



.the
curious
room

The Curious Room in association with
MusicArt&Drama for Brockwell Park
2008 present an open air production
of William Shakespeare's

Love's Labours Lost

(The lover's tale)

10th – 15th June 2008
The Band Stand
Brockwell Park SW2

Produced by The Curious Room
www.thecuriousroom.com

The Curious Room

The Curious Room was established in January 2007. The prime aim of the company is to work as a co-operative giving the people involved in the creative process as much credit and input as those who eventually present the piece of theatre to an audience. This ethos provides a forum in which a network of artists of different can experiment, create and expand culminating in mixed media performance.

In October 2007 we performed our first production a staged version of Angela Carter's radio play Vampirella including an illustration and two film shorts. All the proceeds went to the south London charity Kids Company. We pledge 10% of profits from any future production to Kids Company. To support a local organisation which gives creative opportunity to children that have none.

The Curious Room has formed a close alliance with 'MusicArt&Drama in The Park 2008' part of The Brockwell Arts Group in Brixton. We are producing the parks first Open-Air Shakespeare this June.

In the future we hope to commission more new writing which is inspired by classic literature, poems and works of art.

Theatre changing lives. Life changing theatre.

Our next project sees The Curious Room heading north of the border to take part in the Edinburgh Fringe Festival 2008. The Highwayman, a new play written for The Curious Room by Bahar Brunton after the poem by Alfred Noyes, will be performed 30th July – 25th August 2008 at C Venues vibrant C Cubed Venue. See www.Cthefestival.com. There will be previews in London in late July see www.thecuriousroom.com.

If you are a writer, artist, performer or theatre practitioner please and would like to get involved please contact us via email the curious room@googlemail.com

Synopsis

Spring is in the air at Navarre (in Spain), King Ferdinand explains to Berowne, Longaville, and Dumaine that they can stay at the court to study and contemplate for three years, but that they must:

- 1 Never see, speak to, or be with a woman during those three years,
- 2 Fast once per week, and
- 3 Sleep only three hours per night, all in order to be most fit for concentrating.

Berowne finds these requirements too strict and bound to be broken, but agrees to them, predicting that he will be the last to break the rules.

The princess (daughter of the King of France) comes to Ferdinand's court. He won't let her in (following his rules), but instead meets her outside his gates, where she informs him her father wants a loan of 100,000 crowns repaid. Ferdinand denies he or his father ever received the money. Berowne, here, recognizes Rosaline (lady of the princess') and exchanges witty remarks with her. Dumaine, Longaville, and Berowne all ask Boyet (Lord with the princess) the names of the princess' three ladies, Katharine, Maria, and Rosaline. Boyet informs the princess and her ladies of the inquiries. Berowne gives Costard a letter for Rosaline. Costard gives the letter to The Princess who rejects the letter and send it back for Ferdinand to inspect.

Berowne, lamenting his reservations over loving Rosaline, overhears Ferdinand writing a love letter to the princess. The king and Berowne then both overhear Longaville writing one to Maria. All three overhear Dumaine writing one to Katharine. Longaville then comes forward and scolds Dumaine for his lust. The king then scolds them both. Finally, Berowne comes forward and scolds all three for breaking their oath. Berowne claims he has kept faithful, but Boyet and Costard enter revealing Berowne too is in love. The four decide to break their oaths and to win over their women.

Boyet informs the ladies that the men plan to visit them, disguised as foreigners. The princess switches jewelry with Rosaline and Maria with Katharine, and all plan to wear masks to confuse the men and mock them for their game. The women vow, too, to not listen and not to dance with the men. The king, though, convinces Rosaline to go with him, alone, thinking she is the princess. Berowne departs with the princess, Dumaine with Maria, and Katharine with Longaville. Yet, the women ignore the men and the men depart in frustration. The women relish in their actions and decide, if the men return undisguised, to complain to them of their "odd visitors". The men do come back, and all admit to their respective trickeries and laugh.

Costard then comes and informs all that the King of France has died. The princess informs Ferdinand that she will marry him only if he goes into hermitage for one year. Katharine and Maria tell Dumaine and Longaville the same. Rosaline tells Berowne that he must spend his year in a hospital cheering up the terminally ill.

As the lover's part winter approaches and we are left wondering if they will ever be reunited.

The Cast



1 Ferdinand King of Navarre

Rob Crumpton

Robert trained at Webber Douglas Academy of Dramatic Art. He has spent three summer seasons with the British Shakespeare Company, playing roles including Touchstone in *As You Like It*, the Dauphin in *Henry V*, and Benvolio in *Romeo and Juliet*. Other theatre includes: *1905* (Brunswick House), *Holly from the Bongs* (Manchester Library Theatre) and *The Emperor Jones* (The Gate, Notting Hill). Radio: *A Hiroshima Story* (BBC Radio 3). Film: *Sweet Swan of Avon*. Television: *Dead Clever*.

2 Berowne

Max Krupski

Max trained at Alra under the principle Pat Trueman where he had the pleasure of working with the likes of John Adams,



3 Longaville

Nick Read

Nick graduated from Mountview in 2007. Theatre work since then includes; *The Bards of Bangkok* (Edinburgh Fringe), *The Price* (Walking Forward), *The Shed-The World at One* (King's Head, Islington), *The Big Ugly Monster and the Little Stone Rabbit* (These Colours) and *Wasted* (Walking Forward). Nick was also a reserve for the Carlton Hobbes BBC Radio award while at Mountview.



4 Dumanie

Anthony Acosta

After Receiving a BA English Degree, he went on to graduate from ArtsEd School of Acting where his credits include: *Lucio* in *Measure for Measure* and *Aune* in *Pillars of the Community*. He has currently finished performing for Act Provocateur Int Theatre company in *Chekhov Farces*

5 Costard & Mercade

Richard Foster-King

Training: Doreen Bird College Theatre: *Earnest The Young Ones* (Upstairs at the Gatehouse), *Sister Wendy The Musical* (Hackney Empire). *The Wizard of Oz* (Questors Theatre) and various productions for Disneyland Resort Paris. Whilst at college he appeared as Police Sergeant *The Pirates of Penzance*,





CJ Scruggs *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, and Eddie *The Wild Party*

6 Boyet

David Furlong

David is from Mauritius and trained at the French National Theatre in Paris. He worked with international directors including Deborah Warner and Hans Peter Cloos. David took on several lead parts in Paris, and was cast in *Flyboys*. Along with work as an actor, he is the artistic director *Echange Theatre*

7 Princess of France

Kate Sawyer

Kate trained at Webber Douglas. Credits include; Helena *'A Midsummer Night's Dream'* *The Original Theatre Company*, Elizabeth *'Absolute Hell'*, Molly *'The Front Page'*

Narrator *'Gunpowder Treason and Plot'* *Working Space*. She made her directorial debut with *The Curious Room's* production *'Vampirella'* and will play Bess in their Edinburgh Fringe 2008 production *'The Highwayman'*.

8 Rosaline

Annalie Wilson

Annalie is no stranger to the delights and perils of open air Shakespeare having previously played Kate in *The Taming of the Shrew* in *Canterbury*. Other roles include Garance in *Les Enfants du Paradis* at the *Arcola* and Kitty in *The Chihuahua Messiah* for *Film London*. She is hoping it won't rain.

9 Katharine

Jacqueline Wilder

Jacqueline has worked in both theatre and film with roles in: *'Trelawny of The Wells'*, *'The*

London Nativity' and *'Never Saw The Day'*. She made her feature-film debut as *Scarlett* in *'All Bar Love'* – a British rom-com out in the shops this summer!

10 Maria

Nicola Connell

Nicola trained at Webber Douglas. Theatre credits include *Molly Seagrim* in *Tom Jones*, *Natasha* in *Another Three Sisters (Eastern Angles)* and *Hermia* in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Nicola has played the *Fairy Godmother* in *Cinderella*, recorded the theme tune for a new TV series, and was also involved in the gala performance of *Sweet Charity* at the *Theatre Royal, Drury Lane*

The Creatives

Director

Knight Mantell

Actor, director, producer and teacher. Roles include everything from Shylock to Malvolio to Widow Twanky, Dracula and Salieri. West-end credits with Alec Guinness and Alastair Sim. Productions include “The Dresser”, “Sleuth” and “Arms and the Man”. He has directed opera in Hong-Kong, taught at Bristol Old Vic theatre school and made numerous film and TV appearances.

Producer

Kate Sawyer

Kate trained in Acting at Webber Douglas. She directed The Curious Room’s debut production Vampirella by Angela Carter in October 2007.
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PR & Marketing

Laura Freeman

Laura trained in Acting at Webber Douglas. This is her first experience of marketing a production for The Curious Room.
E laurafreeman_uk@yahoo.co.uk

Assistant Producer

Lizzie Winkler

Lizzie trained in Acting at RADA.
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Front of House

Alexia Sawyer

Alexia is studying psychology at Edinburgh University.

Stage Management

James Sullivan

Tom Whitelaw

Film Production

Thomas Whitelaw

Thomas is a musician and filmmaker. His theatre credits include producing several of the mixed media pieces presented in The Curious Room’s debut production of ‘Vampirella’. Clips of the work he has produced for The Curious Room can be seen on line through the links at www.thecuriousroom.com. He also plays guitar for K.A.T.S. theatre company and will be providing the music for their production of Lorca’s Blood Wedding at King’s College Chapel this summer.
E mrtomwhitelaw@gmail.com

Artistic Photography

Lucy Riseley

Lucy attended the London College of Communication where she gained her BA in Graphic & Media Design Illustration with Honours. She has provided all the promotional images and artistic photography for The Curious Room since it’s first production.
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Web Design

Amy Johnson

Amy is a Graphic Designer based in London. She graduated from Kingston University. She works with Red Bee Media who are the producers of BBC’s well known channel idents.
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Set Design & Illustration

Jozef Marlow

Jen Knight

Graphic Design

Sam Stephens

Sam studied Graphic Design at Kingston University. He lives and works in London.
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Thank you

Caroline Funnell

Brixton St Vincent’s Community Centre
(particularly Albert)

Andrew and everyone at The Prince Regent Pub

Val & Graham Sawyer
for their constant help and support

Chloe & Sophie at Kids Company

Theresa Hoare for all her hard work for MAD for Brockwell Park

Laura Morland for being MAD for Brockwell Park and kindly lending us her garden

Arch 468

To all the cast and creatives who have given their time and talents to create this piece of art (especially as the remuneration is so uncertain!)

Eloise Calandre

Brockwell Park!

Dates for your Diary!

Things to look forward to in Brockwell Park during Summer 2008.

Brockwell Park Arts & Events group as part of the

'I'm Music.Arts.Drama for Brockwell Park' season offer you a summer of community events for your enjoyment.

All welcome

Some of these events are still to be fully confirmed and maybe subject to change. For more information contact thoare@lambeth.gov.uk. Further information can also be found at www.brockwellpark.com and www.madforbrockwellpark.wordpress.com

Please note that most events will take place near Brockwell Hall or in other specific places leaving plenty of wide open green space within the park for those seeking uncrowded contemplation.

July 6th 2-4pm

Brockwell Park Dog Show.

A chance for all those furry friends to take part in our fun categories, golden oldie, waggiest tale, best fancy dress (owner & Dog). **Free!**

July 13th & Aug 10th

From 5pm

Live Music!

John Brown & Friends.

Toe tapping entertainment Outside Brockwell Hall. **Free!**

August 17th

South London Jazz Orchestra and Tea Dance

John Brown and Friends invite you to shuffle those feet and take part in the dance! Outside Brockwell Hall. **Free!**

Coming in August to September:

'Alice in the Walled Garden'. TBC.

[Watch the notice boards for further details...](#)

Pipe & Slippers Free!

Music & Story telling for All! Free!

September 14th Live Music!

John Brown & Friends entertain outside Brockwell Hall. Last of the year. Don't miss your chance to Dance. **Free!**

In association with **bpmac** and **I'm Music.Arts.Drama for Brockwell Park**

Love is all it takes

Kids Company is a charity founded by Camila Batmanghelidjh in 1996 which offers practical, emotional and educational support to vulnerable inner city children and young people. The services offered are holistic, child-centred and multi-disciplinary.

In 2006, Kids Company supported over 11,000 children and young people through a range of services which are based on therapeutic principles. Many of those who come to us suffer significant mental health and emotional difficulties due to experiences of neglect and sexual, physical or emotional abuse. We aim to provide an environment where relationships of empathy and attachment can

be fostered between children and trusted adults.

Over the past 10 years, Kids Company has helped transform the lives of thousands of children and young people. We believe that all children and young people deserve to be loved and cared for.

The organisation is advanced in its service delivery because it has a multidisciplinary team working at street level, adapting the latest neurophysiological thinking in order to deliver a preventative and reparative therapeutic service to children. It currently supports 11,925 clients.

Kids Company has been independently evaluated fifteen

times since 2000. All the evaluations describe the clinical service delivery by Kids Company as being outstanding.

In excess of 95% of the children refer themselves or their peers to our services. Our services are delivered through three key channels; in 33 schools across London, a children's centre in South London — 'The Arches II' and a post-16 educational site — 'The Urban Academy'

10% of the profits from each project The Curious Room undertakes is donated to Kids Company



KIDSCOMPANY



The Highwayman

By Bahar Bruton

After the poem by Alfred Noyes

**Battersea Barge
Nine Elms Lane,
SW85BP**

(Behind the FedEx Building)

**Wed 23rd & Sun 27th
July 2008 7.30pm**

London preview of The
Curious Rooms Edinburgh
Fringe 2008 Show

A cautionary tale from the
18th Century comes hurtling
into 2008.

Strong aesthetics, powerful
language and haunting music
draw us into the fractured
world of Noyes classic poem.

Buy tickets through ticketweb
at www.thecuriousroom.com

£10|£8 concessions

Discounts available
for groups over 8
[the curiousroom@
googlemail.com](mailto:the curiousroom@googlemail.com)

10% of all profits go
to Kids Company

Book for the Edinburgh
show from June at
www.cthefestival.com

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A Curious Shop Supports The Curious Room!

Hillel & Verity wish the Curious Room luck in their first production.