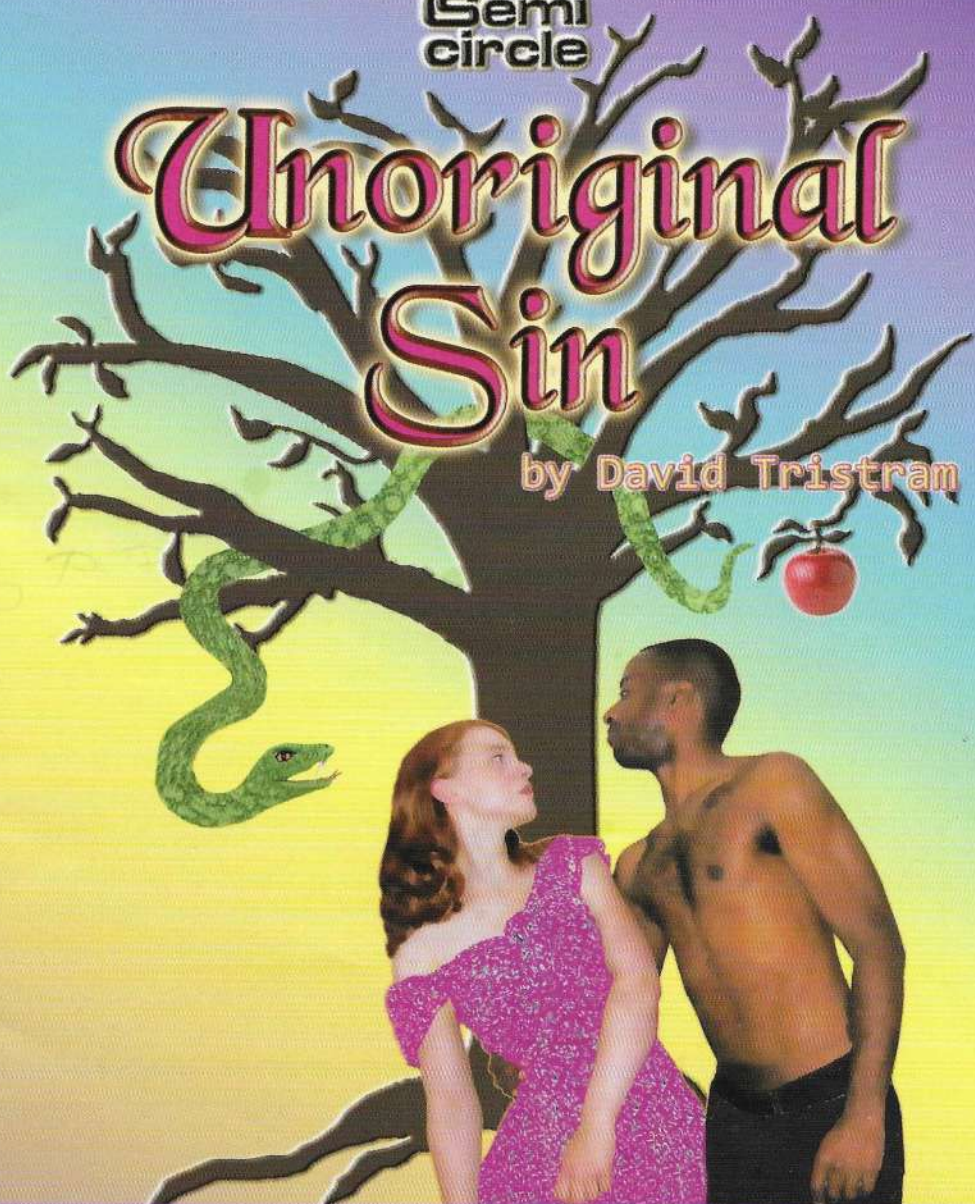


Semi  
circle

# Unoriginal Sin

by David Tristram



Das Neue Theater am Bahnhof Dornach

October 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> 2010 at 19:30,

October 31<sup>st</sup> 2010 at 17:00

November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> 2010 at 19:30





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# WELCOME

Welcome to the Semi-Circle Autumn Production. We are delighted that you have joined us in Dornach to see David Tristram's comedy, "Unoriginal Sin". This play was selected back in March in order to bring some laughter to the autumnal evenings, and has certainly been fulfilling this expectation during rehearsal. The players have had great fun building their contrasting characters, and this energy should make for an enjoyable evening.

The Semi-Circle has been performing English-Language drama in Basel since 1975, and to date has performed over 125 different pieces, from full-length classic dramas to contemporary pieces and those by local writers. This year's spring production was Ronald Harwood's "Quartet", directed by Richard Levitt, which was performed to an appreciative audience at the Baseldytschi Bihni. Alongside a number of social events the Semi-Circle has held monthly play readings and an improvisation workshop with the internationally renowned Canadian improv-duo *Crumbs*. Part of last year's Autumn Production, "Bouncers" by John Godber, directed by Michael Clarke, was presented at the Festival of European Anglophone Theatrical Societies (FEATS) Fringe at Bad Homburg in May, where it was enthusiastically received by a packed house. After the summer break we held a "Sketch Evening" where members brought forward a diverse collection of sketches, excerpts from plays, monologues, poems and songs. Following the autumn production there will be a seasonal play reading on the 16th of December; and then the 2011 season begins. Highlights of next year's program will include the musical "Rent" at the Scala Basel in June, and FEATS in Genève. There will be further Sketch Evenings, workshops and an autumn production of one-act plays, giving opportunities for many to act, direct, and to be creative backstage, and managing the production.

Please follow news of our up-coming events on our website [www.semi-circle.ch](http://www.semi-circle.ch) and if the idea of becoming involved in live theater appeals to you, please contact us via the website. In addition to potential actors and directors, we are always delighted to hear from those interested in set building and design, costumes, stage management, lighting and sound as well as publicity, marketing and organization. We are currently in the middle of a fund-raising campaign and would also be delighted to hear from you if you can help us in that regard.

I am delighted that you have taken the time to join us here this evening and we invite you to enjoy our story of the roller-coaster ride of the human condition, where the flesh seems to be very willing -- but what of the spirit?

*Richard Brown*  
President  
The Semi-Circle



# Unoriginal Sin

By David Tristram

Directed by Peter Hilton

Production Management by Susan Aeschbach

Bill	Jacob Dixon
Jenny	Vinka Arellano
Eve	Alix Austin
Miles	Steve Martin
Father Tomlin	David Cox
Neville	John Hyland

Bill and Jenny are divorcing. Bill is thirty-five, rich, alcoholic, and with the sex drive of an adolescent bull on steroids. Jenny is having an affair, but she remains utterly devoted to her husband's money. Jenny suggests to Bill that they have a 'first to the bedpost' competition to establish the divorce settlement. Jenny wins and Bill is humbled into reassessing his profligacy. Jenny tries to catch Bill in a compromising position while he attempts to seduce the young, innocent Eve who has come to view Bill and Jenny's cottage. Eve arrives with her fiancé, Neville. Eve is twenty-four and never been kissed. Miles is Bill's best friend. Or at least he was, before he discovered Bill's underpants hanging from the lightshade in his bedroom. Then there's Father Tomlin. At least he's taken a lifelong vow of celibacy. Or so his daughter claims.

There will be an interval of 20 minutes  
with bar service after Act I



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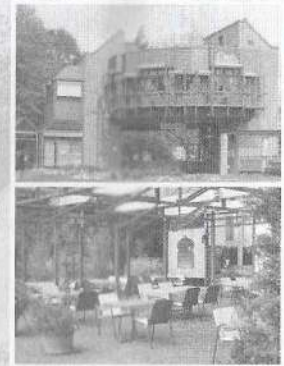
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Save the Date!

The Semi-Circle's next production:  
Jonathan Larson's Musical

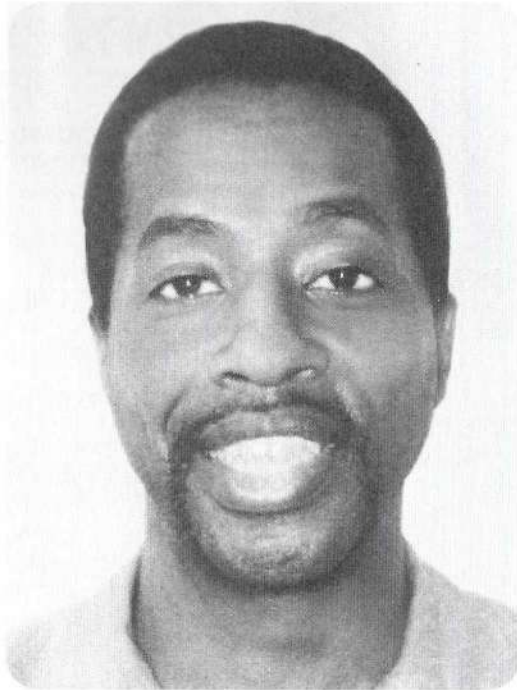
**RENT**

at the Scala Basel  
16<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> June 2011



## Jacob Dixon

New York native Jacob Dixon has lived in Switzerland for over five years. During this time he has performed stand up comedy in Basel and Zurich and been a ring announcer for Swiss Championship Wrestling, Swiss Power Wrestling and World Wide Pro Wrestling. He can also be heard on "The English Show" on 94.5fm Radio X every Tuesday night from 6:30pm to 8pm. "Unoriginal Sin" is his fifth appearance in a Semi-Circle production, and his 2nd time under the direction of Peter Hilton. He has also performed in "The Author's Voice", "A Streetcar Named Desire", "Surprise" and "Bouncers" Mr. Dixon is looking forward to entertaining you, and he hopes you enjoy the show.



## Alix Austin

Alix Austin was born in High Wycombe in 1991 and lived there for 4 years before moving to Basel with her family.

With a keen interest in acting (and dressing-up) she started performing at 7 and has been going on ever since. She's starred in various productions of plays, such as "Animal Farm" and "DNA", as well as several projects with youth theatre groups. Last year she took on the role of Annie in "Grinch - The Panto", though "Unoriginal Sin" will be the first full-length play in English that she has ever been in. Besides acting, she likes to sing, play the piano, tapdance, swim and has recently taken up knitting (so far she's managed to make a pair of fingerless mittens!).



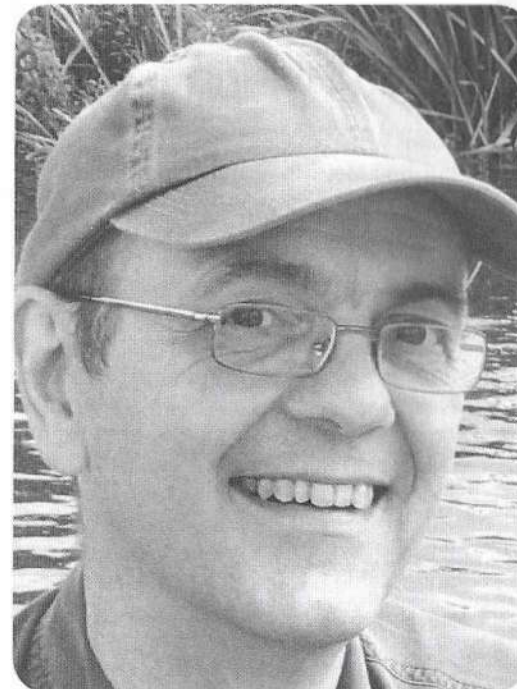
## Vinka Arellano

Vinka was 5 years old when the Norwegian Chilean fell in love with the theatre and its magical world, as a Tree in a haunted forest. Smitten by her love for the stage she has since played in different free theatre groups touring in Norway. Love brought her to Switzerland and for the past six years she has been a member of The English Drama Group of The University of Zurich. This is her third role as a member of Semi-Circle.



## Steve Martin

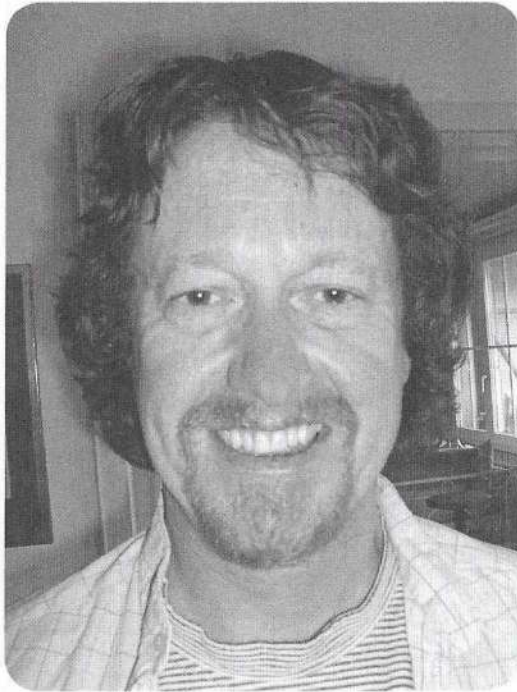
Steve has been involved in the theatre for many years, performing with several groups around the world. Although preferring the limelight, he also enjoys directing, stage management, set construction and other jobs behind the scenes. Since giving up on 'proper' jobs three years ago, Steve has been an active member of Semi-Circle and Basel English Panto Group, on and off stage as well as on and off committees. Steve performed in the Semi-Circle productions of "Roleplay" and "Bouncers".





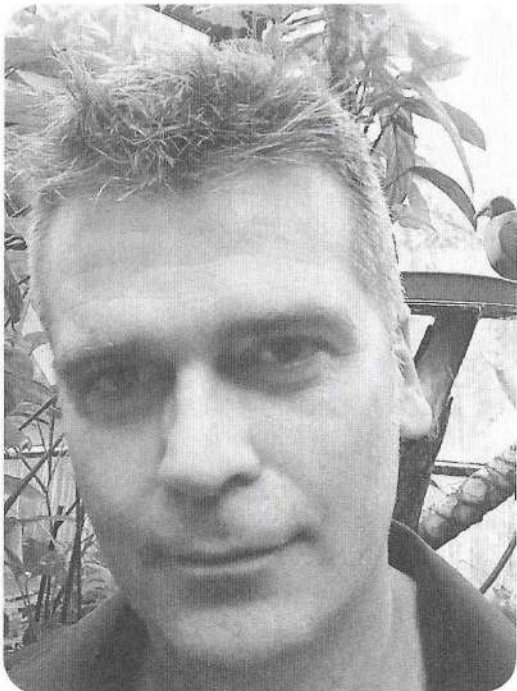
## David Cox

David "Blesses you all" for coming along to tonight's performance ! .... Far-removed from his last role as a nightclub bouncer in "Bouncers", David has actually donned the garb of a priest on the Semi-Circle stage once before. Funnily enough it was in another play by the same playwright ("Last Tango in Little Grimley"), however only the old timers in the audience will remember that one! Last time David's dog-collar was made from an old squeeze bottle. Correct answers as to the origin of his costume in tonight's show may - or may not - be rewarded by a free ticket for FC Barnsley's next home game in the Premiership... although when that will be only God knows. In the meantime, perhaps, some more tea Vicar?



## John Hyland

John was born in 1963 near London, but has lived in Switzerland since 1993 (ZH/LU/GE and now BS). He has been involved with both the Basel Semi-Circle & Pantomime productions since 2000. Being single with no children (he says he would still be with his Mum if he had not remained in London) he began to identify with his on stage character Neville who is a Librarian, although he does have a rebellious side in the form of a Library book he took out in 1973 from the Berkshire County Library (Langley), Children section; "How to look after your pets". There is an outstanding "non return fine" of 10p a week to be considered.



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# PRODUCTION TEAM

Director	Peter Hilton
Prompt	Penny Rettig
Sound	Richard Brown
Set	Gavin De Klerk
Costumes	Colleen Meredith Dunkel
Make-up	Helen Baldomero Diana Zuger Emma Imbert
Production and Stage Management	Susan Aeschbach-Jagger
Road crew	Peter Hilton Steve Martin David Cox Richard Brown Tim Seabrook Oliver Aeschbach
Backstage	Scott Holland Adel Schocat Yasmine-Sara Bemrose
Front of House	Penny Rettig Judy Martin Sue Stafford Natascha Hoffmann
Bar	Penny Tuckwell John Stafford Stephanie Nemeth-Parker Helen Baldomero Tim Seabrook
Programme, Poster and Flyer	Conny Heim, Aidan Bell
Advertising Task Force	Krista Jacquet James Sievert Scott Holland David Cox Fliss Wright Dragana Blaser

Thanks to everyone else who contributed in any way to help realise this production.  
Thanks to Mr. Pickwick Pub, Basel, for supplying (empty) whisky bottles.

## JOIN US!

As you sit there waiting for the lights to go down, the music to play and the story to unfold, you may wonder how all this is arranged and organised, who are the people involved and why?

Well, it is just a bit puzzling. After all, our spare time is precious to us, so why spend it involved in amateur dramatics? Some explanation is to be found in the biographies of the cast and directors. Of course, other than those you see on stage, there are many more less visible team members who help plan, organise and support the action that is seen on stage, from sound and lighting to props and paying the royalties; more such retiring creatures are to be found serving behind the bar, pushing buttons at the lighting and sound desks and sneaking behind the curtain. Our members come from many different countries and backgrounds. If you are curious enough to try-out, either on stage or in a less conspicuous place, please visit our website [www.semi-circle.ch](http://www.semi-circle.ch).



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