



On behalf of the English Comedy Club, I would like to welcome you all to Brussels and FEATS 2016.

The year since we last met in Hamburg has been a very troubled period for Europe. Economic, political, social and security issues have almost certainly affected us all to a greater or lesser extent.



For me, amateur theatre provides a very positive antidote. People of all ages, backgrounds, nationalities, cultures and skill sets come together to create a performance which will hopefully entertain the audience. In our choice of plays we often confront issues and situations - both current and historical - which lead to research and discussions within the group - primarily to enhance our understanding of the play but which also offer us a forum to share thoughts, opinions, ideas and sensitivities with a wide range of other people.

If our work together produces a piece which is not only enjoyable for the audience but also provokes comment, discussion and constructive criticism, the shared experience is enhanced.

A festival such as FEATS brings this sharing to a whole new level as groups from different countries come together to compete but also to watch, talk, learn, laugh, reminisce and generally enjoy themselves in an exciting and stimulating venture.

I hope that FEATS 2016 will be a positive and fulfilling experience for all of us in whatever capacity we participate.

Eileen

Evening Schedule

The first performance will begin at 7.30pm. Between performances there will be a 20-minute interval. After the final performance of the evening, the adjudicator will give her thoughts on the three productions. Please remain seated until the adjudication is over.

The details of the fringe festival, running from Thursday to Sunday, are on pages 18 & 19.

Thursday 5 May 2016	Friday 6 May 2016	Saturday 7 May 2016	Sunday 8 May 2016
BSS <i>Wulf</i> Stephen Challens	Anglo-American Theatre Group <i>Alas, Poor Fred</i> James Saunders	In Players International <i>Creativity in the time of Dictatorship</i> Giorgi Corrêa Rossi	The Hamburg Players <i>Soap Opera</i> David Ives
English Youth Theatre <i>Remote</i> Stef Smith	Irish Theatre Group <i>The London Vertigo</i> Brian Friel	Semi-Circle, Basel <i>Syrinx</i> Kate Mosse	Geneva English Drama Society <i>Working Girl</i> Ms. Béibhinn Regli
The Bonn Players <i>Once Bitten</i> Fergus Moloney	University Players Hamburg <i>Invasion</i> Jonas Hassen Khemeri	Actors Workout <i>Paper God</i> Peter Bishop & Colleen Burke	British American Theatrical Society <i>Three more sleepless nights</i> Caryl Churchill

GoDA

The Guild of Drama Adjudicators, GoDA, is the internationally recognised body for the adjudication of all forms of theatre, founded in 1947. The Guild of Drama Adjudicators was founded to improve the standards of adjudication of amateur drama by establishing recognised principles of practice to which its members could be relied upon to adhere. Its members have extensive experience of amateur and professional theatre and are bound by a strict rule of professional etiquette.

The objectives of the Guild are:

- To supply qualified adjudicators to all organisations promoting amateur drama.
- To enable its members to work unfettered towards the objectives of the Guild.
- To provide opportunities for the discussion of the problems of adjudication and tuition either by schools, conferences, or by other means.

You can find out more about GoDA on its website, www.godauk.org



Bev has over thirty years' experience in both professional and community theatre having worked in a variety of roles from directing to education, marketing and development. Bev also spent much of her career as a youth theatre director including time at the Bristol Old Vic and Palace Theatre Westcliff-on-Sea. She worked in Theatre in Education (T.I.E) in the North West and in 2011 she was presented to Her Majesty The Queen at Buckingham Palace in recognition of her work.

In 2008 she formed Hand in Hand Theatre, a performance driven Community Arts organisation which present a variety of work for all ages including devised and new writing, as well as period and contemporary theatre. As part of the RSC Open Stages she has directed *After the Dream* (2012) and *The Winter's Tale* (2015) performing at both Contact Theatre Manchester and RSC Stratford upon Avon. She has recently co-written and directed *RIP Mr Shakespeare* for the 400th anniversary also part of Open Stages.

As a writer and director she has won various drama festival awards and has been placed third in the Geoffrey Whitworth Playwriting Competition and runner-up in two national writing competitions including The Walker Book Children's Bedtime Story 2007. She has written over twenty plays and now has her own website Scripts4stage.com. In 2015 her play *The Black Eyes* won the Roister Doister Publishing Company's International One Act Play for Young People. This year it was performed at the Warwick Drama Festival and won through to the semi-final.

Having studied at Guildhall, LAMDA, the University of The West, Bristol and a short course at Liverpool University, she also holds accredited courses in Scriptwriting and Community Theatre. She also has a Level 3 Creative Entrepreneur NVQ from Liverpool Community Arts Development. Bev became an Associate of GoDA in 2011 and a full member in 2013. She runs workshops for all age groups including a Devised Theatre Course at The International Baccalaureate Conference at Warwick University, on behalf of Noda.

In 2015 Bev directed and devised a hard-hitting piece of theatre entitled *Invisible Chains*; a look at modern slavery which was performed at The Gaiety Theatre, Isle of Man as part of Theatre Fest 15. She is a member of the All-England Theatre Festival (AETF) and the National Drama Festivals Association (NDFA). Bev's next project is directing a feature film set in Birkenhead - a true story - *Free to Be* which is an exciting challenge planned for 2016.

FEATS is marked according to the National Drama Festivals Association (NDFA) marking system: 40 points for Acting, 35 points for Production, 15 points for Stage Presentation, 10 points for Originality, Endeavour and Achievement, giving a total of 100 marks.

You can mark the plays yourself using the tables at the bottom of each listing and see how your results compare with the final awards on page 21.

A	P	S	O	Total
40	35	15	10	100

FEATS Rules

The constraints of accommodating twelve groups in four days have necessitated a number of rules. Among them:

- Each piece must be a complete play or a self-contained extract from a longer one.
- It must be no less than 25 and no more than 50 minutes long.
- Ten minutes are allowed for setting the opening scene and five minutes for striking the set. The backstage crew allowed for setting and striking is limited to five.
- A maximum of two hours is allowed for all technical preparation and rehearsal.
- There are no curtain calls, although applause is encouraged and much appreciated by the groups.
- There will be an interval between each of the plays while one group strikes and clears the stage and the next group prepares for its performance.
- At the end of each evening, there will be a short break before the adjudicator presents her assessments of the evening's performances. The audience is asked to remain in their seats.
- On the final night, after adjudication of the evening's plays, the various awards are presented.

Some points to remember

- Smoking is not allowed in any part of the Cultural Centre.
- Entry to the auditorium cannot be permitted after a performance has started.
- Please remember to turn off any mobile phones or pagers. Even in "vibrate" mode, these can disturb other audience members and the actors on stage.
- Access to backstage areas is limited to festival and theatre staff and participants issued with official backstage passes by the FEATS stage management.
- Ticket holders may sit anywhere in the main auditorium. The balcony is restricted to backstage pass holders, theatre and festival staff.

Wulf Stephen Challens *original script*



CAST

WulfKristina Kardum
 Wiglaf Joanna Jack
 One EyeChristine Marchand
 UnferthCathy Howdle
 PrebenRebecca Kelly
 Grendal/Barmaid/Dragon
 Graham Vincent
 Mother/Thief/Dragon..Diana Campillo
 Gar Sara Hammerton
 Hygelac Libby Dix
 Handsico/Dragon.....
 Ieva Purvanekaitė
 Kadlin/Dragon Kristina Krasteva
 RozThaïs Prono
 Arya/Dragon Magdalena Kultys
 Tyra Jennifer Cleal
 Gudrun.....Hsiao-Fang Hou
 Völva..... Esther Pozo-Vera

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director Stephen Challens
 Stage ManagerCarlos Casorran
 Lighting technician
 Anthony McCarthy
 Sound technicianMark Prescott
 Team Ben Noon
 TeamBen Clarke
 TeamSaskia van Nuflen
 Team Lawrence Kennedy



About the Play

Beowulf, one of the oldest works in the English Literature, dates back to the 11th century. In our re-telling of this epic saga, focus is put on a female led cast. Join Wulf, a legendary hero, as she is beckoned to her homeland to fight alongside her people against the might of the evil Grendal. Meet the Grendal's mother, ten times as savage as the Grendal himself. Fear for the lives of Wulf's comrades in arms, Wiglaf, Unferth and One-Eye as they all battle hand in hand to triumph over the forces of evil. This is a tale of monsters and dragons, long lost treasures and epic heroes that promises to keep you on the edge of your seat!

About the Group

The Brussels Shakespeare Society began thirty years ago. During this time the BSS have staged all of Shakespeare's Comedies, several of the Tragedies and many of the Histories. In addition they have ventured into Greek Tragedy, Restoration Comedy, Beckett, Lorca, Fry, Stoppard and a modern version of the Mystery Plays. This season has seen not only Wulf but also Dr Faustus and Romeo and Juliet. This summer they will perform *Twelfth Night*, or *What You Will*.

A	P	S	O	Total
40	35	15	10	100

EYT

About the Play

You know back in the day there would have been wolves here. And that's us. We're the wolves now. And it's important people know that. A girl called Antler steps out of her front door and throws her phone on the ground. She stamps on it. She then climbs the tallest tree in the park. She doesn't want to be found, not by anyone. Seven teenagers' lives all intertwine over the course of a single evening as they make their way through the park on a seemingly normal Autumn's night. Remote is a play about protest, power and protecting yourself.

About the Group

The group has around 100 students ranging in age from 8-20 years, and studying in either Laeken (Brussels) or Waterloo. The annual programme includes skills development, a production (this year both groups performed *Aladdin* in December) and examinations mainly in acting, mime, devised performance, poetry & prose with the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art. The group has participated at FEATS on a number of occasions, most recently in The Hague.

CAST	
Antler.....	Alicia Desmedt
Crystal.....	Miriam Revilla Alvarez
Oil.....	Oisín O'Byrne
Blister.....	Oisín O'Halpin
Finn	Konstantina Mandeki
Desk	Ewan Craig
Gang.....	Alice Kitt
Skin	Eleanor Haigh
Narrator	Georgia Isselee
Narrator	Alma Calliauw
Narrator	Alexander Coeckelbergh
Narrator	Fionn Murray O'Halpin
Gang.....	Soraya Fahmy
Gang.....	Francesca Marchetti
Gang.....	Kristina Krejza
Gang.....	Alice McQuail

PRODUCTION TEAM	
Director	Lynne Vaughan
Crew	Lorenda Elliott
Crew	Barry O'Halpin
Crew	David Challens
Crew	Jayne Haigh
Crew	Jake Vaughan
Crew	Mary O'Rourke

A	P	S	O	Total
40	35	15	10	100

Remote Stef Smith

Once Bitten Fergus Moloney *original script*



CAST	
Jo	Joanna Thorn
Sam	Chris Weber

PRODUCTION TEAM	
Director	Fergus Moloney
Stage Manager.....	Gill Atkinson
Lighting	Peter Ferrow
Sound	Peter Ferrow
Lighting Design ...	Kathleen Schroers
Set Design	Margie Cross
Stage Crew	Gina Kelly
Prompt.....	Gina Kelly
Set Construction.....	Chris Wilde

A	P	S	O	Total
40	35	15	10	100



About the Play

Once Bitten, written by the Bonn Players' Fergus Moloney, is a short one-act black comedy, set in the Australian outback, featuring two young women and a spider. Full of wit and banter, it treats the ultimate themes with cheerful irreverence.

About the Group

The Bonn Players are proud to have been performing English language theatre in Bonn for 35 years. Originally founded in 1981 as The British Embassy Players, the group transformed into The Bonn Players e.V. after the embassy moved from Bonn to Berlin. Our members include a wide range of different nationalities, sharing a common love of theatre and the English language. We put on two major productions each year, aiming to present a varied range of material, from the well-known classics to the lesser-known and experimental. We also run regular play-readings, workshops and other creative and social events for our members.



Alas, Poor Fred

James Saunders



About the Play

This absurdist black comedy begins with a peaceful armchair conversation between Ernest Pringle and his wife Ethel who are chatting about how funny it must be to get cut in half, as Fred was.

About the Group

The AATG is a community theatre group which has been in existence for over 60 years and is based in The Hague. Our members love English-language theatre in all its forms. We are not a group exclusively for actors or directors. We welcome anyone who is interested in any aspect of the theatre, on-stage or off. We have members from all over The Netherlands; the only qualification needed is the ability to understand the English language. Every year we hold up to three major productions: In the spring, mid-year and our hugely popular traditional British Pantomime in December (seen by around 1600 people). We also organise monthly play readings, social events and an annual charity murder mystery dinner.

CAST				
Pringle.....	Ben Evans			
Mrs Pringle	Marion Carter			

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director	James Saunders
Stage Manager.....	Evonne Dunne
Lighting	Michael Connelly
Sound	Martin Koster
Stage hand	Gregor Connelly
Stage hand	Helen Bannatyne
Stage hand	Tanya Connelly

A	P	S	O	Total
40	35	15	10	100

The London Vertigo

Brian Friel

after Charles Macklin



CAST

Murrough O'Doherty.	Tony Dempsey
Katty Farrel	Sinéad Meehan
Tom Hamilton	Brian Holland
Mrs Diggerty	Noreen Doyle
Count Mushroom.....	Brian Foley

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director	Adam Brown
Stage Manager.....	Róisín Dore
Lighting tech.....	Genevieve Deering
Sound tech	Genevieve Deering
Costumes	Sheila Hewitt
Make-up	Elizabeth Munklinde
Props	Meg Chang
Set design	Róisín Dore
Crew	Simeon Holdship
Crew	William Mulhern
Crew	Ella de Burca
Producer.....	Sinéad Meehan

A	P	S	O	Total
40	35	15	10	100



About the Play

The London Vertigo tells the story of 'Mrs Diggerty' who is forced to reform her behaviour by dropping her newly acquired Anglophile habits and language use to transform into 'The Irish Fine Lady' that we are led to believe she once was. Yet she is left with no choice but to drop her colonial mimicry and change back to 'decent Dublin domesticity' – a theme that unwittingly rewrites the original author's own biography as comedy and farce.

About the Group

Established in 1982 the Irish Theatre Group (ITG) aims to bring engaging and entertaining community theatre to Brussels audiences - and sometimes, even beyond! ITG is a not-for-profit organisation promoting Irish and international theatre in the spirit of Irish drama. An essential part of our philosophy is to encourage and nurture support from both new and established talent in all areas of theatre.



About the Play

Abulkasem. This word can be used as a verb, an adjective or a noun. It changes its meaning constantly. As a name it connects a character from the Arabian Nights with a group of school boys, an elusive terrorist who moves between Palestine and the United States, a refugee apple picker who hides from immigration control, a boy who picks up a girl in a bar, and an eccentric Iranian woman director. Wherever Abulkasem appears, chaos follows. However, the important question is not who or what is Abulkasem, but what makes Abulkasem so important?

About the Group

The University Players (UPs) is an English language theatre workshop founded in 1980 at the Institute for English and American Studies at Hamburg University. The UPs cover English and American classics, as well as the works of intriguing modern playwrights. Students and other volunteers are encouraged to practically engage with texts and literary studies. The learning-by-doing approach gives participants from all kinds of backgrounds an opportunity to gain experience in theatre work and think outside the box beside the standard curriculum.

Invasion!

Jonas Hassen Khemiri

(translated by Frank Perry)



CAST

A..... Marc Borchert
B..... Edward Harkess
C..... Jennifer Gehring
D..... Paul Kahre

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director Johanna Thiess
Stage Manager..... Svenja Baumann
Lighting Clarissa Borgstaedt
Sound Thomas Gimpel
Assistant Director Eva Gemmer
Costumes Lisa Voermann
Lighting Paul-Louis-Lelièvre
Stage Hand..... David Rothmaier
Stage Hand..... Jocasta Godlieb
Stage Hand..... Camilo Daza Tapia

A	P	S	O	Total
40	35	15	10	100

Creativity in the time of Dictatorship

Giorgi Corrêa Rossi

original script

**IN
PLAY
ERS**



photo by Henk Warrink / NCO Photography

CAST

Elis.....Giorgi Correa Rossi
DirectorAlex McKenzie
BarbieAbigail Levere
HansCristina Reyna
Ster.....Henrietta Bryant
Omar Anastasia Reshetnikova
AlexShirley Blake
JuliaKatarina Barcakova
Fred Borislava Todorova
Censor 1.....Dale Diane Remlee
Censor 2...Marianne Schoonderbeek
OsenFrieda Jacobowitz
John.....Elisha Moore

PRODUCTION TEAM

DirectorGiorgi Correa Rossi
Stage Manager..... Alex Mckenzie
Lighting John Ricker
Sound Roderik Maes
Set Design Espen Strandhagen
PhotographyHein Bruns

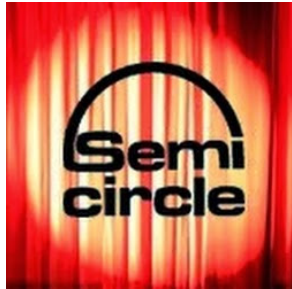
A	P	S	O	Total
40	35	15	10	100

About the Play

The play is about a group of actors putting together a theatrical performance based on fairytales. Their real motive, however, is to escape the censorship threatening both their creative abilities and the cultural life of their country. The play has its roots in the political dictatorship of Brazil in the 1960's and 70's, where freedom of expression, human rights, performing arts, music and art were banned. The impact on cultural development in Brazil resulted in many illicit and successful creative groups. The play is a funny and light-hearted reflection of this time, with a serious undercurrent.

About the Group

The InPlayers is Amsterdam's oldest English language theatre group. We are an amateur group, in that we love theatre and perform activities within this group on a voluntary basis. We explore many aspects of theatre, from full staged productions of plays and musicals, to staged readings, cold readings and workshops. We vary in age, level of experience, mind-set and of course opinion. Add this to the dramatic and emotional theatre environment, and you get an explosive mix of free spirits, strong personalities, fierce ambitions, creative expression and powerful energy and of course great productions!



About the Play

This play, by English non-fiction and short story writer Kate Mosse, is set in a school principal's office before and after a prize-giving ceremony. School Principal, Marion Knowles, is about to leave the school and sets out to bring closure to an unfortunate episode involving a student, which happened a few years earlier.

About the Group

Founded in 1975, The Semi-Circle is a non-profit English language amateur theatre club based in Basel, Switzerland. Over the years we have performed plays of various genres, from musicals to classics and from comedies to tragedies. Two productions, a full-length play and an evening of one-act plays, are staged every year and play-readings are held monthly.

Syrinx Kate Mosse



CAST

Marion Knowles..... Zuzana Cox
Susan Winston.....Liz Shaw
Sarah PetersRita Felder
Julie PetersDiana Zuger
Musician Sylvia Bach

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director.. Christine Archer-Lockwood
Stage Manager..... David Cox
Lighting..... Kirsten Gräser
SoundTibor Gyalog
Set Construction..... Jonathon Apted
Support Crew.....Berndt Reiss
PromptSusan Aeschbach

A	P	S	O	Total
40	35	15	10	100

Paper God Peter Bishop & Colleen Burke

original script



CAST

Mrs Wanda Coleman.....Jenni Mikulla
Mrs Edwina Coleman .Anne Wollstein
Ms Hope Coleman Colleen Burke
Mrs Joy Smeyton.Pernille Ostergaard
Ms Faith Coleman... Danielle Kalleder

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director Peter Bishop
Stage Manager.....Helen Schulz
Lighting Daniel Plappert
Sound Hans Field
Stage CrewBlair Gaulton
Stage Crew Roxy Lau

A	P	S	O	Total
40	35	15	10	100

About the Play

The genre for *Paper God* is loosely based on Verbatim Theatre. Most of the narrative used in the play is fact, however precise conversations have not been used in most cases. Harold Coleman lays in intensive care, in a serious situation. Harold's wife summons his family for their support. His three daughters and their mother arrive. A doctor (with his penchant for poetry) drives the sequence of events, which leads the family to reliving old conflicts and making personal revelations.

About the Group

Actor's Workout is all about Acting and showing the actor how they can be comfortable when performing. There are many systems vaunted as being 'all the actor requires' when going on stage or in front of a camera. We consider that the actor needs a vast set of tools to act. In our workshops and productions, we will do our best to ensure that the actor is equipped for the job at hand. And the tools we provide, will give the actor an opportunity to build an open and direct relationship with the audience.



Soap Opera

David Ives



About the Play

A washing-machine repairman falls in love with a picture-perfect washer. Should he tell his girlfriend Mabel? Is the washer two-timing him with a dryer? Stay tuned! Referencing American day-time soaps and the iconic Maytag washing machine ads, David Ives combines romance, comedy, philosophy (and loads of puns) to comment on our never-ending search for perfection.

About the Group

The Hamburg Players have just recently celebrated their 50th anniversary and are still going strong! Currently, we have around 150 members drawn from all over the globe. We are Hamburg's oldest English language theatre and put on three plays per year at the 300-seater Theatre an der Marschnerstrasse, our regular theatre, which we share with five other amateur groups. In addition, we hold weekly improv workshops, monthly playreadings and other social events at our clubhouse not far from the theatre.

A	P	S	O	Total
40	35	15	10	100

CAST

Maitre d'/MadmanHarald Djürken
RepairmanAlexander Armster-Wikoff
Mother/The Machine.....Amy Lee
MabelMadeleine Lange
FriendKris Löschmann

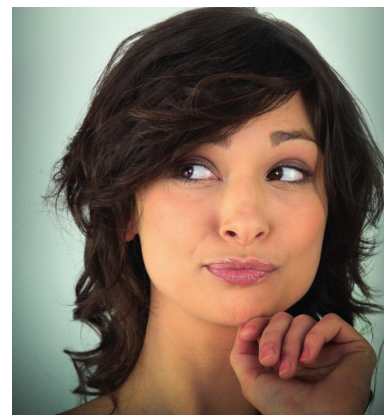
PRODUCTION TEAM

Director Valerie Doyle
Stage Manager.....Lexi von Hoffmann
Lighting Thomas White
Sound Meg McFarlane
Asst Stage Manager..... Ronny Nowak
Stage Crew Kayleigh Stubbs
Stage Crew Nele Giese
Stage Crew Sandra Weser
Assistant Director Kayleigh Stubbs
Props Lexi von Hoffmann
Set Design Alex Robertson
Costumes Barbara Möller
Hair..... Ellen Bergman
Make-up Kayleigh Stubbs

Working Girl

Ms. Béibhinn Regli

original script



CAST

Sophie..... Béibhinn Regli
Sean Colin Paterson
Harry.....Barry Gilbert-Miguet
John..... Colman O'Criordain
Mother/Mrs Barry/
Old BiddyMasha Neznansky
Jimmy/Fionn/Seamus/
Declan/Old Biddy ...Daire O'Doherty

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director Malcolm Grant
Stage Manager..... Christina Vasala-Kokkinai
Lighting Tim Hancox
Sound Tim Hancox
Costumes Irene Agapitou
Props Barry Gilbert-Miguet
Set..... Siân Ackroyd



About the Play

In Working Girl, Sophie, a college student struggling to pay her way during the economic crisis in Ireland, decides to take an unusual part-time job. Can a small community in "Holy Catholic Ireland" find its way out of the dark ages and into the 21st century? Working Girl is a comedy with a serious, relevant and contemporary message.

About the Group

GEDS is the home of English language theatre in Geneva. We've been producing plays in and around the city for over 80 years, as well as regularly attracting audiences of up to 100 for our playreadings.

A	P	S	O	Total
40	35	15	10	100



Three More Sleepless Nights Caryl Churchill



Three More Sleepless Nights

CAST

Margaret..... Hilary Dennis
Frank Adrian Veale
Pete Brad Moore
Dawn Carine Coolsaet

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director Vivi Roche
Director Jill Franks
Stage Manager..... Tim Lejeune
Lighting Peter Muller
Sound Tim Lejeune
Props/Crew Dave Challens
Crew Els Van Dam
Crew Inge Hodl
Crew Sid Wilkins
Make-up Magda Lockfeer

A	P	S	O	Total
40	35	15	10	100

About the Play

One double bed. Two couples. Three short scenes of love tangled conversation that expertly twist and turn, from existential angst to sci-fi films; from explosive arguments to long silences. Caryl Churchill's compelling play is a powerful look at the fabric of human relationships through the eyes of two ill-fated couples.

About the Group

The British American Theatrical Society was founded in Antwerp in 1956. For 60 years BATS has not only presented plays and pantomimes, but has been an important part of Antwerp expat life. BATS is a warm and open community bringing together expats, thespians and anglophiles through our productions, monthly open evenings, FEATS and other activities. To mark our 60th season, we're looking into our rich past to bring to the Antwerp stage a few BATS jewels as well as a number of other festivities. As one of the founding members of FEATS, we are proud to be part of this wonderful festival again, and hope to welcome you in Antwerp in 2018.

Celebrating 40 years of FEATS and the next 100 years for the ECC

It is seven years since the ECC last hosted FEATS in Brussels and celebrated the 100th anniversary of the foundation of the club in 1909.

This year FEATS reaches its 40th birthday and the ECC is on the way to its second century. Some things have changed but others remain remarkably the same.

FEATS has expanded and competition for entry has increased.

The original members remain loyal and enthusiastically follow the event around Europe.

The number of theatre groups offering to host has increased which means that FEATS returns less frequently to Brussels

This will be the 8th time that FEATS has been to Brussels and the theatre venue has remained the same since 1984.

Audiences for English language theatre in Brussels have changed and increased. Audience members are younger, not necessarily native English speakers but coming from a wider range of European countries and beyond.

The high quality of performances and productions remain the same. Brussels has several different English language theatre groups such as the Brussels Shakespeare Society, the Irish Theatre Group and the American Theatre Company all competing to keep the standard high.

Sets have become simpler in design. The number of original scripts has increased.

Some old favourites reappear at regular intervals. The ECC recently revived *The Real Inspector Hound* by Tom Stoppard having gained their first success at FEATS in 1976 with *After Magritte*, another Stoppard play.

Looking to the future with the UK Referendum and possible Brexit on the horizon

Whatever the result of the Referendum, English will be the main language of the EU and the demand for theatre in English will remain.

So the future of both FEATS and the ECC seems secure for the foreseeable future and maybe even for the next 100 years.

Friday 6th May

13.00 writingbrussels

Brussels has as many faces as coloured umbrellas on a rainy day. writingbrussels is a group of artists inspired by this city and its stories. Come and listen to their words and notes.

14.00 'Sure Thing' by David Ives, performed by Semi-Circle, Basel

In this short comic play Betty and Bill meet by chance in a café, and begin negotiating the maze of wrong things to say on a first encounter. Awkward! Wouldn't you just love to be able to re-phrase those clumsy chat-up lines?

14.20 Wedding Toast by Laura Mannino

Performed by Sandra Regenbogen (ESOC Darmstadt)

14.30 Introduction to Improv

Get ready to be taken out of your comfort zone, expand your creativity, and build your confidence in an active and fun-filled hour of improv. Learn to accept your own and your partner's ideas and make your scene partner look good, all through fun exercises and games that will stretch your imagination. Great for actors and non-actors alike interested in exploring the concepts of improv in a fun and welcoming environment.

15:30 Eddie by Danny Strike

Meet Eddie, compulsive gambler, ex-booth boxer, accidental bigamist, likeable (up to a point) rogue! The trouble is, he doesn't know when to stop.

Saturday 7th May

13.00 Drama-Based Games Workshop

What better way to get to know your new and old FEATS friends better than joining us for a drama based games workshop. We will be playing several character and social deduction based games. Whilst the thrust of the workshop will be centred around how these games can help in creating theatre. We hope to offer an opportunity for one and all to come and meet new people and discover perhaps a little more about friends you also thought you knew! Steve Challens will be leading a session of Resistance, Spyfall, Billionaire, Coup and Love Letters. Any time remaining may be offered to the Sheriff of Nottingham. Be warned!

14:00 Ruby of Elsinore by Bruce Kane, Lucerne World Theatre Company Elsinore, Denmark. Ruby has established herself as the go-to hairdresser in town. And, "what's said at Ruby's, stays at Ruby's", which is why she enjoys the trust of all her customers - from King Claudius to Hamlet to Ophelia. But many a secret is revealed in this peek into her respected salon.

14.30-16.00 The Creative Forum

To share each other's experiences and ideas from productions; support each other; share initiatives and find ways to improve the calibre of the festival. This is a 90 minute seminar led by Nigel Harvey where we can share ideas, discuss theatre, talk about our experiences of productions etc.

16.15 The Dangers of Tobacco by Anton Chekhov performed by Michael Connelly of AATG. This presentation of "The Dangers of Tobacco" by Anton Chekhov sees Ian McEwan, based on Chekhov's Ivan Ivanovich Nyukhin, giving a lecture on the harmful effects of tobacco - having been instructed to do so by his wife, the domineering headmistress of an Edinburgh private school. However, he very rarely sticks to the subject of his lecture!

Sunday 8th May

11.00-12.30 FEATS Forum

Annual forum at FEATS to discuss the running of the festival.

13.00 The Zoo Story by Edward Albee presented by BATS

The Zoo Story concerns Jerry, a rather disconnected individual, and his efforts to achieve real communication with Peter, equally disconnected but wrapped in the cloak, the disguise, of respectability. In the play these characters meet in circumstances that have life changing consequences for both.

13.50 New Phone by Alisha Gaddis

Performed by Sandra Regenbogen (ESOC Darmstadt)

14.00-15.30 Acting With No Limits

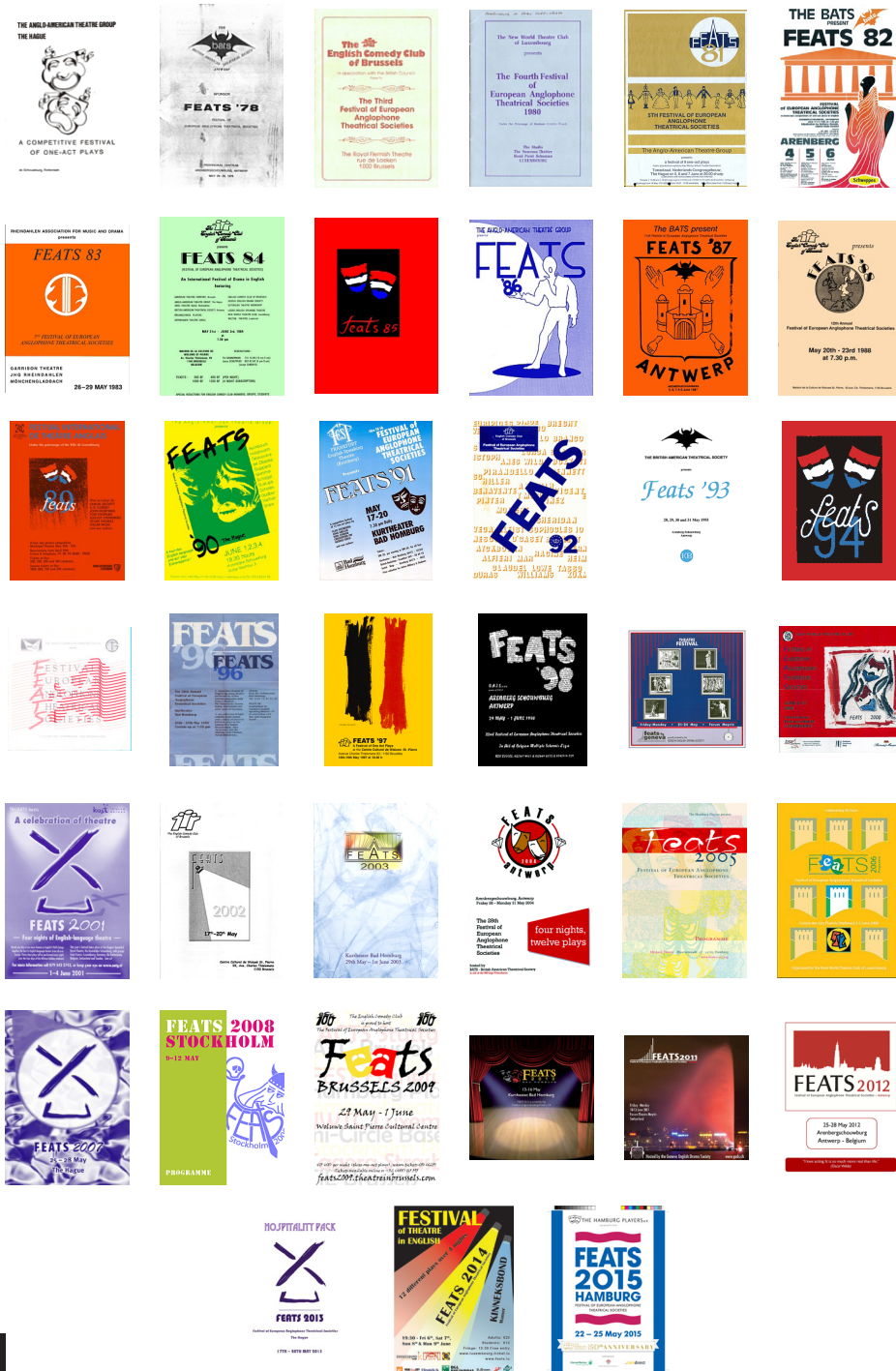
Actor's Workout tries to make all its workshops fun! We'll start with each participant introducing themselves in a unique way, breaking down the barriers of self-consciousness and allowing the actor to freely think and play. There will be some movement and voice work to warm up followed by several exercises. The finale will give the actor a chance to show their creativity in an environment where they will feel safe, confident and everything goes!

15:30 Death By Zumba by Maureen Littrell

Performed by Sandra Regenbogen (ESOC Darmstadt)

15.45 Hans Field, Singer, Songwriter, and Music Producer, based in Munich. Well known in Munich for his unusual renderings of known songs and unusual costumes, he sings his own songs of life.

17.00 FEATS Skit



- 1976** The first festival, in Rotterdam, organised by the Anglo-American Theatrical Group (now AATG).
- 1976** A first, informal, Steering Committee set up. First joint meeting of AATG (The Hague), BATS (Antwerp) and ECC (Brussels) held in Brussels.
- 1977** The name FEATS – Festival of European Anglophone Theatrical Societies – chosen.
- 1978** First festival held under the name FEATS. NWTC from Luxembourg joined the steering committee.
- 1980** Formalisation of the Steering Committee when a Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the four rotating Host Groups.
- 1981** Groups from the United Kingdom excluded from all future FEATS.
- 1983** First four-day festival.
- 1986** Idea of a FEATS newsletter proposed.
- 1990** The first Fringe Festival organised by the AATG in The Hague.
- 1991** FEST (Frankfurt) became the fifth member of the Steering Committee.
- 1992** First FEATS Forum meeting held (under the title of “Meet the Committee”).
- 1993** The method for choosing the groups changed, from being a “first name out of the hat” draw with geographical weighting, to the present three-list system.
- 1996** The first Web page, part of the University of Geneva site, set up.
- 1996** Scoring system modified to include 10 points (previously 5) for “innovation”.
- 1998** Major update of the FEATS rules. First Permanent Secretary to the Steering Committee appointed.
- 1999** FEATS acquired its own Web site: <http://www.feats.org/>. Maximum play length increased from 45 to 55 minutes.
- 2001** Non-returnable entry fee instituted (initially €50).
- 2004** First edition of the FEATS Fact Book.
- 2006** FEATS Web site moves to feats.eu address (although feats.org is maintained in parallel for a number of years)
- 2009** “Innovation” points removed from the scoring system.
- 2010** FEATS database goes on line.
- 2012** FEATS rules published in full.

Nine prizes will be awarded at the end of the Festival. The adjudicator will decide the allocation of these prizes with the exception of the Stage Management Award, which will be decided upon by the Festival Stage Management team. The adjudicator may choose not to give the DAW-Verulam Award for best original script.

Award	My Prediction	Winner
The Founders' Trophy Best Production		
The ECC Centennial Cup 2nd place		
The BATS Trophy 3rd place		
The DAW-Verulam Award Best original script		
The Grand Duchy Cup Best Stage Presentation		
The Marcel Huhn-Bruno Boeye Trophy - Stage Management		
The Don Luscombe Award Adjudicator's Discretionary award		
Blackie Best Actor		
Blackie Best Actress		

The winner of the Best Production at FEATS 2016 may be eligible for invitation to the All-Winners Festival, which will take place this year in Hertford, Hertfordshire on 25-31 July.

FEATS Steering Committee 2015/2016

Evonne Dunne	Chair, AATG, The Hague
Wendy Jane Jones.....	FEST, Frankfurt
Pat Arn.....	BATS, Antwerp
Valerie Scott	NWTC, Luxembourg
Andy Ing	ECC, Brussels
Sue Seth.....	Newsletter Editor
David Crowe	Webmaster
Tony Broscomb	NDFA Liaison

FEATS 2016 Organising Committee

Eileen Sutton	Chair
Janet Middleton.....	Secretary
Martin Blackwell	Treasurer
Andy Ing, Conrad Toft	Stage Management
Lyn Wainwright	ECC Chair
Barbara Daw.....	Lighting
Steve O'Byrne	Sound
Boff Muir	Hospitality
Carlos Casorran, Diana Campillo, Sara Hammerton	Publicity
Kerry Lydon, Kristina Kardum	Fringe
Malinda Coleman.....	Adjudicator Host
Philip Deeks.....	Bar
Pauline van-Greuning Smith.....	FOH
Roisin Dore, Conrad Toft.....	Logo, Programme
Steve Challens	Party
Sybil Beaton.....	Food

Special Thanks to Richard Maddern who stepped in as
Theatre Technical Coordinator.

Group Hosts

Miranda Crichton, Marion Tomkins, Louise Thompson, Robynn Colwell,
Kerry Lydon

FEATS 2016 Volunteers

Many thanks to the many volunteers whose names do not appear in the programme. etc FEATS 2016, the FEATS 2016 Fringe and the FEATS 2016 Party would also like to extend their sincere and grateful thanks to the staff of the Woluwe-Saint-Pierre Cultural Centre.

- 1976** After Magritte (Best Play/Best Actor John Sandford)
- 1978** Double Double (Best Play)
- 1979** ECC Hosts
- 1980** Hands Across the Sea (2nd Prize/Best Set)
- 1981** Miss in Her Teens (Best Play/Best Actress Susan Blackwell)
- 1982** Crystal Anniversary (Best Set)
- 1983** Lady Audley's Secret
- 1984** ECC Hosts
- 1985** Act Without Words (Best Play)
- 1986** The Dumb Waiter (2nd Prize)
- 1988** ECC Hosts
- 1989** Albert's Bridge
- 1991** Going All the Way
- 1992** ECC Hosts
- 1993** Fumed Oak (3rd Prize)
- 1994** The Bear (2nd Prize)
- 1996** Lunch Girls
- 1997** ECC Hosts
- 1999** Leonardo's Last Supper
- 2000** Man of Letters (Stage Management Prize)
- 2001** Bye Bye Bunty (3rd Prize/ Best Original Script)
- 2002** ECC Hosts
- 2003** Red Peppers
- 2005** Underground Lovers (Best Play/Best Actor Colum Hatchell)
- 2007** Doctor Faustus (Best Actor Caraigh McGregor)
- 2009** ECC Hosts
- 2010** The Red Death (2nd Prize)
- 2012** A Dog's Life (Stage Management Prize)
- 2015** War Brides
- 2016** ECC Hosts



Some people wear a mask to hide their despair ... sometimes it's hard to find someone to talk to in confidence...



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HELP LINE in complete confidence for emotional support. 24/7. No problem is too trivial. Crisis, Support & Information telephone services in English. Non judgemental, confidential and anonymous.
Tel: 02-648 4014

The CHS also has a professional team of psychologists, psychotherapists and psychiatrists who offer professional services and a children's testing programme for children with learning difficulties.
Tel: 02-647 6780



ECC

Come back and see our next production ...

The Government Inspector

by **Nikolai Gogol**

Directed by **Anna Holmén**

The Warehouse Studio Theatre

<http://ecc.theatreinbrussels.com>



FEATS 2017 takes place 2-5 June
and is hosted by Frankfurt English Speaking
Theatre (FEST) at the English Theatre
Frankfurt. We look forward to welcoming
you all.

Information about FEATS 2017 will be posted on www.feats2017.com over the coming months.