



Our Next Production

Unscorched

by Luke Owen Directed by Michelle Montague
November 27th - 29th and December 3rd – 6th
7.30 pm also matinée December 6th at 2.30 pm.

Unscorched was written by our very own Luke Owen. It won him the 2013 Papatango New Writing Award in association with the Finborough Theatre, which exists to develop and produce



outstanding new talent in the UK. It was chosen from 527 entries, heralding Luke as a dramatist of exceptional promise. The script is subtle and detailed, often humorous and incredibly natural. It sensitively tackles an important and taboo subject.

I am incredibly grateful to Luke for allowing us the amateur premiere of his play as part of our most ambitious and bold season to date. The company has a growing reputation for being a fringe theatre that provokes and

challenges both its actors and audience. I believe theatre can be a powerful means to represent society and highlight social and political issues. **Unscorched** gives us the ability to be responsive to the world around us.

It is estimated there are up to 60,000 viewings of child pornography in the UK alone, with reports of footage of abuse rising weekly. **Unscorched** examines the impact on those analysts who confront such images on a daily basis.

I have no doubt that with the support of an excellent cast, designer and production team, this compelling, honest and courageous piece of writing will encourage consciousness and dialogue.

Michelle Montague, Artistic Director



Coming Soon

January 15th -24th. 'A 1940's Radio Christmas Carol' by Walton Jones, David Wohl and Faye Greenberg. Directed by Robert Little.

Your Committee Needs You!

We are thinking about the future of the Sewell Barn! It is obvious that we need younger people to help the committee members in the running the theatre. We are a theatre that provides an exciting range of productions and this tradition must continue. The theatre does not run itself; there is a lot to do behind the scenes. So if you have some skills, or expertise that could be useful in the general running of the Barn, please do not be too shy to come forward. Do you have marketing experience? Accounting? Computer skills? Wardrobe? Technical? Does Front of House organisation interest you? Would you like to be involved? We would like to find people with a sense of commitment to work alongside the committee in these roles.

If this is of interest to you, please contact me by email if possible and I will arrange to meet you and discuss how we can best use your skills and interests.

Please do not be too shy to come forward!!!!

Jill

Our Previous Production

Much Ado About Nothing

Jonathan Adkin's sets have enhanced many a fine production at the Sewell Barn and this was strikingly true of this season's opening play, Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing*. Here was created a trendy media office so modern in design that the prefix 'ultra' would be almost an understatement. Most imposing of all was the abstract sculpture of a tree that overhung the set; through the coloured shapes that hung from this the lighting crew cast patterns on the action.

Luke Owen in his director's programme note explains that giving the play a modern setting 'meant that we can have characters who are a little more expressive (than is usual with the military characters), allowing us to really find out who these characters are in a clear and accessible way'. This was certainly a refreshing look at one of Shakespeare's best known comedies. The 'great masked ball' in Act 2/ Scene 1 becomes an office party and during the dancing, as the other revellers freeze, our attention is drawn to the conversation of each couple in turn. The Barn has always been a warm, friendly and supportive place in which to act and this certainly came across in the performances, which were of an ensemble nature; the togetherness of the actors shone through in every scene.

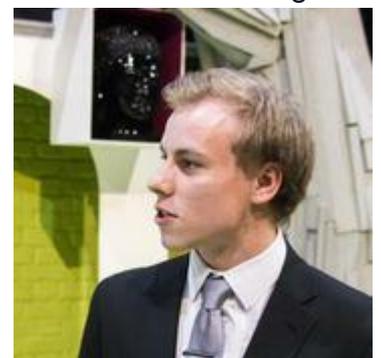
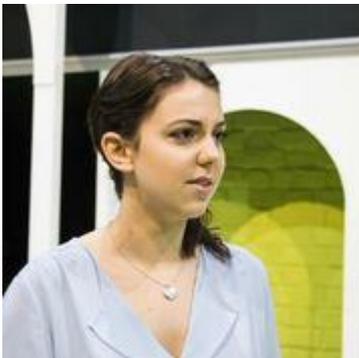
Nothing was wasted in this tightly choreographed show: pauses, exits and gestures were all used to convey an attitude, make a point or harvest a laugh. The actors' rapport with the audience was especially effective in the scenes where Beatrice and Benedick are provoked by their friends into believing each was really enamored of the other; here, too, the set was used to great effect with the actors using every conceivable hidey-hole in the office to overhear and yet remain hidden.

The wardrobe team had obviously worked hard to produce costumes that were attractive, smart and coordinated: the red and black dresses, sashes, shoes and the very smart suits all emphasized the fact that the action was here and now.

The comments of the audience during the interval included "demanding play, wonderfully done", "talented cast ... something special", "rapt attention", enjoyed the language ... well spoken", "wonderful piece of theatre".

Robert Little once said "the theatre is the star", and it looks as though the Barn is off to another challenging and exciting season!

Terry Cant



PRELUDE RECORDS

Hopefully most of you are already aware that our ticketing service has moved from Jarrolds to Prelude Records who are located on St Giles Street in the city centre.

With this new service, you can continue to buy tickets in person and over the phone by calling 01603 628319. New for this year, we've also introduced online booking available on our website and via Prelude Records (a small booking fee applies if you use a credit card online).

You can book tickets for any of our 2014/15 shows, so why not check your diary and book us in now...

Costume Hire

Many of our members are also members of other groups. Please remember that the Sewell Barn has an impressive costume collection, covering almost all periods that is available for hire. If you would like more details of the costumes and how to hire them, please consult the web-site or contact Anne Giles:

hire@sewellbarn.org

Company News

Workshops:

Our opening workshop - Get Writing - was a great introduction into the world of scriptwriting. Luke Owen has had great feed-back and we are all eager to join him to learn more.

"This workshop was really helpful, interesting and full of good advice for a newby script writer as myself. I will be attending the December one although I am in no way considering the business. I would love to meet up with others that have script ideas to bounce ideas and thoughts off - if there is anyone. THANKS LUKE!" Danny.

Wednesday 10th December: Taking Your Scriptwriting Further

Offering advice and guidance on creating strong, believable dialogue, as well as tips for dealing with the notoriously competitive scriptwriting industry.

Remember, Luke is the writer of Unscorched, our next production. Come along and see his play before the workshop and ask him questions based on what you've seen!

Auditions

That Face by Polly Stenham

Carita Liljendal had a great turn out for her auditions. Many thanks to all of you who were interested in the production. As always, there was lots of talent to choose from.

Carita has offered roles to the following:

MIA - Hannah Bethell

IZZY - Alexandra Bannon

ALICE - Louise Latham

HENRY- Jonathan Massey

MARTHA - Mandy Kiley

HUGH - Steve Askew

Stage Manager - Rebecca Carpenter

Production Assistant - Shannon Turnbull

Cowardy Custard: Monday December 15th

This is a music based audition. Please see the web-site for details.

More details of the workshops and auditions can be found on the web site: www.sewellbarn.org

What else is on in the Area?

The Maddermarket Theatre:

'The Last of the Summer Wine'

November 20th – 29th :7.30pm; also matinée November 29th at 2.30 pm.

The Great Hall Theatre Company: (at the Assembly House)

'Underground' by Michael Sloan November 4th – 8th at 7.30 pm; also matinée November 8th at 2.30 pm.

