

# talk

by Mark Wilson

**NVT**

**NEW  
VENTURE  
THEATRE**

Bedford Place,  
Brighton BN1 2PT

PERFORMANCES:


Fri 14th - Sat 22nd February 2020 - 7.45 pm

Matinee Sun 16th February - 2.30pm

(No Sun/Mon eves)

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

BOX OFFICE INFORMATION: 01273 746118

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£1

# talk

**'Hell must be a heart filled with unheard stories'**

Set in the 1850s in the criminal wing of Bethlem asylum, this is a play about the birth of psychotherapy. It is the story of the struggle between those advocating traditional and quite Medieval treatment of the mentally ill and those struggling towards an understanding of the centrality of childhood experience and the curative value in articulating it – the curative value of talk. It is a play about stories, but more than that, it is a play about the universal and, indeed, timeless need to be heard.

'Talk' originally took the form of a radio play on BBC Radio 4. My redesign of the play for the stage has seen it produced in Canterbury and, more recently, at last year's Edinburgh Festival. Following this NVT production, it will be performed in Christchurch, New Zealand.

## **Aftermath.**

Richard Dadd died of tuberculosis in January, 1886. He is buried in the cemetery at Broadmoor. His work now sells for thousands of pounds.

By the time of his death in 1870 at the age of only forty-six, Charles Hood's work had brought about a radical transformation to the treatment of the mentally ill, the hospital at Broadmoor being seen as leading the way in this area of medicine.

After his retirement from Bethlem in 1889, George Haydon was often recalled with fondness both by staff and inmates, many of them making reference to his 'talking with patients.' He died in 1891.

In 1900, Sigmund Freud published 'The Interpretation of Dreams' and the importance of the therapeutic encounter between therapist and patient – the importance of talk - became established.

As well as to my highly talented and very lovely cast and production team, my sincere thanks go to Gina Laline for her creative input at the inception of this project, and the magnificent support and Front-of-House network at NVT without whom this production and all of the others staged here would simply not have taken place - and you'd be sitting in an empty building.

**Mark Wilson**

The setting throughout is the criminal wing of Bethlem Hospital for the Insane, Southwark, London. 1854. This was situated in what is now the Imperial War Museum.

The Commission referred to is the Government-appointed Commission for Lunacy

RUNNING TIME: 50 mins each half  
There will be an interval of 20 minutes

### CAST

Charles Hood :	Matteo Bagaini
George Haydon:	James Macauley
Emily Clayton:	Janice Jones
Richard Dadd :	Bill Griffiths
Janet Grey :	Hazel Starns
Sam Fowles :	Adam Kincaid

### PRODUCTION TEAM

Director :	Mark Wilson
Production Manager :	Tamsin Mastoris
Stage Manager :	Trisha Bayliss, Carol Croft
Lighting Design & Rigging :	Strat Mastoris, Carol Croft
Sound Design :	Ian Black, Erica Fletcher
Costume Design :	Lindsay Midali, Jackie Jones, Richi Blennerhassett
Lighting Operator :	Alex Epps, Tamsin Mastoris
Sound Operator :	Ian Black, Erica Fletcher
Props :	Trisha Bayliss, Carol Croft
Poster Design / Programme :	Tamsin Mastoris
Photography :	Tamsin and Strat Mastoris
Publicity :	Tamsin Mastoris, Cata Lindegaard
Costumes supplied by :	Gladrags and actors' own
Movement Coach :	Ulrike Schilling
Rehearsal Prompt :	Carrie Hynds
Heath & Safety :	Ian Black



### **Matteo Bagaini - Charles Hood**

Matteo is looking forward to making his New Venture Theatre debut as Charles Hood. Having acted for his last university performance in Edinburgh(2019), Matteo is excited to continue developing his passion for theatre.

Whilst studying a degree in English, Matteo supplemented his studies with a passion for acting. Performing in shows like 'Collaborators', 'Crystal Quest: A 5D Adventure' and 'The Ringmaster'. Matteo has no formal education in acting but has attended several short courses at Central School of Speech and Drama as well as at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts.



### **James Macauley- George Haydon**

James most recently appeared at NVT in 'The Homecoming' and directed 'The Swing' in the Short Play Festival. He has absolutely loved working with everyone on 'Talk'. Catch him next in 'Vertical Hour' at the Rialto during the Fringe. "Thank you for coming and see you at the bar after. Cheers!"



### **Janice Jones - Emily Clayton**

Janice has performed in theatre in Brighton, London and Edinburgh. Previous productions include 'True West', 'Broken Glass', 'Old Times', 'The Price', 'Kvetch', 'A Streetcar Named Desire', 'That Face', 'Comedy of Errors', 'Macbeth', 'Twelfth Night', 'Daisy Pulls It Off' and 'The Rise and Fall of Little Voice'. She has also been involved in short film making. Janice is delighted to be part of 'Talk', with such a lovely and talented cast and crew.





### **Bill Griffiths - Richard Dadd**

Bill is delighted to be taking part in his third play at NVT. The other two were 'Pickwick and Weller' and 'Proof'. Recently, Bill played Mr Tulliver in the Brighton Little Theatre production of Mill on The Floss, directed by Claire Lewis, that won show of the year at The Minack Theatre in Cornwall.



### **Hazel Starns - Janet Grey**

Hazel's theatre work includes a variety of acting roles: Laura in 'Brief Encounter', Madame Ranevskya in 'The Cherry Orchard' and Annie in 'Calendar Girls', where she was directed by Diane Robinson, Bob Ryder and Pat Lyne for the Wick Theatre Company. She is an active member of the Barcombe based Singing Salon and has recently performed in the Music Room of the Royal Pavilion and on tour in Spain. She has thoroughly enjoyed being part of the cast of 'Talk' and thanks NVT for being so welcoming.



### **Adam Kincaid - Sam Fowles**

Adam has been treading the boards at the NVT for a while now, most recently in 'Elephant's Graveyard', in which he played blues guitar (and designed the set). Previously at the NVT he has appeared in 'The Gift' (Ten minute plays), 'How many miles to Babylon', 'Blood Wedding', 'Dick Barton and the Tango of Terror' (playing guitar), 'The Real Inspector Hound', 'Full Beam' (NVT 70th) and 'Pickwick and Weller'. He is delighted to be appearing in 'Talk' with such a great cast and crew, and welcomes the opportunity to play a darker character.





## Mark Wilson

In addition to 'Talk', Mark's play 'You' won the 2015 'Brighton Festival Award for Theatre' and 'The Fringe Review Outstanding Theatre Award' and has since won 'Play of the Week' at the 2018 Vaults Festival in London. The play has been published by Samuel French.

Mark's directorial work at NVT includes 'The Crucible', 'A View From the Bridge', 'A Streetcar Named Desire' and 'Our Lady of Sligo'.





**'The Halt in The Desert' by Richard Dadd**

In 1986 a couple took a watercolour to the Antiques Roadshow. They were about to move it to the shed while they redecorated the lounge, but changed their mind when they discovered it was 'The Halt in The Desert', a painting which had been missing since 1857. It was sold to the British Museum a year after the programme for £100,000.



Richard Dadd 1817 - 1886

**COMING NEXT**

13 - 21 MARCH 2020

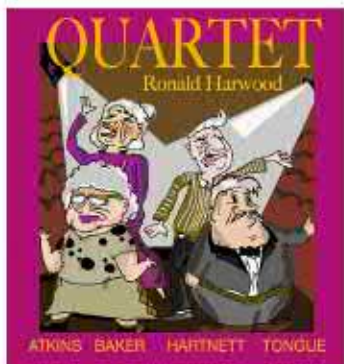
(STUDIO THEATRE)

**'QUARTET' BY RONALD HARWOOD**

directed by Richard Lindfield

Jean, Cecily, Reggie, and Wilfred were once the glittering stars of English opera – their iconic recording of the quartet from Verdi's Rigoletto has just been re-released. Currently three of them are seeing out their final days in the peace and tranquillity of Beecham House, a genteel home for retired opera singers. That peace is about to be shattered by the arrival of Jean, the diva of the group, whose marriage to Reggie was poisonous and short-lived.

Once a year, the residents combine their faded talents in a concert to celebrate Verdi's birthday. So will the Quartet be revived? Over Jean's dead body!



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## Contacting the NVT

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the Box Office - 01273 746118.  
To book tickets or for other  
information check our website at  
[www.newventure.org.uk](http://www.newventure.org.uk).  
All other enquiries 01273 808353

**NVYT - Youth Theatre**  
NVT welcomes all young people  
(12-17) with a passion for or an  
interest in theatre.  
Fridays 4.30-6.30pm.

**NVT Acting Class**  
Monday evenings at 7.30pm for  
all levels of acting skills. It will  
cost you just £5 per session  
(£2.50 for NVT members)  
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for details.

Or why not become an Angel,  
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Gabriel to help us support the  
current and future improvements to  
our theatre. For further information  
please contact the Angels  
Coordinator Gerry McCrudden:  
[angels@newventure.org.uk](mailto:angels@newventure.org.uk).

## Membership

Company membership -  
£15 a year. Full participation,  
discount on tickets & newsletter.  
Student/Unwaged - £10 a year.  
As above... *Proof of status is  
required.*

## Supporting NVT

We are a membership club, founded in 1947. We perform established plays, both classical and contemporary, and are a showcase for new writing. If you are interested in joining us, please pick up a membership form in the foyer. In 1983, NVT bought the freehold of this listed Victorian building which needs constant investment to maintain its integrity. For further information please contact [fundraising@newventure.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@newventure.org.uk)