

An Amateur Production in association with SAMUEL FRENCH, LTD.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF AN ANARCHIST



BY
DARIO FO

NVT
NEW
VENTURE
THEATRE

Bedford Place,
Brighton BN1 2PT

PERFORMANCES:


Thu 16th - Sat 25th June 2016 - 7.45 pm

Sun Matinee - 2.30pm

(No Sun/Mon eves or Thurs 23rd)

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

BOX OFFICE INFORMATION: 01273 746118

 @nvt_brighton

THEATRE ◀
NEW WRITING ◀
CLASSES ◀
LICENSED BAR ◀

50p

ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF AN ANARCHIST

by DARIO FO - adapted by Gavin Richards translated by Gillian Hanna

Premiered in Milan in 1970 – Accidental Death of an Anarchist is based on the real-life events of a railwayman and anarchist Guisepppe Pinelli who fell - or was thrown - to his death from the fourth floor window of a Milan police station while in custody for questioning about bombings in Milan in 1969, in which many were killed and which he played no part. Pinelli was later, posthumously, cleared of the charge.

Dario Fo always intended Accidental Death of an Anarchist to be intensely political. After having researched the Pinelli case thoroughly, Fo's genius was to turn these stark, tragic events into a high octane farce. Fo's aim was to make this radical, truth seeking play accessible to all; it is for this reason too that he actively encouraged other directors and translators of his work, whilst keeping true to the play's main tenets, to contemporize and localize some of the political references - to give immediacy for its audiences and a sense of present day relevance.

Accidental Death of an Anarchist is robustly theatrical. Fo harnesses a wide variety of devices, some harking as far back as the Commedia Dell'Arte - such as having a central character use impersonation to hoodwink the dangerous, powerful forces that surround him. However, the piece can also be scintillatingly innovative; twin realities are at work. One moment we are with the characters in the main setting of a Milan police station in the late sixties and in the next we are suddenly bounced into the personal lives of the present day actors as they play their roles.

I have seen countless plays over the years but few shine so brightly in my mind as the production I was lucky enough to see of Accidental Death of an Anarchist at the Wyndham's back in 1980; it was exhilarating, pertinent, and hugely enjoyable. I am not alone in thinking this. The play has become a classic of twentieth century theatre, performed to millions in more than 40 countries - and I'm sure its message rings true in just about all of them. In 1997 Fo was awarded the Nobel Prize.

For me, Dario Fo's Accidental Death of an Anarchist is a theatrical gift! A gift which our company will do its best to pass on to you.

Rod Lewis
Director

CAST

| | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| Maniac : | Des Potton |
| Bertozzo : | Nick Richards |
| Pissani : | Robert Purchase |
| Superintendent : | Culann Smyth |
| Constable : | Jack Llewellyn Roberts |
| Feletti : | Heather Andrews |

PRODUCTION TEAM

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Director : | Rod Lewis |
| Designer : | Tim McQuillen-Wright |
| Production Manager : | Sophie Nunns |
| Script Advisor : | Barry Purchase |
| DSM : | Erica Fletcher |
| Stage Manager : | Matt Bosica |
| ASM : | Sam Rinsler, Jessica Rook |
| Lighting Design : | Strat Mastoris |
| Music and Voice Coach : | Chris Stubbs |
| Sound Designer : | Ian Black |
| Costume Designer : | Freia Metzger |
| Costume Assistant : | Pauline Turcan |
| Hair and Makeup : | Stefanie Lafond |
| Set Build Team : | George Walter, Simon Glazier Monica Schuettbackerr |
| Lighting Rigging : | Andrew Smith, Strat Mastoris |
| Lighting Operator : | Andrew Smith |
| Sound Operator : | Erica Fletcher |
| Props : | Matt Bosica, Andrew Smith |
| Poster & Programme : | Tamsin Mastoris |
| Photography : | Jezz Bowden, Strat Mastoris |
| Language Liaison : | Chris Stubbs |
| Publicity & Marketing : | Victoria Lezaun, Dan Walker |



Des Potton - Maniac

Des' three previous shows at the New Venture have been written by American, Irish and French playwrights, so the international theme is preserved with Italian Dario Fo. This wicked exposé of police corruption and government interference has been a delight to work on, from the aspects of both physicality and political statement, contemporised for some of the developments we see around us in the murky world of politics today.

Nicholas Richards - Bertozzo

Nicholas's film, television and theatre credits include Uncle Arron in 'Red Dwarf', Pablo in 'The Power of Three', 'Undercover' The One Show for the BBC, Robbie in 'The Bullet' for Two Bins and 'Compare' - Vintage Hitchcock with the Conn Artises Theatre. He has toured Bite Size with The White Room Theatre. He recently starred as 'Ned Royston' in the short film Kartoombe which he also co-wrote and directed. Nicholas has appeared in various NVT productions and after playing 'Inspector Bertozzo' is looking forward to directing a production of 'Holes' by Tom Basden here next season.



Robert Purchase - Pissani

This New Venture Theatre season marked Bertie's return to the stage after more than 10 years. He appeared here as Scrooge's nephew Fred in 'A Christmas Carol' in December, then in Red Hat Productions' night of newly written plays at Brighton's Otherplace venue in February. In April he was back on the NVT stage as the Blind Fiddler in 'How Many Miles to Babylon'. He hopes to return to the NVT stage next season.

Culann Smyth - Superintendent

This is Culann's fourth production with NVT having played George in 'Kvetch' and The Telephone Repair Man in 'The Rise and Fall of Little Voice', both in 2012, and more recently the nasty arsed sergeant in 'How Many Miles to Babylon'. Culann is looking forward to appearing in DOAA and is thoroughly enjoying working with such a great cast and crew.



Jack Llewellyn Roberts - Constable

Jack studied Performing Arts BTEC at Lewes Sussex downs college, and has performed with BTG in show such as 'Miss Saigon' (Captain Shultz, Assistant Commissar and lead male roles understudy), 'Les Miserables' (Enjolras), and 'West Side Story' (Tony). He also performed with The Southwark players in 'Oh What a Lovely War' (Multiple roles). Jack has gained work experience by touring with the Rude Mechanicals theatre company, working backstage. Jack is attending a summer school at LAMDA in August 2016 and is excited to be performing his first production with NVT theatre!



Heather Andrews - Feletti

This is Heather's second production at the NVT following her debut in 'A Christmas Carol'. Heather has since performed in 'A Slice of Life' with Red Hat Productions and Cast Iron's 'Not Just The Companion'. She has just finished her first Brighton fringe show 'Am I F#*able' with Pop Heart Productions and is currently working on a independent Comedy project called 'Fannytasticals'.

Rod Lewis - Director

After spending most of my working life in theatre, film or T.V, as a technician, actor, director or writer, the seemingly countless past productions I've been involved with, whether in Britain or abroad, have now merged in my mind into one, blurry, kaleidoscopic mass. I have become a sort of ancient theatre mongrel. However I can still remember, with pleasure, my NVT productions -Arthur Miller's 'The Price', and Sean O'Casey's 'The End of the Beginning'. Being able to follow these with Dario Fo's 'Accidental Death of an Anarchist', with such a fine company and cast, has been both a privilege and a delight.



Press pic by Strat Matoris

COMING NEXT

LOVE AND INFORMATION BY CARYL CHURCHILL

directed by Kirsty Elmer

15 - 23 JULY 2016

(STUDIO THEATRE)

A piece of Brechtian Epic Theatre, the play explores what it means to love and form relationships in the modern, technological world.

In a rapid quick-fire succession of scenes, where the audience are bombarded by information, the play shows a kaleidoscope of snapshot conversations, at times funny; at times, poignant. It explores the private as well as public consequences of living in the digital age, where access to information is both instant and changeable; where we are often socially-isolated in the way we connect with each other and the world.



COMING SOON

HOLES

BY TOM BASDEN

directed by Nick Richards

7 - 15 OCTOBER 2016

(STUDIO THEATRE)

Many thanks to:

Mark Green, Tom Kitch, Mike Stubbs, Pat Boxall, The New Venture Angels and as always, our appreciation and gratitude to the Front of House, Bar and Box Office teams.

Three colleagues, en route to a work conference in Australia, are dumped on a desert island with teenager Erin. Her parents have died but no time to mourn her loss there's sunbathing to be done, duty free to be drunk and suitcases to loot. Plane crashes, office politics and the fate of mankind are explored while the marooned misfits wait to be rescued. Unfortunate events threaten their view of the world, and eventually, each other as the comedy soon gives way to something much more sinister.

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Contacting the NVT

For ticket information only, call the Box Office - 01273 746118. 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.
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) 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



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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.