

**A play about
remembering what
you had to forget.**

by Mark Wilson



You.

NVT
NEW
VENTURE
THEATRE

Bedford Place,
Brighton BN1 2PT

Friday 6th - Saturday 14th October 2023 at 7.30pm
Matinee: Sunday 8th October at 2.30pm

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

Registered Charity No. 268607

You.

I first saw *You* at its original production by Longsight Theatre at the Brighton Festival in 2015. I was astounded by how a play seemingly so simple – two actors on an empty stage save for two chairs – could tell a story that spanned 30 years and several different characters and by the end of it leave me feeling like my heart had stopped beating and like I couldn't catch my breath.

You is ostensibly a play about adoption. A woman, Kathleen, sits awaiting a visit from the son she was forced to put up for adoption more than 30 years before.

But like all the best plays, *You* takes its subject matter and uses it as a springboard to explore those big human emotions that all of us will be familiar with – love, loss, longing, joy, shame, regret. I also think it's a play about the impact we can have on other people's lives and hearts, sometimes without having even met them.

You has a cast of eight characters but played by just two actors who remain on stage throughout the action. I've been lucky enough to be working with two of the best: Sophie Dearlove and NVT newcomer Samuel Masters.

Huge thanks to my wonderful production team, not least Pat Boxall whose experience and wisdom has been invaluable. And while not officially part of my production team, a heartfelt thank you to Claire Lewis for her mentorship throughout the entire process of staging this production.

Finally, thanks to the writer Mark Wilson for entrusting me with his beautiful and deeply personal play, and for his words of encouragement and insight throughout the rehearsal process.

Emmie Spencer – director

CAST

SOPHIE DEARLOVE

Kathleen

June – Kathleen's mother

Margie – Frank's mother

Vanessa – Charlie's adoptive mother

SAMUEL MASTERS

Bill – Kathleen's father

Charlie – Kathleen's son

Frank – The boy

Tom – Charlie's adoptive father

CREATIVE TEAM

DIRECTOR: Emmie Spencer

PRODUCTION MANAGER: Pat Boxall

STAGE MANAGER: Bryony Weaver

LIGHTING DESIGN: Strat Mastoris

LIGHTING OPERATOR: Alex Epps

SOUND DESIGN: Philip Castle

SOUND OPERATOR: Philip Castle

SET PAINTING: Simon Glazier, Bryony Weaver

COSTUME: Richard Blennerhasset

POSTER: Becky Alford

PROGRAMME : Tamsin Mastoris

PHOTOGRAPHY: Strat Mastoris

PUBLICITY & MARKETING: Emmie Spencer

HEALTH & SAFETY: Ian Black

With many thanks to:

Claire Lewis, Apollo Videux, Katie Brownings, Gaby Bowring, Carol Croft, John Everett and to all the Box Office and Front of House volunteers without whom no show would ever go on.

Music used throughout: Ólafar Arnalds by kind permission of Wise Music Group



Sophie Dearlove

Sophie has been working as an actress for almost 20 years. Credits include 'The Interpreter' (Sky TV), 'The Casebook of Inspector Steine' (BBC Radio 4), 'Beachcomber' (Badgerboy Productions), 'Would Like To Meet' (The Lyric Theatre, Carmarthen), 'Betrayal' and 'God of Carnage' with Pretty Villain Productions/The Rialto, 'Di and Viv and Rose' (Ruby Tiger Productions), 'Six Years Gone' (Sixty6 Media) and 'Happy Now?' (NVT). Sophie has also appeared in a number of short films, corporate roles and commercials.

Samuel Masters

Sam has been enjoying a relatively recent return to stage following a several year hiatus. Recent productions include 'Dad's Army' (Colonel/Vicar), 'James and the Giant Peach' (James), and 'Shakespeare in Love' (Ned Alleyn) with Brighton Little Theatre, as well as 'Woman In Mind' (Rick) with Wick Theatre. 'You' is Sam's first production with NVT and he is thrilled to be a part of this powerful play with such an exciting company.





Emmie Spencer - Director

Directing credits include the short plays 'Moving Slowly' (Different Theatre) and 'The Seal Girl' (Broken Silence Theatre for Unzipped Theatre) at Brighton Fringe, and assistant director on 'The York Realist' at NVT. As an actor, Emmie's been in numerous productions at the NVT and elsewhere, including 'A Streetcar Named Desire', which was directed by 'You' writer Mark Wilson. She's delighted to be making her full-length directorial debut with this beautiful play at a theatre which holds a very special place in her heart.

Mark Wilson - Writer

Mark Wilson is a writer and visual artist. His radio credits include 'You' and 'Talk' for, BBC Radio 4. The stage version of 'Talk' was performed at NVT in Brighton by Sweetspot Theatre. His most recent theatre credits include 'Brief Encounter', winner of the 'Diez Minutos' Theatre Festival in San Miguel Di Allende, Mexico and the stage version of 'You', winner of the 2015 Brighton Festival Award for Theatre, the Fringe Review Outstanding Theatre Award and the Argus Angel 5-Star Award.



A note on mother and baby homes in England and Wales

During the 1950s, '60s and '70s, around 200,000 women in England and Wales were forced to put up their babies for adoption (forced adoptions were also government policy in Scotland and, as well documented, in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland during this time). Many of these mothers were unmarried teenagers when they became pregnant, and gave birth in church-run "mother and baby homes". In 2022, the Joint Committee on Human Rights conducted an Inquiry into forced adoption practices during this period and called on the UK government to make a formal apology to the thousands of women – most now in their 70s and 80s – affected.

The U.K. government declined to do so.



3rd - 11th November 2023
In the Studio Theatre

The Proposal / The Bear by Anton Chekhov directed by Elaine Larkin

The Proposal – A nervous Ivan Lomov, dressed in all his finery, arrives in the home of Stepan

Stepanovich Chubukov to seek permission to propose to his daughter, Natasha Stepanova. Permission is granted and all is well, until the moment comes for Lomov to propose to Natalya. Instead of a romantic proposal, Lomov somehow ignites a passionate argument over which of them owns the Oxen Meadows. Tempers soar and a simple proposal unravels in the most splendid fashion.

The Bear – All Popov wants is to be left in peace to continue mourning of her husband. All Smirnov wants is to recover the what he is owed and be on his way to pay his own impending debts. When neither will give an inch, all hell breaks loose. As the pair engage in a heated battle of wills, the dutiful Luca gets caught in the middle. Obviously, the only solution is a duel to death...

King Lear by William Shakespeare - directed by Richard Lindfield

PERFORMANCE DATES - Friday 15 to Saturday 23 March 2024

AUDITIONS – Sunday, October 15 @ 6pm

For details go to www.newventure.org.uk

NVT Appeal Puzzle

M	P	S	E	D	A	R	G	P	U	P	E
T	A	R	C	L	E	A	N	I	N	G	L
R	I	I	T	I	M	B	E	R	A	T	E
O	N	A	N	S	Q	D	T	W	K	E	C
Y	T	P	W	T	U	G	G	A	S	N	T
A	O	E	A	L	E	F	K	S	L	R	R
L	O	R	T	D	M	N	D	T	L	E	I
T	L	P	E	D	X	F	A	E	B	T	C
I	S	P	R	I	N	T	I	N	G	N	I
E	I	N	S	U	R	A	N	C	E	I	T
S	E	M	U	T	S	O	C	D	D	E	Y

Maintenance
Costumes
Repairs
Upgrades

Printing
Internet
Electricity
Waste

Cleaning
Water
Insurance
Royalties

Paint
Timber
Tools
Gas

Can you find these expenses in the puzzle ?

We come across them everyday and they cost us lots of money !

If you can help with a donation, however small, you can put cash in the Donations Box beside the fireplace in the Bar, or donate online by visiting : www.newventure.org.uk

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

THE PEBBLE TRUST

Constantinople Bistro

Fusing the tastes of the Middle East, the Balkans,
Greece, the Caucasus and Central Anatolia.

51 Norfolk Square, BN1 2PA 10am - 11pm, Mon - Sun
Tel: 01273 777 355

~Est. 1994~
silverado
contemporary jewellery

31 Bond Street, Brighton



MAIL BOXES ETC.®

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Print & Copy | <input type="checkbox"/> Packing & Shipping |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Office Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Packing Materials |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stationery | <input type="checkbox"/> Post & Parcels |

Tel: 01273 70 60 20 www.mbebrighton.co.uk
Email: print@mbefbrighton.co.uk www.mbebrighton.co.uk 91 Western Road, Brighton. BN1 2NW

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.

Become a Sponsor

£250: Advertise on the website, in each programme and our newsletter for one year. Plus two free tickets per show. Contact fundraising@newventure.org.uk for details.

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.*