

The
Stockholm Players
Sweden's Oldest English Theatre Company

NEWSLETTER

Dates for your diary

Last Night of the Proms (see back page)

- Sunday 30th September, 4pm
- Stockholm's Konserthuset

Creative Writing Workshop (see back page)

- Sunday 7th October 12.30pm
- ABF, Sveavägen 41

Stagecraft Workshop

- Thursday 18th October 6.30pm
- Dieselverkstaden, Sickla

Autumn Production - Communicating Doors, by Sir Alan Ayckbourn

It's the year 2014 and Phoebe (Poopay), a "Specialist Sexual Consultant" whose main forte is domination arrives at the five star hotel of an elderly businessman, Reece. Reece wants Poopay to perform an unusual service: to witness a document detailing the murder of his two wives by his business associate Julian.

When Julian realises Poopay knows about his dark past, he sets off after Poopay. She escapes through the nearest door and finds herself in an identical suite, but in the year 1994. Not surprisingly, its occupant, Ruella, Reece's second wife, is sceptical about Poopay's explanation but when she too goes through the door and finds herself in the same suite in 1974 with Reece's first wife Jessica, she decides to rewrite the future.



Nina Riikonen – Director, Communicating Doors

Fresh Faces at Communicating Doors Auditions

Sunday 26th and Monday 27th August saw the auditions for Communicating Doors. It was great to see so many new faces, as well as a few veterans returning. The hopefuls were put through their paces by director Nina Riikonen along with her assistant director Louise Ulveland, and producer Clare Eriksen.

We began by introducing ourselves, our interest and our first appearance on stage. This led to many revelations, of an animal nature, including Nina's recollection of being a frog in green tights and Louise's as the often forgotten bear in snow White!

Then we got down to business, reading in different combinations a number of scenes selected from the script. There are six parts in the play, remorseful business man Reece, his immoral partner Julian, hapless security guard Harold, dumb, but pretty Jessica, dominatrix Poopay and motherly Ruella.

The script is witty, and all the characters extremely well written. As a result the atmosphere was light and there were many funny moments. With a healthy turnout there will be good competition for parts. Great job by Nina and her team!

The cast of Communicating Doors

Reece – Adam Holcher

Jessica – Ida Persson

Ruella – Cynthia A. Morissette

Julian – Brian Morris

Phoebe – Samantha Chaney

Harold – Neil Banks

Whilst we have a number of keen volunteers, there is still a possibility to be involved backstage in the show. If you'd like to volunteer your services, contact Nina Riikonen.

About Sir Alan Ayckbourn

Alan Ayckbourn is one of the most prolific and widely performed of English language playwrights and a highly regarded theatre director. He is the artistic director of the Stephen Joseph Theatre, Scarborough, where he premieres the majority of his work - predominantly in the world-famous Round auditorium.

Alan Ayckbourn has written 70 full length plays, more than half of which have gone on to London's West End. He has directed more than 300 professional productions including the West End premieres of the majority of his plays. He is an Olivier and Moliere Award winning playwright whose plays have achieved success throughout the world. Sir Alan was knighted in 2007 for his services to theatre.

SP Post Summer Social Evening

It was great to see so many new faces being greeted by even more old-time members at the Social evening held on August 20th.

We started with the essential wine and snacks "mingel" as the Swedes call it, and then got down to business. Cynthia Morissette shared happy memories of FEATS 2007 through a very well prepared photo slide show. The official trophy was also on display.

This was followed by Nigel Harvey who gave us a more background and history on the Stockholm Players and Tom Howland who updated us on plans for FEATS 2008 in Stockholm.

Nina Riikonen, enthusiastically promoted auditions for our autumn production, Communicating Doors, and Lisa Cockette rounded up by informing the group about workshops and other upcoming activities through to summer 2008.

Jacqueline Coombs, meeting the group for the first time with that evening, joined up as a new member on the spot, and was delighted to have "found" the Stockholm Players after living in Stockholm for a number of years. Julian Baldock, Mats Nilsson and John Jenkins all stopped by for a drink and to catch up on Stockholm Players news. Good to see you all.

Life is a Cabaret ol' chum!

Since we will be busy with arrangements for FEATS 2008 next spring, we are considering performing a couple of evenings of cabaret, rather than staging a full-blown Spring production. We are tentatively aiming for the beginning of March.

Would you be interested in taking part? Fancy shaking the dust off your tap shoes, warming up your voice box, dusting off your instrument? All suggestions are welcome. For information or just to state your interest, please contact Lisa Cockette: lisa.cockette@stockholimplayers.se

British Ambassador to Sweden agrees to patron FEATS 2008, Stockholm

We're delighted that the British Ambassador HMA Andrew Mitchell has agreed to be the Patron of FEATS 2008 in Stockholm.

We are also pleased that Kate Kabala will greatly be helping Tom Howland in the administrative team. The other team leaders are: Dave Meur – Production Management, Nigel Harvey - Artistic Team, Lisa Cockette – Marketing, Deidre Öwerström – Hospitality. Thanks to those other Stockholm Players members who have already volunteered to help out in the preparations. If you'd also like to get involved in the biggest theatrical event in Stockholm next year, please contact Tom Howland or any of the other team leaders.

Get your **FEATS 2008 t-shirts** already now! The t-shirts are v-necked, navy blue and feature our new FEATS 2008 logo (see below) in yellow. Contact Tom Howland tomhowland@stockholmplayers.se



Last Night of the Proms

September 30th sees the nineteenth annual performance of Last Night of the Proms at Stockholms Konserthus. The theme of the concert is musicals with two musical stars: Daniel Engman who played The Warrior in London the Musical; and Sanna Martin a fantastic soprano. Daniel and Sanna will be performing music of Sondheim, and twenty minutes from 'Kristina från Duvemåla' Björn & Bennys musical from 2000.

The show is being conducted by an American conductress called Sarah Ionides, and our own Nigel Harvey will be compéring and performing as usual. For more information contact Nigel Harvey.

Creative Writing Workshop

Newcomer to Stockholm Players, Aishling Declair will be holding a creative writing workshop on Sunday 7th October which will last for three hours with breaks. Here is how Aishling describes the workshop.

"After a short introduction, I love to fill a workshop with a variety of fun and invigorating exercises to stimulate our imagination and motivate our writing skills. Lots of laughter and a friendly group rapport is what generally happens and people feel great! I like to use the theme of "Opening the Petals" as this is what a workshop is all about -- to rediscover and re-engage the fabulous writer/story teller who is in all of us!"

"Our entire lives are filled with stories. I combine exercises to play with poetry, short story writing, visual story subjects, and spontaneous writing, using a variety of subject matter. In some of the exercises I split the group into pairs or threes as this can be helpful for creative expression."

Come along and enjoy this creative opportunity.

THE STOCKHOLM PLAYERS COMMITTEE

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