

Village Players' Information (VPI)

October 2016

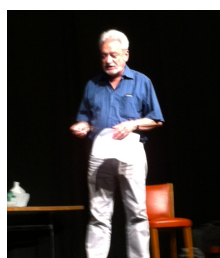
AN "AS YOU LIKE IT" EVENING - FROM THE AUDIENCE

When I walked in to the CPO hall, I knew right away it was going to be a fun evening: instead of rows of chairs set out theatre-style, there were chairs arranged around small café tables topped with candles and programs. This immediately created a different mood and everyone somehow seemed more relaxed and even felt free to laughingly shout out a comment or two throughout the evening. On offer were songs and sketches ranging from the funny to the serious to the whimsical, ending with a sing-along. We could even take our drinks and snacks from the bar into the hall, in real café-theatre style.

There was a good turn-out as well, and not only from members of the Village Players. There were quite a few new faces and, not only that, one of them was on the program - very brave!

Thanks to all those behind the scenes who put this evening together, combining the ingredients to ensure that a good time was had by all.

Catherine FitzSimons



The "As You Like It" Clubnight showcased some very talented performers who entertained the audience with songs, expressive dance, soliloquy and monologue, poetry, sketches and a somewhat personal tirade. Special kudos to Pamela and Daniel for having written their own material.

Gwen Czajkowska on vocals and Gordon Nicholson on piano opened up the evening with a slow number and then something more feverish to change the pace. Heather Gavin & Mike Scott treated us to the history of Britain in and out of Europe, told in numerous anecdotes with obvious parallels to the current pre- & post-Brexit issues.

Gabrielle Bamford then recited a short poem by Yeats. By this 3rd act, the theme of the evening seemed to have unintentionally gravitated towards Love.

And next came Lena Bouille and Daniel Gardini with a beautiful rendition of Last Night of the World, a love song from Miss Saigon.

The mood was broken with Colin Gamage's amusing Stanley Holloway monologue - accent and all. Julia Kramer surprised us with her excellent expressive dance interpretation of "Wherever I Lay My Hat," followed by Christa Baan's sharing a thought-provoking poem about dogs' TV watching habits. Chris Hemmens sang a song from Toy Story & played piano to conclude the 1st part.

Our participants' talents continued to shine after the interval, starting with Daniel Gardini as singer-songwriter-composer-musician on the ukulele reminiscing about the joys of a gap year. Catherine FitzSimons and Geoffrey Peek entertained us with British vs American commentaries on how the world works, seen from both

sides of the Atlantic. Then things turned serious with Chris's version of "To Be or Not To Be" and John McKillop got us thinking about how the English language is misused by everyone in the modern world (except Shakespeare).

In view of a possible future production of Notre Dame de Paris, Daniel Gardini lent his admirable voice to the first song from the show. Pamela Jenkins recited a poem that she'd written herself based on her life and inspired by Lewis Carroll.

Gwen & Gordon led a sing-along to round off the evening.

Many thanks to all the gifted performers who participated, wrote their own songs & poems, researched material and played music. It was a very enjoyable evening for the audience, which included several new faces.
Susan Morris

FUTURE CLUBNIGHTS & EVENTS: **N.B. CLUBNIGHTS START AT 19H30**

THURSDAY OCTOBER 20TH – AN EVENING OF SKETCHES

Join the Village Players for an evening of laughter with sketches from the last 50 years of British, American, and German (yes, really) comedy. Entry is free and everyone is welcome. Doors open at 7pm, the show starts at 7:30pm and, as the Monty Python boys say, no one expects the Spanish Inquisition!



NOVEMBER 10, 11, 12TH – AUTUMN PRODUCTION ENGLISH MUSIC HALL & VARIETY

For the club's autumn production this year the Village Players present an evening of entertainment in the English Music Hall style of the 1880 to 1920 period, tinged with some more modern acts. This will be to avoid any comparisons with the ancient and memorable Olde Tyme Music Hall performances from the Village Players of yesteryear.

From his rostrum on the stage the Master of Ceremonies for the night will introduce each act with a loud voice, combining the studious use of a gavel and previously unheard of words that may or may not exist in the English language.

There will be audience sing-alongs, as well as sketches, monologues, duets, and individual singing acts, accompanied throughout by an experienced on stage pianist of the old calibre.

Please come along and enjoy yourselves and join in with the old time pub sing-alongs. Whistles, jeers, cheers and ribald comments, as well as applause will be the order of the evening: provided that you have first reserved and purchased your entry tickets, with the usual prices of Fr. 25 for adults and Fr. 15 for those of you who are under 16 years old.

Derek Betson

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH – LEMAN INTERNATIONAL FAIR

BEAU RIVAGE PALACE - LAUSANNE - all day

As in previous years, the Village Players will have a stand at this prestigious fair where we'll be dressed in Music Hall costumes and informing the general public about what we do. It would be wonderful to have a lot of members participating in this event, by helping to set up the stand, being present to give information, distribute fliers and generally woo some new members. You can stay for as little as an hour or for the whole day. Please let Susan Morris know that you will be part of the VP team for this event:

susanmorris22@hotmail.com.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15TH – CHRISTMAS PARTY

Enter into the Christmas spirit with an evening of carol singing, traditional Xmas fayre and other entertainment. If you would like to volunteer to help organize this event, please contact Mary Couper at coupermar@gmail.com

EVENTS IN ENGLISH AROUND TOWN

GAOS www.gaos.ch

30 Oct Musical evening

GEDS www.geds.ch

04 Oct Theatre screening: "Private Lives" by Noël Coward

18 Oct Playreading "Tuesdays at Tesco's"

City Sisters Inaugural Concert

Friday Oct 7, 8pm

Join me, VP Publicity Manager Alexis Munier, for an evening of all-girl action in three-part harmony, featuring songs by the Chiffons, Andrews Sisters, Sinatra, Beatles, and more.

Centre le Phénix, Rue des Alpes 7, 1700 Fribourg. Free entry.

VILLAGE PLAYERS COMMITTEE

Chairman	Chris Hemmens	079 658 42 95	chris.hemmens@hotmail.co.uk
Membership	Dorothy Brooks	078 624 66 35	dot.brooks@hotmail.com
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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
(as of September) at 7.30pm – doors and bar open at 7.00pm
(**Playreadings** will take place in the theatre, not the bar area)
www.villageplayers.ch

CLUBNIGHT*: AN EVENING OF SKETCHES

Thursday, October 20th – 19:30. Entrance free

Organized by Daniel Gardini and Chris Hemmens

An evening of laughter with sketches from the last 50 years of
British, American, and German (yes, really) comedy.

AUTUMN PRODUCTION**

ENGLISH MUSIC HALL & VARIETY

November 10th, 11th, 12th - 20:00

A light hearted period costume show encompassing musical pieces from old time music
hall acts circa 1880 until 1920, interspersed with more modern variety acts and sketches.
Tickets will be on sale on the website: www.villageplayers.ch

VILLAGE PLAYERS' STAND

At the LEMAN INTERNATIONAL FAIR

November 13th – 10:00-17:00

Beau-Rivage Palace, Lausanne

CLUBNIGHT*: CHRISTMAS PARTY

December 15th, 19:30. Entrance free.

Carol singing, Xmas fayre, entertainment

If you would like to help organize this event, please contact Mary Couper.

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: www.villageplayers.ch