

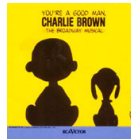
Interested in joining us?

Why not join Network Theatre Company and realise your ambition! Come to a reading or audition for a part in our exciting 2009 programme being planned now. Or if you'd rather keep out of the limelight, we have many roles behind the scenes – join in backstage, front of house, or with the many other tasks necessary to keep the Network Theatre Company and our little gem of a theatre running.

Pick up a leaflet and an application form in the Green Room, see our website at www.networktheatre.org, or just speak to one of our members tonight. And maybe we'll see you here soon!

Coming up in 2009

Spring 2009 - *You're a good man, Charlie Brown* - Music & Lyrics by Clark Gesner.
Book by John Gordon. Based on the comic strip *Peanuts* by Charles Schulz
Directed by **Michael Mayne**



The time of the action is an "average day in the life of Charlie Brown", a day made up of little moments picked from all the days of Charlie Brown, from Valentine's Day to the baseball season, from wild optimism to utter despair, all mixed up with the lives of his friends and strung together on the string of a single day, from bright, uncertain morning to hopeful, starlit evening.

All the well-known figures are present; Charlie, of course, Lucy, Linus, Schroeder, and even the dog, Snoopy. After an opening paean to Charlie, Lucy dreams of being a queen and bossing the world. Linus sings of his need for a security blanket, Snoopy plans to capture the Red Baron while a baseball game degenerates into a poll gauging Lucy's popularity. In the end the youngsters and the dog each give his or her idea of what true happiness is with Charlie Brown concluding "happiness is anything and anyone that's loved by you."

Summer 2009 - *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by William Shakespeare
Directed by **Andy Bradshaw**



Fantasy and reality interweave in spectacular fashion in Shakespeare's magical comedy about love and its many stages. King and Queen of the fairies, Oberon and Titania have fallen out with each other and the world is in turmoil as a result. Lysander loves Hermia, but so does Demetrius, but Helena loves Demetrius who doesn't love Helena, oh how will it all end? The course of true love never did run smooth... Will it all come together by the time Theseus and Hippolyta wed? Will Puck learn how to administer love potions correctly and to the right people? Will Bottom make an ass of himself? All of these questions will be answered in this fast moving, funny, colourful and high-energy production. If it were possible to book tickets now, we would urge you to do so. You won't want to miss it!

NETWORK THEATRE COMPANY

presents



in association with the Cheddar Redwood Players
A Hugh Jass Production



Network Theatre – Waterloo, London

3-6 and 10-13 December 2008



Message from the Chairman - December 2008

Good evening ladies and gentleman and welcome to the Network Theatre. It is always a pleasure to welcome new members of cast and backstage joining us in this theatre for the first time, as well as some well-known members, and tonight is no exception. So, welcome to our production of Willis Hall's 'The Three Musketeers'.

As you may know, this year has seen changes in the Network Theatre. Sadly, my husband David died in August. He was Chairman for many years, and a passionate and committed member since the early days when the company was called 'The Southern Railway Dramatic Society'. He is much missed in so very many ways, and I regard it as a great honour to follow him as Chairman of NTC.

We shall be celebrating our 70th anniversary next year, and I know that David would be justly proud - as we all can be - of the fact that our amateur dramatic group continues to flourish in London after all these years. We intend to celebrate our anniversary with a variety of entertainment, so do watch our website for upcoming information.

Tonight our thanks go to director Leigh Shine and his talented cast and crew for what I'm sure you will agree is an excellent production. Sit back, enjoy the show and join us in the Green Room bar during the interval and after the performance.

Kay Murray



The Arch 200 Club

70 years ago, Southern Railways founded a theatre group at Waterloo. The spirit of amateur theatre has survived through changes of name and nationalisation and is now struggling with the costs that came with privatisation. Please help us to continue to entertain you by becoming a member of the Arch 200 Club.

The Club exists to help the continued existence of the Network Theatre as a building in the face of ever increasing overheads. Membership subscriptions fund projects that are for the general good of the theatre, not productions themselves. Membership costs a minimum of £5 a month. Every month three membership numbers are drawn and half that month's subscriptions paid out in prizes.

There is so much more that needs to be done. The staging needs replacing and some parts of the theatre that the audience do not see are in desperate need of refurbishment. If there is a large enough membership it might even be possible to give the audience a real warm feeling. More details are available from Nigel Williams at arch200@networktheatre.org



Marita Ri – when she is not aspiring to be a professional cape sewer, she enjoys dabbling in a bit of placard holding and is happy to die for the art... She hopes that everyone enjoys the show!



Jennie Rich - since completing her Performing Arts degree, Jennie has directed, written, sung, danced, "stage managed" and acted in many productions. She is happy to add chasing people with a big sword to her theatrical experience.



Steve Simler is a man of many parts. All small, or so has his wife told him. He's looking forward to being D'Artagnan's daddy, amongst other things, who he's assured also has a small part – he puts it all down to the cold weather.



Leigh Shine **Hugh Jass** is "really delighted" to have completed his 840 hours of Community Service on this production and welcomes the opportunity to return to the care home to enjoy his retirement (Somewhere).



Mary-Alice Stack's first appearance on the Network Theatre stage was in 2007 as the long-suffering Sue in *Abigail's Party*. After directing *Bazaar & Rummage*, she is now enjoying being back on stage sporting a fine moustache and wielding a wooden sword!



Richard Webb One of Penge's best-loved character actors, Richard is a man of many parts (have we had that one yet?) - his amazing expanding one has been the talk of the company. In real life he is something else.

Special thanks to:

Michael Mayne – for his patience (and patients)!

Gary Cross – for creating our deadly weapons

Marita Ri – for hand sewing approximately 220 capes

Plague! The Musical - Bubonic Productions for the loan of costumes

This production is dedicated to the memory of David Murray.



Matthew Griffiths believes in the restorative power of theatre, because he's shed 62 years since his last role as Professor Waffle in *The Suburban Spaceman*.



Juliet Heap - this is her first and for her own safety probably last production with Network. Elsewhere she has appeared in Cold Comfort Farm, Alarms and Excursions and an adaptation of Terry Pratchett's *Wyrd Sisters*.



Phil Hollman - through his years on stage, Phil has played a series of thugs, servants and minor nobility. He is pleased to have finally reached the rank of king.



Keri King - a voiceover artist by day, Keri hopes to be boo-ed for all the right reasons tonight. "Being evil just comes naturally." You really have to feel sorry for her boyfriend!



Imelda Maguire has performed in many Network shows - *The Kitchen*, *Suburban Spaceman* and a cameo in *CLASS*. She worked at this year's Edinburgh festival as assistant stage manager for the amazing *Plague! The Musical*. After glamming it up in recent shows *Opposites Attract* and *Dick Lothario Goes Tits Up*, Imelda is embracing her stench ridden masculine side once again.



Michael Mayne, actor and sword master from an early age has been known to do almost anything (as long as it's legal) on the stage. He's been a goodie, a baddie, an inbetweenie and in this production, he's enjoying being the evil Cardinal Richelieu – agent number available on request, free for panto.



Kay Murray is in her forty-first year with Network Theatre Company, having joined at a very early age. She has appeared in more parts, and directed, costumed, prompted, painted and propped more shows than she can remember. Tonight she's seen in a variety of her favourite character roles.



Lucie Regan - this is her first production with Network Theatre; in fact it's her first production for nearly 16 years. She was drawn to Network by the hope of a sword, but is frightfully happy to be a damsel in a dress!

The Three Musketeers

By Willis Hall



As you read this, I will be but a small speck in the sky as I escape Waterloo in a chartered helicopter after the first night, bound for foreign shores to assume a new identity in the witness protection scheme (as allowed under the Crimes Against Theatre Act 2007).

Unforeseen problems, such as a cast member being deported, another disappearing days before opening night and then an actor cast in a major role who disappeared even before rehearsal began, telephoning only a few days before the first night to say that she had learnt her lines and was ready to come back!

Finally, forced to make even more last minute cast changes, due to unforeseen events (including a hold-up in the Channel Tunnel), the Director would like to extend a warm welcome to the latest members of the team - the Cheddar Redwood Players: press ganged only a few hours ago. A true Corinthian spirit from all concerned, to come to the rescue of this project.

So a big merci from me on my radio handset (ten four Big Daddy from this Bear in the Air).

And finally, once more, should you see anyone resembling me hanging around the theatre, it was a condition of my handlers that a double was found to distract and confuse those with a grievance and/or intent on exacting revenge. Please don't engage him (or her) in any form of discussion as I believe not only is he from Albania (obvious language problem) but he also has no knowledge or understanding of theatre whatsoever (maybe there is a similarity there...).

Leigh Shine Hugh Lass

La Marseillaise

Da da da da da da dee da da

Da da da da da da da

Da da da da da da dee da

Da da da da da da da

Da da da da da da da da!

Act 1

Prologue	London Waterloo
Scene 1	The throne room, the Louvre Palace
Scene 2	A farm in Gascony
Scene 3	A market square, some miles from Paris
Scene 4	A courtyard in the rue du Vieux Colombier
Scene 5	Monsieur De Treville's quarters
Scene 6	A courtyard in the rue du Vieux Colombier
Scene 7	Outside the Convent of the Little Sisters of St Cecilia
Scene 8	The throne room, the Louvre Palace
Scene 9	Monsieur Bonacieux's house
Scene 10	The Bastille Dungeons
Scene 11	Monsieur Bonacieux's house
Scene 12	The courtyard, the Louvre Palace
Scene 13	The Queen's terrace, the Louvre Palace
Scene 14	The courtyard, the Louvre Palace

Interval

Act 2

Scene 1	The Bastille Dungeons
Scene 2	The courtyard, the Louvre Palace
Scene 3	A retiring room, the Louvre Palace
Scene 4	Monsieur Bonacieux's house
Scene 5	A market square, some miles from Paris
Scene 6	The Duke of Buckingham's house in London
Scene 7	A market square, some miles from Paris
Scene 8	Inside the Convent of the Little Sisters of St Cecilia
Scene 9	The ballroom, the Palace at Versailles

Disclaimers:

Any resemblance to a competent performance is unintentional and purely coincidental.
No Actor has been harmed during the making of this production. (Action monitored by the RSPCA)
The Director has been harmed many times during this production, but it serves him right.

Hugh Jass Productions would like to thank:

Wibberley Webb Estate Agents, Bisodol, Big Choppers for Hire, J. Feliciano Paint School
Theatre Union of Retired Directors
Society of Horrendous International Theatrical Endeavours
Association of Retired Scenery Examiners
Stephen Hawking School of Voice Training

Cast

in order of appearance

Louis, King of France	Phil Hollman
Anne, Queen of Austria, Consort	Andy Bradshaw
Donna Estefana	Gaëlle Comte
Madame Bonacieux	Lucie Regan
Richelieu	Michael Mayne
Rochefort	Francis 'Monkey Boy' Spencer
D'Artagnan Senior	Steve Simler
D'Artagnan	Matthew Griffiths
Innkeeper and first Gaoler	Judith Denwood
Clothilde	Juliet Heap
Porthos	Mary-Alice Stack
Athos	Emily Godowski
Aramis	Kirsty Eyre
Milady	Keri King
De Treville, Buckingham, Priest	Richard Webb
Jussac	Joanna Bunnell
Planchet	Imelda Maguire
Monsieur Bonacieux	Paul Dorley
And other members playing various parts	Jennie Rich, Kay Murray, Marita Ri

Production Team

Director	Leigh Shine
Stage Manager	Hugh Jass
Assistant Stage Manager	David Harvey
Fight Director	Eshani Weeresinghe
Lighting Design and Operator	Michael Mayne
Sound Design and Operator	Steve Moles
Sound Operator	Mike Wyer
Costume	Nigel Oatway
Set Design	Marita Ri
Set Build	Carrie-Anne Miller
Production Stills	The Company
Assistant Director	Paul Lunnon
	Luke Cumiskey



Company Biographies

Joanna Bunnell is excited to be treading the boards as a man once again. This is the second time she has been cast as a male and is beginning to wonder why. If you wish to discuss her availability for future drag performances her number is available upon request – or you can find it on the toilet wall.

Andy Bradshaw would like to state that the wearing of dresses, big wigs and high heels is NOT something he normally does in public. Oh er, or in private of course. Ahem. He is however rather alarmed at how naturally he has acquired a degree level expertise in flouncing, mincing and generally being fluffy. He is intent on returning to macho roles involving lifting big rocks etc.

Gaëlle Comte is French (nobody's perfect) so when she saw advertised the 3 Ms audition, she thought it was fate! She ended up spluttering Spanish on stage as a stropo confidante for her first production with the company. Hopefully she'll refrain from laughing onstage at the Queen's imaginative wigs.

Luke Cumiskey has worked in an historical setting before (previously employed at Woolworths), but it's his first time as an assistant director at the Network Theatre. Depending on who reads this, it may be his last. His background is writing and performing in short amateur films, the most recent a two-hander set in his bedroom... Physically and emotionally distressing, it prepared him well to work under Leigh's direction.

Judith Denwood – this is her second appearance with the Network and her first attempt at pretending to be Scottish on stage. She's genuinely from oop North where sword fights after a night in the pub are the norm so she's hoping all that practise will stand her in good stead!

Paul Dorley has been exhibiting his small parts on stage at Network for about 13 years. Contrary to popular opinion he is still at it! As well as making noises off in the sound box, he has moved furniture, occasionally directed and is an excellent tea-boy!

Kirsty Eyre was born in a barn, brought up on butties (lard was a treat), broth and banter. She is happy to be a bumpkin again although not sure about her namesake's 80s aftershave. She has done a few bits and bobs here and elsewhere and has more planned for the future in an off-stage capacity.

Emily Godowski is seeing in her first full year with Network Theatre with *The Three Musketeers*. Having played an exploited waitress in *The Kitchen*, she went on to get shot and confined to a parallel universe in *iff* before becoming a desperate housewife in *Opposites Attract*. She's now getting her strides on, drinking too much and brawling in public as Athos. She hopes Olly Reed would be proud...