

DOORS COMMUNICATING

BY
**ALAN
AYCKBOURN**



NVT

**NEW
VENTURE
THEATRE**

Bedford Place
Brighton BN1 2PT

///mouth.stress.vocal

PERFORMANCES:

Fri 15th July to Sat 23rd July 2022 at 7:45pm

Matinée: Sun 17th July at 2:30pm

www.newventure.org.uk

www.facebook.com/newventuretheatrebrighton

Registered Charity No. 26807

DOORS COMMUNICATING

"A cross between Back to the Future and Psycho" (Inside Out)

Communicating Doors has been a fun and somewhat challenging play to direct. It was written in 1994, but starts in a futuristic 2014, where armed uprisings in London are a backdrop to the society of the time. However, they do not have any significant influence in the play.

The play is set in a 6th floor suite in the Regal Hotel in London and evolves around the communicating door, which leads to a cupboard. However, for some characters it leads into the suite they came from, but at a different time.

Poopy, a sexual specialist consultant, arrives at the hotel suite for an appointment. This is no ordinary booking and one that will change her life and that of others who have previously died 'accidentally'.

I hope you enjoy this play as much as we have enjoyed rehearsing and developing it. A challenge in many ways.



Ian Black (Director) has been part of the NVT fabric for over 15 years and has been involved in many productions, as well as being the chair of the management committee. He has undertaken a variety of roles within the organisation ranging from sound design to Health and Safety, with *Communicating Doors* being the seventh play he has directed at NVT. Ian also directs for other groups in West Sussex.

BY ALAN AYCKBOURN

HAROLD

James Claridge

JESSICA

Amelia Thurley

JULIAN

Jonathan Howlett

POOPAY

Sarah Charsley

REECE

Lewis Todhunter

RUELLA

Lyn Snowdon



DIRECTOR: Ian Black • **SHADOW DIRECTOR:** Neil Hadley • **PRODUCTION**

MANAGER: Ulrike Schilling • **STAGE MANAGER:** Erin Burbridge •

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGERS: Carrie Hynds, Natalie Sacks •

PROPERTIES: Carrie Hynds • **COSTUME DESIGN:** Richi Blennerhassett •

MAKE-UP & HAIR: Emese Csoma • **SET DESIGN:** Ian Black • **SET**

CONSTRUCTION: John Everett, Simon Glazier, George Walter, Monika Schuettbacher, Bryony Weaver, Carol Croft • **LIGHTING DESIGN:** Apollo

Videaux • **LIGHTING OPERATION:** Alex Epps, Apollo Videaux • **SOUND**

DESIGN: Ian Black • **SOUND OPERATION:** Maximillian Logan-Wright •

POSTER: Tamsin Mastoris • **PROGRAMME:** Ian Amos • **PHOTOGRAPHER:**

Strat Mastoris • **PUBLICITY & MARKETING:** Ceiri O'Douglas,

Tamsin Mastoris, Ulrike Schilling • **HEALTH & SAFETY:** Ian Black

Thanks: Judith Berrill, Tim McQuillen-Wright, Rod Lewis, Cancer Research UK



Amelia Thurley (Jessica): This is Amelia's first show with NVT. Amelia has been a member of the National Youth Theatre since 2019. Previously she has performed as Lilly in Simon Stephen's *Punk Rock* and has directed an adaptation of Luigi Pirandello's *Six Characters in Search of An Author* at The Mission Theatre, Bath. Amelia is incredibly excited to be involved in Ayckbourn's witty, farcical, time-travelling thriller. She's still trying to navigate which door is which though! You'll see what she means...'



Jonathan Howlett (Julian) graduated from East 15 school of acting in 2008. Since which he has performed various roles in theatre, film, commercial and webseries. Recent NVT shows include 1984, *Orphans* and *The Winterling*.



Sarah Charsley (Poopay) took a break from acting a few years ago to focus on stand-up and sketch comedy. She writes and performs for the award-winning Brighton sketch group The Fannytasticals and is a regular on the local standup circuit. This is Sarah's first full-length play at NVT since *The Herbal Bed* (2014) and she is extremely chuffed to be back, especially as it sees her re-united with her original NVT stage sister Lyn Snowdon (*The Maids*, 2011 and *Five Kinds of Silence* 2009) and a brilliant cast and team. She's definitely got the acting bug back and, yes, she does know her headshot needs updating, but in her defence Poopay is only 33!

James Claridge (Harold) is excited to be appearing in his first show for NVT. After years of acting and directing for other theatre companies, he meant to take a short break. Now, after 12 years James has come out of 'retirement'. Previous acting roles include, Nicholas in *Nicholas Nickleby*, Mr Toad in *Toad of Toad Hall & Swiss Cheese* in *Mother Courage and her Children*. Directing credits include *Cliché*, *Closer*, *Smells of Wee*, *Pride & Prejudice* and *Shopping & F***ing*.

Lyn Snowdon (Ruella): You may have been fortunate enough to see Lyn grace the NVT stage in the wonderful productions *Our Lady of Sligo*, *The Father*, *Gabriel* and right back to *The Maids* and *Five Kinds of Silence*. With her busy schedule of walking dogs and cheering on Tottenham, Lyn auditioned for the role of Ruella as she was desperate to work with the super talented Sarah Charsley. And Ian promised real whisky on set.



Lewis Todhunter (Reece): After Lewis' NVT debut in *The Herd* and his performance in *Cock* during the Fringe, it is a great pleasure for him to be part of *Communicating Doors*. Having the nickname grandad at school due to his penchant for brogues and an open neck shirt, Lewis has greatly enjoyed embodying Reece Welles







The Opening Plays of the 75th Season

SHORT PLAYS 2022 with Directors New to NVT

A Kind of Alaska by Harold Pinter/Directed by Gaby Bowring

On the Harmful Effects of Tobacco by Anton Chekov/Directed by Toby Clay

Fewer Emergencies by Martin Crimp/Directed by Stefan Haselwimmer

How He Lied to Her Husband by George Bernard Shaw/Directed by Neil Hadley

Fri 7th to Sat 15th October

THE YORK REALIST by Peter Gill

Director: Claire Lewis

Fri 4th to Sat 12th November

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

Directed by Gerry McCrudden

Fri 9th to Sat 17th December

FARRAGUT NORTH by Beau Willimon

Director: Steven O'Shea

Fri 20th to Sat 28th January

NOT TALKING by Mike Bartlett

Director: Jerry Lyne

Fri 17th to Sat 25th February

New Season: New start times
Evenings at 7:30pm (doors: 6:45pm)
Sunday matinées at 2:30pm (doors: 2pm)