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**EXERCISE and DANCE with Jasmine Tree**

### Welcome to another Semi-Circle Workshop

Since the Semi-Circle's first public performance with a reading of Oscar Wilde's "Lord Arthur Savile's Crime" in 1975, over forty productions (readings, musical revues, full-scale plays and musicals as well as workshops) have been added to its credit.

The Semi-Circle started as an off-shoot of the British Circle, but has since developed into a fully independent amateur dramatic society with regular large annual productions, most often at the Bäumlhof Gymnasium in Riehen, and workshops, generally at the Schönes Haus.

The first workshop, "Fumed Oak", was presented in 1986. The idea was to give untried talent a greater opportunity to perform on stage and courageous members the chance to try their hands at directing or learning the intricacies of the many important jobs of production planning, front of house or back-stage. Some of the directors providing your entertainment for tonight are taking on the responsibilities of directing for the first time.

If you should have an interest in the fascinating activities involved in putting together an evening's entertainment such as tonight's, presenting it to an appreciative audience and enjoying the deep satisfaction when it has all passed successfully, or if you just want to receive advance notice of our productions, then please fill out the form below, putting a cross next to the appropriate text, and send to:

Dennis Dell, Narzissenweg 11A, 4123 Allschwil

I would like to join the Semi-Circle

Please send me information on future Semi-Circle productions

Name:.....

Address:.....

## The Semi-Circle Workshop Presents an Evening of MADNESS! BETRAYAL! FANTASY!

with three one-act plays (two dramas and a comedy):



"A Sense of the Ridiculous"  
 by Rae Terence

directed by Caroline Weisskopf  
 and Jacintha Horowitz

"Sweet Caroline Sweet"  
 by Tony Edwards

directed by Flavio De Rosa

"George"  
 by Derek Hickman

directed by Muriel Taylor

in the "Kellertheater" of the Schönes Haus, Nadelberg 6, Basel  
 on 17th-19th and 24th-26th March 1993 starting at 7.30 p.m.

# A Sense of The Ridiculous

by Rae Terence

directed by Caroline Weisskopf  
and Jacintha Horowitz

Cast:

Mary.....Helen Baldomero  
Mother.....Joy Scherer  
Uncle Henry.....Michael Wilkinson  
Body.....Kevin Ashbridge

Prompter: Sonia Dell

The action of the play takes place in the lounge of a large suburban house at the present time.

Poor Mary, her natural sense of order is upset when she finds a body lying on the dining room table that doesn't appear to have been left there by either her homicidally inclined mother or uncle. Dismay soon turns to consternation when the supposedly dead body rises, becomes argumentative and refuses to leave.....

# Sweet Caroline Sweet

by Tony Edwards

directed by Flavio De Rosa

Cast:

Percy Middleditch.....Edward Atkinson  
Mrs. Yates.....Sheila McKenzie  
Caroline Sweet.....Michelle Florin  
Miss Gillis.....Barbara Hummel

Prompter: Teresa Offrell

The action of the play takes place at the present time.

Percy Middleditch is one of life's perennial losers. Passed over for promotion, he confides in his landlady, Mrs. Yates. A chance offering of a newspaper brings Percy to the Lonely Hearts column. He advertises and, days later, meets the girl of his dreams, Caroline Sweet.

Unfortunately, his dreams turn out to be nightmares. Betrayed and hurt, Percy uses an unwitting estate agent, Miss Gillis, to get his revenge. But the surprises do not end there...

There will be an interval of 20 minutes  
for refreshments after this play.

# Mrs. Worthington's Errant Children

## GEORGE

by Derek Hickman

directed by Muriel Taylor

### Cast:

Mr. Smith.....Dennis Dell  
A nurse.....Katerina Ganslandt  
A sister.....Isabelle Gould  
Miss Ward.....Sabina Trieloff  
Dr. Patel.....Joy Scherer  
Dr. Radlett.....Oscar Baldomero  
Lizzie.....Carole Held  
Mr. Beadle.....Harold Jefferies  
Jock.....Edward Atkinson

Prompter: Bryan Taylor

The action of the play occurs in a small ward in a small general hospital.

Who is George and where has he come from? To Mr. Smith, he is a 'proper gentleman' but to the hospital staff he is both an embarrassment and a time-consuming problem. For George only exists in Mr. Smith's imagination. Until George is disposed of, Mr. Smith does not appear likely to recover and the hospital staff cannot cease ministering to an invisible patient in the empty bed next to Mr. Smith. The doctors and nurses plot to kill off George.....

The old-time music hall song goes: "Don't put your daughter on the stage, Mrs. Worthington"! We are glad that not many appear to follow this advice, since it gives us the opportunity in "Workshops" to introduce new actresses and actors to our public. But don't get the wrong idea, these new stars making their debut for the Semi-Circle are certainly not novices, new to the stage!

Isabelle Gould has been acting with an amateur dramatic group since she was seven! She is a Surrey girl and has been in Switzerland for two and a half years and works for the Bank of International Settlements. She has been involved mainly in pantomimes and has played almost every part in this genre, including Dorothy in the "Wizard of Oz". She is especially proud of her drama group's efforts in "Marmalade Atkins Goes Into Space", which got a big write-up in the local newspaper. Her most remarkable experience was losing her dress on stage, but fortunately this embarrassing experience occurred in rehearsals and not in front of the public!

Carole Held is a Baslerin who gained her acting experience in the voluntary drama course at the Canadian high school where she spent a year. We can thank our president, Dennis Dell, for introducing Carole to the Semi-Circle. Accents can be a problem, and when Carole went to the auditions, she didn't expect to get a part in such a quintessentially English play as "George" with her Canadian accent. Actually many Semi-Circle actors and actresses with British accents had the same experience in reverse, when they auditioned for the main productions "I Remember Mama" (American or Norwegian-American accents) or "The Crucible" (New England accents).

Katerina Ganslandt comes from Sweden, has been here for 5 years and likes it very much. Her previous schooling has been according to the American system, and she is continuing here with the Black Forest Academy, which offers an American syllabus. Katerina has also had amateur dramatic experience with a voluntary drama group at school. She has often worked behind the scenes with make up and scenery and has also acted.

Michelle Florin has a Swiss father and British mother and grew up across the Atlantic, in Canada and the USA. She now works at Roche. Michelle also has had plenty of stage experience; indeed, her very first kiss was a "stage kiss", so the kiss required in "Sweet Caroline Sweet" brings back memories. Edward will have to utilise all his talents to match that. My spy at rehearsals tells me he's trying hard....

Michael Wilkinson is from the steel town, Sheffield, and has been in Basle for 25 years. Michael also started his acting career in school and followed this up with directing as well during a spell in the Army as education officer. He can remember once getting his lines in a hopeless muddle and, believing improvisation was called for, began to ad-lib. His creativity was rewarded with a blast of the director's military wit: "Of course you're all right. You're not lost - but you've lost everybody else!". He vows to mend his ways for the Semi-Circle! Michael looks on acting as a means of letting the more extravagant aspects of his personality run loose in an apt environment. Only the previous heavy load of business trips, now mercifully abated, has prevented him joining the Semi-Circle earlier.

## Dates For Your Diary

We have been able to secure three very popular monologues, "A Lady of Letters", "Bed Among The Lentils" and "Her Big Chance" from Alan Bennett's "Talking Heads" for your future entertainment. They will be presented by three of our most experienced actresses, Joan Kuster, Diana Zuger and Cynthia Baer, and directed by Richard Levitt. The dates are 12, 13 and 14 May at the Basler Kindertheatre, Schützengraben 9. Tickets will be available from Grammohaus Löffler from about mid-April.

Our main production this year will take place as usual at the Bäumlhofgymnasium on October 19, 20, 21 and 22. We have some very exciting plays under discussion at the moment.

Given out, but presumably he has  
Ordering for these scenes  
above. A paper comment - "The  
The English Bookshop in Basel.  
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## Production Team

Production Manager..... Sue Stafford  
Technical Director..... Roger Kleiber  
Make-up ..... Rosanna Niklaus  
Jenny Aellig  
assisted by Lynn Mazzotti  
Molly Arnold  
Kathrin Karski  
Set Design..... Roger Kleiber  
Werner Scherer  
Theo Bucher  
John Chidlow  
Properties ..... Franziska De Rosa  
assisted by Teresa Offrell  
Special Properties..... Barbara Hummel  
Additional Costumes..... Ruth Meier  
Box Office..... Joan Kuster  
Graham Simons  
Penny Ehram  
Gillian Jespersen  
Marie-Louise Collino  
Monika Jaeger  
Refreshments..... Martin Wilkinson  
assisted by Tim Black  
Gillian Jespersen  
Penny Ehram  
Eric Collino  
Susi Wohlwender  
Programme/Publicity..... John Stafford

All three plays are produced by special permission of Samuel French Ltd.

There will be a 20-minute interval after "Sweet Caroline Sweet", when drinks will be available.