



.the
curious
room

Vampirella

By Angela Carter

26, 27 & 28th October 7.30pm

George IV Theatre Space
The Southside Bar
114 Brixton Hill SW2

Produced by The Curious Room
www.thecuriousroom.com

The Curious Room

We are an Arts Co-operative based in London U.K.

Established in January 2007 the prime aim of The Curious Room is to produce theatre. To produce innovative, exciting theatre. This requires the creative skills of actors, artists, directors, producers, designers, promotions operatives, technicians, administrators, musicians and writers. In the full knowledge that all of these industries are hard to break into (even with the formal training!) and gain experience in, The Curious Room has formed. We hope to provide a network of 'artists' of all disciplines. A forum within which to expand, experiment and create.

The Cause

Kids Company is a London based charity, which was founded in 1996. We currently support some 5000 vulnerable children in twenty-five inner city schools and the children's centre at street-level (Arches II).

The Kids Company's Urban Academy is a post-14 educational and life skills academy based at Sherborne House, SE1. It is specifically designed to meet the needs of young people who reject or have been rejected from other educational facilities. We are committed to providing a balance of courses to help with their life management. These include getting their driving licence, passport application and registering with a G.P. along with study and business skills, maths and English, drama, film production, fashion studies and more. Our philosophy... Present educational facilities

are sometimes inaccessible to our client group and lack the resources required to deliver individual tailor-made tutoring. Failure to succeed leaves these young people with decreased levels of motivation and a reduced belief in their ability to achieve.

The Urban Academy hopes to reverse this trend. We aim to provide a crucial step in giving these young people a real chance to move on successfully into further education or employment.

The Syllabus includes courses such as: Fine Art Digital media, painting, portfolio preparation, fashion, drawing. Performing Arts & Music Singing and MC skills, DJ workshops, songwriting, studio recording. Psychology Emotions and how they work, body language, how the brain works, addiction. The Human Body First aid, advanced nutrition, fitness and exercise, alternative health

methods. How to run your own home Cooking and cleaning, budgeting and bills, basic plumbing, carpentry. Social Affairs International politics and economics, free trade, global poverty, civil rights. Working with children & young people Child protection, how children think and feel. Organisation Presentation and telephone skills, legal issues, career workshops, job hunting skills.



The Author

Angela Carter was born in 1940. She read English at Bristol University, spent two years living in Japan and from 1976–8 was Arts Council of Great Britain Fellow in Creative Writing at Sheffield University. She was visiting professor in the Writing Programme at Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, 1980–81 and writer in residence at the University of Adelaide, South Australia, 1984.

Her first novel *Shadow Dance* was published in 1965, to be followed by *The Magic Toyshop* (which won the John Llewellyn Rhys Prize) in 1967, *Several Perceptions* (which won the Somerset Maugham Award) in 1968, *Heroes And Villains* in 1969, *Love* in 1971, *The Infernal Desire Machines Of Dr Hoffman* in 1972, *The Passion Of New Eve* in 1977, *Nights At The Circus* published in 1984 (winning

the James Tait Black Memorial Prize) and *Wise Children* (1991). Angela also published three collection of short stories — *Fireworks*, *Black Venus* and *The Bloody Chamber*, the latter of which won the Cheltenham Festival of Literature Award.

Angela wrote the screenplay of *A Company Of Wolves* adapted from her own short story, which was produced by Palace Pictures and directed by Neil Jordan. She also wrote the screenplay for the film of *A Magic Toyshop* starring Tom Bell, produced by Steve Morrison and directed by David Wheatley for Granada Television.

She was the author of *The Sadeian Woman: An Exercise in Cultural History* (1979) and two collections of journalism, *Nothing Sacred* (1982) and *Expletives Deleted* (1992). She translated the fairy tales of Charles Perrault, and edited

collections of fairy folk tales as well as *Wayward Girls And Wicked Women: an Anthology Of Subversive Stories* (1986) and also wrote for the theatre, TV, film and radio.

Angela Carter died in February 1992. Her work has been collected in three volumes *Burning Your Boats* (1995) (Collected Short Stories), *The Curious Room* (1996) (Collected Drama) and *Shaking A Leg* (Collected Journalism and Writings). *Shaking A Leg* (Collected Journalism and Writings) was published in 1997 by Chatto & Windus.

A number of her works have been adapted and performed on stage including a very successful, UK production by the prestigious Shared Experience company of Bryony Lavery's dramatisation of *The Magic Toyshop*.

The Cast



The Hero

Morgan Thrift

Morgan trained at The Bristol Old Vic Theatre School. Credits include Oberon/Theseus in A Midsummer Night's Dream, Potential Officer Menzies in Our Boys, Robert in Push Up, and 2nd Voice in Under Milk Wood. Other credits include the short film Inside You, and a commercial for Ikea!



The Countess

Melissa Miners

Melissa has recently graduated from The Academy drama school. Before drama school she was involved in several projects with HTV. Recent roles include Electra in Electra, Olivia in Twelfth Night and Jo in Two Lips Indifferent Red. Melissa is a big fan of Angela Carter and is really looking forward to playing the role of The Countess in Vampirella.



The Gatekeeper

Ryan Spencer-Wilson

Ryan trained at City Lit. Credits include Valmont in Dangerous Liaisons; Ken Harrison in Who's Life is it Anyway? Horner in The Country Wife and Hamlet. He has also worked extensively with Naked Theatre both at The White Bear and at the Edinburgh Festival.



Mrs Beane

Elizabeth Graham

Elizabeth was born in Edinburgh, where she trained as a teacher of classical and modern dance.

Stage includes: Loneliness... Loneliness (Actors & Writers London), Still Life (Bridewell), Candide (Barbican), Death of a Salesman (Birmingham Rep), Hamlet (Finborough), Bitter Sweet (Exeter Northcott), The Man Who Came to Dinner (Cheltenham Everyman), Salad Days (Sheffield Crucible), Irene (Adelphi) and Cabaret (Liverpool Playhouse).

Film, television and radio: The Oxford Murders (Oxford Crimes Ltd), Shooting Stars in August (FFP Media GmbH), The Children of Dynmouth (BBC), Rainbow (Thames), A Place of Her Own (STV) and Excess Baggage (Write 4 Radio).

Elizabeth sings with the London Symphony Chorus, and in November performs in Verdi's Requiem with the Hallé Orchestra, conducted by Mark Elder.



The Count

Frederick Roll

Gruesome, gory bedtime stories told by his parents and regular, illicit attendance with them at the local fleapit cinema's 'fright night' screenings may account for Frederick's abiding love of all things dark and dreadful. Now, playing one of the undead in a like-minded new company's production of an Angela Carter, he believes he has found his dream role and teammates. He trained at the Speech and Drama Department of the University of Natal, South Africa, and, when not frightening himself and others with horror stories, he works as an actor, voiceover artist, writer, researcher, videomaker, location manager and volunteer for a befriending organisation for the elderly. He earnestly hopes that his brief scene as The Barman in 'His Dark Materials: The Golden Compass' will not end up on the cutting room floor.



The Voice of Sawney Beane

Graeme Winchester

Graeme trained at Webber Douglas where his roles included Jaques in As You Like It and Jeremy Bertrand in Three Birds Alighting On A Field. Since graduating he has performed in four new works for First Draft Theatre (all Kings Head Islington), gave an acclaimed performance as Feste in 'Twelfth Night' (Edinburgh Fringe), and toured Italy twice in 'Chicago' as Billy Flynn and in 'Much Ado About Nothing'.

The Creatives

Director/ Producer

Kate Sawyer

Kate trained in Acting at The Webber Douglas Academy of Dramatic Art. Recent roles she has enjoyed playing include Helena in A Midsummer Nights Dream, Narrator in Gunpowder Treason And Plot, Camille in Rings True, Elizabeth in Absolute Hell and Molly Malloy in The Front Page.

Kate established The Curious Room with the help of all her creative and talented friends in January 2007. Vampirella by Angela Carter is Kate's directorial debut.

Kate would like to thank Knight Mantell for his kind advice and guidance.

sawyerkate@hotmail.com

Costume Design

Mette Kristiansen

Mette studied fashion at Kingston University. Recent costume credits include: Evita (Adelphi Theatre), Joseph (Adelphi Theatre), As the bell rings (Disney). She is currently working for Talkback Thames on ITV's The Bill.

Mette also runs her own jewelry design company MyBlackSwan.

mette_kristiansen@hotmail.com

Graphic Design

Sam Stephens

Poppy Stedman

Illustration

Nathan Webb

Web Design

Jon Ross Hay

Jon-Ross Design

Web problem solver and proud partner of The Curious Room. Visit www.jon-ross.blogspot.com to see more!

Film Creatives

Tom Whitelaw

Tom studied Art History at Kingston University. He has continued his study of film since graduating and has written extensively on the subject of Russian cinema — A montage of attractions to sculpting in time. mrtomwhitelaw@googlemail.com

Russell John

Russell graduated from Fine Art at Kingston University.

Joel Stephens

Joel is currently studying at Camberwell College of Art. His work is focusing on video and film work.

Artistic Photography

Lucy Riseley

Lucy Riseley attended the London College of Communication where she gained her BA in Graphic & Media Design Illustration with Honours.

She is very excited to be involved with The Curious Room and Vampirella. She believes that this is the beginning of something special that will prove beneficial and ultimately magnificent for all the artists involved and also the charities that will benefit from this newly formed co-operatives support.

Photography Models

Morgan Thrift

Polly Whybrow

Polly trained at Webber Douglas Academy of Dramatic Arts and since leaving, aside from traveling France; she has been involved with many film and TV projects and is currently filming her first major role in a British feature film due out next year.

She enjoyed the photo-shoot immensely, particularly the wig and nails.

Set design Advisor/ Construction

Kate Hughes

Set Construction

Jamie Brookes

Associate Creative Advisors

Zoë Sawyer

Zoë graduated with a degree in Fine Art from Leeds University. She runs The Art Market in Leeds.

Stage Management

James Sullivan

Tom Whitelaw

Production Assistants

Morgan Thrift

Laura Freeman

Laura trained in Acting at The Webber Douglas Academy of Dramatic Art. She is currently performing in York Theatre Royal's children's theatre production of Silly Billy.

Thank you

to all of the cast and creatives involved in this project for giving their time and talents free of charge so we can raise as much money as possible for the The Kids Company.

to you, our audience, for supporting this venture.

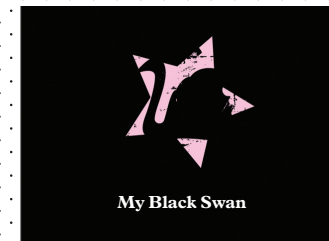
to our sponsors for advertising with and supporting us.

to Galleria Conti for their kind donation.

to King's College for lending their fantastic projector.

& last but not least a huge thank you to everyone at TheSouthSide Bar for letting us use the space for performance and rehearsal free of charge!

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theartmarket supports the curious room as another independent support network for creative activity.

find out more visit: www.theartma.co.uk & <http://kunstfreund.wordpress.com>
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Hillel & Verity wish the Curious Room luck in their first production.