

## ART GALLERY

Open Mon to Sat 10.30am to 1pm  
and prior to performances

### APRIL - MAY Consecrate Celebrate Salivate

A feast of art dedicated to  
the rites and rituals of  
Spring.



### JUNE - AUGUST Stilled

Intriguing images conjured  
from the brushes of  
renowned local artist  
Katherine Reekie.



**HASTINGS  
FRINGE**

**MONDAY 25  
TO SAT 30 JULY**

SEE PAGES 8, 9, 10

- Harold's Mother
- Canterbury Tales
- A Loaf of Bread
- Barefoot and Fashion Free
- Lost in the Willows
- Practically Perfect

Information in this publication believed to be correct at time of going to press but may be subject to change.  
Design: Cliff Brooker.

# WHAT'S ON MAY AUGUST 2022



## BOOKINGS AND MEMBERSHIP

**BOX OFFICE**  
**01424 423221**

See website for opening times, online bookings (no booking fee) and concessions/group discount details:  
[www.stablestheatre.co.uk](http://www.stablestheatre.co.uk)

## PAYMENT OPTIONS

Offline: cash, cheques payable to Stables Trust Ltd, major debit/credit cards and Stables gift tokens.  
Online:  
[www.stablestheatre.co.uk](http://www.stablestheatre.co.uk): major debit/credit cards.

## REFUNDS AND RESALES

Please check the details on your tickets carefully. We cannot make refunds, but exchanges are sometimes possible.  
Tickets are accepted for resale only when all other tickets sold.

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership costs £15 per year (£3 under-18s). Members enjoy a discount of up to £5 on most shows. Full details from the box office.

## PARKING

The theatre car park is free to patrons attending the theatre. There is a public car park on The Bourne and on-street parking (regulations apply).

## DISABILITY ACCESS (SEE PLAN)

Rows A and B are suitable for disabled people (with mobility, visual or hearing impairments) and their helpers. There are spaces for wheelchair users in row A, which can be accessed without any stairs. There are two steps up to row B. There is a wheelchair-accessible toilet on the ground floor. Platform lifts, for a wheelchair user or one seated person, provide access to the Gwen Watford Gallery and theatre bar.

The Stables Theatre and Arts Centre, The Bourne, Hastings TN34 3BD  
Tel 01424 423221. [www.stablestheatre.co.uk](http://www.stablestheatre.co.uk)

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B	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
A	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

Aisle (stepped)



Stage

**FRI 6 TO SAT 14 MAY**

Sun 8 May at 2.30pm · No performance Monday

# Run for Your Wife

by Ray Cooney

Cab driver John Smith has two wives – one in Streatham, one in Wimbledon – and a very precise schedule for juggling both. When he is mugged and ends up in hospital, his two addresses surface, causing both the Streatham and Wimbledon police to investigate.

His careful schedule upset, Smith becomes hopelessly entangled in his attempts to explain himself to two suspicious police officers – and two wives!

Directed by  
Lyndsey Meer.



£13.50; Members/concs £8.50

**WED 25 TO SAT 28 MAY** Matinee Saturday 28 at 2.30pm

The Stables Theatre + Ballybest Productions

# Here at Last is Love

by David Charles Manners

This is the true story of Sodomy Johnson, ruler of *The Pink Sink* bar beneath the Ritz Hotel throughout the Blitz. As doyenne and procuress she provided refuge and hospitality for some of the most glittering figures of wartime London. In this remarkable new play Johnson's assembly of writers, actors, army officers and MI5 agents bear unabashed, passionate witness to their hidden romances through letters, diaries, reminiscences – even a recently discovered, unpublished work by Terence Rattigan – all with a delightful dash of song and dance.

Directed by Jason Morell

*"Delicious, funny and touching... a skilfully fashioned mixture of music, verse, dialogue and outrageousness."*  
Simon Callow

£13.50;  
Members/concs £8.50



[www.stablestheatre.co.uk](http://www.stablestheatre.co.uk)



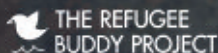
SUN 29 MAY 7.30PM

A concert for the Hastings Refugee Buddy Project

## A Journey Home

Chiara Vinci and Anthony Flaum

We present an evening of music and spoken word, with accompaniment by pianist Elizabeth Rowe, to raise funds for the Refugee Buddy Project. The evening will draw upon different cultural and musical influences, all related to a journey somewhere and finding a home. You will be taken on a musical ride from opera to music hall to jazz with images and stories from the charity's incredible work which aims to ensure all people seeking refuge experience welcome and community.



All tickets £12

TUE 31 MAY TO THU 2 JUNE 7.30PM

Clair/Obscur presents

£14; Members/concs £10

## SOE

by Deborah Clair

The WW2 Special Operations Executive is tasked with espionage, sabotage and reconnaissance. As a wireless operator, life expectancy is six weeks. "Madeleine" is the codename for one such agent. Her job is to keep her circuit connected with London. Josef Kieffer of the Gestapo is on her trail – she doesn't know how much time she has left and the net is closing. Now the war is over. Vera Atkins is trying to uncover the truth. Of all the 12 cases of missing women agents, one haunts her the most – "Madeleine" – the Indian princess, Noor Inayat Khan.



SAT 4 JUNE 5PM

## Laurie Temple's Hilarious Family Comedy Show



This is a fun-filled family show with Hastings' own popular international entertainer and featuring spellbinding magic, zany comedy, jazzy juggling, slapstick clowning and "Fluffy" the performing dog – all this plus great live music and singalong songs.

*"Laurie brought his beautifully-crafted show to the Electric Palace and held the entire audience, both children and adults, in the palm of his hands!"*

He was very funny and very magical!"  
Rebecca Marshall

*"Laurie was absolutely brilliant!"*  
Tess Daly, *Strictly Come Dancing*

£13.50;  
Members/concs £8.50

TUE 7 TO SAT 11 JUNE 7.30PM Matinee Wed 8 at 2.30pm

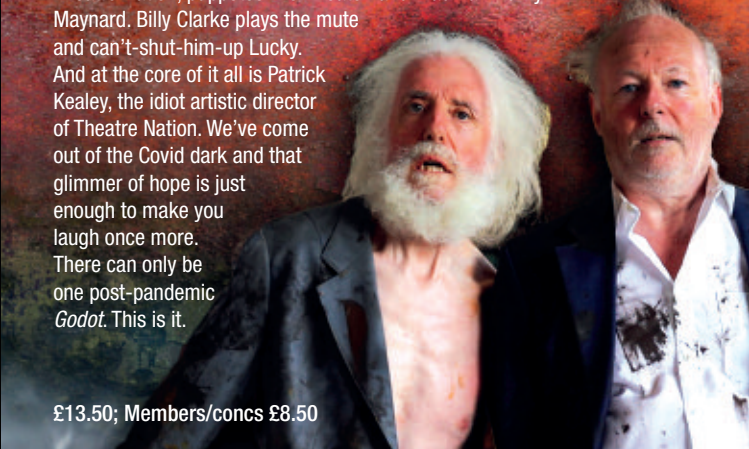
Theatre Nation presents

## Waiting for Godot

by Samuel Beckett

*Waiting for Godot* is a comic masterpiece dressed up to look profound – or a philosophical work of genius, depending on your viewpoint. Renegade director David Glass has teamed up with Hastings' own Theatre Nation, puppeteer Ben Keaton and madman Henry Maynard. Billy Clarke plays the mute and can't-shut-him-up Lucky. And at the core of it all is Patrick Kealey, the idiot artistic director of Theatre Nation. We've come out of the Covid dark and that glimmer of hope is just enough to make you laugh once more. There can only be one post-pandemic *Godot*. This is it.

£13.50; Members/concs £8.50





THU 30 JUNE TO SAT 2 JULY 7.30PM

# The Seventh Swimmer

by Mo Hansch & Tony Voller

In 1911 London, Robert McBride is the newly-appointed Assistant Dean of the progressive Battersea Polytechnic and is newly married to beautiful Prussian aristocrat, Maya. Life has endless possibilities; but when Robert becomes infatuated with one of his male students, Killian, his life is thrown into turmoil. When Maya's manipulative cousin, Otto, seeks to exploit the situation for his own advantage, he triggers a chain of devastating events which prove as fatal as England's descent to war.

Directed by Tim Kendrick

This production contains adult situations and nudity.

£13.50; Members/concs £8.50



WORLD PREMIERE!

TUE 19 AND WED 20 JULY 7.30PM

# Whiskey and Soda

A new play by Ben Randall

When, in December 1979, Margaret Thatcher is visiting Washington DC and preparing for her first White House speech, she invites a guest for drinks. That guest is John Lennon. Britain's PM has a deal for John that could change the course of his life and with her typical wit she urges him to accept her offer. But their past fears and future dreams soon come to the surface leading to an explosive finale. Shortly after, Lennon would go on to write his last, legendary album *Double Fantasy* and Thatcher would deliver one of her most notorious speeches. Was it all because of these drinks...?

£13.50; Members/concs £8.50

WED 13 TO SAT 16 JULY 7.30PM Matinee Sat 16 at 2.30pm

Battle Theatrical Society + Stables Theatre present

# Calendar Girls the Musical

by Gary Barlow & Tim Firth

A husband's death prompts a group of W.I. members to do an extraordinary thing: blasting away all preconceptions, they decide to do a nude calendar to raise money for charity. Upturning preconceptions is a dangerous business and none of them expects the emotional and personal ramifications; but gradually, the making of the fabulous and funny calendar brings each woman unexpectedly into flower. Every performance of this terrific show continues to

add to the £millions already raised for charity ... also proving that there is no such thing as an ordinary woman!

Directed by David Sismore.



£16.50; Members/concs £13  
Matinee £14.50, £12

FRI 22 AND SAT 23 JULY 7.30PM

Bowler Crab presents

# As You Like It

by William Shakespeare

In 2022 Sussex Shakespeare specialists Bowler Crab are touring more shows than ever before, including this wonderful romantic comedy. *As You Like It* is a delightful play with poetry, song, dance and mistaken identity. A young woman, Rosalind, must hide from the law and does so in the Forest of Arden disguised as a man called Ganymede; but what befuddlement will occur when the man of her dreams, Orlando, begins to ask Ganymede for advice on how to woo Rosalind? Throw in three other problematic pairs of lovers and you end up with quite the visit to the woods! Laughter and wit lace this passionate comedy which questions gender roles, argues the importance of happiness and explores the pursuits of love.

£18; Under-18s & university students £14; Under-7s £5



Heather Leech presents

# Harold's Mother

The story of mother who lost four sons in 1066. Three killed at the Battle of Hastings; one branded a traitor; her firstborn lost on foreign soil.

These are times of turmoil, where crowns on the head go with swords in the hand. And this mother has lost everything.

Two years later, in Exeter, King Harold's Mother makes her last stand against the might of the new king, William the Bastard. She is also forced to face the consequences of her own actions. Nothing will ever be the same again. Is nothing all she is left with? Is nothing better than this?

£13.50; Members/concs £8.50

HASTINGS  
FRINGE

Pogo Theatre presents

# A Loaf of Bread

Inspired by the tale *Das Brot* by Wolfgang Borchert  
Written and directed by Alan Booty

Hamburg. WW2 is over. Food is scarce.

Martha and her husband Hermann have agreed to ration their bread equally between them. Very early one morning Martha wakes up alone. She creeps to the kitchen and turns on the light. She finds her startled husband. On the table is the loaf of bread which Martha had tidied away the evening before. So begins a play now serious, now humorous – one of fear and guilt, but also one of determination, hope and, above all, love.

£13.50; Members/concs £8.50

HASTINGS  
FRINGE

TUE 26 JULY 7.30PM

HASTINGS FRINGE

Rye Players present

# Canterbury Tales

by Andrew Mayor

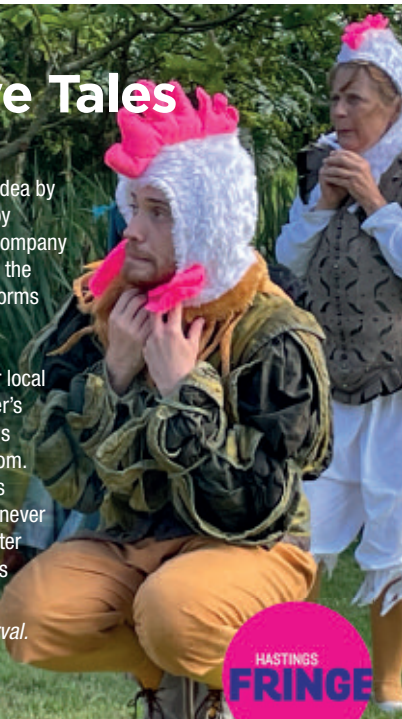
*Canterbury Tales* is based on an idea by Geoffrey Chaucer and is directed by Patricia Driver. Rye Shakespeare Company is celebrated for its involvement in the town's medieval festivals and performs regularly in and around the town.

An ensemble of six RSC stalwarts, experienced Rye Players and other local actors here present four of Chaucer's most-loved tales told in an hilarious production which began life on Zoom.

A sold-out hit at the 2021 Rye Arts Festival, this is Chaucer as you've never seen him before. Here is the laughter you need as you follow the pilgrims from castle to tavern to farmyard.

Run time 80 minutes with no interval.

£13.50; Members/concs £8.50

HASTINGS  
FRINGE

THU 28 JULY 7.30PM

HASTINGS FRINGE

Alex Metcalf presents

# Barefoot and Fashion Free: Isadora Duncan

Isadora Duncan knew that her life was meant to be different; she would break free of

The Rules and she felt contempt for ballet's rigidity. She wanted her style to be free and natural: "Nature is the source of the dance. The movement of the waves and the winds is ever in the same lasting harmony."

She lived her life against convention in the way she dressed and danced and loved. And her stance against society made her equally pioneering as a feminist and as an artist.

This is her story shown through dance, film and music.

£10; Members/concs £8

HASTINGS  
FRINGE



FourTails Theatre Company presents

## Lost In The Willows

Kenneth Grahame claimed he had only enjoyed one brief period in his life: his carefree childhood on the banks of the Thames. As an adult he struggled with a soul-destroying job, an unstable wife and a troubled, disabled child.

But it was his obsession with childhood that finally led to his greatest tragedy. He preferred places to people, but while his belief in the innocence of rural tranquillity created a gift to the world of literature it ultimately destroyed his own family.

*The Wind in the Willows* has never been out of print and Kenneth Grahame's reverence for rural comradeship is timeless – but it could not save the author himself.

£13.50; Members/concs £8.50



Stables Theatre + 1066 Youth Theatre

## R&J and After Juliet

After the deaths of Romeo and Juliet a tense truce holds between the Capulets and the Montagues. Benvolio, Romeo's best friend, is in love with Rosaline, Juliet's cousin; but Rosaline is bent on revenge.

*After Juliet* by Sharman Macdonald is a powerful story of love, revenge and forgiveness and 1066 Youth Theatre combines this modern play with key moments from *Romeo and Juliet*.

Directed and produced by Niall Whitehead and Barbara Ward and developed through workshops with Royal Shakespeare Company directors and professional actors.

£13.50; Members/concs £8.50



SAT 30 JULY 7.30PM

HASTINGS FRINGE

Gin Palace Productions present

## Practically Perfect!

"They cut out my voice – how do you think I felt?"

*Practically Perfect!* takes a light-hearted, affectionate look at Julie Andrews' career and personal life, exploring the contrast between the public face of this legendary musical star and the intensely private family woman.

Filled with comedy, drama and some of the best known songs from *Mary Poppins*, *The Sound of Music* and many more of her successes, the play pays tribute to her phenomenal career up until 1997 when, tragically, controversial surgery deprived her of her four-octave voice.



£13.50; Members/concs £8.50



SAT 27 AUGUST 8PM

Trish Dunn presents

## International Incident

International ventriloquist Trish Dunn introduces a cast of American "characters" for a night of falling-around laughter. Learn all about some of the absurd differences between life in the US and the UK, as seen through the eyes of a snarky elderly couple, an aspiring diva, and a good ol' boy redneck. Trish, a dual US and UK citizen, returns to her home in the UK after touring the US for many years entertaining audiences in comedy clubs, vacation resorts, theatres, river cruises and opening for both Rock and Country bands.

£13.50; Members/concs £8.50

