

A NEW VENTURE THEATRE PRODUCTION IN ASSOCIATION WITH SUSSEX PLAYWRIGHTS

# TEN MINUTE

8  
Directors

8  
New Plays

# PLAYS



**NEW  
VENTURE  
THEATRE**

Bedford Place,  
Brighton BN1 2PT

PERFORMANCES:

Fri 17th July - Sat 25th July 2015 - 7.45 pm

Sun Matinee - 2.30pm (No Sun/Mon eves)

ONLINE BOOKING: [www.newventure.org.uk/tickets](http://www.newventure.org.uk/tickets)

BOX OFFICE INFORMATION: 01273 746118

 @nvt\_brighton

THEATRE ◀

NEW WRITING ◀

CLASSES ◀

LICENSED BAR ◀

50p

# TEN MINUTE PLAYS

Following the success of the previous 10-Minute Play Competitions, New Venture Theatre and Sussex Playwrights have joined forces once again to bring you another evening of the best 10-Minute Plays.

Our competition this year had an entry in excess of 180 plays from around the world. Eight plays have been selected from the entries and developed into a production with 8 different directors, many new to directing at the NVT. We thank everyone who took the time to enter the competition, and the judges who deliberated over some tough calls in making up the shortlist.

After each performance, you the audience will have the opportunity to vote on your preferred plays, and the overall winner of the competition will be announced after the final performance on Saturday 25th July.

<b>Production Manager :</b>	Ian Black
<b>Stage Mgmt Team :</b>	Ian Black, James Camp Melissa Noble & Lisa Caira
<b>Lighting Design &amp; Rigging :</b>	Strat Mastoris & Victoria Lezaun
<b>Set :</b>	Ian Black, Adam Kincaid & Simon Glazier
<b>Lighting Operation :</b>	Victoria Lezaun
<b>Sound Design &amp; Operation :</b>	Tim Metcalfe
<b>Technical Support :</b>	Chris Pugh
<b>Props :</b>	Trisha Bayliss
<b>Poster Design &amp; Photography :</b>	Strat Mastoris
<b>Programme :</b>	Tamsin Fraser
<b>Publicity :</b>	Dan Walker
<b>Promotional Video :</b>	Dan Walker

## **Many Thanks to:**

To the dedicated team of judges who read through the 180 plays, for additional assistance from Chris Pugh and Lisa Caira and as always our appreciation and gratitude to the Front of House, Bar staff and Box-Office teams.

*There will be a 20 minute interval after the fourth play*

## **The Plays**

**The Garden of Earthly Delights by Stephen Connolly**  
**directed by Guy Wah**  
*Arwen Matthews, Rachael Sparkes, Simon Taylor*

**Wish You Were Here? by Jonathan Skinner**  
**directed by Richard Conolly**  
*Tom Bonam, Lucy Mepsted*

**Comfortable by Edwin Preece**  
**directed by David Eaton**  
*Diana Banham, Frank Leon, Jamie Marchant*

**The Gift by Lorraine Forrest-Turner**  
**directed by Inessa Hartmann**  
*Adam Kincaid, Margarita Steinberg*

**Tainted Love by Mary.E.Davis**  
**directed by Wiz**  
*Emma Atakpa, Sam Cartwright*

**Chance Encounter by Dorothy Lambert**  
**directed by Ella Thompson**  
*Frank Leon, Jen Ley*

**Crumbs by William Patterson**  
**directed by Chelsea Newton Mountney**  
*Louis Curtis, Paul Marten, Tristan Wolfe*

**Finn & Tilly by Eamonn Dolan**  
**directed by Alex Epps**  
*Mark Green, Warren Saunders, Emmie Spencer*

# The Garden of Earthly Delights

## **Arwen Matthews (Zoe)**

Arwen had a weird and varied skill set even before attending drama school. Natural blonde, all own teeth, loves animals, mostly harmless.

## **Simon Taylor (Joe)**

Simon is 23 and has largely worked in Amateur Musical Theatre. Since going to university and working in TV, acting has taken a back seat until now and he is enjoying this new challenge.

## **Rachael Sparkes (Anna)**

Having finished a degree in English Literature at the University of Sussex, Rachael is hoping to pursue a career in acting. Theatre has been a lifelong passion and she has been heavily involved in theatre societies and groups throughout her education.

## **Guy Wah (director)**

Having made his stage debut at the NVT's ten-minute plays in 2010, it seems only appropriate that Guy directs his first NVT production in the same format. Guy also runs ZLS Theatre, Brighton's only social enterprise theatre company.

# Wish You Were Here?

## **Tom Bonam (Neil)**

Tom's love of acting was sparked whilst living in Singapore when he was lucky enough to be awarded the part of Nick Bottom the Weaver. After some time out of acting, Tom is delighted to be pursuing his passion once again and cannot wait to see where it takes him.

## **Lucy Mepsted (Liz)**

Lucy is excited to return to the NVT after performing as Clea in 'Black Comedy'. However she has noticed that her costumes appear to be diminishing with each production!

## **Richard Conolly (director)**

Richard has been a member of the NVT since 2009 and appeared in last year's 'Hayfever'. 2015 has been his year for directing and this is his third show after Soul by Sea's 'Resurrection' on Brighton beach and Play in A Bag's 'Teaching Stephanie' at Theatre N16 in London.

# Comfortable

## **Diana Banham (Marjorie)**

Diana Banham joined the NVT recently and this is her debut performance at the theatre. Her previous roles include playing Eurydice in a college production of 'Orpheus and Eurydice' and Queen of Hearts in 'Alice in Wonderland'. This is her return to the stage after a long absence!

## **Frank Leon (Rory)**

Frank has performed many times at the NVT including 'Biloxi Blues' and 'Foreplay' he is due to perform in the upcoming production of 'The Miser'. Frank also directed 'Hedwig And The Angry Inch' at the NVT.

## Comfortable cont'd

### **Jamie Marchant (Guard)**

Jamie is 40, and originally from London. Although he has long held a desire to act, Jamie was a newcomer to the stage until he was cast as Lussirioso in the 'Revenagers Tragedy' which was performed at the BLT earlier this year. This is his second role and he is looking forward to more.

### **David Eaton (director)**

David has acted for the NVT for over 2 years and in 3 productions, this is his first time directing. He would like to say what a joy it has been to work with such amazing and committed actors in this show and would like to thank the writer Edwin Preece for creating such a wonderful play.

## The Gift

### **Adam Kincaid (Man)**

Adam is a visual artist and a musician, and an art director/set designer for feature films and television commercials. He has worked behind the scenes on some NVT productions, but this is the first time he has appeared in a play here.

### **Margarita Steinberg (Fairy)**

Dancing, teaching and now acting: this 'curious sponge' races to absorb the best of everything! Last seen at NVT as the Seductress in the showcase of the dance-drama 'Inside', also under the inspired direction of Inessa.

### **Inessa Hartmann (director)**

Inessa Hartmann is a choreographer and writer from the Ukraine, where she fell in love with theatre from both sides stage and scenes learning the classics like Stanislavky and Meyerhold. Now is time for Brighton audience to say "I believe!".

## Tainted Love

### **Emma Atakpa (Hilda)**

Emma, an alumna of Italia Conti stage school, is a committed attendee of the NVT acting classes. She is delighted to be making her NVT debut.

### **Sam Cartwright (Jack)**

Sam is currently studying drama and politics at Varndean College. His recent roles include 'A Clockwork Orange', 'Les Miserables', 'Into The Woods'. He admires the work and technique of Daniel Day Lewis.

### **Wiz (director)**

Wiz is a film maker, his work includes actors Michael Fassbender, Rosario Dawson, Ben Whishaw and artists Alexander McQueen, David Bowie, Arctic Monkeys. He's a regular participant at the NVT classes, 'Tainted Love' is his theatrical debut.

## Chance Encounter

### **Frank Leon (Tarquin)**

Frank has performed many times at the NVT including 'Biloxi Blues' and 'Foreplay' he is due to perform in the upcoming production of 'The Miser'. Frank also directed 'Hedwig And The Angry Inch' at the NVT.

### **Jen Ley (Jennifer)**

After a 5 year break (if you can call it that!) to have children, Jen stepped back into action as Sheila in 'Benefactors' earlier this year and is due to appear in 'Reasons to be Pretty' in November. She is also working towards compiling a showreel to further her acting career.

### **Ella Thompson (director)**

Ella has directed at The Brighton Little Theatre, The Nightingale and Santiago Restaurant: most recently productions of 'No Exit' and 'Under Milk Wood'. This is her first time working at the NVT and she is looking forward to directing 'Women of Troy' in the upcoming season.

## Crumbs

### **Louis Curtis (1)**

Louis has done two plays with the NVT 'Winslow Boy' and 'Amongst Barbarians' so far. This is his first Ten minute piece.

### **Paul Marten (2)**

Paul has been acting from an early age. His recent credits include Jonny Co-Ward in 'A. F. R. A. I. D of the paranormal' and Tim in 'Decade 20' as part of the Brighton Fringe.

### **Tristan Wolfe (3)**

Tristan is extremely honoured and pleased to be making his New Venture Theatre debut. He has just completed a 3 week run of 'Twelfth Night' at Brighton Little, Lewes Castle and Brighton Open Air Theatre.

### **Chelsea Newton Mountney (director)**

Chelsea has been directing a year now, her last project being Decade 20 which she co-wrote and produced as part of Brighton Fringe. An experienced actress, she is appearing in The Miser at NVT in October.

## Finn & Tilly

### **Mark Green (Tramp)**

Fresh from the Arsonists, Mark has spent the last few weeks trying to flatten his hair!

### **Warren Saunders (Finn)**

Warren is a glutton for punishment and seems he can't stay away from NVT working in some way or another

## COMING NEXT

**THE MISER - BY MOLIÈRE**  
**ADAPTED BY FREYDA THOMAS**  
**directed by Steven Adams**  
**2 - 10 OCTOBER 2015 (STUDIO)**

Elderly Harpagon obsesses over the feeling that he never has enough money, and unfortunately his obsession wreaks havoc on all around him. This includes his two children, Elise and Cleante, who are passionately in love with a valet and the girl next door, respectively. While Harpagon's arranged them to be married to absurdly mismatched types, the two smart children, with the help of some wily servants, plot against their frugal father.

A modern, fast-paced and larger than life adaptation of Molière's archetypal French farce which was first performed in 1688.



## COMING SOON

**REASONS TO BE PRETTY - BY NEIL LABUTE**  
**directed by Tim McQuillen Wright**  
**13 - 21 NOVEMBER 2015 (STUDIO)**

**A CHRISTMAS CAROL - BY CHARLES DICKENS**  
**AN ADAPTATION BY SARAH DAVIES**  
**directed by Sarah Davies**  
**4 - 12 DECEMBER 2015 (THEATRE UPSTAIRS)**

## Finn & Tilly cont'd

### **Emmie Spencer (Tilly)**

Emmie has been in various NVT productions, most recently as Ruth Ellis in 'The Thrill of Love'. She's enjoyed being part of a production that's short, silly and means she get to the NVT bar a bit quicker.

### **Alex Epps (director)**

Alex has been allowed out of the NVT lighting box to direct her second 10 Minute Play. During her 18 years at the theatre, she has lit numerous shows, directed two full productions, and contributed generously to the NVT bar sales.