

# 'Three Tall Women'

by Edward Albee  
directed by Ian Black  
19-26 July

In this play Edward Albee has produced a timeless world of three anonymous women divided by generation. Despite their anonymity we get to know the characters well and gain a significant insight to their lives, loves and future. The play has a quality and feel about it that suggests things may not be how they initially appear.

Written in 1991 and Pulitzer prize winner in 1994, this play does not tend to gain the exposure through production that it rightly deserves. It is a thought provoking and emotional play, with the insight and humour you would expect from Edward Albee. It was originally produced in the UK in 1991, following its world premiere in the United States, earlier that year. More recently it was produced by the Oxford Playhouse in 2006.

Casting this play was not the easiest thing and I thank all who auditioned and were un-

successful. The resulting cast have pulled out all the stops to create, what I think you will find to be, a powerful and thought provoking production. The cast are Characters A - Janet Hewlett-Davies; Character B - Emma Prendergast, Character C - Janna Fox and the Young Man - tbc. The somewhat innovative set has been designed by Matt Johnson, who is new to the NVT; but has excellent credentials for set design in a past life. Alongside are a hard working team who have developed the staging and support aspects of the production, without who there would be nothing to see or drink and no audience.

It has been great to have the opportunity to close the NVT Diamond Jubilee season with this



Photo by Strat Mastoris

Janna Fox as Character C

play. I look forward to seeing you all there sometime between 19 and 26 July.

**Ian Black**

**Ticket  
reservations page 2**

## URGENT! URGENT! URGENT!

The NVT urgently need to find a person who is willing to take on the role of Supplies Manager. This role will include purchasing, ordering and receiving deliveries of consumable products e.g. Office Supplies, Cleaning Supplies, Bar Stock etc.

The ability to get to the theatre during

the day to receive deliveries is obviously important in this role, although this is usually only once before each production run. If you are interested in this role, or would like to find out more - Please contact Ian Black ([ian.black@naph.co.uk](mailto:ian.black@naph.co.uk)) or Penny Taylor ([penelopeanntaylor@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:penelopeanntaylor@yahoo.co.uk)) or phone 01273 808353.

# Share and Enjoy

As mentioned in a previous newsletter we have been developing the previous subgroup structure in the theatre to enable members who have the skills, time and inclination to get involved with developments in specific areas. The subgroups or teams will work in their area and with other teams to equip the Theatre for the needs of the present and future.

Below are a list of the teams and the trustee leading each group. Membership is being finalised and some members will be approached over the coming weeks to join various groups. If you have any particular interest and wish to be in any of these teams, please contact the lead trustee for the group. We are aiming for small, effective groups, so if you are not asked to join please don't feel unwanted. There will still be ways in which you can help in the ongoing support and workings of the theatre as well as one off projects.

## Teams:

### **VOLUNTEER LIAISON**

To co-ordinate the volunteer needs of the organisation. Lead - Helen Caton

### **FRONT OF HOUSE / BOX OFFICE**

To co-ordinate the support functions of the productions. Lead - Ian Black

### **FUNDRAISING**

To co-ordinate all fundraising activities. Lead - Steve Robertson

### **MARKETING & PUBLICITY**

To co-ordinate all publicity and marketing of the theatre and productions. Lead - Helen Caton

### **WEB & IT**

To co-ordinate the Website development, provision and maintenance of IT services within and linked to the theatre. Lead - Ian Black

### **SET DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION**

To co-ordinate the organisation of the theatre in relations to furniture, set and the effective storage. Lead - Uli Schilling

### **PRODUCTION & TECHNICAL**

To co-ordinate the production and technical needs of the NVT. Leads - Uli Schilling and Chris Pugh

### **ARTISTIC TEAM**

To oversee the Artistic Development of the theatre in addition the creating a curriculum for training and development of actors and directors. Lead - Helen Caton

### **BUILDINGS**

To co-ordinate the day to day upkeep of the building and overall theatre infrastructure. Lead - Ian Black

### **THEATRE DEVELOPMENT:**

To co-ordinate the refurbishment of the theatre and any major building projects. Lead - Ian Black

### **FIRE DETECTION SYSTEM**

To oversee the installation of the Fire Detection System. Lead - Steve Robertson

### **MAIN THEATRE SEATING**

To oversee the refurbishment of the Main Theatre seating. Lead - Helen Caton

In addition to volunteering in the work we have to do in the theatre, either through these subgroups or the summer refurbishment. If you have any comments on the above subgroups that you feel would improve or expand their effectiveness, please let us know.

***Ian Black*** -

on behalf of the NVT Trustees

## Tickets

To: The Box Office Manager, NVT, Bedford Place, Brighton BN1 2PT

Please reserve for me \_\_\_\_\_ tickets for **"THREE TALL WOMEN"**

**Saturday 19 July to Saturday 26 July at 7.45 pm**

**Matinee on Sunday 20 July at 2.30 pm (no performance on Monday)**

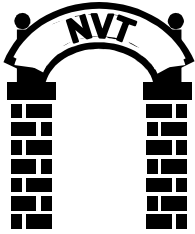
Tickets: £7.00 (Friends £6.00) (Last Friday & Saturday £8.50 & £7.50)

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Membership no. \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_



## Adopt a brick - go on!

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The Adopt a Brick scheme has now raised £500, so thanks are due to all those members and friends who've contributed. It's now down to the rest of you out there who have not yet taken a brick under your wing to fill in the form and post it to me at NVT...your theatre needs you!!!

*Mike Stubbs*

## Important note to members - PLEASE read this!

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You will no doubt have noticed that there is a lengthy VOLUNTEER document stuffed inside this newsletter. This document is the result of considerable work and is a realistic reflection of the volunteer needs of the theatre at this time in respect of maintenance and development

If we want the Theatre to thrive in an increasingly com-

petitive market and to be taken seriously by the Brighton Creative Industries sector as well as to best serve our growing membership, we need to take action as a community and we need a positive response from you, the members, to this request for help.

Please take some time to peruse this document to see what you can do to contribute

to the development and running of the theatre. All contributions are welcome no matter how small!

Take a look at the big picture and take some positive action to make things happen. We look forward to seeing you over the summer...

**Helen Caton**  
Artistic Director

## Many Thanks . . . . .

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. . . to Jenny Bridges and Ben Keyworth who helped to clean up the Stage Door entrance to the theatre. It looks so heavenly that no-one would ever imagine using it as a dumping ground ever ever again!

# Help needed for jobs that will really make a difference

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The PROS ARCH and the MAIN SEATING will be coming out of the Main Theatre on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July 11am till 5pm & **Monday 28<sup>th</sup>** of July 7.00pm till 10.00pm to make way for the Fire Detection Installation, the renovation work and for another reason, which is a surprise, (but don't get too excited.) We need people to help with one or both of the jobs. We will need some strong people in with the mix and we will also need to have a good number of fully charged drills available. Having a drill is not essential to turning up; there will be plenty of other things to do. Please come along to help us prepare for next year, we need a big push to get things underway. To help us plan and so we don't have to wonder if we have enough people, please email Helen at: **newventuread@googlemail.com** or call 07940 476732 to let us know when and what time you are coming and how long we can have you for. Not pets, children or high heels on this one, it's dirty and it's tough!

## ARCHIVE PROJECT

Come along to the theatre on SUNDAY 27 JULY 11.00AM TILL 1.00PM and take part in the **Archive Project**. Have a ball routing through old NVT snapshots. Help us put some context and also a timeline to our collection of NVT photographs and memorabilia. If you have any memories or photo's and you want to add them to the collection please bring them along or send them in. The bar will be open!

## SHINDIG AUDITIONS

You bring us the act, song or what-not! If it's stage ready and good you'll be performing 6 days and two rehearsals later for our end of season **SHINDIG**. If you know you have a really good voice or act or something, and you don't show up, we will take away your membership and dunk you in the sea. Twice! Maybe there'll be lights and maybe there won't!

### AUDITIONS

SUNDAY 27 JULY 6.00 PM TILL 10.00 PM

### REHEARSALS

TUESDAY 29 JULY 7.30PM

FRIDAY 1 AUGUST 7.30 PM TILL 10.00 PM

SATURDAY 2 AUGUST 2.00 PM TILL PERFORMANCE AT THE EVENING **SHINDIG**

## SHINDIG ORGANISERS

Event Organisers wanted for the end of year **SHINDIG**. Food, décor, clearing up, bar, stage manager, sound, lighting. Make it the best neighbour friendly **SHINDIG** ever!

To audition for **SHINDIG** or to be involved in the organisation of **SHINDIG**

Email Helen at: **newventuread@googlemail.com** or call 07940476732

## SHINDIGSHINDIG

Come along on 3 August for a bit of a **SHINDIG**. There'll be live entertainment which will be stunning, a chance to have a look at our Archive Exhibition and make your contributions. You'll get to meet the directors for next season, see what's on offer and find out how to get involved. You can also find out what we have been up to and what we have planned for the summer months. We might have some nibbletey things on sticks, so that will be good! Doors open at 7.30 pm on SATURDAY 2 AUGUST

£5.00 PER TICKET OR DONATIONS ON THE DOOR FOR THOSE ON LOW INCOMES

## Letters to the editor

Dear Editor,

Bite-Size at the Sanctuary Cella, run by Nick Brice, won the Argus Peoples Choice Angel for the Brighton Fringe Festival, with various other ex or present NVT members such as Andy Thomas, Rob Maloney, Andy Bell, Jenny Bridges, Michael Adams Shirley Jaffe and Sandra Ventris performing; also Jett Tattersall, who with her other Festival play performance was co-winner of the Best Actress Award in the Fringe. Many of the company will be performing at Glastonbury, Edinburgh and (by invitation, following the Brighton show) the Glastonbury Festivals!

For interest, the best actor went to Tayo Aluko from Liverpool performing "Call Mr. Robeson", a brilliant one man biographical play about the great Paul Robeson. which was on at the Jooblebury.

All good wishes,

**Shirley**

Dear NVT,

Can I pass on my congratulations for the quality of the shows in the festival. Mojo was inspiring and the acting was superb. I can't remember when I last saw a show that had moments which were terrifying and hilarious at the same time. It was like a disturbing, seedy version of 'Happy Days'. Also, the plot made you work hard, it was not straightforward and easy to follow like 'Pulp Fiction' or 'To the Manor Born'. A colourful and rich show.

I thought 'Intimate Encounters' was quite incredible. I waited nervously wondering what was going to happen. Like being at the dentist! Or Heathrow Terminal 5! But it was a fascinating journey and I came out determined to sell my flat and live on an island and discover myself. Sadly, with falling house prices I can't, but I really enjoyed the experience, especially the flying moment. Whoa! How did they do that? Wires, or special effects? I'll never know!

Thanks,

**Andy Thomas**

Dear Editor,

Please, oh please, can somebody enlighten me? I open my June NVT Newsletter and out drops an advert for Dermot Keaney's acting classes at a local pub on *Monday evenings*. Well, I know Dermot to be a highly respected and experienced actor and director, but unless I'm very much mistaken, doesn't the NVT generally hold acting classes on Monday evenings? So isn't the NVT actually shooting itself in the foot by promoting classes in direct competition to its own? I certainly know of some NVT members (maybe ex-members, but if so why?) who attend Dermot's classes, so it's obvious that some of its potential membership is the same as ours. Is Dermot currently a member of NVT? Whether he is or not, shouldn't we be concerned about promoting the NVT's own acting classes?

Secondly, can you also tell us, does any money made from the NVT acting classes go to our theatre, or is it all profit for the class teachers? It's an issue that I, as a member of NVT, feel I'd need to consider in the event of being asked for any fund-raising contributions in the future.

How can we be expected to adopt bricks when we're so busy dropping them?

**Eleanor Gamper (\*)**

## (\*) Reply to Eleanor's Letter

Many thanks to Eleanor for putting into writing, something that has been raised verbally and by phone as well. The flyer for Dermot's acting classes, which was included with last month's newsletter, *wasn't* approved by the NVT. It would appear that there was a wish to promote all options to our members that led to its inclusion. Something which **I hope** will not happen again, as all flyers will now need to be agreed by the Marketing and Publicity team. This has been a learning experience and I feel we should accept this and let the matter rest.

With respect to the NVT Acting Class - The funds raised by those paying to attend is split on an

80:20 basis. The 80% goes to the person taking the class and the 20% to the NVT. This system has been in place for some years, recently identified and formalised by the present trustee management committee. The benefit of making a percentage payment is that it enables the NVT to attract some high standard teaching, at no financial risk. Also, it should be stated that the Acting Class does attract more members than any other route. Just the other week 6 people at the Acting Class, joined as full members. This is at a time when many other groups are seeing a declining membership.

**Ian**

Ian Black - NVT Admin Director

I don't plan to print any further discussion on this particular subject in the next (September) edition. I think it's been adequately aired.  
*Charles Gilson, Editor*