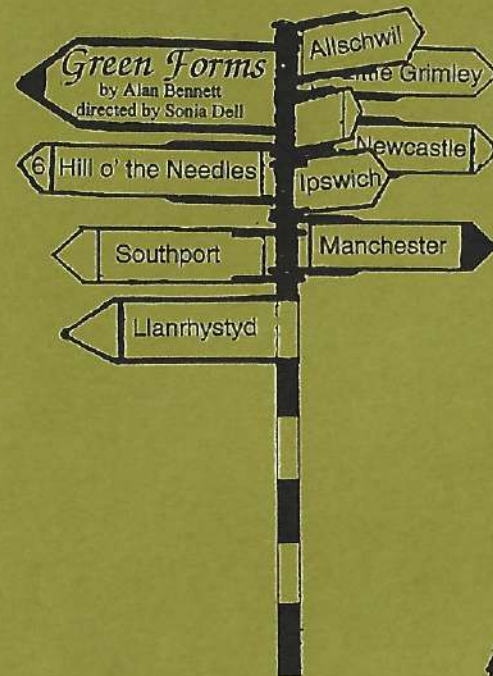
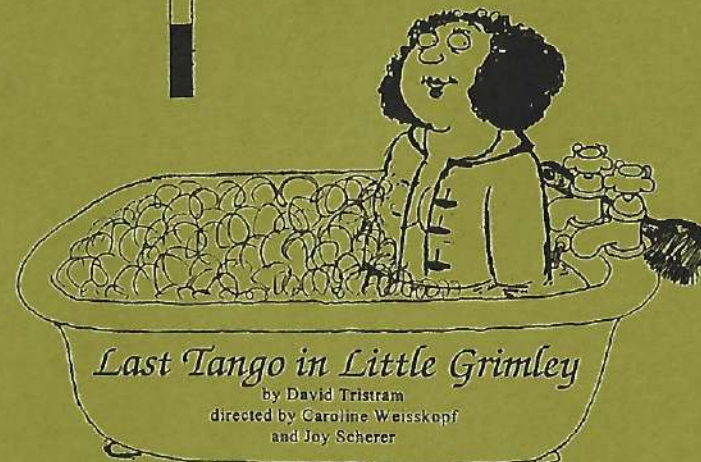


THE SEMI CIRCLE WORKSHOP 1995

presents Three One-Act Comedies



Sure Thing
by David Ives
directed by Nina Meier-Bradlin



Last Tango in Little Grimley

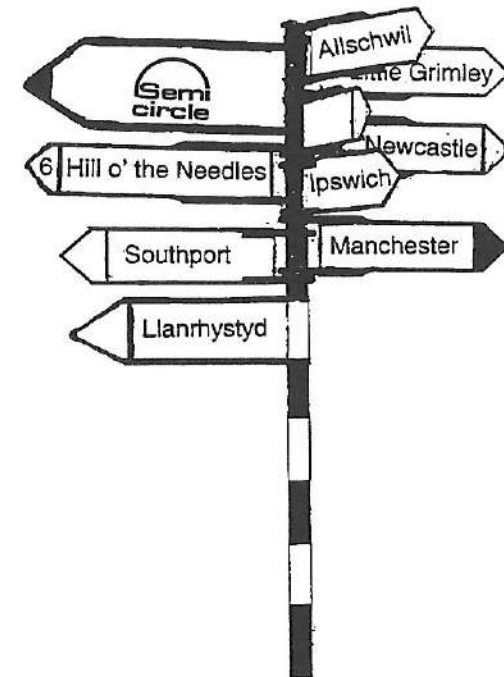
by David Tristram
directed by Caroline Weisskopf
and Joy Scherer

on 15th, 16th, 17th March at 7.30 pm
18th March at 3 pm
22nd, 23rd, 24th March at 7.30 pm

GREEN FORMS

by Alan Bennett

Directed by Sonia Dell



Characters

Mrs. Doreen Bidmead

Diana Zuger

Miss Doris Rutter

Sheila McKenzie

Mr. Lomax

Edward Atkinson

Prompter: Helen Baldomero

Doris and Doreen are comfortably installed in an obscure department of a large organisation. It is a cushy little number: on a normal day the girls keep busy by flirting with nice Mr. Tidmarsh in Appointments or pursuing their bitter feud (over a wash-basin plug) with Mr. Cunliffe in Personnel. Work is nowhere. However, this is not a normal day and slowly Doris and Doreen realise that someone elsewhere in the organisation has his (or her) eye on them. A shadow falls across their tranquil lives. Is it redundancy?

SURE THING

by David Ives

Directed by Nina Meier-Bradlin



Characters

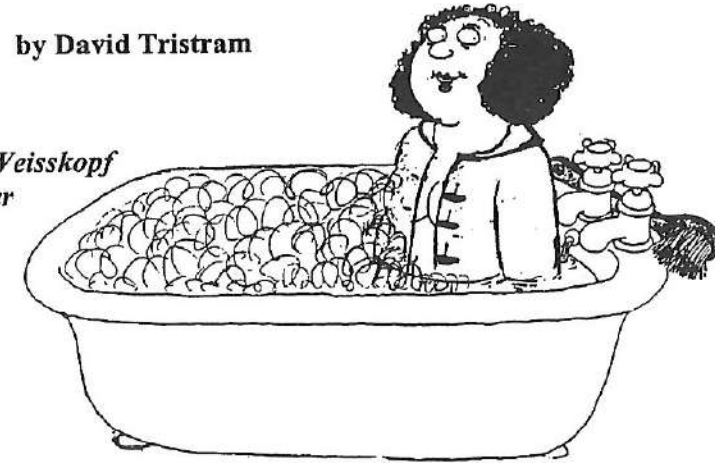
Betty	Michelle Florin
Bill	Allen Holland

A café table, with a couple of chairs. Betty, reading at the table. An empty chair opposite her. Bill enters. Boy meets girl and... (bell rings loudly).

LAST TANGO IN LITTLE GRIMLEY

by David Tristram

*Directed by Caroline Weisskopf
and Joy Scherer*



Characters

Gordon	David Cox
Bernard	Eric Collino
Joyce	Joy Scherer
Margaret	Zuzana Cox

Prompter: Ray Kleiber

Little Grimley Amateur Dramatic Society is in trouble. The membership has dwindled to four - the audiences aren't much bigger - and if they don't come up with some rent money soon, they're going to be thrown out. "There's only one thing that sells tickets these days", argues Gordon the Chairman. "Sex!" Thus begins the chaotic and hilarious build-up to an evening of extraordinary home-grown drama - an evening the locals would never forget!

PRODUCTION TEAM

<u>Production Manager</u>	Barbara Hummel
<u>Technical Manager</u>	Roger Kleiber
<u>Back-stage Crew</u>	Kari Scheuring, Matthew Breckenridge, Matthias Baumann
<u>Programme</u>	Isabelle Gould
<u>Publicity</u>	Dennis Dell
<u>Box Office</u>	Marie-Louise Collino, Virginia Wittmann, Helen Baldomero, Ann Barbara Maerki
<u>Properties</u>	Françoise Loiseau
<u>Make-up</u>	Lynn Mazzotti, Ray Kleiber, Sabine Trieloff, Isabelle Gould
<u>Sound/Light</u>	Roger Kleiber/Barbara Hummel
<u>Refreshments</u>	Mick Burchinshaw & friends

"Green Forms" and "Last Tango in Little Grimley" are produced by special arrangement with Samuel French Ltd., London. "Sure Thing" is produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

There will be a 20-minute interval after "GREEN FORMS" when drinks will be available.

Introducing The Casts And Directors

Diana Zuger is no stranger to Semi-Circle productions and was last seen in the most recent major production "You Can't Take It With You" as a slightly crazy mother of a crazy family. So it's now back to basics as a middle-aged working lady.

Sheila McKenzie is often one of the "unseen" backstage crew and she has acquired such a reputation as a gossip in various Semi-Circle workshop productions that she has been made editor of the Semi-Circle newsletter. This is a true example of life imitating art.

Edward Atkinson has lived in Basle for 5½ years and works for a bank. His acting career has recently been filled with new challenges. He played a woman for the first time in last year's English Speaking Club/Semi-Circle joint production of "Cinderella" and tonight plays a limbless person for the first time.

Sonia Dell has learnt her trade as assistant to the director and stage manager in several major productions and by directing various one-act plays. In 1993 she directed the major production herself ("Lord Arthur Savile's Crime"). Learning lines was always a problem and so, being a dyed-in-the-wool bossy-boots, directing was the obvious solution.

Michelle Florin was born just a few blocks away from here at the Frauenspital to a young woman from Bristol and a Bündtner from Prattigau. She grew up in Eastern Canada and the western United States and returned almost 4 years ago following university to discover her "roots" (it's just taking a little longer than she expected). She's been involved in almost all aspects of theatrical production and most recently directed her first production "The Man in a Case" in last year's workshop. She looks forward to returning to the stage in "Sure Thing".

Allen Holland first touched down in Switzerland during the summer of 1991, two weeks after graduating from the University of Texas Business School with a degree in Finance. His reason for leaving his home city of Houston, Texas, was to realise his dream of an international business career while experiencing different cultures. His daily role is that of a currency derivatives dealer. His other roles include musician, sportsman and actor. One role that he particularly connected with was that of Tony Kirby in last year's Semi-Circle production of "You Can't Take It With You". One of his favourite descriptions of the arts comes from George Jean Nathan: "Great art is as irrational as great music. It is mad with its own loveliness".

Nina Meier-Bradlin was last seen as Alice in "You Can't Take It With You". She directed a student-written musical at the University of Michigan in 1990 and a summer camp production of a well-known agit-prop play, but this is her first time with the Semi-Circle (it may be her last for a long while! If you see her "bump" you'll know why).

* * * * *

David Cox was born in Consett, Co. Durham and had his first acting role at an early age - as Dick Whittington's cat in the local Pantomime. His first (and last!) television appearance, as a choirboy, was on "Opportunity Knocks". Opportunity didn't knock and David went on to slaughter a number of good Shakespearean parts as a member of Salford University Theatre Company. Opportunity finally knocked for David when he came to Switzerland in 1985 and became a member of Himmelried "Männerchor" and "Dorfbühne". His role of Gordon in "Last Tango" marks his acting debut for the Semi-Circle. David's day-time role is that of "mad scientist" at one of the local pharmaceutical companies.

Eric Collino (biographical note): Play-readings, 8 pm; last Wednesday each month; Storchen Restaurant. Couldn't sound less threatening. Absolutely innocuous. We went (Eric and Marie-Louise). Got hooked. Four years ago. Lambs to the slaughter. Abandon hope all Ye who enter here. Both now involved in Semi-Circle productions, M.-L. off-stage, E. mostly on ("An Inspector Calls", "Lord Arthur Savile's Crime", "You Can't Take It With You", plus one or two one-acters). Lots of sweat, lots of fun. Not yet ready for the actor's silk dressing gown, but persevering. It's the teamwork that keeps drawing you in. Try it.

Joy Scherer hails from Leicester, England and first came to Basle in 1967. She joined the Semi-Circle in 1984, had her acting debut in the workshop "Fumed Oak" and since then has been involved, both on stage and off, in various productions. Her most recent appearance on stage was as Lady Julia in "Lord Arthur Savile's Crime". Her role as SC Treasurer - her longest-running performance to date - gives her the ideal spring-board for stepping into Joyce's shoes in "Last Tango".

Zuzana Cox was born in Prague and moved to England at the age of 8. Her theatrical career began at school where she played various demanding roles such as the Virgin Mary and the third King. At University she joined the drama group (where she met David) and took part in several serious plays such as "Macbeth" and "Antigone". Since coming to Switzerland 10 years ago Zuzana has appeared in two Swiss German plays in the village where she lives. During her spare time she plays the role of a mother and a teacher at the International School of Basle. This is her first performance with the Semi-Circle.

Caroline Weisskopf was born in Singapore and moved to England when she was 5. She spent most of her childhood in that hotbed of culture - Norfolk! In fact it was in her home village of Sutton (population about 50) that she had her first taste of amateur dramatics. This stimulating experience inspired her on to greater things, and she joined the Semi-Circle in 1986. She enjoys all aspects of the theatre - acting, prompting, make-up, etc. "Last Tango" is her second attempt at directing.

PREVIOUS SEMI-CIRCLE PRODUCTIONS

Wilde	Lord Arthur Savile's Crime (reading, May 1975)
Shaw	Heartbreak House (reading, December 1976)
-	Jubilee Review (jointly with the Flowing Bowl, May 1977)
Melville	Dear Charles (January 1978)
-	Old Time Music Hall (jointly with the Flowing Bowl, September 1978)
Coward	Hay Fever (January 1980)
-	A Seaside Show (jointly with the Flowing Bowl, October 1980)
Wilde	The Importance of Being Earnest (February 1982)
Coward	Present Laughter (February 1983)
Coward	Blithe Spirit (February 1984)
Rattigan	Separate Tables (March 1985)
Williams	Night Must Fall (March 1986)
Coward	Fumed Oak (workshop, May 1986)
Chinn	A Respectable Funeral (workshop, January 1987)
Shaw	Pygmalion (February 1987)
-	The Paradise Pageant (at the 1st Festival of English-Speaking Theatre in Berne, April 1987)
Hughes	Red Carnations (workshop, August 1987)
St Vincent Millay	Aria Da Capo (workshop, November 1987)
Townsend	Womberang (workshop, November 1987)
-	The Paradise Pageant (for charity, December 1987)
-	The Nativity Pageant (for charity, December 1987)
van Druten	I Remember Mama (March 1988)
Shirley	Bus Stop (workshop, May 1988)
Pertwee	Postal Orders (workshop, May 1988)
Chinn	From Here to the Library (workshop, May 1988)
Chinn	A Respectable Funeral (workshop, September 1988)
-	The Paradise Pageant (for charity, December 1988)
-	The Nativity Pageant (for charity, December 1988)
Congreve	Love For Love (February/March 1989)

Mortimer	Knightsbridge (workshop, May 1989)
Shirley	Round and Round the Gooseberry Bush (workshop, May 1989)
Pinter	5 Review Sketches (workshop, November 1989)
Chinn	Too Long an Autumn (workshop, November 1989)
Dickens	A Christmas Carol (reading for charity, December 1989 and 1990)
Miller	The Crucible (February 1990)
Kelly	Queer Street (workshop, May 1990)
Smith	Departure (workshop, May 1990)
Robbins	Nightmare (March 1991)
Chinn	A Respectable Funeral (at the 3rd Festival of English-Speaking Theatre in Geneva, September 1991)
Wilson	The Boy Friend (musical, October 1991)
Davis	Thermal Underwear (workshop, March 1992)
Morris	Bar Stools (workshop, March 1992)
Tristram	What's for Pudding? (workshop, March 1992)
Priestley	An Inspector Calls (November 1992)
Terence	A Sense of the Ridiculous (workshop, March 1993)
Edwards	Sweet Caroline Sweet (workshop, March 1993)
Hickmann	George (workshop, March 1993)
Bennett	Talking Heads (3 Monologues, May 1993)
Cox	Lord Arthur Savile's Crime (based on the short story by Oscar Wilde, October 1993)
Terence	A Sense of the Ridiculous (at the 4th Festival of English-Speaking Theatre in Berne, October 1993)
Mortimer	Lunch Hour (workshop, March 1994)
Morris	Phones (workshop, March 1994)
Wasserstein	The Man in a Case (workshop, March 1994)
Strange	A Jolly Sinister Jape (workshop, March 1994)
Hart & Kaufmann	You Can't Take It With You (October 1994)

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:

Cynthia Baer, Hölzlistrasse 51, 4102 Binningen

- ☐ I would like to join the Semi-Circle
- ☐ Please send me information on future Semi-Circle productions

Name:

Address: