

An Amateur Production in association with SAMUEL FRENCH, LTD.

BY MOLIÈRE

THE MISER

ADAPTED BY
FREYDA THOMAS

NVT

**NEW
VENTURE
THEATRE**

Bedford Place,
Brighton BN1 2PT


PERFORMANCES:

Fri 2nd - Sat 10th October 2015 - 7.45 pm

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

ONLINE BOOKING: www.newventure.org.uk/tickets

BOX OFFICE INFORMATION: 01273 746118

 @nvt_brighton

THEATRE ◀
NEW WRITING ◀
CLASSES ◀
LICENSED BAR ◀

50p

THE MISER

The Miser' has been a favourite play of mine for many years - indeed I was in it nearly 20 years ago. When it was chosen for production I knew immediately that I wanted to set it in the studio theatre, with the audience as close to the action as possible. The style of the play is very broad farcical comedy and many of the lines are directed at the audience as "asides". With this version we are trying to involve the audience in the action as much as possible and I hope you feel like you are taking part in the play rather than just watching it!

The setting of the play caused a challenge - how do you do the 17th century on a budget with eleven characters to dress and style? The answer developed over the initial discussions that were held about the play. The word 'punk' kept coming up and I suddenly thought why not just do 'Punk'. So we are staging the play still in the 17th century but a 17th century that looks like 1977! The idea is that in this alternative timeline punk was the fashion in 1677, and was completely mainstream, so everyone dresses as punk. It's really no more extreme than real 1677 fashion, especially the wigs.

The characters are all very extreme in their nature and so we are playing the piece in a very "heightened" manner, that reflects the original 'commedia dell'arte' origins behind the piece. To fit in with the size of the performances the props, lighting and sound effects are also larger than life. I was delighted by the huge amount of talent that came to the audition and from which I was able to select an excellent cast. The cast includes New Venture Theatre "old" hands Frank Leon, Amanda Harman, Kirrily Long, James Macauley, Chelsea Mountney Newton and Gerry McCrudden. Along with some new faces in Nicholas Farr, Kitty Fox Davies and Nik Balfe. And as the Miser himself we were lucky to cast the very talented Des Potton, last seen at NVT in 'The End of The Beginning'.

I'm also blessed with a great backstage team lead by Annique Tate as Production Manager, who is guiding me through my first production at NVT. I set the design and production team a very big challenge to realise this play in grand style but I'm sure you'll agree that they have risen to the task! This is a great fun play - definitely not to be taken seriously - and I hope you enjoy it as much as we have enjoyed rehearsing it.

Director
Steven Adams

The salon of Monsieur Harpagon, France 1677 or maybe 1977...

There will be one interval of 15 minutes only.

CAST

Harpagon	Des Potton
Maitre Jaques	Frank Leon
La Flèche	Kirrily Long
Valère	Nicholas Farr
Élise	Kitty Fox Davis
Cléante	Nik Balfe
Frosine	Amanda Harman
Maitre Simon & Inspector Sansclou	James Macauley
Marianne	Chelsea Newton Mountney
Senior Anselme	Gerry McCrudden

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director :	Steven Adams
Production Manager :	Annique Tate
Shadow Director/PM	Maddy Shipman
Stage Manager :	Freia Metzger
Set Design :	Steven Adams, Simon Glazier
Set Construction :	George Walters, Simon Glazier, Myra Stuart, Monika Schuettbacher
Costume Design :	Margarita Steinberg, Judith Greenfield
Makeup :	Charlie Temperton
Lighting Design :	Emma Shiel
Lighting Operation :	Victoria Lezaun
Sound Operation :	Cathy Carr, Erica Fletcher
Properties :	Myra Stuart
NVT Properties :	Mark Green
Poster & Programme Design :	Tamsin Mastoris
Photography :	Romain Ley
Publicity & Marketing :	Dan Walker

Many thanks to:

Brighton Little Theatre, Tess Gill for her support, to Gladrags for costumes and as always our appreciation and gratitude to the Front of House, Bar staff and Box-Office teams.



Harpagon – Des Potton

Des is delighted to be acting for New Venture again, having previously trod the boards in Miller's 'The Price' and O'Casey's 'End of the Beginning'. In preparation for his role as The Miser, Des has withheld all mortgage and utility payments in August and September, so is expecting debtors' prison at the end of the production run.

Maitre Jaques – Frank Leon

Frank has performed in many plays at the NVT and elsewhere. Credits include 'Biloxi Blues', 'Penetrator' and 'The Funny Papers'. Frank also directed NVT Brighton Fringe and Pride production 'Hedwig And The Angry Inch'. Frank has eaten a lot of pies in approaching his newest character.



La Flèche – Kirrily Long

Kirrily was last seen at the NVT in 'The Snow Queen' as a sneezing comedy figure. She is pleased to be stretching her talents, as this time she is not sneezing. She has appeared in a numerous other productions, including 'Outside Edge', 'Twelfth Night' and 'Merry Wives of Windsor' for The BLT, 'Anne Boleyn' for Synergy, 'Everything Between Us' for Green Room Productions, and 'Enjoy' and 'Entertaining Angels' for LLT. She has been known to lurk back stage wearing black and a pair of cans.



Valère – Nicholas Farr

Nicholas trained at the Arts University Bournemouth. Since then he has performed in various theatre, film, radio, and music video productions. Highlights include: Lord Darlington in 'Lady Windermere's Fan', Jonathan Harker in 'Dracula', Brutus in 'Julius Caesar', Paul in 'Pictures of Lily', Prospero in 'The Tempest', Orlando in 'As You Like It', Troilus in 'Troilus and Cressida', and recently Duke Orsino in 'Twelfth Night' for Brighton Little Theatre.



Élise – Kitty Fox Davis

Kitty has been performing onstage since the age of 8. She is a member of the Actors Centre in London and has enjoyed playing various roles over the years including Sybil Burlington in 'Daisy Pulls It Off', Sheila Birling in 'An Inspector Calls' and most recently Valentine in 'Twelfth Night'. Kitty is currently applying for drama schools and in the meantime is working on her first play.



Cléante – Nik Balfe

Nik has been acting since he was veeeeeeeery little, and for the last year and a half has been performing in Brighton in various shows. Most recently Nik was part of the live band in the BLT's production of 'Twelfth Night', as well as being involved in a piece of new writing by Frank McHugh called 'Quiche'. This is Nik's first show at the NVT, but will hopefully not be his last.



Frosine – Amanda Harman

Amanda has been a member of NVT since 2012 making her debut as the Nurse in 'Medea'. She has appeared in several productions over the years, most recently as Margaret of Anjou in 'Richard III'.



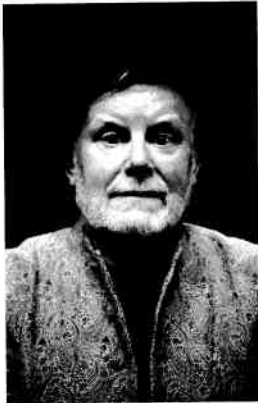
Maitre Simon & Inspector Sansclou – James Macauley

This is James's second production with NVT, after performing as Eisenring in 'The Arsonists' earlier this year. He is looking forward to sharing the stage with such an excellent and funny cast!



Marianne – Chelsea Newton Mountney

Chelsea has most recently directed 'Crumbs' as part of the Ten minute play competition here at NVT. An experienced actress and director she will next be performing in 'Donkin's Demi Dozen' in October at the Dukebox theatre.



Senior Anselme – Gerry McCrudden

Since coming to Brighton Gerry has directed a number of plays at the NVT including; 'Hay Fever', 'The Winslow Boy', 'Biloxi Blues', 'Dancing at Lughnasa' and 'It's a Wonderful Life'. He has also directed and appeared in various plays overseas. He plans to direct 'How Many Miles To Babylon?' next April.

Director – Steven Adams

Steven is returning to 'The Miser' after 20 years as he played Valere in a production in Hatfield Heath in the 1990s. He chose this new version of the play for this production as he loved the pace and modern treatment it had been given. This is Steven's directorial debut at NVT but he has been directing for nearly 30 years starting at the tender age of 18 with a production of 'A Christmas Carol' which had a cast of 45 actors! Steven has a real affinity with Christmas plays and has also previously directed Alan Ayckbourn's 'Season's Greetings', Mike Leigh's Christmas set 'Smelling a Rat' and 'The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe'. This Christmas he is directing a fully staged version of the classic Frank Capra film 'It's a Wonderful Life' at Brighton Little Theatre.



COMING NEXT

REASONS TO BE PRETTY

BY NEIL LABUTE

directed by TimMcQuillen-Wright

13 - 21 NOVEMBER 2015

(STUDIO THEATRE)

Greg has a problem. His girlfriend, Steph, is livid because of a comment he made - and he can't quite remember what it was. It must have been bad because of the way Steph has reacted but, in his own way, he actually remembers thinking he was paying her a compliment. In this viciously honest comedy about real lives and the reality of being in love, one thing Greg does know is, he is in for one whole heap of trouble.

COMING SOON

A CHRISTMAS CAROL - BY CHARLES DICKENS

AN ADAPTATION BY SARAH DAVIES

directed by Sarah Davies

4 - 12 DECEMBER 2015 (THEATRE UPSTAIRS)

LOOT - BY JOE ORTON

directed by Steven O'Shea

15 - 23 JANUARY 2016 (STUDIO THEATRE)

WOMEN OF TROY - BY EURIPEDES

directed by Ella Thompson

26 FEBRUARY - 5 MARCH 2016 (THEATRE UPSTAIRS)



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To book tickets or for other information check our website at www.newventure.org.uk.

All other enquiries 01273 808353

NVTYT - NVT Youth Theatre

NVT welcomes all young people (11-17) with a passion for or an interest in theatre.

Frídays 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) First visit is FREE!

Become a Sponsor

£250: Advertise in our brochure, on the website, in each programme and our newsletter for one year. Plus two free tickets per show. Contact fundraising@newventure.org.uk for details.

Membership

Full (company) membership - £25 a year. Full participation, discount on tickets & newsletter. Student/Unwaged - £13 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. To keep NVT going we need your financial support, either to add to our regular sponsors (Annual package £250) or why not become an Angel, Archangel or even Archangel Gabriel to help us support the current and future improvements to our theatre. Our Angels have proven to be generous in the assistance they give us. For further information please contact the Angels Coordinator Gerry McCrudden: gerrymccrudden@hotmail.com. If you are a UK tax payer your donation will also benefit from Gift Aid.