  
**A Policeman**  
**Janet Mackenzie**  
**The Other Woman**

# **Into The Woods**

Book by James Lapine  
Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

**Monday 19th - Saturday 24th June 2023**  
**Directed by Joseph Meighan**  
**Musical Direction by Mark Goggins**

Be careful what you wish for...

The story follows a Baker and his wife, who wish to have a child; Cinderella, who wishes to attend the King's Festival; and Jack, who wishes his cow would give milk. When the Baker and his wife learn that they cannot have a child because of a Witch's curse, the two set off on a journey to break her spell. Everyone's wish is granted, but 'Happily Ever After' turns out to be far from the end of their stories and hopes and dreams are questioned and revisited as the consequences of their actions return to haunt them...

Whilst all the elements are there – the cow as white as milk, the cape as red as blood, the hair as yellow as corn, the slipper as pure as gold, magic beans and of course the curse of a witch – this is no conventional fairy tale. The familiar find themselves in very unfamiliar circumstances in this darkly comic tale.

Perhaps Sondheim's most hailed work, ***Into The Woods*** is a timeless, yet relevant piece and a rare modern classic. The Tony Award-winning book and score are both enchanting and touching.

**Auditions** - Sunday 26th March 2023  
**Rehearsal Start Date** - Sunday 7th May 2023

## **CHARACTERS:**

### **Narrator**

An intellectual and pleasant story-teller who helps to orchestrate the show and illustrate lessons to the audience.

### **Cinderella**

A young, earnest maiden who is constantly mistreated by her stepmother and stepsisters.

### **The Baker**

A harried and insecure baker who is simple and loving, yet protective of his family. He wants his wife to be happy and is willing to do anything to ensure her happiness but refuses to let others fight his battles.

### **The Baker's Wife**

Determined and bright woman who wishes to be a mother. She leads a simple, yet satisfying life and is very low-maintenance yet proactive in her endeavours.

**Jack**

The feckless Giant killer who is 'almost a man.' He is adventurous, naive, energetic, and bright-eyed.

**Jack's Mother**

Browbeating and weary, Jack's protective mother who is independent, bold, and strong-willed.

**Cinderella's Stepmother**

The mean-spirited, demanding stepmother of Cinderella.

**Florinda And Lucinda**

Cinderella's stepsisters who are black of heart. They follow in their mother's footsteps of abusing Cinderella.

**Little Red Riding-hood**

A spoiled young girl who is strong-willed, quick-witted, fearless, yet youthful and naive.

**The Witch**

Sarcastic, ugly-then-gorgeous, obsessive protector of Rapunzel who is straightforward and aggressive.

**Cinderella's Mother**

Deceased with her soul guarding and aiding her daughter from a tree.

**Mysterious Man**

A mischievous vagrant and nosy meddler. He is a good-natured protector and observer.

**Wolf**

Hungry and insatiable hunter who takes advantage of the weak by misleading and captivating his prey.

**Rapunzel**

A loopy-but-lovely maiden who is sheltered by the Witch and terribly lonely. She yearns to experience the world.

**Cinderella's Prince**

Vain and gorgeous, he is a disloyal lover who is currently searching for the next new, exciting thing.

**Rapunzel's Prince**

Just as vain and gorgeous as his Prince brother, he is always chasing the newest, most exiting endeavour.

**Giant**

Voiceover. The Giant's wife is an angry and vengeful 'monster.' She is seeking restitution for her loss.

The Lauriston Studio 2022/ 2023  
**A Season of LGBTQ+ Stories**

# **QUEERS**

## Curated by Mark Gatiss

**Tuesday 8th - Sunday 13th November 2022**  
**Directed by Phil Edwards**

**Queers** celebrates a century of evolving social attitudes and political milestones in British gay history, as seen through the eyes of six very different individuals.

A young soldier returning from the trenches of the First World War recollects a love that dare not speak its name. Almost one hundred years later, a groom-to-be prepares for his gay wedding.

Poignant and funny, tragic and riotous, these monologues cover major events in 20th century gay life – From the danger of imprisonment to the Wolfenden Report of 1957. The HIV/AIDS crisis in the 1980's, and the debate over the age of consent and finally the advent of same sex marriages all told through deeply affecting but uplifting personal rites-of-passage stories.

Curated by Mark Gatiss, the monologues were commissioned to mark the anniversary of the 1967 Sexual Offences Act, which decriminalised homosexual acts in private between two men over the age of twenty-one. They were broadcast on BBC Four in 2017 starring Ben Wishaw, Rebecca Front, Ian Gelder, Russell Tovey, Ben Whishaw, Fionn Whitehead and Alan Cumming . They were also staged to acclaim at The Old Vic in London.

**The Man on the Platform** by Mark Gatiss  
**Missing Alice** by Jon Bradfield  
**I Miss the War** by Matthew Baldwin  
**More Anger** by Brian Fillis  
**A Grand Day Out** by Michael Dennis  
**Something Borrowed** by Gareth McLean

**Auditions** - Monday 15th August 2022  
**Rehearsal Start Date** - Sunday 2nd October 2022

### **CHARACTERS:**

**The Man on the Platform** - **PIERCE** - 30s - Male

**Missing Alice** - **ALICE** - 47 - Female

**I Miss the War** - **JACK** - 60s - Male

**More Anger** - **PHIL** - 29 - Male

**A Grand Day Out** - **ANDREW** - 17 - Male

**Something Borrowed** - **STEVE** - 20s/30s/40s - Male

# **Love! Valour! Compassion!**

## By Terrence McNally

**Tuesday 31st January - Sunday 5th February 2023**  
**Directed by Barry Purves**

Winner of the 1995 Tony Award for Best Play, *Love! Valour! Compassion!* is a mammoth exploration into life, love and loss at the end of the millennium.

As hilarious as it is heart-breaking, Terrence McNally's seminal work captures the zeitgeist of 90s America and forces the question - when reality hits home, who and what is most important to us?

Beautifully written, *Love! Valour! Compassion!* gathers together eight gay men at the upstate New York summer house of a celebrated dancer-choreographer who fears he is losing his creativity... and possibly his lover. Infidelity, flirtations, soul-searching, AIDS, truth-telling, and skinny-dipping mix monumental questions about life and death.

To experience *Love! Valour! Compassion!* is to join in a dance of life.

Warning: This show contains nudity, strong language and racially offensive language. It was written, set and originally performed in the mid 90s and the text reflects the social and cultural context of the time.

**Auditions** - Tuesday 18th October 2022  
**Rehearsal Start Date** - Sunday 11th December 2023

### **CHARACTERS:**

**Bobby Brahms** - early 20s

**Ramon Fornos** - early 20s

**Buzz Hauser** - mid 30s

**John Jeckyll** - his twin

**Gregory Mitchell** - early 40s

**Arthur Pape** - late 30s/ early 40s

**Perry Sellars** - late 30s/ early 40s

Please note - all actors will be required to perform nude during one scene.

# **The Laramie Project**

By Moisés Kaufman and the members of the Tectonic Theater Project

**Tuesday 21st - Sunday 26th March 2023**

**Directed by Joseph Meighan**

*“Laramie is a town defined by an accident, a crime. We’ve become Waco, we’ve become Jasper. We’re a noun, a definition, a sign.”*

In October 1998 a twenty-one-year-old student at the University of Wyoming was kidnapped, severely beaten and left to die, tied to a fence in the middle of the prairie outside Laramie, Wyoming. His bloody, bruised and battered body was not discovered until the next day, and he died several days later in an area hospital. His name was Matthew Shepard, and he was the victim of this assault because he was gay.

The hate crime attracted vast attention worldwide, bringing sexual discrimination and violence to the forefront of public discourse. The Tectonic Theater Project, led by their founder Moisés Kaufman, traveled to Laramie in the aftermath of the murder with the intent of creating a theatrical portrait of a town coming to grips with horrible, hate-fuelled violence. Over the course of a year and a half, the group interviewed over 200 subjects, some directly related to the case and some regular citizens of Laramie. Out of these interviews, journal entries, and found texts, ***The Laramie Project*** was born. Hailed as one of the most captivating and encompassing pieces of contemporary theatre, the play shocks, challenges, and moves all who watch it as it reveals the lowest depths of hatred and greatest heights of compassion that lies within all human beings in any seemingly average community.

Warning: Contains strong language, homophobic language and graphic discussions of violence and hate crime and scenes which some may find upsetting.

**Auditions** - Tuesday 6th December 2022

**Rehearsal Start Date** - Sunday 12th February 2023

## **CHARACTERS:**

**8 - 10 Actors who will cover over 60 characters. Age and Gender open.**

# **Pronoun**

## By Evan Placey

**Tuesday 25th - Sunday 30th April 2023**  
**Directed by Peter Brassington**

*"I woke up. I showered. And then the mirror was there. Suddenly there. Only it had always been there, but I'd, somehow, I'd managed to never look. To never really look."*

A love story about transition, testosterone, and James Dean.

Josh and Isabella are childhood sweethearts. They were meant to spend their gap year together, they were meant to be together forever. But Isabella has now become a boy.

***Pronoun*** is an honest, touching and relevant piece of contemporary drama, which is as thought-provoking as it is engaging.

Evan Placey's play ***Pronoun*** was commissioned as part of the 2014 National Theatre Connections Festival.

Warning: Strong language throughout.

**Auditions** - Tuesday 31st January 2023  
**Rehearsal Start Date** - Sunday 12th March 2023

### **CHARACTERS:**

#### **The Teens:**

**Dean** - transgender male (female to male). Played by a female actor.

**Josh** - male

**Kyle** - male

**Laura** - female

**Dani** - female

**James Dean** - male. As in, the movie star... circa 1955.

#### **The Adults:**

**Mum** - forties, played by a young male

**Dad** - forties, played by a young female

**SMT (Senior Management Team)** - played by two or four actors

**Doctors** - played by three actors

**Private Doctor**

# **Last Summer at Bluefish Cove**

## **By Jane Chambers**

**Tuesday 6th - Sunday 11th June 2023**  
**Directed by Helen Horridge**

As the first mainstream lesbian piece of theatre, ***Last Summer at Bluefish Cove*** is a seminal work that explores a gay women's haven, Bluefish Cove, where a group of seven lesbians are spending their annual holiday.

Eva wanders into the colony after leaving an unhappy marriage, accidentally finding herself among women that will change her life in more ways than she could ever envisage.

Set in the 1980s, this tender play follows these women as they experience love, loss, and everything in between: rooted in subtle and realistic portrayals of lesbian relationships, it invites us to consider love between women in whatever form that may take.

**Auditions** - Tuesday 21st March 2023  
**Rehearsal Start Date** - Sunday 7th May 2023

### **CHARACTERS:**

**Lil**  
**Eva**  
**Kitty**  
**Annie**  
**Rae**  
**Rita**  
**Donna**  
**Sue**



**Altrincham Garrick  
PLAYHOUSE**