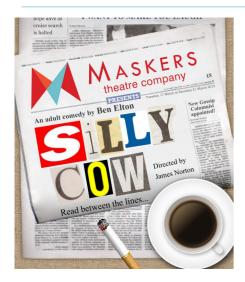
FORTHCOMING PRODUCTIONS



20 - 24 October Silly Cow Maskers Studio Theatre

Lies! Deceit! Murder...? Ben Elton's outrageous comedy Silly Cow is the story of Doris Wallis, the gossipy tabloid critic. Bold, brash and bitchy, trashing people's careers is all in a day's work. She has money, infamy, and her faithful assistant Peggy to help her break into stardom in her own right - what could possibly go wrong?

BOX OFFICE: via link on our website or 0333 666 3366



4, 5, 8 - 11 December Room at the Inn Maskers Studio Theatre

Be prepared for this year's Christmas Anthology with a difference... set in December 1940.

You are invited to join us and experience what they feel and how they cope with their troubles and their surprises.

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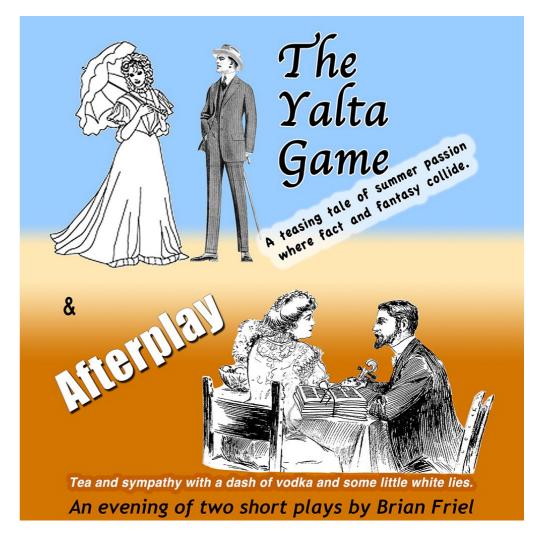
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Programme

Tues 15 to Sat 19 September MASKERS STUDIO THEATRE

Director's Notes

Brian Friel is a great admirer of Chekhov whose influence is apparent in these two plays. *The Yalta Game* is adapted from a short story by Chekhov and on one level is a simple tale of a holiday romance and its consequences. But in having his characters alternate between dialogue and soliloquy, Friel makes the audience co-conspirators in the affair and asks intriguing questions about appearance and reality, deception and



authenticity. Did the affair really happen - or are we being seduced, like Anna, into playing a version of Dmitry's Yalta game? As he himself says, "Let's find out".

Afterplay also takes us into a world of shared fictions but here they are consoling fictions designed to make life more tolerable. Friel revisits Chekhov's *Three Sisters* and *Uncle Vanya* and imagines a chance encounter in 1920s Moscow - some 25 years after the events of the plays - between Sonya (Uncle Vanya's niece with a doomed passion for Astrov) and Andrey (the feckless brother of the three sisters who was cuckolded by Natasha). In this bitter-sweet Chekhovian epilogue they are still ensnared by their past lives but they tell their tales with warmth and wit.

These two pieces are very different in form and style and rehearsing them together has been interesting! I am greatly indebted to both casts and crew for their sterling work on this production.

Ron Stannard

There will be an interval of 20 minutes between the two plays.

Ron Stannard

The Production Crew

Director
Director's Assistant
Production Manager
Stage Manager
Assistant Stage Manager
Set Design
Lighting Design
Lighting Operator
Sound Design
Sound Operator
Stage Crew
Properties
Costumes

Set Construction

Avril Woodward
Chris Baker
David Cowley
Rob Osborne
Ron Stannard & Clive Weeks
Clive Weeks
Paul Duell & Alex Rolfe
Jamie McCarthy
Gail Blues
David Cowley, Adam Taussik & cast
Adam Taussik
Sheana Carrington
Clive Weeks, Rob Osborne,
David Cowley, Chris Baker & cast

The Cast

The Yalta Game

Dmitry Dmitrich Gurov Eric Petterson
Anna Sergeyevna Lydia Longman

Afterplay

Andrey Rubén Sánchez-García

Sonya Maria Head



Dmitry Dmitrich Gurov - Eric Petterson. Eric started a late acting career with Maskers in 2012. His roles have included Jack in *The Weir*, James in *The 13th Floor* and a mass murderer in the latest Christmas show! In 2015, Eric play John of Gaunt in Maskers' tour of *Richard II* and he played a hunter in this summer's *The Jungle Book*. He is very much enjoying playing Dmitri in *The Yalta Game*.



Anna Sergeyevna - Lydia Longman. This is Lydia's third show with Maskers, having played Catherine in *Wuthering Heights* and the Queen in the touring production of *Richard II*. Working with such a small team has been an absolute treat and performing opposite Eric constantly challenges her to be better. When not rehearsing, Lydia runs 'Shakesperts' - bringing reduced Shakespeare to the masses!



Andrey - Rubén Sánchez-García. Rubén joined Maskers in 2010, after arriving from Germany, where he first acted for a (Spanishlanguage) theatre group. In Maskers, he's been a Spanish pirate in *Treasure Island* and Oberon in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, as well as directing *Butterfly Kiss*. In real life he is a university lecturer, and married to fellow *Treasure Island* pirate Kate. He is delighted to be directed by Ron in this beautifully written and intimate piece of theatre.



Sonya - Maria Head. Maria has been a member of Maskers for many years but has not acted with them since playing Marmee in *Little Women* in 2009. She has performed in several open air productions at Mottisfont, including Mistress Page in *The Merry Wives of Windsor* and is delighted to be involved once more. Playing Sonia in *Afterplay* has been an exciting challenge and it is wonderful to have the opportunity to speak such beautiful and poetic lines.

For the Company

Technical Manager --- Jamie McCarthy; Marketing Director --- Sarah Russell;

Marketing Team --- Angela Stansbridge, Ruth Kibble, Leah Barlow, James Norton, Clive Weeks;

Front of House Director --- Chris Baker; Front of House Display --- Leah Barlow;

Box Office Manager --- Chris Baker; Photography --- Clive Weeks.