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Duplicity

An evening of short plays

A night of twists, deceit and much more...

20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29 Sept. 2012, 8:00 pm

**FOUL
TERRITORY**
Directed by Nina Meier-Bradlin

CREEP
Directed by Xander Deubelbeiss

**JERRY
SPRINGER
IS GOD**
Directed by Richard Brown

**GAME
THEORY**
Directed by Penny Rettig

*The Dear
Departed*
Directed by John Stafford

MEDEA
Directed by Georgina Rortner
MEDIA is Christopher Durang & Wendy Wasserstein
This amateur production is presented by arrangement
with Josef Winkler Ltd.

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info@newartsparadigm.com

www.katemichaels.com

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Welcome from the President

The Semi-Circle is delighted to welcome you to our autumn 2012 Production, Duplicity, a night of twists, deceits and much more! Following the dramatic intensity of our spring production, The Shadow Box by Michael Cristofer, we are offering something in a lighter vein. Six contrasting pieces with 20 players, all wound together with a red thread. For the first time we are playing in the Theater Arlecchino who have been wonderful hosts to us. Our programme for 2013 will involve an Agatha Christie classic – Murder in the Vicarage – a further group of short plays in the autumn and a musical in the spring of 2014.

Having completed the goals that we set for the Verein three years ago, the committee have conducted a strategic review and set the course for the next three years for consolidation, growth and taking new opportunities. We always welcome any suggestions and views about what you would like to see us doing via our website, www.semi-circle.ch under the “Welcome” and then “Contact us” tabs. We are always looking for new ideas and people to join us in the technical aspects of our productions as well as directors and performers. We are putting a particular emphasis on building strong production teams before auditioning for acting role. And so if you have an interest in stage design, stage management, carpentry, sound, lights or video we are always delighted to hear from you along with those interested in acting and directing. Thank you for your support and hoping that you find Duplicity an entertaining and amusing evening.

Richard Brown, President



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Producer's note

"So you are the producer, what exactly is that?" someone asked me recently when I told them about Duplicity. In the dozens of shows I have acted and performed in, I don't think I fully understood what that role meant, until now. This has been a challenging journey for me. From looking for a new theatre to house our show, to finding directors who have the vision and passion to bring something essentially written on paper, and turn it into good theatre. I also wanted to push the boundaries with Duplicity by introducing short mini-scenes between the plays, also known as a red thread.

So I hope you enjoy the show! Thank you for supporting Semi-Circle by coming to see our productions. Please keep spreading the word about English theatre in Basel. Support your local theatre group!

*Eleanor Low,
Producer & Publicity Manager*



Semi-Circle's
next production:
Murder at the
Vicarage

Spring 2013

Murder at the Vicarage
Agatha Christie

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www.semi-circle.ch

The Directors



**FOUL
TERRITORY**
Directed by Nina Meier-Bradlin

**RED
THREAD**

Nina Meier Bradlin

Nina Meier Bradlin is from Detroit, Michigan. Her Semi-Circle productions include: A Man in a Case, You Can't Take It With You, Sure Thing (director), Willpower, Behind the Curtain, A Streetcar Named Desire and Rent. Nina is a theatre educator and director at the Gymnasium am Münsterplatz and she is a member of the Helmut Fölnbacher Theatre Company where she can be seen in Volpone and Tod eines Handlungsreisenden (Death of a Salesman). Nina has greatly enjoyed working with the cast of Foul Territory.



CREEP
Directed by Xander Deubelweiss

Xander Deubelweiss

Xander Deubelweiss is involved in a Semi-Circle production for the first time. Most of his theatre experience comes from the loyal competition over at the Gay Beggars, where he has appeared in about a dozen plays. Most recently he was on the teams who directed Unexpected Returns and Gallathea. In real life he works for the Basel-Stadt Department of Education, herding paperwork in the section which provides professional development for state school teachers.



**JERRY
SPRINGER
IS GOD**
Directed by Richard Brown

Richard Brown

Richard Brown has lived in Basel for 8 years. Born in Norfolk, England, he spent many years in Wilmington, Delaware, and San Francisco, California. Richard has appeared in a number of Semi-Circle plays including Outsourced, Miss You, Bouncers and recently as Brian in The Shadow Box. He is President of the Semi-Circle and Treasurer of the Panto, where he has appeared in numerous roles and played in the band. He has three beautiful daughters who are at Stanford University, California; the Royal Veterinary College London and Yosemite National Park, California.

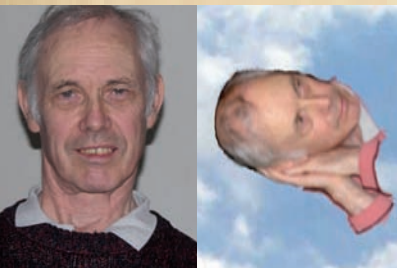


GAME THEORY

Directed by Penny Rettig

Penny Rettig

Penny first got involved in amateur dramatics in Botswana, where she developed an enthusiasm for all aspects of theatre. A rash offer to “help a bit backstage” during the Semi-Circle/International School Basel production of *Oliver* resulted in her becoming stage manager for the show! Since then she has helped in some capacity for all recent Semi-Circle shows. She made her directorial debut with *Norma* in the autumn production of 2011 and was delighted to have the opportunity to repeat the experience this year.



The Dear Departed

Directed by John Stafford

John Stafford Director

Christine Comerci Assistant Director

John has been a Semi-Circle member for almost 20 years, during which time he has been involved in numerous productions. He has turned his hand to almost everything to do with putting on a show – barman, set designer/constructor, production manager – but has never appeared on stage – not his kind of thing! This is his second directing effort, the previous one being *Careful Rapture*, also for the Semi-Circle.



MEDEA

Directed by Georgina Rotter

Georgina Rotter

Georgina Rotter graduated in Film and Video at the California Institute of the Arts in 1999. She produced numerous short videos and films and participated in various other projects. In 2002 she won the first prize for Best Essay at ARTE Television in Frankfurt. In 2003 she studied acting at Santa Monica College. After returning to Switzerland she began working as a writer and journalist and dedicates much of her free time to theatre arts.

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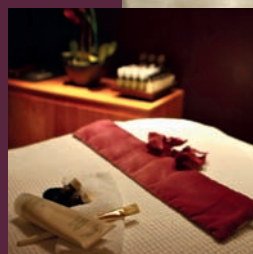
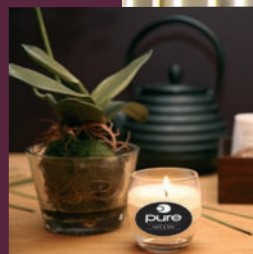
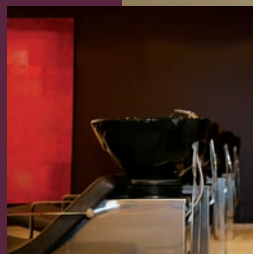
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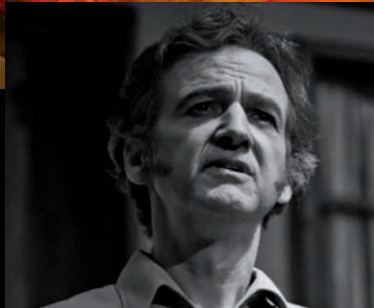
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Cast



GAME THEORY Directed by Penny Remy

Aimée Knight

Woman 1

Aimée is 16 years old and was born in Basel to Scottish and American parents. She attends the International School of Basel, where she is extremely interested in drama: at the ISB she has performed in two school productions, Bugsy Malone and Oklahoma!, as well as a series of monologues and multiple excerpts from plays. She has also participated in two pantomimes here in Basel and is thrilled to be a part of this year's Semi-Circle production of Duplicity!



The Dear Departed Directed by John Sealford

Andrew Thompson

Abel Merryweather

Andrew is an American who met his met his wife while on sabbatical leave in Switzerland. She followed him to his home in the States until he took early retirement, and then said, it's your turn to follow me back to my country. Looking for meaningful activities he accepted the job of Semi-Circle treasurer for seven years and also "hammed it up" in some of their plays. He became too old for most parts until this play. It's a good comedy and should be fun for all.



GAME THEORY Directed by Penny Remy

Christine Archer

Woman 2

Involvement in the performing arts has taken a different turn for me since my arrival from New Zealand to Basel seven years ago. From a classical music background I have been thrown into (with willingness and excitement) the role of Musical Director/pianist for several shows: Twist and Shout, Cafe Brel, Rent, Inga Svensson and seven years with Panto. Last year was my stage debut with Semi-Circle as Gertrude in Ruby of Elsinore. I'm enjoying exploring this new medium of acting minus the music! Other life roles in Basel are as a music therapist, piano teacher and conductor.

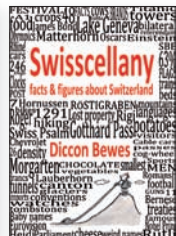
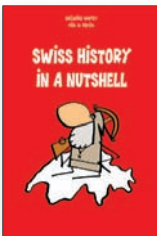


JERRY SPRINGER IS GOD Directed by Richard Brown

Daniel de Guzman

RC

Daniel is an American ex-pat living in Basel since 2009 and is pleased to be making his Semi-Circle debut with Duplicity. He has been acting for fun off and on since he was 12 years old. Some of his favorite roles include the Boyfriend in Turnstile (1999 Sundance Channel short film contest award winner), Benvolio in Romeo and Juliet, and Hank in Marvin's Room. He hopes to pass his love of theatre on to his most impressionable audience, Sophie and Luc. Heart, Stephanie.



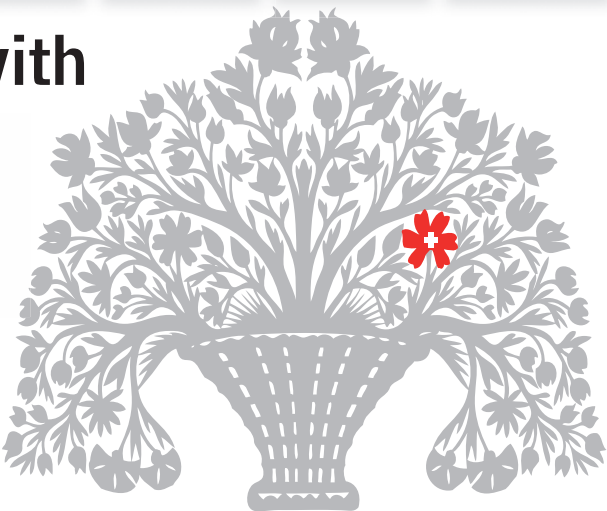
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- **Carol-Singing Apéro**. 7th Dec, 19:00h, Lohnhof.



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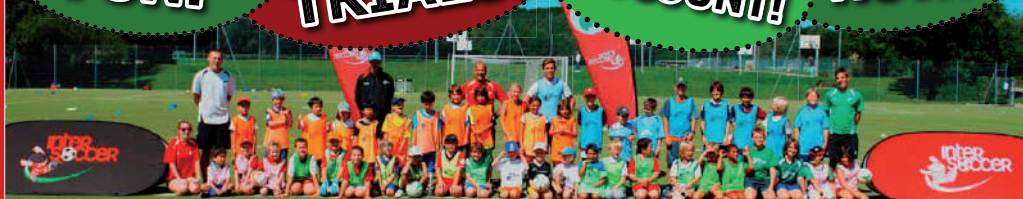
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Duplicity Act 1

RED THREAD: **BALL**

FOUL TERRITORY

Directed by Nina Meier Bradlin

Foul Territory by Craig Wright

Director: Nina Meier Bradlin

Synopsis: Owen and Ruth are watching a Yankees game. Ruth is an unreservedly loud and passionate fan who swears a blue streak and believes her team will win, even against the odds. Owen is clearly pessimistic, not just about the game, but also about Ruth's recent decision to leave her husband. As soon as Owen mentions the topic, a baseball comes his way and hits him smack on the head. Soon, another ball hits his nose, which starts to bleed profusely. He tells Ruth about countless other balls that have hit him in the past. When yet another ball comes flying his way, Ruth encourages him to try to catch the ball, but Owen explains that there is no point. It seems to be his fate to be hit in the head with every ball that comes his way. Will he catch it?

Owen - Jacob Dixon

Ruth - Danielle Zammit

RED THREAD: **UNAUTHORISED**

CREEP

Directed by Xander Deubelweiss

Creep by James Christy

Director: Xander Deubelweiss

Synopsis: Anne is at a party where she doesn't want to be and where she meets the creep, Hoover, who crashed it and is having a great time observing the scene, drawing Anne into his stories.

Hoover – David Laurie

Anne – Vinka Arellano

RED THREAD: **STEVE**

JERRY SPRINGER IS GOD

Directed by Richard Brown

Jerry Springer Is God by Matt Pelfrey

Director: Richard Brown

In a fashionable apartment near New York City, Tex is trying to persuade his friends to make up a scenario which he could sell to the TV, after all how hard can it be to fool the producers of the Jerry Springer Show? The friends are not interested, what possible relevance could there be in the crazy reality of the Jerry Springer Show? Jerry! Jerry! Jerry!

Tex – Jacob Dixon

RC – Daniel de Guzman

Jim – Pablo Arnaiz

Viv – Jessica Wilan

Dana – Vinka Arellano

Laura – Karolina Kowalska

RED THREAD: **BRIEFCASE**

GAME THEORY

Directed by Penny Rettig

Game Theory by Peter Sagal

Director: Penny Rettig

Synopsis: A task on a corporate team building exercise. Two participants - 1 young and up-and-coming, the other, an older participant! Who can win?

Woman 1 – Aimée Knight

Woman 2 – Christine Archer

BREAK

Duplicity Act 2

RED THREAD: **THE BEREAVED**

The Dear Departed

Directed by John Stafford

The Dear Departed by Stanley Houghton

Director: John Stafford

Synopsis: Grandad is a former American soldier who stayed on in post-war England to raise a family. But having discovered her father has unexpectedly passed away, his daughter, Mrs Slater, and her husband are considering preparations for the funeral when her sister and niece, the Jordans, arrive. Trying to maintain the dignity of the occasion becomes difficult as old animosities begin to reappear. Disputes over inheritance escalate up to a surprise ending. The play is set in the 1960s.

Mrs Slater – Joy Scherer

Victoria Slater – Stephanie McKelvey

Mr Slater – John Hyland

Abel Merryweather – Andrew Thompson

Mrs Jordan – Sue Stafford

Gwen Jordan – Trudy O'Neill

MEDEA

Directed by Georgina Rotter

Medea by Christopher Durang and Wendy Wasserstein

Director: Georgina Rotter

Synopsis: MEDEA announces the performance of The Trojan Women. She and her chorus of three women try to figure out if it is appropriate to kill your children just to punish your husband and occasionally stumbles into parts of other plays. Jason shows up, so does a messenger with news of Lady Teazle, and a Deus ex Machina comes down from the sky and tries to cheer everybody up.

Medea – Vanessa Sedleiger

Chorus 1 – Vinka Arellano

Chorus 2 – Susan Aeschbach

Chorus 3 – Sue Stafford

Angel – Darleen Geissmann

Jason – Eric Collino

Messenger – Pablo Arnaiz

RED THREAD: **DEMASKED**

Cast

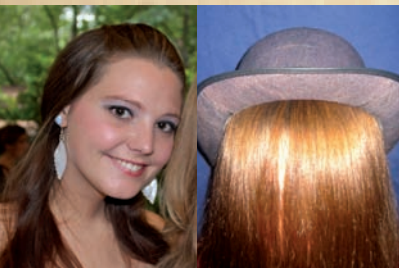


Danielle Zammit

Ruth

**FOUL
TERRITORY**
Directed by Nina Meier-Bradlin

Danielle Zammit has lived in Basel for three years and has just discovered the thrill of being in a theatrical production. She likes acting because it presents an opportunity to get to know herself better, all the while sharing in the energy dynamic with the cast and crew.



Darleen Geissmann

Angel

MEDEA
Directed by Georgina Rotzer

Darleen is originally from Liechtenstein and studies in Bern. She has played in a few youth theatres and some other productions. Currently, she is learning more about theatre at StageArt in Zurich beside the university.



David Laurie

Hoover

CREEP
Directed by Xander Deubelbeis

David Laurie hails from sunny south-west Scotland, and performed there in the chorus of amateur operatic performances. He has lived in the Basel area for 18 years, and finally took the plunge back into performing in 2011, singing in the chorus of RENT, then playing evil randy King Claudius in Ruby of Elsinore and, this year, desperate dying Joe in The Shadow Box. He often wishes he could duplicate himself and send his double off to work while he spends more time on the stage!



Eric Collino

Jason

MEDEA
Directed by Georgina Rotzer

Our play, Medea, falls under the category “theatre of the absurd”. In his 21st year in the Semi-Circle, Eric is here attempting his first foray into this genre in the guise of Jason – he of the Golden Fleece. By absurdly imagining his role to be Jason of the Golden Fleas he is scratching his continuing itch to act. Our flight of fancy will take you on an unusual journey. Hold on to your seats!

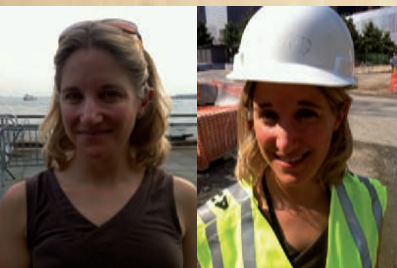


Jacob Dixon
Owen, Tex

**FOUL
TERRITORY**
Directed by Nina Meier-Bradlin

**JERRY
SPRINGER
IS GOD**
Directed by Richard Brown

I am originally from New York but I fell in love with Basel in 2004. Since I've been here I have performed in six stage productions, two short films and a music video. I am also a presenter for The English Show on 94.5fm Radio X, as well as a ring announcer for Swiss Championship Wrestling. Enjoy the show!



Jessica Wilan
Viv

**JERRY
SPRINGER
IS GOD**
Directed by Richard Brown

Jessica hails originally from South Orange, NJ and ended up in Basel via Brookline, MA, Westborough, MA, San Francisco, CA and New York City. She anticipates many more future stops in Europe and the U.S. She spent much of her teens and twenties either performing or producing but lately focuses more on her business career (currently HR at Novartis) and feisty 8 year-old twin boys. She is thrilled that Duplicity is getting her back on stage! Love and thanks to Ken, Adam and Jack.



John Hyland
Mr Slater

*The Dear
Departed*
Directed by John Stafford

John's first ever stage performance was in 2000 after joining the Semi- Circle in late 1999 at the same time he joined the Basel English Panto Group. John's main love is comedy and he will be playing at the Scala later this year in the Basel Panto production as King Richard.



Joy Scherer
Mrs Slater

*The Dear
Departed*
Directed by John Stafford

Joy was born in Leicestershire, England and first appeared on stage at the age of 7 in a school nativity play. A resident of Basel for several decades now she had her Semi-Circle acting debut in 1986 in the group's first-ever one-act play Fumed Oak. Since then she has performed many times on-stage, backstage and front-of-house. In The Dear Departed she plays Amelia, a lady very determined to get her own way, but will she . . . ?



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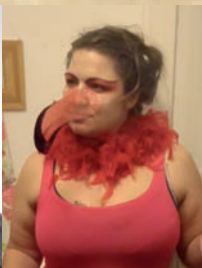
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Cast



Karolina Kowalska

Laura

**JERRY
SPRINGER
IS GOD**

Directed by Richard Brown

Born in front of an audience, I have developed an insatiable love for the stage, be that doing sommersaults and stretching into complex positions in the circus, acting as Verges (Much Ado about Nothing), Venus (Gallathea), or Norma (Norma), singing in the ensemble of RENT or directing Noises Off. Through Semi-Circle and the Gay Beggars I get the opportunity to escape into this world of dreams and be someone else for a change.



Pablo Arnaiz

Jim, Messenger

**JERRY
SPRINGER
IS GOD**

Directed by Richard Brown

MEDĖA

Directed by Georgina Rotter

I joined the English-speaking theatre community only recently through the Gay Beggars play Noises Off, where I realised that my English wasn't as bad as I'd thought before and that people wouldn't chase me off the stage. So I decided to keep on having fun and gaining experience by acting in English and joined this Semi-Circle production. In my pre-English acting life I collected some acting experience at NTaB Dornach and through Vitamin T. at Theater Basel.



Stephanie McKelvey

Victoria Slater

*The Dear
Departed*

Directed by John Stafford

My name is Stephanie McKelvey Aves and I have been in Basel for 6 years now. I really enjoy the theatre, whether it be acting, singing or dancing. I have really enjoyed the time I have spent preparing for this performance of The Dear Departed and it has been a great opportunity for me to meet people as well as being able to perform. I look forward to future productions of the Semi-Circle and I hope you enjoy the show!



Susan Aeschbach

Chorus 2

MEDĖA

Directed by Georgina Rotter

I have been involved with Semi-Circle and the Basel English Panto Group for a decade now. At present I am Vice-President of the Semi-Circle and, apart from being involved in the admin duties that this involves, over the years I have acted, directed, prompted, managed the bar and worked backstage. I love the teamwork involved and enjoy all the equally important less glamorous jobs. However, Medea marks my return to the limelight after a considerable absence from the Semi-Circle stage. Hope you enjoy it!



Sue Stafford

Mrs Jordan, Chorus 3

*The Dear
Departed*
Directed by John Stafford

MEDEA
Directed by Georgina Rotter

Susan began her stage life in a musical before joining the Semi-Circle. She has put in eleven performances for the group so far. She likes to feel that she's helped to cheer people up and make them laugh. At the same time, her lifelong ambition, since she was a teenager secretly reading Shakespeare out loud in the privacy of her bedroom, has been to play Cleopatra (ideally with some really romantic guy in the part of Antony!), a dream which, unfortunately, has never come off.

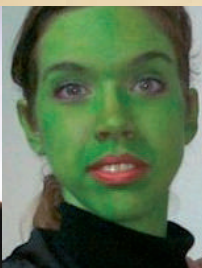


Trudy Oneill

Gwen Jordan

*The Dear
Departed*
Directed by John Stafford

The Dear Departed is Trudy's first production with the Semi-Circle. She took part in the chorus of the Basel English Panto Group production last year. Trudy also played Ado Annie in the ISB's production of Oklahoma last year in her first major role. She plans to study theatre next year in the diploma programme at the ISB.



Vanessa Sedlegler

Medea

MEDEA
Directed by Georgina Rotter

Vanessa is passionate about theatre, music and musicals. That is why she did the StageArt Musical & Theatre school in Zurich and was part of the Parfin de Siècle theatre in St. Gallen last summer and the Reisetheater Zürich last winter. On the other hand, she obtained a bachelor in business administration and is working part-time for Swiss Foundation for organ donation (Swisstransplant) where she manages the finance/administration department. The combination of finance and art is not common, neither is a mother who wants to kill her children to get back at her husband.



Vinka Arellano

Anne, Dana, Chorus 1

CREEP
Directed by Xanier Deutscherbois

JERRY
SPRINGER
IS GOD
Directed by Richard Brown

MEDEA
Directed by Georgina Rotter

She was 5 years old when the Norwegian Chilean fell in love with the theatre and it's magical world, as Pinocchio's fairy. Smitten by the love for the stage she has since then played in different free theatre groups touring in Norway. Love brought her to Switzerland. For the past 8 years she has been a member of the English Drama Group of the University of Zurich. This is her fifth role as a member of the Semi-Circle.

A Traditional British Theatre Show

Mother Goose

by the Basel English Panto Group

November

Thursday 29th 19:30

Friday 30th 19:30

December

Saturday 1st 14:00 & 19:30

Sunday 2nd 13:00 & 17:00

Adults: 30 CHF

Children & Concessions: 20 CHF

Directed by Peter Hilton

Script by Grahame J. Evans

Courtesy of Limelight Scripts

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www.academia-international.ch
sarah.taylor@academia-international.ch

The Crew



Eleanor Low

Producer

Stage and music experience since childhood. Followed a classical music path at the Centre for Young Musicians (London) till she discovered theatre at the Battersea Arts Youth Theatre Group. And nowhere does she feel more alive than on stage! Since then numerous stage appearances. Recent roles include: Charlotte in "Twist & Shout", Bridget in A Slice of Saturday Night, Paige in Roleplay, Alexi Darling in the musical RENT. This is her first time producing, and is loving the challenge!



Cristina Pirovano

Assistant Producer

Cristina Pirovano is from Milan, Italy, and came to Basel in 2007. She is living with her husband Massimo and as well as having a full time job, Cristina is enjoying making new experiences in her life.



Martina Eberle

Stage Manager

Born 1991, studying German Language and Literature in Basel and Theatre Sciences in Bern. Working a lot for theatre and film projects, mostly as assistant director. Absolutely no time to think about the future, therefore I'm hoping to find anything interesting to work and live.



Barbara Ruch

Assistant Stage Manager

Barbara is making her debut as an assistant stage manager, having previously spent time in front of the curtain. She was picked for this demanding role due to her impeccable Swiss organisation skills and because she's good to work with (and not because she knows the producer quite well...), let's just say she's good to work with, right. Other than that, she likes what most people like, a good show from time to time, a hike on a sunny day in the mountains, meeting interesting people, having good conversations, eating delicious food, going on amazing adventures, sunny weather, white beaches, blue sea, a lovely cocktail, a light breeze on her skin...



Dragana Blaser

Set Designer

Dragana studied architecture at the University of Sarajevo and shortly thereafter moved to London to pursue her dream further. After moving to Basel she fell in love with set design and since then her work has been seen in various Semi-Circle and Basel Panto Group productions such as RENT Musical, A Streetcar Named Desire, Bouncers & Shakers, Grinch – The Panto and Treasure Island. She loves to design the physical surroundings in which the action will take place, the overall look of the set which gives the audience information about time and space.

Makeup Supervisors

Helen Baldomero, Carol Rees

Makeup Assistant

Bobbette LeBaron

Light Operator

Martina Eberle

Sound Operator

Eleanor Low

Set Constructor

Peter Nixon

Front of House

Penny Rettig

Box Office Manager

Fliss Wright

Programme Design & Layout

Eleanor Low

Advertising, Publicity & Design

Eleanor Low

Copy Editor

Giselle Weiss

Helpers

Jasmin Kossenjans, Tanja Spichty, Alix Austin, Peter Hilton

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David Krämer for light construction

Cara Jordan Simmons Rynerson from Basel Bagels

Dianne Dicks from Bergli Books


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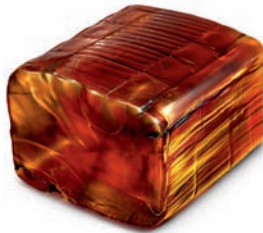
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