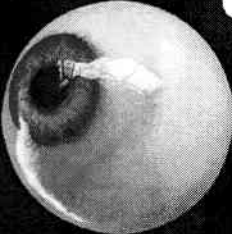


A NEW VENTURE THEATRE PRODUCTION 2016

LOOT



by

Joe Orton

“ ... horrible ... indecent ... loathsome ... bestial ... ”

Edna Welthorpe (Mrs)

NVT
**NEW
VENTURE
THEATRE**

Bedford Place, Brighton BN1 2PT
Registered Charity No. 268607

PERFORMANCES:

Friday 15th to Saturday 23rd January 7.45 pm

Sunday matinee 17th January 2.30 pm

No show Sunday evening or Monday

BOX OFFICE INFORMATION: 01273 746118

ONLINE BOOKING: www.ticketsource.co.uk/newventuretheatre

🐦 @nvt_brighton

50p

“*Laughter is a serious business,
and comedy is a weapon more
dangerous than tragedy.*

Joe Orton

On 9th August 1967, Joe Orton was murdered by his long-time partner, Kenneth Halliwell, who then took his own life. These tragic events brought to a premature end a meteoric career with Orton, author of only three full-length plays, dead at the age of thirty-four.

Following the success of his first major work, *Entertaining Mr Sloane*, his follow-up, *Loot*, won the *Evening Standard's* Best Play award of 1966. The film rights had just been sold for a record sum and he was in the process of writing the film script for the new Beatles' film.

Although his career was cut short, his influence on British post-war theatre was profound, exemplified by the term 'Ortonesque' entering common usage to characterise a scandalous and darkly comedic event or situation.

Loot follows the fortunes of two young criminals, Hal and Dennis. Hal's mother has just died. Having robbed the bank next door to the funeral parlour where Dennis works, and in order to conceal the proceeds of the crime, they hide the money in Hal's mother's coffin. This, however, leaves no room for the body. Their plans are thrown into further chaos when the police arrive in the shape of the psychotic Inspector Truscott.

Orton's macabre masterpiece of black comedy subverts the conventions of popular farce to create a nihilistic, dark, anarchic world which attacks the most entrenched conventions of English society and culture concerning authority, justice, religion and death. Irreverent and iconoclastic, *Loot* represents Orton at the height of his creative powers.

My hope is that the production may, in some small measure, provide a fitting tribute to a unique talent that was all too quickly extinguished.

Steven O'Shea

Setting: A room in McLeavy's house.

Time: 26th June 1965.

The production runs approximately 2 hours 10 minutes including a 15 minute intermission.

Cast

(in order of appearance)

McLeavy	Alistair Lock
Fay	Eimie Spencer
Hal	Frank Leon
Dennis	Jonny Parlett
Truscott	Andy Bell
Meadows	Tristan Wolfe

Production Team

Director	Steven O'Shea
Assistant Director	Mike Stubbs
Stage Management	Victoria Lezaun
Assistant Stage Managers	Myra Stuart & Igor Macukat
Production Manager	Tom Kitch
Set Design	George Walter & Xeli Perez Lopez
Lighting Design & Rigging	Strat Mastoris
Sound Design & Operation	Tim Metcalfe
Lighting Operation	Alex Epps
Costume Design	Freia Metzger
Hair & Makeup	Judith Griffiths
Poster Design	Strat Mastoris
Photography	Strat Mastoris
Fight Choreographer	Moog Gravett
Publicity	Dan Walker
Set Construction	George Walker, Monika Schuettbacher & Simon Glazier
Props	Victoria Lezaun, Myra Stuart, Igor Macukat, Barry Purchase & Mark Green
Programme Design	Tom Kitch
Health & Safety	Ian Black
Costumes	Supplied by Moss Bros & Gladrags

Many thanks to Uli Schilling, Rod Lewis, Gerry McCrudden and Christine Stubbs, to Hotel Pelirrocco for their help with the props, to Hermione and Ed for their help with the set, and as always our appreciation and gratitude to the Front of House, Bar staff and Box-Office teams.



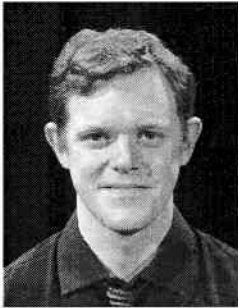
Alistair Lock (McLeavy)

Alistair previously appeared as Hal, thirty or so years ago. Previous roles at the NVT include Barnabus in *The Herbal Bed*, Toomey in *Biloxi Blues* and Hal in *Kvetch*. Offstage, Alistair is perhaps best known for his work on Big Finish Productions' series of officially-licensed *Doctor Who* and *Blake's 7* audio plays, which more than one reviewer described as 'cinematic'. Voice work includes Zen and Orac in *Blake's 7*, Daleks and Cybermen in two video games and other Big Finish audio stories. Film and TV work includes a terrified doctor in the *Wolfman*, and Dennis Nilsen in a TV drama documentary.



Emmie Spencer (Fay)

Emmie's previous NVT roles include Ruth Ellis in *The Thrill of Love*, Inez in *No Exit*, Sophie in *How To Disappear Completely And Never Be Found*, Eunice in *A Streetcar Named Desire* and a variety of roles in *Decade*.



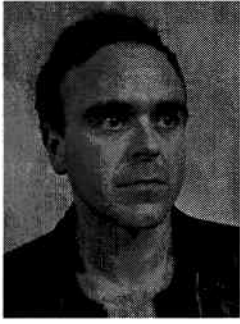
Frank Leon (Hal)

Frank is a former Anna Scher and Sylvia Young student and he earned a BA in Drama and Playwriting from the University of Greenwich. Frank's roles include Katurian in *The Pillowman*, Max in *Penetrator*, Eugene Morris Jerome in *Biloxi Blues*, Maitre Jaques in *The Miser*, The Waiter in *Celebration*, Billy in *The Rise and Fall of Little Voice*, Brendan in the *Lieutenant of Inishmore* and Magic Arthur in *Better Days*. Frank also directed NVT's production of *Hedwig And The Angry Inch*.

Steven O'Shea (Director)

Loot marks Steven's fifth directorial production at the NVT following *Speed the Plow* by David Mamet (2011), *Kvetch* by Steven Berkoff (2012), *Old Times* by Harold Pinter (2014) and an adaptation of *Hamlet* by Shakespeare (2015).

He currently runs the Working Toward Performance drop in acting classes in Brighton:
www.workingtowardperformance.co.uk



Jonny Parlett (Dennis)

Jonny is an actor, writer and musician based in Brighton. His theatre credits include the title role in *Hamlet*, Hedwig Schmidt in *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, Podraic Osbourne in *The Lieutenant of Inishmore*, Schmitz in *The Arsonists*, Major Courtney in *The Ladykillers*, James Hennessy in *Biloxi Blues* and Max Halliday in *Dial M for Murder*.



Andy Bell (Truscott)

Andy has been acting since 2003, predominantly at NVT where he made his stage debut. In recent years he has appeared at NVT as Lenny in *Of Mice and Men*, Mr Boo in Jim Cartwright's *The Rise and Fall of Little Voice*, Victor in Arthur Miller's *The Price* and in various roles in *Decade*; he has also appeared as Larry in Patrick Marber's *Closer* for Sideway Theatre, and one half of Jim Cartwright's *Two* for Shatterproof Productions at the Nightingale and Steven Berkoff's *Greek* at the Brighton Little Theatre.



Tristan Wolfe (Meadows)

Tristan's recent previous performances include in *Twelfth Night* at Brighton Little Theatre, *Crumbs* at the New Venture Theatre and *You'll Do* at the Cast Iron Theatre. He also recently made a brief appearance in BBC One crime drama *Cuffs*.



From left to right: Andy Bell (Truscott), Tristan Wolfe (Meadows), Frank Leon (Hal), Jonny Parlett (Dennis), Alistair Lock (McLeavy) and Emmie Spencer (Fay)

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NVT Acting Class

Monday evenings at 7.30pm for all levels of acting skills. It will cost you just £5.00 per session (£2.50 for NVT Members). First visit is FREE!

Contacting the NVT

For ticket and performance enquiries only, call the Box Office: 01273 746118, or email: boxoffice@newventure.org.uk
All other enquiries: 01273 808353

Become an NVT Sponsor

Advertise your business to hundreds of local residents with NVT from only £250. For a range of print and web publicity options and opportunities for free show tickets, please contact: fundraising@newventure.org.uk

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. To keep NVT going, we rely on the generosity of the community, to provide donations that are essential to the upkeep of the building and the refurbishment of the main auditorium.

For more information on how you can support NVT. Please contact: fundraising@newventure.org.uk

Many thanks to our current donors and our special appreciation to our major anonymous donor.

FORTHCOMING PRODUCTIONS 2016

Fri 26th February to Sat 5th March

Women of Troy

by Euripides

directed by Ella Turk-Thompson

Fri 11th to Sat 12th March

a staged reading of

Mort

adapted for stage by Stephen Briggs

directed by Dan Walker

Fri 8th to Sat 16th April

How Many Miles to Babylon?

by Michael Frayn

Gerry McCrudden MBE

Book tickets at:
www.ticketsource.co.uk/newventuretheatre

Youth Theatre (11 to 17 year olds)

Every Friday, 4.30pm to 6.30pm, from 15th January to 18th March (except 19th February).

The sessions are led by experienced actors, directors, writers and teachers. The first session is free so you can come and try it out before committing. No experience is necessary and everyone is welcome.

For further information, see www.newventure.org.uk/youththeatre

For enquiries, please contact: youththeatre@newventure.org.uk