

NO EXIT

by Jean-Paul Sartre

Adapted from the French

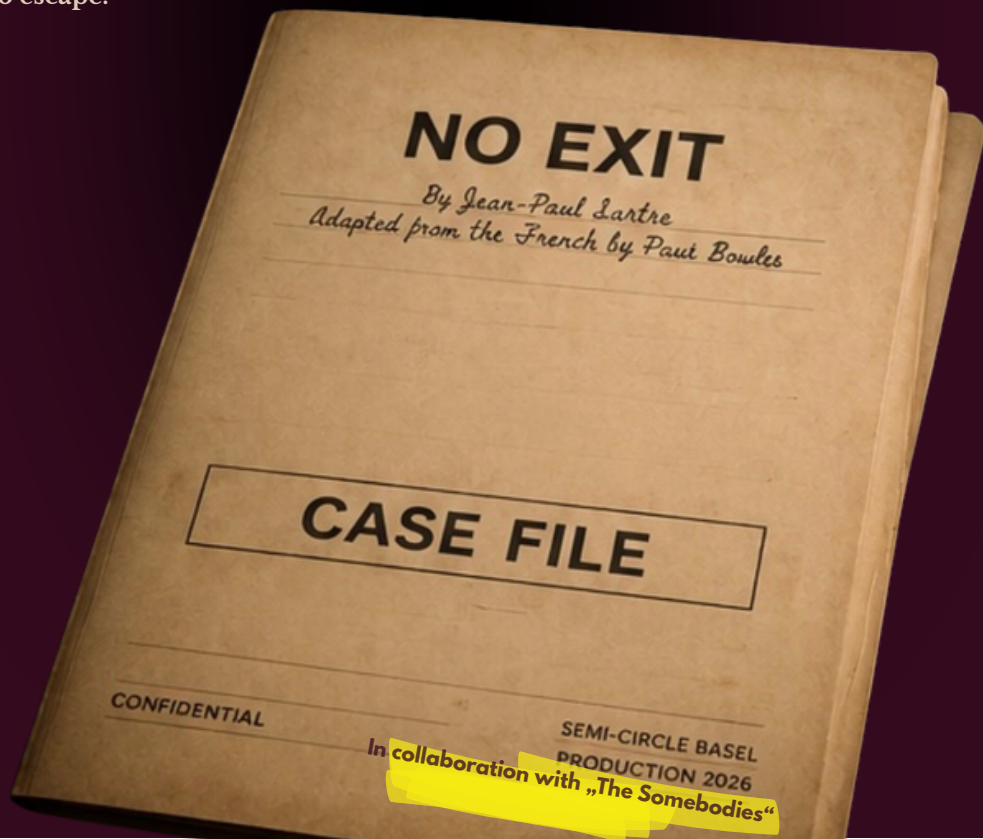
by Paul Bowles

THE FILES HAVE BEEN OPENED

Three strangers.

One room.

No escape.





Alison Bolton, President, Semi-Circle

Welcome Semi-Circle friends, and my sincere thanks for joining us.

Tonight, I invite you to sit back and pass a little time in a place where time itself has ceased to matter, in the company of three souls trapped in a quiet, inescapable room. Sartre's *No Exit* reminds us that existence is an unyielding mirror, and that the choices we make—and the judgments of others—can forge a captivity far more inescapable than any physical prison. It is a story that prompts us to reflect deeply on our own freedom, responsibility, and the nature of human connection.

Our marvelous cast and crew have poured their hearts and minds into bringing Sartre's intense vision to life here in Basel. From the stark, claustrophobic intimacy of the set to the psychological precision of our actors, I know that you will appreciate their devotion to the craft of theatre. We are immensely grateful for their hard work, and equally thankful for you, our wonderful audience. Your enduring generosity and patronage allows our non-profit community to keep telling these bold, essential stories season after season.

I hope tonight's journey challenges your perspective and sparks engaging conversation long after the lights come up.

So settle in. Leave the outside world behind: the door is closed!

... Enjoy the show.

Please ensure that your phones are turned off.



Experiencing an existential crisis mid-performance?
Don't worry, there *is* an exit.

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eve

CHOCOLATE DESIGN
by Veronika

Handgemachte Pralinen aus Basel

Einzigartige Pralinenkreationen - Frisch und mit
Liebe handgeformt.

THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE ROOM

Thanks to the great team that made it all possible

Director	Valentina D'Alessandro
Assistant Directors	Daria Montijo, Basia Bekalska
Producer	Valentina D'Alessandro
Marketing Lead	Alice Ginger Zagato
Marketing team	Alice Ginger Zagato, Valentina D'Alessandro
Set Design	Alice Ginger Zagato
Set Construction Team	Giles Breault, Jeanne Darling, Michele Nicolet, Susan Breault, Valentina D'Alessandro
Costumes	Valentina D'Alessandro
Character Consultant	Maria Thorgevsky
Light Designer / Technician	Gianluca Rossato, Michael Clarke, Tony O'Sullivan
Sound Designer / Technician	Ginger Zagato, Michael Clarke
Front of House	Chris Jones Cecilia Laudisa Verderamo Daria Montijo Dican Campinari Giulia Ceccarelli Jeanne Darling Marne Platt Michael Bray Roberta Terlazzi Roger Bonner
Transport Lead	Chris Jones
Ticketing & website	Paul Delgado





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Welcome to the afterlife. Please make yourselves comfortable.

Garcin, Inès and Estelle have arrived in a rather peculiar room. There are sofas, a mysterious valet, no windows, and—most inconveniently—no exit.

At first, it all seems quite civilised. Introductions are made. Small talk is attempted. Everyone is very keen to be polite.

But there are a few little problems.

Garcin doesn't like being judged. Estelle would really rather not be left alone. Inès has a talent for seeing through people. And nobody seems particularly interested in admitting why they are actually here.

As the conversation gets warmer, the room gets smaller. Secrets emerge, alliances shift, old wounds are poked, and three perfectly ordinary people discover that they may be each other's perfect punishment.

No pitchforks. No fire. Just three sofas, three sinners, and an eternity to get on one another's nerves.

Because sometimes Hell doesn't need to be spectacular.

It just needs good company.

Valentina D'Alessandro



Here lies Valentina (known as Estelle). She always wanted to be admired... and now she got the audience she deserved.

Valentina came to acting at the young age of twenty-seven, almost 17 years ago — and never quite managed to leave.

She began her theatrical life in Zurich, where she explored everything from improvisation and classic comedy to drama and contemporary theatre... and her journey (which crossed paths with SemiCircle long ago) seems to never end. Acting quickly became a lifelong passion. Then came directing — initially as a dare and a “Carnage”. A dangerous decision perhaps. She fell in love with it and has been making other people suffer as she did.

Her last known act (so far) is in No Exit, where she dared to do both ... and found herself trapped in Hell!

Basia Bekalska

Here lies Basia... or does she? She never really had an epitaph.

Rumours were spread that she was coming from Poland and Ireland, and that she has been acting in Basel for over a decade. She has been seen appearing in “She Kills Monsters”, “Don’t Drink the Water”, and the classic murder mystery “And Then There Were None”. A coincidence?

But is it in “No Exit”, where she might show her true form, welcoming the damned to their eternal destination ... could she be the reason everyone else is here?

After all, no one wants to be alone ... especially in Hell! And she seems suspiciously qualified for the job.



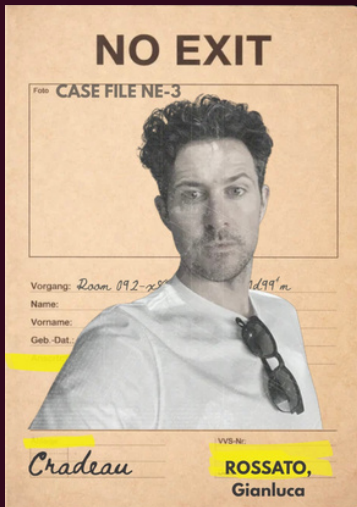
Gianluca Rossato

Here lies Gianluca (known as Cradeau). He had plenty of reasons and mottos in his life, unfortunately, none of them survived the journey to Hell.

Born in Italy and a Basel resident for over 15 years, his passion could be seen in almost every form of art and expression. COVID gave him the push to start acting and from that, there was no coming back: he continues all the way with “God of Carnage” and other stories... until he found himself to the doors of Hell.

By day working on drug development ... by choice exploring tango, freediving, travelling and the great outdoors. So many things to miss.

But if No Exit taught him something, it is that death does not necessarily mean the end. Sometimes, apparently, it means having to explain your choices forever.



Ginger Alice Zagato

Here lies Alice. Or perhaps Ginger .. or Inez? The matter was never entirely settled.

Originally from Italy and based in Basel for many years, she found her way into theatre around thirteen years ago, both behind the scenes and on stage. Long before that, she was already building scenography for festivals, masks, creatures and other things that probably should have stayed in the dark.

Then came “Dracula”, “Oltre Gaber”, “God of Carnage” ... destiny had a suspicious habit of casting her in unpleasant and evil roles. She adored them.

By day, Alice works as a complementary therapist and executive coach.

And if Hell is being trapped in a room with other people, she may as well enjoy finding out exactly what makes them tick.



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CLOSED

CASE FILE

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PRODUCTION 2026

In collaboration with „The Somebodies“