



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

MITRE PLAYERS B B Q

Friday 21st May 2010 at 7.00pm

TMWA Clubhouse, Lime Meadow Avenue, Sanderstead.

Details from any committee member

TMWA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 3rd June 2010 at 8.00pm

TMWA Clubhouse, Lime Meadow Avenue, Sanderstead.

Details from Bill Cobbett: 020 8668 1915

MITRE PLAYERS AGM

Sunday 13th June 2010 at 6.00pm

TMWA Clubhouse, Lime Meadow Avenue, Sanderstead.

Details from Kelly Bennett: 020 8460 4295

MOBY DICK! THE MUSICAL

Thursday 15th to Saturday 17th July 2010. at 7.30pm.

The Mitre Theatre, Trinity School, Shirley Park, Croydon. CR9 7AT

Tickets from 0845 2255799 or tickets@mitreplayers.org.uk
and

Monday 2nd to Friday 6th August

The Minack Theatre, Porthcurno, Cornwall

Box Office (open now): 01736 810181

MITRE PLAYERS FUN DAY

Friday 3rd September 2010

TMWA Clubhouse, Lime Meadow Avenue, Sanderstead.

Details from any committee member

CATHERINE HOWARD

Thursday 21st to Saturday 23rd October 2010. at 7.30pm.

The Mitre Theatre, Trinity School, Shirley Park, Croydon. CR9 7AT

Tickets from 0845 2255799 or tickets@mitreplayers.org.uk

THE MITRE PLAYERS

PRESENT

TIMING

A NEW COMEDY BY **ALISTAIR MCGOWAN**



ANOTHER DAY, ANOTHER
JOB, ANOTHER POINTLESS
PRODUCT TO SELL.....

FM

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

Welcome to the Mitre Players spring production of **Timing** by Alistair McGowan. The Mitres are indeed fortunate to have secured the amateur premiere of this snappy new comedy set in a recording studio. It is for this reason we have taken the unusual decision to stage the show here, in the studio at Trinity, to suggest the ambience of such venues. You the audience, take the place of the hoards of Agency and Client personnel who can come to such events to get out of the office for a day and of course put in their (creative) three pennyworth!

We are pleased to have Charles Marriott back as our Director for this event. Charles previously directed **Return to the Forbidden Planet** for us during the summer of 2001 and has been very keen to be more involved. So much so, that he now sits on the Committee! We are looking forward to his production tonight.

Our next show **Moby Dick! The Musical** will also be performed here at Trinity, during July and we shall then be taking it to the famous open air Minack Theatre, Cornwall during the first week of August. Julia Ascott is heading this production, with help from Helen Harman and Colin Warnock and we welcome a few new faces to the cast, which is already in place!

Looking further ahead, to next autumn, we are staging **Catherine Howard** in


the Mitre Theatre, with Tony Rapps directing his first show for us. This period drama has a good script with its own challenges and we are looking forward to having something to get our teeth into!

In addition to these productions we will be having social events, such as BBQ's, It's a Knockout style tournaments and Quiz Nights, during the year. All are welcome. If you do not receive our newsletter, why not become a 'Friend' and get your own copy, so that you can join us at these events! See the website, or get details elsewhere in this programme, on how to become a Friend.

I hope you enjoy tonight's production and look forward to welcoming you to some of our future ones.

Andy Thompson.

Chairman.



**THE MITRE THEATRE
TRINITY SCHOOL
CROYDON. CR9 7AT**

TICKETS £9.00

**BOX OFFICE:
0845 2255799
OR TICKETS@MITREPLAYERS.ORG.UK**

**THURSDAY 15TH TO
SATURDAY JULY 17TH
AT 7.30
(SATURDAY MATINEE AT 2.30)**

The poster features a dark blue background with a large, glowing yellow moon in the top right corner. The title 'Moby Dick' is written in large, 3D, light blue letters that appear to be floating in water, with bubbles and ripples around them. The Mitre Players logo is at the top left, and the text for the theatre, tickets, and dates is at the bottom.

THE MITRE PLAYERS

Officials

President Mark Bishop

Past Presidents Chris Tarrant, Robin Wilson

Vice-Presidents Julia Ascott, Gillian Bartle,

John Bartle, Alan Bishop, Sheila Garnett, Warwick Jones,
Peter Stockwell, Andy Thompson, Martin Tyrrell, Anna Warnock, Colin Warnock

Current Committee

Chairman Andy Thompson

Secretary Kelly Bennett

Treasurer Alan Bishop

Additional Members Ian Brown, Katy Davies
Di Jones, Charles Marriott, Alan Merricks, Anna Warnock

Additional Contacts

Box Office Hotline 0845 2255799

Theatre Club Organiser Colin Warnock

Membership Secretary Julia Ascott

The Mitre Players is the dramatic society of the Old Boys of Trinity School (The Trinity Mid Whitgiftian Association). We are a very friendly and sociable society, presenting 4 or 5 productions a year in a wide variety of venues. Putting on a show not only requires people on stage, but also involves a great deal of hard work behind the scenes. We design, build and paint our own sets, find and make our own props, make many of our own costumes and use "in house" musicians whenever possible.

We would welcome any new members, so if you have any aspirations to act, sing, dance or play a musical instrument, we would like to hear from you. If you prefer to remain out of the

spotlight, building scenery, lighting, painting, making costumes, making props, doing "Front of House" or simply would like to make tea for the team, we would still like to hear from you.

Most of our rehearsals take place at the Trinity Whitgiftian Association Clubhouse in Sanderstead. The bar facilities at the clubhouse lend a social and convivial atmosphere to our rehearsals and all members are encouraged to use the facilities at Sanderstead as often as possible.

If you would like more information, please contact Julia Ascott, our Membership Secretary: on 020 8239 1010 or our website: www.mitreplayers.org.uk

THE MITRE PLAYERS
PRESENT

TIMING

A NEW COMEDY BY
ALISTAIR MCGOWAN

THE DRAMA STUDIO, TRINITY SCHOOL,
SHIRLEY PARK, CROYDON.

WEDNESDAY 14TH
TO
SATURDAY 17TH APRIL 2010

DIRECTED BY CHARLES MARRIOTT

*The Mitre Players would like to thank the Governors and Headmaster of Trinity School for allowing us to perform **Timing** in The Drama Studio and Robin McKinley, Mario Sammut, Martin Doolan, Phil Jupp and team for their invaluable help as well as all the school staff for the patience and understanding they have shown whilst we invade the school.*

Please note that smoking is prohibited throughout the school and grounds.

We would also respectfully remind you that the taking of photographs and the use of audio and video recording equipment is strictly forbidden.

Please remember to switch off all mobile phones. THANK YOU.

An amateur production, by permission of Josef Weinberger Ltd.

JULIA ASCOTT: AMANDA



Julia has been a Mitre Player for over 35 years and has been in so many varied productions that she can't remember most of them. She has been in all 4 productions that Charles has directed for Mitres – Vera in **Stepping Out** and Amanda in **Timing** are among her favorite acting roles along with Puck (**The Dream**) at the Globe, and Aldonza (**Man of La Mancha**) & Wicked Witch (**Wizard of Oz**) at the Minack. One of her weirdest roles was while 6 months pregnant as a female Horatio to Neil O'Gorman's Hamlet at the Ashcroft – not great timing but certainly unusual! Unlike Amanda, she is married with 2 teenage sons and although she has previously worked as a voice over artist she now works in a school office.

CHRIS CHAMBERS: DIND



Chris' adaptation of **Gulliver's Travels** (co-written with Andy Rapps) was chosen as the Minack touring show in 2008. "Playing Gulliver in that magical setting is something I will never forget." He is excited to be acting alongside some of the Gulliver cast again, but happy not to be tied to a mast ten feet above the stage with the Atlantic Ocean's spume spuming all over him. Since then Chris has been on tour with The Birmingham Stage Company in their production of **Skellig** which will be transferring to Broadway in March next year – so if you happen to be in New York, come and say hi! He is currently working on a new musical with Ian Rae called Olympus!

DAVID ELDER: JULIAN



David discovered the Mitres somewhat late in life, but is now fully indoctrinated! This is his fourth Mitre show, and follows up the fun experience of his first pantomime, where he played the evil Asbad in **Ali Baba**. Previous Mitre roles were Don Pedro in **Gulliver** and the Ghost of Christmas Present in **Uncle Ebenezer**. David is the son of two actors and remembers well his regular visits to radio studios as a young lad, waiting (im) patiently for Mum to stop blethering in strange accents so he could go home for his tea. It all makes sense now! David received a singing scholarship while at Manchester University, where the highlight was an appearance alongside Hinge and Bracket. He gave it all up to sell razor blades around the world and has been involved in international sales and marketing ever since! David brings some first-hand Sat Nav experience to the production of **Timing** as he led the team which introduced Tom Tom to the UK. An example of **Timing**: being grateful for running 20 minutes late while driving through Belgium, and so missing getting on board the Herald of Free Enterprise, which tragically sank in Zeebrugge harbour in 1987.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

When I saw this play, I was immediately struck by the writing! Having directed many radio commercials, I could relate to the characters and their respective roles within the context of a typical one hour session in a studio in London's Soho. The dialogue is very current with a smattering of references to celebrities that will amuse. I thought.....I would love to direct this. Few will have seen anything like this play before! That was the easy bit.....but we needed a really strong cast. All the characters are crucial. As we started rehearsals, I was instantly delighted with the sheer wealth of ability and talent that you will see on stage tonight. My immense gratitude goes to all the actors for your commitment and dedication during the production period. The Mitre Players are the first company to be granted permission to perform **Timing**, it having only just finished its debut run in London at the end of last year. My thanks go to all the wonderful people behind the scenes who have created such an authentic setting befitting of any professional recording studio set up.

CHARLES MARRIOTT: DIRECTOR

This is Charles' forth excursion into directing for the Mitres. Previous shows have been **Habeas Corpus**, **Return to the Forbidden Planet** and **Stepping Out**. "I relish the Stage experience. As a professional Film and Television Director I find the disciplines are so different when there's no camera!" Charles originally trained as an actor way back in 1967 along with a cluster of well known (now!) actresses such as Jenny Agutter, Jane Seymour and Cherie Lunghi. His mother



was a scriptwriter of note and his father was a TV director. He became an assistant feature film director in 1969 and worked on many films like, Superman, Yanks, Yentl and some of the Carry On's. In the late eighties he found himself directing several award winning Radio Commercials for Virgin Atlantic and the original "Heatbusters" campaign. "It is a result of these experiences in a recording studio that I can completely relate to Alistair McGowan's fabulously insightful play **Timing**. He's got it just right.....this sort of thing really

does go on! My Niece/Godaughter the very talented actress Georgia Mackenzie played Amanda in the original stage production of **Timing** in London." Charles has made only two appearances in shows for the Mitres, he played Drums in the band at Dawlish for **It's Only Make Believe** and last year played Dr. Fernandez in **Gulliver's Travels**. Example of **Timing**: It's got to be Del Boy falling through the gap in the bar in **Only Fools and Horses**.

BEHIND THE SCENES

Director

Charles Marriott

Assistant Director

Di Jones

Stage Manager and Set Construction

Alan Collins

Sound

James McLeod

Lighting

Alan Bishop

Props

Julia Gibbs and Mary Holton

Wardrobe

Anna Warnock

Backstage Assistance

Andy Thompson, Gillian Bartle,
Derek Lee, Jon Lee, Julian Parsons,
plus AN Others

Rehearsal Assistants

Julia Gibbs and Alan Merricks

Prompter

Kelly Bennett

Photography

Marcus Ascott

Programme and Handbill

Alan Bishop and Anna Warnock

Production Manager

Kelly Bennett

Box Office

Gill Frost

Front of House

Alex Greenslade and
Friends of the Mitre Players

Bar

Katie Davies, Di Jones and
Friends of the Mitre Players

Studio Runners

Lucy Thompson, Anna Frost,
Greg Elder



ALAN GEESON: PRESTON

Still sinking his roots into the Mitre family, this is Alan's third performance with the company, having last appeared in *Ali Baba* as the house boy, Mustafa Screwloose. *Timing* is Alan's first chance with the Mitres to tread the boards in a play rather than a musical, and he has relished this opportunity to flex his "know what I mean" to all the dreds. Finding the Preston within is hard at first but as soon as it comes 'n' that, its good man, innit



LEE MCGREADY: PHIL

Having stunned the Mitres with a debut performance as a pirate in *Peter Pan*, Lee followed up as a (what were you?) in *Beauty and the Beast*, and then a period of several years' resting followed, until with perfect timing a call from a fellow Mitre led to Lee taking the role of Phil. It is Lee's first go at proper acting, and he has never seen so many lines in his life-a few more than 'We're doomed!' which was his memorable contribution to *Peter Pan*.



NEIL O'GORMAN: WES

Neil is Scottish and will fight anyone who says he isn't. To Neil, timing is everything. He lives his life by the cherished notion that every second is precious and can never be clawed back. To waste even a moment in fruitless occupation is to diminish the very essence of what it is to be alive. In his spare time Neil enjoys watching *Big Brother, I'm a Celebrity Get me out of Here* and paint drying'. An example of perfect Timing?- boiled eggs

THE AUTHOR



TAMSIN REEVE: LEONIE

Tamsin read Drama at university before completing a Masters in Physical Theatre. She then went on to have a degree of critical success producing theatre. She has also performed internationally, though has recently returned to local theatre. Favourite roles include Susannah in *The Herbal Bed*, Gail in *Teechers*, and a one-women version of *Medea*. Recent performances with the Mitres include The Giraffe in *Just So*, Sorel Nag in *Gulliver's Travels*, and a groover in last summer's *Boogie Nights*. Just a thought, would it be bad timing to mention that none of the above is true? Enjoy the ad, Guys!

TIMING

CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

PRESTON	ALAN GEESON
PHIL	LEE MCCREADY
LEONIE	TAMSIN REEVE
JULIAN	DAVID ELDER
DINO	CHRIS CHAMBERS
WES	NEIL O'GORMAN
AMANDA	JULIA ASCOTT

THE PERFORMANCE LASTS APPROXIMATELY
1 HOUR 30MINS WITHOUT AN INTERVAL

