

Not Talking

by Mike Bartlett

directed by Jerry Lyne



NVT
NEW
VENTURE
THEATRE

Friday 17th - Saturday 25th February 2023 at 7.30pm
Matinee: Sunday 19th February at 2.30pm

www.newventure.org.uk
www.facebook.com/NewVentureTheatreBrighton

Bedford Place,
Brighton BN1 2PT

Registered Charity No. 263807

Not Talking

This is one of Mike Bartlett's early plays and is about the culture of silence that can follow traumatic events. The inability to talk about the very thing that corrodes relationships. The awful consequences of not opening up and giving vent to your feelings.

Written for the stage but first broadcast as a radio play in 2006 it was later readapted for stage in 2018 at the Arcola Theatre to great reviews.

The author draws on references to the secrecy, suicides and the culture of abuse in the army that was in the public eye at the time the play was written, and his own grandfather's experience as a Second World War conscientious objector.

This is a touching and lyrical play, consisting of four monologues that are cleverly interwoven so that at first they seem like conversations but with crafty time shifts

Two couples, elderly married couple James and Lucy and young army recruits Mark and Amanda, suffer a traumatic event and they seem to be in two separate worlds; only towards the end of the play do we discover their surprising connection, but they have the same problem, the things they don't talk about, for what we hear is them talking to themselves not to those they should share their thoughts, with devastating results.

I am very fortunate to have a wonderful Cast, Crew and Production Team who have worked so hard and put in many hours work and to whom I give great thanks for making this project possible.

Finally, I hope you enjoy this moving and lyrical classic which I feel is one of Mike Bartlett's best works

Jerry Lyne

Director on behalf of the Production Team cast and crew

JAMES - John Tolputt
AMANDA - Catie Ridewood
LUCY - Sue Williams
MARK - Thomas Dee

DIRECTOR: Jerry Lyne
PRODUCTION ASSISTANT: Carol Croft
PRODUCTION MANAGER: Tamsin Mastoris
STAGE MANAGER: Trish Bayliss
ASM: Carol Croft
SET CONSTRUCTION: Simon Glazier, George Walter, John Everett
SET DRESSER: Bryony Weaver
SOUND DESIGN: Ian Black
LIGHTING DESIGN: Strat Mastoris
COSTUMES & COSTUME DESIGN: Gladrags, Cast, Gaby Bowring
LIGHTING RIGGING: Strat Mastoris, Carol Croft, Philip Castle
SOUND OPERATOR: Philip Castle, Ian Black
LIGHTING OPERATOR: Tamsin and Strat Mastoris
PROPS: Bryony Weaver, Guy Dixon
PIANO CONSTRUCTION: John Everett
POSTER: Strat Mastoris
PROGRAMME: Tamsin Mastoris
PHOTOGRAPHY: Strat Mastoris
PUBLICITY & MARKETING: Emmie Spencer, Tamsin Mastoris
HEALTH & SAFETY: Ian Black

With thanks to:

Wayne & Laura at Harvey's of Hove for the rifle, John Everett for building our beautiful piano, Nicolas de Conde, Vania and team at Gladrags and as always, to the Front of House and Box Office teams, without whom no show would ever go on. And of course to Frederick Chopin - thank you for the music.

Nicolas de Conde
Piano Tuner/Player/Teacher and Cello Player/Teacher
07866 668795



John Tolputt - James

John appeared at the NVT in 'The Arsonists', 'The Homecoming', 'The Winslow Boy', and, more recently, in 'The Herd', 'Hangmen' and 'The Short Plays'. Jerry Lyne directed him in the streamed production of 'Arthur and Esther' during the pandemic. He has acted in other Brighton Theatres, the Minack Theatre in Cornwall and at the Pendley Shakespeare Festival. He played Sir Arthur in the film 'Vindication Swim'. In another life he is an editor of the online Poetry Archive and was once a teacher, easily the toughest of his acting roles.

Sue Williams - Lucy

Sue trained with John Gardiner who saw her physical likeness to Dorothy Parker and consequently wrote 'Dead Dreams', a play revolving around Parker's imagined last meal. Sue went on to tour nationally with 'Duet for One' (Kempinski), 'Old World' (Arbuzov) - both two-handers - and to play Lady Macbeth in 'The Scottish' (UK and Norway). Locally she has especially enjoyed portraying Helene Hanff in '84 Charing Cross Road', Paulina in 'The Winter's Tale' and performing three of Bennett's 'Talking Heads'. Sue is looking forward to becoming Feste the clown, when 'Twelfth Night' is staged in Seaford next June. She lives with David and Tutankhamun, an ancient cat.



photo by Andrew Parkinson



photo by Chris Giles

Catie Ridewood - Amanda

Catie is a Brighton-based actor. She has really enjoyed the opportunity to work on 'Not Talking', exploring Mike Bartlett's powerful lyrical play and working with a fantastic team.

She has previously performed at NVT as Kina in 'Unsanctioned', and as Aurora Bompas in 'How He Lied to Her Husband', as part of the Short Plays. Other Theatre includes Chris/Linda in 'Between a Man and a Woman' (Bread & Roses Theatre) and Cindy in 'Whose to Tell' (Baron's Court Theatre). Catie graduated from the Academy of Creative Training: credits whilst training include Dol Common in 'The Alchemist'.

Thomas Dee - Mark

'Not Talking' will be Thomas's second production with NVT, having previously acted in 'Turpin' in 2022. Thomas previously wrote for the stage during university, and won national awards for his efforts. He is delighted to be a part of 'Not Talking', and to work with such a great team!





Jerry Lyne - Director

Jerry has acted in and directed for various Theatre Companies, winning awards for productions and acting roles.

Roles include: Tolen, 'The Knack', Higgins, 'Pygmalion', Sebastian, 'Twelfth Night', Iago, 'Othello', Truffaldino, 'A Servant for Two Masters', Willy Loman, 'Death of a Salesman', Eddie Waters, 'The Comedians', Kent, 'Lear', Mel, 'Prisoner of 2nd Avenue', Polonius, 'Hamlet', Frick, Miller's 'The Last Yankee', Solomon, Miller's 'The Price'.

Among plays directed: Ayckbourn's 'The Norman Conquests', Shepard's 'Fool for Love', Mcllwraith's 'The Anniversary', Munro's 'Bold Girls' & 'Iron', Mamet's 'Boston Marriage', Macdonald's 'Not about Heroes', Miller's 'Broken Glass', O'Neill's 'Anna Christie', Whittington's 'Be My Baby' our lockdown online play Howard's 'Arthur and Esther'





17th - 25th March 2023
In the Studio Theatre

Beginning by David Eldridge directed by Richard Lindfield

Danny is the last straggler at Laura's party. The flat's in a mess and so are they. One more drink?

David Eldridge's *Beginning* is a poignant examination of relationships, a touching look at the first fragile moments of risking your heart.

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Supporting The New Venture

We all need a little 'care and maintenance' from time to time and our lovely Grade II listed theatre is certainly no exception. Whether it's fixing the roof or upgrading equipment it is all increasingly expensive. So any donation you can make to help keep the New Venture alive and kicking will be hugely appreciated, and you can do it either via the donations box by the fireplace in the bar, or using the Donate Button on the homepage of our website - www.newventure.org.uk

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Contacting the NVT

For ticket information only, call the Box Office - 01273 746118. To book tickets or for other information check our website at www.newventure.org.uk. All other enquiries 01273 808353

NVYT - Youth Theatre

NVT welcomes all young people (12-17) with a passion for or an interest in theatre. Fridays 4.30-6.30pm. £50 per 10 week term, first session is FREE!

NVT Acting Class

Monday evenings at 7.30pm for all levels of acting skills. It will cost you just £5 per session (£2.50 for NVT members) First visit is FREE! See website for details.

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Or why not become an Angel, Archangel or even Archangel Gabriel to help us support the current and future improvements to our theatre. For further information please contact the Angels Coordinator Gerry McCrudden: angels@newventure.org.uk

Membership

Company membership - £15 a year. Full participation, discount on tickets & newsletter. Student/Unwaged - £10 a year. As above... Proof of status is required.