

If you have any suggestions or comments for ECCO, then please send them to Conrad at ecco@ecc.theatreinbrussels.com.

The next ECCO will come out in November 2010.

ECCO

Sept 2010



"Good writing excites me, and makes life worth living."

Harold Pinter

Join in with the new season

Welcome back!

I hope that the summer treated you well, and that you are looking forward to the start of another season of Brussels am dram.

Once again, the ECC kicks off a busy schedule, with our Studio production in September. Auditions are coming up this month for our December show... in short, we are right back into the swing of things.

A colleague once told me that the moment a job feels

like it is taking more out of you than you are getting back from it, it is time to move on.

It is a fact that a lot of the "behind the scenes" work falls on relatively few shoulders - and Brussels being the international community that it is, sometimes people leave, get busy with other things, or just need a well-deserved break, leaving the pool of helpers even smaller.

So here is my "shout-out" for volunteers! Can you help with any of the (myriad of) jobs to be done at the Warehouse and Studio? Or do you have some

time to devote to the Committee?

Any helping hands will be welcome, and enthusiasm is more important than experience!

If you want to get involved, do please come along to the AGM next month (Friday 22nd October) and talk to any of the Committee.



Best wishes,
Abigail Greef

Abigail.Greef@skynet.be

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To kick off the 2010-2011 season with a bang, the English Comedy Club invites you to an evening of two one-act plays: *Savage/Love* and *The Dumb Waiter*.

The box office is already open, so if you would like to make sure that you don't miss out on a ticket, book soon at ecc.theatreinbrussels.com.

You can find out more about the two plays on page 2, where the directors, Anna Sparre and Steve Challens, give you the low down on each one.

These plays will also be shown in Bedford as part of our ongoing cooperation with the Swan Theatre Company. Tickets are already available for Swan's return production, *Vincent River*, which will be here in Brussels on 29 and 30 October.

If you would like to help out with the bar or front of house for either of these shows, then please contact the producer, Conrad Toft, on conradtoft@gmail.com.

Two for the price of one!

two one-act plays, one great evening
8pm, 21-25 September 2010

Sam Shepard and Joseph Chaikin's
Savage /Love & Dumb Waiter

Harold Pinter's

Warehouse Studio Theatre
Rue Waelhem 69a
1030 Brussels
Tickets: €12/€10
ecc.theatreinbrussels.com

A bite of the Butties

The ECC would like to extend its congratulations to all the winners of the 2010 Butties, the Brussels amateur theatre equivalent of the Oscars.

The awards ceremony was great fun (as usual), held in Jim McKenna's garden. This year it finished with a splash, with an impromptu synchronised swimming display in a thunderstorm by many of your best loved technical crews (all of whom survived). Come along next year!

The ECC was nominated in most categories and won:

- Best show - Someone Who'll Watch Over Me
- Actor - Colum Hatchell (SWWOM)
- Producer - Carrie Counce (The Red Death)
- Stage Manager - Sue Botterell (Three Tall Women and three others!)
- Sound - The Red Death
- Front of house/Box Office - The Cherry Orchard



ECC Committee

Chair (& ACTS rep):	Abi Greef
Hon. Treasurer:	Martin Blackwell
Hon. Secretary:	Mark Prescott
Membership:	Rachel Cuff
FE ATS rep:	Andy Ing
CAST rep:	Martin Kirk
ECCO & Web:	Conrad Toft
Without portfolio:	Iona Hamilton

Annual General Meeting

Come and...
vote!
drink wine!
gossip!
join the
Committee?

Warehouse Studio
Friday, 22 October, 7pm

Savage/Love

Anna Sparre, Director

Sam Shepard and Joseph Chaikin started working collaboratively in the late 70's.

They soon realised that they wanted to share their thoughts on love, thus

ended up writing *Savage/Love*.

Most of the play they didn't write together, instead they went off and thought about their own experiences and relationships, working not only with words but the physical representation of love.

The play itself is a set of 19 poems, as Shepard himself said, about "real and imagined moments in the spell of love", connecting people with universal stories about

the most revered and written-about feeling in the world.

The abstract nature of the play makes it a challenge to transfer from the page to the stage.

The play

touches

the audience's hearts, with topics that are both happy and agonising.

None of us have the answer, to life or love, but we have a gift for remembering and treasuring the special moments that mean the most to us.

This is just one reflection of two men's feelings on an emotion that never needs translation, and at the same time never stops amazing humanity.



The Dumb Waiter

Steve Challens, Director

This is one of Harold Pinter's best known and purest examples of 'Theatre of Menace'; a sixties modern version of Beckett's 'Waiting for Godot'.

Two hitmen await a target and their orders in a dirty dark basement flat in Birmingham.

Meanwhile, the two characters are faced with disturbing messages sent via a dumb waiter in the middle of the room.

The partners' relationship is questioned and both face menace from both within and without.

Angry, violent and measured, Pinter creates a drama where

class, conditioning and work are examined alongside conflict.

Silence is used as a weapon and becomes as important as the words to the play's themes and message.

Many would consider the play over done, over examined and over viewed.

However with a female cast many questions, issues and aspects that have previously been overlooked are examined in a new context.

With the advent of *Ladettes*, *Kill Bill* and girl violence on the increase, surely Pinter's seminal piece deserves a fresh new approach and re-visiting with a modern audience and society in mind.



Auditions:

Private Fears in Public Places

Auditions will be held on Wednesday, 15 September and Thursday, 16 September at 7pm until 9pm at the Warehouse for *Private Fears in Public Places* by Alan Ayckbourn. The show will be directed for the ECC by Diana Morton-Hooper and stage-managed by Sue Botterell.

This 2004 play is one of the bleakest (though witty) written by Ayckbourn for many years. It intimately follows a few days in the lives of six characters, in four tightly-interwoven stories through 54 scenes. In 2006, it was made into a film *Cœurs*, directed by Alain Resnais.

This is an ensemble piece which will require precision, good timing and a naturalistic approach. The cast must look compatible age-wise but this could be an all young or a more mature cast.

The production will take place in the warehouse studio theatre 8 – 12 December 2010 (matinee and evening performances on 11 Dec, matinee on 12 Dec).

Rehearsals will begin 4 October. They will be intensive: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday evenings and occasional Sundays. There will be a week's break over Toussaint, then back to intensive again.

Sue Botterell will also be looking to recruit for her production team at these auditions. Carsten Koestner will be designing and running the lighting/sound but we are looking for help on props, wardrobe, box office, bar. Should you be unable to make any of the above dates, please call Diana on 0476 689425 or Sue on 0499 250708.

Parts available:

Nicola
Upper middle class Englishwoman

Dan
Nicola's fiance, an ex army officer

Stewart
Estate agent for Nicola

Imogen
Stewart's sister who looks for true love & finds Dan

Ambrose
Hotel bartender, Dan's regular server

Arthur
Ambrose's bedridden father, heard but not seen

Charlotte
Stewart's work colleague, now devout but with a murky past, whom Stewart takes a fancy to

TV voices
Various voices recorded for Stewart's TV

Are you in with the IT crowd?

Wanted: Web editor with GSOH. Should love ECC, or be related to someone who does. Must be good with pets, incl. mice. Suits experienced keyboard jockey or keen amateur aged 4 to 94. Interested?

[Email us now!](#)

Next play reading

The next play reading will be on Wednesday 8 September, 7.45pm at Barbara Blackwell's house (rue Louis Hymans 20, Ixelles 1050).

Due to a change in plans, this month's play is a mystery. In Oscar Wilde and Mary Pritchard's words: "A play reading should come upon a member as a surprise, pleasant or unpleasant as may be"

Please ring ahead on 02 345 8583 (9-10 am or 8-10 pm) so that we can confirm numbers!

That time of year...

For those of you who have not yet renewed your subscription (which will run out at the end of September), there is still time to dip your hand in your wallet.

We would like to remind you that membership not only contributes to supporting the ECC, but also gives you benefits such as reductions on ticket prices, monthly play readings and other events.

Membership remains at the rate of €10 per year, and only €5 for students, stagiaires and the under-18s, with the membership year running from 1 October to 30 September.

We would be very grateful if all new and continuing members could fill in a copy of the membership form on

ecc.theatreinbrussels.com under Membership, in order to ensure that our contact details remain current.

If you have any queries regarding membership, please do not hesitate to contact our membership secretary, Rachel Cuff, on membership@ecc.theatreinbrussels.com or 0486 102 632.

You can post your membership forms by email or by post to Rachel Cuff, Rue Lesbroussart 110, 1050 Brussels.

Membership dues can be paid by bank transfer to our account: 310-0627727-29.

Please don't forget to put your name in the communication.

ETCetera asbl presents:

Absurd, absurd!

An evening of 3 European plays of the absurd

Pic-Nic de Fernando Arrabal

(en español), dirigido por Diana Gneiting

Victoria Station by Harold Pinter

(in English), directed by Hugh Dow

La Cantatrice Chauve par Eugène Ionesco

(en français), mise en scène par Catriona White

(con subtítulos/with surtitles/avec surtitres)



October 12th-16th 2010 at 20.00

Studio Theatre (Warehouse)

rue Waelhem 69a, 1030 Brussels

www.europeantheatreclub.eu

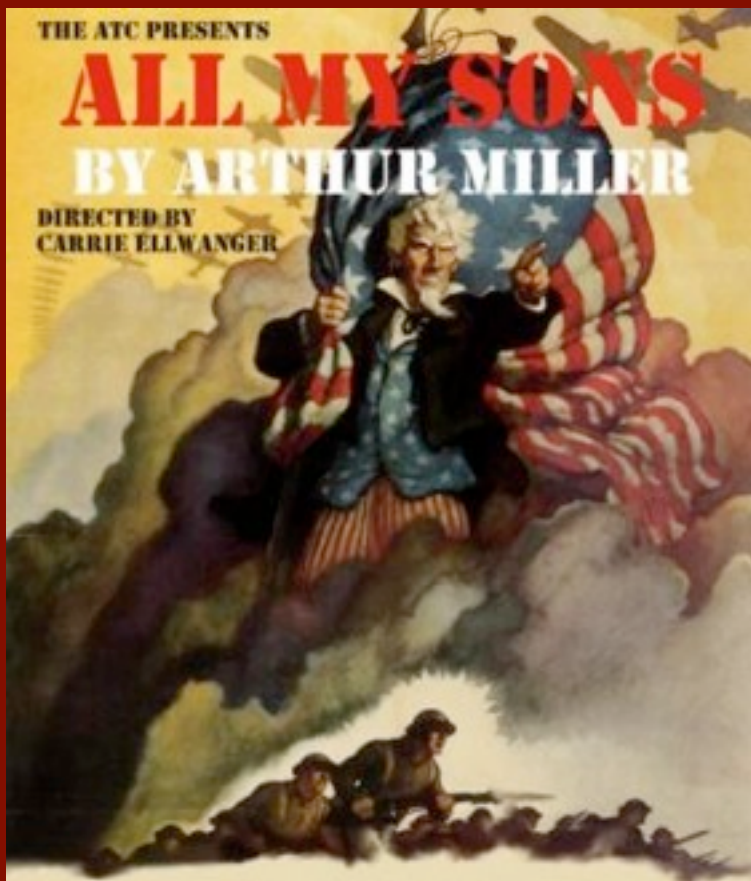
Tickets €15 tickets.etcetera@gmail.com or 0492 64 16 60

THE ATC PRESENTS

ALL MY SONS

BY ARTHUR MILLER

DIRECTED BY
CARRIE ELLWANGER



October 12 to 16, 2010 at 8pm, Bozar Studio theatre
Tickets: €16, [Bozar website](http://www.bozar.be) or by phone 02 507 82 00.

Swan Theatre Company in association with ECC presents, with the permission of The Road-Hall Agency Ltd

vincent river

by philip ridley

"I rely on Philip Ridley to leave me shaken and shocked. His considerable imagination reached places I prefer not to visit, unless escorted by a writer of his moral seriousness."
Evening Standard, London

"Ridley is a singular writer, probably a genius, and the creator of some of the most compelling British plays of recent years."
Time Out, London

26th - 27th october

warehouse studio theatre, 69a rue waelhem, schaarbeek, brussels

tickets available from

<http://ecc.theatreinbrussels.com>

Tickets 13 euros, or 11 euros for ECC members or groups of 10+

* This play contains some strong language.



BRUSSELS LIGHT OPERA COMPANY

proudly presents

GUYS AND DOLLS

Music by Frank Loesser
Story by Jo Swering & Abe Burrows



Music Director: David Miller
Directors: Keith Tilletson and Eric Gobin

18-21 November 2010

Auderghem Cultural Centre

Boulevard du Souverain 183-185, 1160 Brussels

www.bloc-brussels.com

Reserve these show dates in your diary now!