

HANGMEN



DIRECTED BY PAT BOXALL

NVT

**NEW
VENTURE
THEATRE**

Bedford Place,
Brighton BN1 2PT

Friday 22nd - Saturday 30th April 2022 at 7.45 pm
Matinee: Sunday 24th April at 2.30pm

www.newventure.org.uk
www.facebook.com/NewVentureTheatreBrighton

This amateur production of 'Hangmen' is presented by special arrangement
with SAMUEL FRENCH LTD a Concord Theatricals Company.

Registered Charity No. 1046677

HANGMEN

by Martin McDonagh

Martin McDonagh's plays are highly crafted works with brilliantly drawn characters that audiences really care about. "Hangmen" is dark, very funny and deliciously horrendous. There are twists and turns that you won't see coming and lots of subtle observations on relationships and life.

He says: -

"I suppose I walk that line between comedy and cruelty because I think one illuminates the other. We're all cruel, aren't we? We are all extreme in one way or another at times and that's what drama, since the Greeks, has dealt with. I hope the overall view isn't just that though, or I've failed in my writing. There have to be moments when you glimpse something decent, something life-affirming even in the most twisted character. That's where the real art lies."

I first became enthralled with McDonagh's writing when directing "The Beauty Queen of Leenane" sixteen years ago so am thrilled to have the opportunity to direct this multi-award winning play. "Hangmen" was always going to be an extremely challenging production and I have been fortunate to have assembled a talented cast including several actors new to NVT together with an amazing design team and superb production support. Originally scheduled for July 2020 and after recasting several roles I am delighted that we are, at last, able to include this stunning play in our current Season.

In his small pub in Oldham, Harry is something of a local celebrity. But what's the second-best hangman in England to do on the day they've abolished hanging? Amongst the cub reporters and sycophantic pub regulars, dying to hear Harry's reaction to the news, his old assistant Syd and the peculiar Mooney lurk with very different motives for their visit.



One thing I've always prided myself on is that, on the subject of hanging,
I've always chosen to keep me own counsel.

Act 1 Scene 1 -1963 - Prison Cell

Remainder Act 1 and Act 2 spread over 2 days in 1965 - Oldham

HENNESSY - Harry Morris
GUARD 1 - Guy Dixon
GUARD 2 - Louis Ryan
GOVERNOR - Andy Bell
DOCTOR - Tristan Wolfe
HARRY - Martin Malone
SYD - Scott Roberts
ALICE - Nikki Dunsford
BILL - Jason Lever
CHARLIE - Tobias Clay
ARTHUR - John Tolputt
CLEGG - Jack Dean
INSPECTOR FRY - Nick Reason
MOONEY - Nikolas Balfe
SHIRLEY - Laura Scobie
PIERREPOINT - Andy Bell



“Grand National” week...!

DIRECTOR: **Pat Boxall** PRODUCTION MANAGER: **Tamsin Mastoris**
STAGE MANAGER: **Erin Burbridge** DSM: **Carol Croft**,
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER: **Marion Drew** SET DESIGN: **Michael Folkard**
SET CONSTRUCTION: **Simon Glazier, George Walter, John Everett,**
Monika Schuettbacher, Jean Porter COSTUME DESIGN: **Richi Blennerhassett,**
Cathy Waring LIGHTING DESIGN: **Strat Mastoris** LIGHTING OPERATORS: **Alex**
Epps, Esme Bird SOUND DESIGN: **Ian Black** SOUND OPERATOR: **Steve Coulson**
DIALECT COACH: **Frank McCabe** PROPS: **Bryony Weaver, Gaby Bowring**
POSTER/PROGRAMME: **Tamsin & Strat Mastoris** PUBLICITY: **Ceiri O'Douglas**
PHOTOGRAPHY: **James Maltby, Strat Mastoris**
VIDEO TRAILER: **Moth Media** CARTOONS: **Martin Gordon**
HEALTH & SAFETY: **Ian Black**

Thanks to Ellen Cairns, Katie Brownings and Mike Whitaker,
Harvey's Brewery for the loan of beer pumps. The Robin Hood Pub for loan of bar stool,
Frank McCabe, David Villiers, Oldham Newspaper Archives,
NVT Front of House, Box Office, all the NVT volunteers

Harry Morris - Hennessy

This is Harry's second show with NVT and he is exhilarated to be back on the stage for the first time since covid. Previous works include 'It's A Wonderful Life', 'The Cherry Orchard', 'Into the Woods', 'Great Expectations'.



Guy Dixon - Guard 1

This will be Guy's first appearance in an NVT play, having been a member since January 2017. He has auditioned for a few plays at the NVT and has been a regular at the acting classes. Guy has done a number of radio plays with a local radio group called 'Brighton Theatre of the Air'. Some of which can be heard on either YouTube and SoundCloud.

Louis Ryan - Guard 2

This is Louis's first production at NVT, but hopefully not the last. He is interested in directing in the future.



Tristan Wolfe - Doctor

Tristan is a writer, actor, director and comedian. He will be appearing at Brighton Fringe in Tristan Wolfe Identity Theft.

Martin Malone - Harry

Martin's stagework includes: 'True West', 'Human Remains', 'The Ugly Man', 'Ashes and Sand', 'Lime-light', 'Road' and 'Hamlet'. For TV: 'Eastenders', 'The Bill', 'Rose and Maloney', Dennis Potter's 'Karaoke'. Film: 'Distant Shadow', '24 Hours in London'. He has also directed for stage and film as well as TV commercials and music videos.



Scott Roberts - Syd

Trained at Arts Ed. London. Acting credits include; Sidney in 'Absurd Person Singular', BLT; Winston Smith in '1984', NVT (Fringe 2018); Trinculo in 'The Tempest', Emporium; Thraso in 'The Eunuch', BOAT. Scott has adapted & directed Wedekind's 'Lulu' (Fringe 2017) and Shakespeare's 'Richard III' and will be directing 'Consent' by Nina Raine at the NVT in this May's Brighton Fringe.



Nikki Dunsford - Alice

Trained Royal Ballet School. Professional ballet and commercial dancer in West End, Germany and Australia. TV - 'Dr Who', 'Blake's Seven', 'Brideshead Revisited'. Recently at NVT - 'The Winslow Boy', 'Hayfever', 'Women of Troy', 'Lovesong', 'The Herd'. Also performed at Brighton Little Theatre, Theatre Royal, The Minack, Southwick Barn.



Jason Lever - Bill

Jason Lever is excited to be in his first play at New Venture Theatre, where he has reviewed plays and had his work, 'An Usher Pushed Too Far', filmed in the Shorts & Monologues series in 2020. He has previously acted at the Lantern Theatre during his foundation year at ACT and been in several Brighton Little Theatre productions.



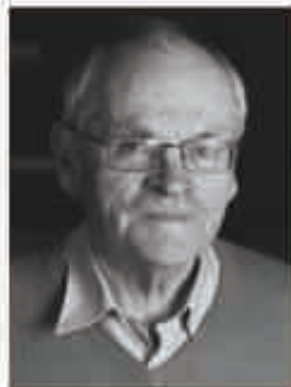
Tobias Clay - Charlie

Tobias is thrilled to be returning to the NVT, having appeared in 'Far Away', 'Biloxi Blues' and 'The Permanent Way' in the downstairs studio. He performs regularly in Brighton, at Lewes Castle, the Minack Theatre, Cornwall and was awarded Brighton and Hove Arts Council Best Actor for his portrayal of Donald in Dennis Potter's 'Blue Remembered Hills'.



John Tolputt - Arthur

John recently appeared at the NVT in 'The Herd', 'Pickwick and Weller', 'The Arsonists', and 'The Homecoming'. He has also performed at The Brighton Little, The Rialto, The Minack and The Pendley Shakespeare Festival.



Jack Dean - Clegg

A training actor who's hoping to study further and excited to go through the motions of drama school. Jack has played the role of Kenickie in 'Grease' with LOSMT and performed in college productions such as Tom in 'The Glass Menagerie' as well as being a member of the National Youth Theatre. Jack is passionate about acting and has enjoyed the incredible experience of playing Clegg, while hopefully not offending too many Northern locals with his accent!



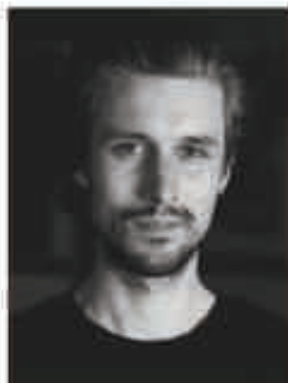
Nick Reason - Inspector Fry

Nick joins us at NVT for the first time, having performed in many local productions over the years as well as recently completing Brighton's ACT Foundation course. Previous productions include 'The Crucible', 'Whose Life is it Anyway?', 'The Picture of Dorian Gray' at the Brighton Little, and also playing Inspector Gale in the Ruth Ellis story 'The Thrill of Love' at Lawes Little Theatre, so he should know a thing or two about keeping on the right side of the hangmen's law.



Nikolas Balfe - Mooney

Nik has been performing in plays in Brighton over the last 10 years. Credits include Victor Frankenstein in 'Frankenstein', Billy Bishop (and 17 other characters) in 'Billy Bishop Goes to War' and more recently Jean in 'Miss Julie' and Padraic in 'The Lieutenant of Irishmore'.



Laura Scobie - Shirley

This is Laura's 7th show with the NVT. She was last seen emulating a partridge in last year's Christmas show. Recent acting credits include Chris in 'Rumors' and Fan in 'A Christmas Carol', both at BLT. She is chuffed to bits to be playing 'Our Shirley' in 'Hangmen'; a character she absolutely adores.



Andy Bell - Pierrepoint & Governor

Andy has been acting at NVT since 2004 and has been in numerous wonderful productions. In 2010 he received the best actor award by Brighton and Hove Arts Council for 'Of Mice and Men'. His last performance at NVT was in 'Loot' in 2016.

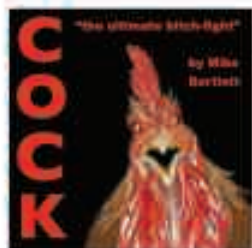




All I'm saying is, from a well-known point of view, that were the best interviews I've ever printed in that newspaper in my entire life.

Pat Boxall - Director

Pat has acted and directed for NVT and elsewhere for many years. Recent directing credits include 'Strangers on a Train', 'Festen', 'Woman in Mind', 'The Rise and Fall of Little Voice', 'The Thrill of Love' and 'The Deep Blue Sea'. This is Pat's return to directing, after a short break, and she is delighted to be working with this wonderful team of actors and creatives.



Cock by Mike Bartlett directed by Richard Lindfield

13th - 21st May 2022
In the Studio Theatre

Boy meets girl but boy is already living with boy. Mike Bartlett's 'Cock' is a sharp, witty study of a man torn between his long-time male partner and his new lover, who just happens to be a woman. When John takes a break from his boyfriend, he accidentally meets the girl of his dreams on his daily commute. Filled with guilt and indecision, he struggles to find a way to square the eternal triangle. 'Cock' explores the age-old themes of love and longing and asks questions about who we are and who we want to be.

Bartlett wrote the play while living in Mexico, where cock-fighting is very much alive and pecking. 'Cock' isn't just a reference to the male member but also to characters taking chunks out of each other in a fight to the death.

This production contains strong language and has adult themes.



Renewal at New Venture - Year Two of our 5 Year Plan

Hopefully you are aware that we are trying to raise money to carry out some important renovations and improvements to our wonderful Grade II listed theatre. Although recent relaxations in the COVID rules mean we can now put on shows again, the pandemic has already reduced our anticipated income for 2021/22. Additionally we have recently discovered significant repairs are needed to the large windows on south side of the building. The need to raise funds is therefore even more important as the Committee

has decided to proceed with these urgent repairs to the building, a decision which has, sadly, meant the postponement of the installation of Air Conditioning in the Upstairs Theatre which had originally been planned for this summer. More work is planned through to 2025 – see details on www.newventure.org.uk.

Your contributions so far towards our 'Renewal at New Venture' appeal are greatly appreciated but much more is needed! Please help secure the long term future of our cherished theatre for members, audiences and the wider community by making a donation as follows:

*Via our Just Giving page 'Renewal at New Venture' accessible via our website www.newventure.org.uk

*Using donation boxes and Gift Aid Envelopes at the theatre

*Emailing fundraising@newventure.org.uk

*Becoming an NVT Angel – angels@newventure.org.uk



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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

NVYT - Youth Theatre

NVT welcomes all young people (12-17) with a passion for or an interest in theatre. Fridays 4.30-6.30pm, £50 per 10 week term, first session is FREE!

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! See website for details.

Become a Sponsor

£250: Advertise 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.

Or why not become an Angel, Archangel or even Archangel 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

Membership

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