

Village Players' Information (VPI)

February 2017

FUTURE CLUBNIGHTS & EVENTS: N.B. <u>CLUBNIGHTS START AT 19H30</u>

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH - "POT LUCK" PLAYREADING

organised by Helen Thrupp

February Club night

Date: Thursday 16th Feb 2017, 7.30pm

Venue: CPO, Lausanne

Pot Luck Play-reading!

An evening of random scenes from a selection of plays. All welcome to participate. Comedy, tragedy, classic and modern, come along and take pot luck! Workshop a scene in groups, then read to everyone else. No pressure, just for fun. In order that we have enough excerpts scripts please let Helen Thrupp know if you are coming, thanks:

helen.thrupp@orange.fr

THURSDAY, MARCH 30TH – PLAYREADING

"ART" written by Yasmina Reza, organised by Christa Baan

Serge has bought a modern painting for a huge sum of money. Marc hates it and cannot believe that a friend of his could possibly want such a work. Yvan attempts to placate both sides.

This witty and intelligent play has been an international theatrical "bestseller". The present staging at the Old Vic got first class reviews.

SPRING PRODUCTION MAY 18-21, 2017 - SHAKESPEARE'S "TWELFTH NIGHT"

Directed by Ian Griffiths and Pamela Jenkins. At the CPO, Lausanne.

Shakespeare's Twelfth Night



The Balkan's favorite newspaper - founded 1435

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Countess Olivia with her brother at the Salona State Ball

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Last night the 350th State Ball took place in the Banqueting Hall in Salona. At the invitation of Duke Orsino, hundreds of guests attended this special occasion which was judged to be a great success.

In a surprise appearance, Countess Olivia and her brother Stefano also attended. Her ladyship's presence was widely commented on as it is the first time she has appeared in public since the tragic decease of her father.

Duke Orsino was taken up with a summit on piracy on the high seas. The loss of the Illyrian ship Phoenix during the battle of Candy off Crete to pirates and thieves was making trade extremely dangerous.

The Duke did not participate in the ball but made a brief appearance after the banquet and watched Olivia dance for a full ten minutes.

One of our sources inside the palace reported, on condition of anonymity that he was heard whispering to an aide that her presence "purged the air of pestilence".

Asked about any possible link between the Duke and the Countess, the duke's Press Officer stated that "the government does not comment on idle and speculative inquisition into the Duke's private life".

When contacted, Countess Olivia's House Manager Malvolio stated "Her Ladyship attended the State Ball as a matter of courtesy, Irresponsible and dishonest media are, as usual, trying to read disgusting intentions into a perfectly innocent event".

The press is full of rumours of a relationship between Duke Orsino and Countess Olivia in Salona, Illyria. Is this accurate? Is Olivia's destiny forever linked to Orsino's? Or will fate decide otherwise? If so what will the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune make them suffer?

And who sank the Phoenix?

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DO NOT BELIEVE THE MEDIA. COME AND FIND **OUT FOR YOURSELF!**

Shakespeare's **Twelfth Night**

between the 18th and 21st of May at the CPO. Lausanne.

THEVILLAGE THEATRE IN ENGLISH

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Invitation to help out with our May Production "Twelfth Night" - May 18th to 21st.

Would you like to help us with our modern version of Twelfth Night devised by Ian Griffiths? Join in the fun in this topsy turvy mythical land of Illyria.

For the purists, this production respects Shakespeare's original text but be ready for mounting confusion, mistaken identities, professions of love and madness, and the folly of ambition. One of Shakespeare's most popular comedies, not to be taken too seriously.

What and who do we need?

- * Stage manager
- * Back-stage staff
- * Front of House
- * Props

- * Make-up
- * Extras for scenes to be filmed
- * Musicians
- * Musical instruments

If you would like to join in the fun, then please contact: pamela.jenkins@gmail.com or <u>ian.m.griffiths@gmail.com</u>

FROM THE AUDIENCE:

PLAYREADING: "DINNER FOR ONE" - organised by Daniel Gardini

On the occasion of the first club event of 2017 we were served up a deliciously funny sketch 'Dinner for One' directed by Daniel Gardini and admirably acted by Dorothy Brooks and John Holmes.

This comedy sketch was written by British author Lauri Wylie for the theatre. German television recorded a performance of the piece in 1963, in its original English language, with a short introduction in German. This comedy sketch went on to become the most frequently repeated TV programme ever. It has become a tradition to broadcast the show on New Year's Eve in Germany and it is shown in many other mainland European countries but remains virtually unknown in the United Kingdom.

The sketch presents the 90th birthday of upper-class Englishwoman Miss Sophie, who hosts a celebration dinner every year for her friends Mr Pomeroy, Mr Winterbottom, Sir Toby and Admiral von Schneider. The problem is that due to Miss Sophie's considerable age, she has outlived all of her friends, and so her equally aged manservant James makes his way around the table, impersonating each of the guests in turn. Each course is accompanied by a different alcoholic beverage. By the end of the dinner 'James' is severely inebriated. The crucial exchange during every course is:

James: The same procedure as last year, Miss Sophie?

Miss Sophie: The same procedure as every year, James!

By the end of the dinner, James has consumed 16 glasses of wine. Miss Sophie, who has herself had four rounds of wine, still appears sober; she tells the very drunk James that she wishes to retire to bed. Hand in hand, they head to the staircase, at which point the closing lines of dialogue are uttered: James: By the way, the same procedure as last year, Miss Sophie? Miss Sophie (delightedly): The same procedure as every year, James! James (slyly): Well, I'll do my very best!

Congratulations to Dorothy, who played a very aristocratic 'Miss Sophie' and equally to John who played the increasingly inebriated 'James' to perfection.

This performance left the audience considerably thirsty whereupon we repaired to the bar, where a celebratory glass of champagne was offered. This was on the occasion of the successful conclusion of the PhD of our chairman Dr Chris Hemmens. Congratulations and thank you Chris.

Mary Couper





Chris celebrating his PhD







THEATRE TIDBITS

Contributed by Mike Scott

"I didn't ask actors to be actors, but rather the children of their parents. We've worked together so that they don't have to try to <u>play</u> emotions. It's the audience that will <u>feel</u> the emotions." Joel Pommeret "The theatre is like a fire that penetrates the body of the spectators. It's the memory of the fire that remains" Jerôme Bel

EVENTS IN ENGLISH AROUND TOWN

GAOS <u>www.gaos.ch</u> 12 Feb Musical evening

GEDS <u>www.geds.ch</u> 07 Feb Playreading: Tovarich by Jacques Deval, adapted by Robert Sherwood

VILLAGE PLAYERS COMMITTEE

Chairman	Chris Hemmens	079 658 42 95	chris.hemmens@hotmail.co.uk
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& HELPERS

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* Deadline for articles to be submitted to VPI editor: 25th of each month

VP EVENTS CALENDAR BELOW FOR EASY REFERENCE

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EVENTS CALENDAR

Preview of our next VP events to be held at the

Centre Pluriculturel d'Ouchy (CPO), Beau-Rivage 2, 1006 Lausanne

at 7.30pm – doors and bar open at 7.00pm

(Playreadings will take place in the theatre, not the bar area)

www.villageplayers.ch

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March 30th - 19:30. Entrance free.

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> CLUBNIGHT*: To be confirmed April 20th - 19:30. Entrance free.

SPRING PRODUCTION MAY 18, 19, 20 at 8.00pm, May 21 at 3.30pm Shakespeare's TWELFTH NIGHT directed by Ian Griffiths & Pamela Jenkins

For more information on **Productions: contact Daniel Gardini - Gardini.dan@gmail.com *For more information on the **Clubnights: contact Mary Couper - coupermar@gmail.com** or visit the Club Website: <u>www.villageplayers.ch</u>