

The Semi-Circle Basel presents

# Rumours

a farce by

**Neil Simon**

directed by

**Angela Robinson**

**Baseldytschi Bihni**

Kellertheater im Lohnhof Basel

June 2001

14, 15, 16 and 21, 22, 23

8.15 p.m.



# Make a killing.

English books available at Bankenplatz  
and at [www.biderundtanner.ch](http://www.biderundtanner.ch).

Aeschenvorstadt 2, CH-4010 Basel,  
T (+41) 061 206 99 99, F (+41) 061 206 99 90

**Bider&Tanner**  
Your English Bookshop at Bankenplatz

# Novel stock.

English books available at Bankenplatz  
and at [www.biderundtanner.ch](http://www.biderundtanner.ch).

Aeschenvorstadt 2, CH-4010 Basel,

Please note that  
Thursday 16 **A**  
and not on 16  
For f

German, French, Russian, Spanish,  
Portuguese, Italian, English...

**WITH SUPERLEARNING  
A LEARNING METHOD THAT  
ACCOMMODATES  
YOUR WORK SCHEDULE**

- intensive – 3x faster learning rate
- active classes with 1-5 students
- made-to-order time schedule  
and learning content
- stress-free learning atmosphere

The most efficient and most fun way  
to learn a language quickly

**P** L.M. + J. Galgiani  
St. Jakobstrasse 170A, 4132 Muttlenz  
Telefon 061/312 98 97  
Telefax 061/312 98 61

# Express yourself!

  
**DIALOGICA®**

THE LANGUAGE SCHOOLS WITH SUPERLEARNING  
<http://www.dialogica.ch> Basel, Bern, Zug, Zürich

DIALOGICA BASEL

## Introduction

### The Semi-Circle

The Semi-Circle is an English speaking theatre group here in Basel, which was established 26 years ago. Since its creation we have put on over 70 productions – comedies, musicals, and classical plays – full-length productions such as tonight's, and one-act plays where we are more experimental. We also go to theatre festivals, such as FEATS this year in the Hague, where we are performing "Hard Candy" by Jonathon Rand. In October we are hoping to stage three one-act plays. A lot of work is carried out both by the actors and the backstage crew. If you would like to be involved in a production in some way then please contact us. (061 401 0768)

\*\*\*

### The Baseldytschi Bihni

This theatre group has been a part of Basel's cultural scene since it was founded in 1892. From 1963 until 1995 they had their own theatre in Leonardstrasse 9, which some of you may remember. Because the site was needed for a new school, the group had to find a new theatre, and with their own initiative as well as their own funds and sponsored money they designed and built the beautiful theatre you are sitting in tonight. You will find information about the Baseldytschi Bihni and their upcoming productions on their web-site - [www.baseldytschibihni.ch](http://www.baseldytschibihni.ch)

\*\*\*

### Our Cooperation

The Semi-Circle has performed at many theatres in Basel over the years, most often at the Bäumlhof School or in the cellar theatre of the Englisches Seminar in the Schönes Haus. Several informal contacts between the two groups over the years have borne fruit in today's production. The regulars amongst the audience will notice that we are upholding the Baseldytschibihni traditions; the 20:15 start and the collection at the end of the performance rather than ticket sales. In fact, the theatre is not rented but the takings are split. Many of the people you see working here tonight are BDB volunteers. It is an interesting and new experience for us, which we hope both sides will be pleased with, and which we hope you will positively enjoy.



Charley's best friends are coming to his tenth wedding anniversary, there has been a car crash, his wife Vivian isn't there, he has shot himself in the earlobe and all the house staff have disappeared.

As one of the characters says: "Charley Brooks is the Assistant Deputy Minister of Finance. An attempted suicide on his part could make a pretty ugly scandal. He is a personal client of mine and my best friend. I've got to protect him, haven't I?" So, they do their best to protect him from anything which could start - rumours.

\*\*\*

Zum Charley sym zähnte Hochzytsdaag kömme syni Beschte Kollege zämme, es isch e autiunfall passiert, syni Frau isch nit deheim, är hett sich ins Ohreläpplis gschosse und s ganza personal isch verschwunde.

Aine vo de mitschpiler maint: "Dr Charley Brooks isch e mitarbeiter vom Vize Finanzminischter. E sälbschtmordversuech vo ihm könnit e rächte Skandaal gä. Usseedäm isch är e persönlige Kund vo mir und my beschte fründ. Ich muessn doch eifach schütze – oder nit?"

Und so gänn alli zämme ihr beschts um mögligscht eins z' verhindere – nämmlig dass Dr Charley ins gred kunnt.

\*\*\*

Marvin Neil Simon was born in the Bronx on July 4, 1927. During the course of his career, Simon has won three Tony Awards for Best Play ('The Odd Couple', 'Biloxi Blues' and 'Lost in Yonkers'). He has had more plays adapted to film than any other American playwright and, in addition, has written nearly a dozen original screenplays himself. He received Academy Award nominations for his screenplays 'The Odd Couple' (1968), 'The Sunshine Boys' (1975) and 'California Suite' (1978). He has also been the recipient of the Antoinette Perry Award, the Writers Guild Award, the Evening Standard Award, the New York Drama Critics Circle Award, the Shubert Award, the Outer Circle Award, and a 1978 Golden Globe Award for his screenplay, The Goodbye Girl. 'Rumours' was first seen in 1988 in America, and we stage the British version of the script.

## ALLERHANDWERK

Allgemeine Schreinerarbeiten  
Gebäudeunterhalt / Montagen  
Renovationen / Restaurationen  
Bühnen – und Kulissenbau  
Standbau / Beschriftungen

ALLERHANDWERK  
ROBERT PIPOZ  
BLAUENSTRASSE 42 4054 BASEL  
TEL 061 301 09 37 FAX 061 301 0938

## Act I

One evening at the home of Charles and Vivian Brooks

Interval (20 minutes)

## Act II

An hour later

## Cast in Order of Appearance

Chris Bevans Zuzana Cox

Claire Cummings Suzan Wilson

Ernest Cusack Andrew Thompson

Glenn Cooper Dennis Dell

PC Conklin Eric Collino

Ken Bevans Jamie Sievert

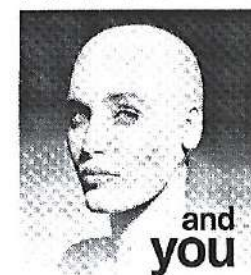
Len Cummings David Cox

Cookie Cusack Diana Zuger

Cassie Cooper Jacqui-Mae Allison

WPC Casey Nicolaia Marston

**CLIPPERS**  
HAIR DESIGN



and  
you



Schneidergasse 12  
4051 Basel  
Telefon / Telefax

061

2610809



**PAUL MITCHELL**  
HAIR CARE

do you have hair, color, highlighting - problems  
do you have language problems ?  
no problem for us .....

# silverdisc

im schmiedenhof 10 - basel

top quality second-hand

dvd's  
video-games  
cd's

[www.silverdisc.ch](http://www.silverdisc.ch)

where people meet in klein-basel

special selection of malt whiskies



ueli gerber, owner

clarastrasse 56  
4058 klein-basel

Tel. 061/ 691 74 77  
Fax 061/ 691 74 69

## \*\*\*\*\* TANZ ENSEMBLE CATHY SHARP \*\*\*\*\*

SO you didn't see our dance production E-SPACE in the KASERNE BASEL last April? Well, you will have an opportunity to see us from the 1<sup>st</sup> until the 11<sup>th</sup> of November at the THEATER ROXY BIRSFELDEN, where we will perform with guest companies from ROTTERDAM, PORTO and RIGA. In the meantime we will be on tour in AUSTRALIA in August. Find out why the TANZ ENSEMBLE CATHY SHARP has become one of the best professional freelance dance companies in Switzerland. We have been around for ten years now (we can't believe it ourselves!), ever since Nashville-born CATHY SHARP founded the company. We look forward to welcoming you at one of the performances. You can also visit us at [www.onthenet.ch/tecs](http://www.onthenet.ch/tecs), or give us a call at 061 691 83 91 for more information!

## The Director and the Cast



**Angela Robinson**

An English housewife living in France, my interests include genealogy, jogging with the Hash House Harriers, pantomime, gardening and avoiding the housework. When I first came across this play, at a Semi-Circle play-reading evening a couple of years ago, I knew I would love to direct it! We have had such fun doing it and we hope that you will laugh as much as we did during rehearsals!

**Zuzana Cox**

Another familiar face on the Semi-Circle stage. Last seen as Coral Brown in Alan Bennett's "An Englishman Abroad" and as Ayah, the personification of goodness and camel-race commentator in last year's "Ali Baba" panto! A mathematics teacher in real-life, Zuzana has learned how to drink Vodka by the bottle-full for her role as a lawyer in tonight's show!!



**Jamie Sievert**

A lost L.A. boy, docked on the banks of the Rhine four years ago and hasn't pulled up anchor yet. He works as a word-cruncher for a translation agency in Basel. Another of his multiple incarnations writes stories about Italian national parks.

**Suzan Wilson**

Usually recruited to do menial tasks such as feeding the budgerigars, playing the cleaning woman or office secretary. In this play she throws away malicious one-liners to the other party-goers.







### David Cox

You may also have seen him on stage before - most recently in last year's workshop production of Molière's "The Doctor in Spite of Himself" where, amongst other things, he demonstrated his fluency in Latin! Never one to refuse a challenge David goes on to impress you with some amazing Spanish in his present role as a BMW-driving tax-consultant! In reality his rusty old Honda Civic can be seen each day littering the car park of a major Basel pharmaceutical company.

### Andrew Thompson

Talk about type casting! Andrew Thompson was a psychotherapist for most of his professional life. However, he is not as nice as Ernest, nor has he written as many books. Maybe playing the character will serve as an inspiration to him?



### Diana Zuger

A familiar face on stage for the Semi-Circle over the years, her last role was in Molière's "The Doctor in Spite of Himself". This is her first full length farce and with the right sort of ingredients it should cook up into something very enjoyable!!!!



### Dennis Dell

Dennis has figured in the Semi-Circle on- and off-stage for many years. Being born and brought up in London, Dennis has for this production the interesting job of overlaying his original Cockney with a cut-glass British accent.



### Jacqui-Mae Allison

My first encounter with firearms was when aged five I inherited my grandfather's hair-trigger shotgun and happily shot potatoes in the backyard - well it was New Zealand in the 70's! Then at high school we did small-bore rifle shooting where it was discovered I had an excellent aim! I can't wait to get you in my sights - enjoy the show - it's an utter blast!

### Eric Collino

Eric's prime motivation in being involved in theatre stems from the ever-changing challenges and fun of working with different groups of people - not to mention the opportunities afforded to down a few beers after rehearsals!

He hopes you all derive as much enjoyment from seeing "Rumours" as we have done in preparing for the performances.



### Nicolaia Marston

Nicolaia is a two-country person who speaks both American heartland homilies and Baseldytch doggerl. Her acting career - a compact one - has been mostly in English, in Basel and at the University of Lausanne, in roles such as Gwendolyn in "The Importance of Being Ernest", which she once performed even in Baseldytch.

### Kosmetik-Studio Artistik

Inh. N. Zuger  
Tulpenweg 21  
4153 Reinach  
Telefon 061/711 10 31

Öffnungszeiten:  
Mo.-Fr. 08.30 - 12.00 Uhr  
13.45 - 18.30 Uhr  
Samstag geschlossen

GERMAN. ENGLISH. FRENCH  
WRITING & SECRETARIAL SERVICES

[www.kommtextrkorr.ch](http://www.kommtextrkorr.ch)

## The Production Team

It is the practice of the Baseldytschi Bihni not to accept individual credit, but please be assured that the individuals involved have contributed a considerable amount of high quality work towards this production.

Director	Angela Robinson
Production Manager	Tony O'Sullivan
Set Design	Baseldytschi Bihni
Set Construction	Baseldytschi Bihni
Costumes	Angela Robinson
Props and Wardrobe	Sandra Roche
Prompt	Nicolaia Marston
Publicity	David Foggetta and Baseldytschi Bihni
Programme	David Foggetta, Tony O'Sullivan and Susannah Todd
Make up	Sonia Dell, Helen Baldamero, Ray Kleiber and Susan Billington
Lights and Sound	Roger Kleiber and Baseldytschi Bihni
Photographer	Ute Kessel
Bar	Baseldytschi Bihni
Ushering	Baseldytschi Bihni

## Appreciations

Restaurant Jägerstübli, Dorfplatz 11, Allschwil

Restaurant Cedro al Ponte, St. Johannis-Vorstadt 43, Basel

Vogt AG Ford Super Center, Binningerstrasse 82, Allschwil

Vista Design, Im Spitzacker 7, Basel

WBZ Druckerei, Aumattstrasse 70-72, Reinach BL

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French Ltd., London.

Grether MacGeorge GmbH

present a Seminar on

## Is there a Life after Employment?

**Place:** *Hotel Victoria, Centralbahnplatz 3-4, 4002 Basel.*  
**Date:** *Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2001.*  
**Time:** *Seminar - 18.45 for 19.00 start. Aperó - 20.00.*  
**Entrance:** *free*

the auditions for this year's Basel English Pantomime will be held on **UGUST** at 7 p.m. at the Löwenzorn Restaurant, Gernsbach 2 Basel, September as stated in the programme. We apologise for this error. Further information, please email [moira\\_hess@hotmail.com](mailto:moira_hess@hotmail.com)

Contact us by phone  
address so that we can register you for the evening.

Contact:  
Elaine Smith: **Tel. 206 88 00, Fax. 206 88 05** or  
Email: **e.smith@grether-macgeorge.ch**

Grether MacGeorge GmbH, Independent Financial, Legal and Tax Advisors,  
Austrasse 95, 4051 Basel.

THE BASEL ENGLISH PANTO GROUP  
are pleased to announce that this year's pantomime will be

## SLEEPING BEAUTY

Auditions will be held at 7pm on Thursday 16 September 2001  
at the Löwenzorn Restaurant, Gernsbach 2, Basel