



MAINO AMATEUR DRAMA FEDERATION

EASTER
FESTIVAL OF
FULL LENGTH
PLAYS
2017





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Original Director and Choreographer by **SUSAN STROMAN**

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Manx Amateur Drama Federation

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Committee

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Stage Crew

Stage Manager	David Daugherty
Assistant Stage Manager	Lindsay Riordan

Back Stage

Louisa Bawden, Artia Bawden Elstrop, Hayley Daugherty, Daniel Hall, Clare Austin, Michael Cowin, Joanna Curphey, Mike Percival & Mary Musker

Committee Representatives from

The Albany Theatre Group, Arbury Players, Friends of Manx Drama, Friends of the Gaiety, Hog the Limelight, The Legion Players, The Manx Operatic Society, Rushen Players, The Service Players and The Gilbert and Sullivan Society

Life Members

Mr John Bowring, Mrs Carol Clarke, Mrs Olga Gray, Mrs Jenny Green, Mr Michael J Lees, Mrs Joyce Lockstone, Mrs Jan Percival, Mrs Jean Webb, Mr S Whittam and Mr John Wright

*Winners of the MADF Festival will be eligible to compete in the
National Drama Festivals Association All Winners Festival.*

Our Chairman

Clare Austin



Good Evening Ladies and Gentlemen. It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to the 69th Manx Amateur Drama Federation Festival of Full Length Plays.

A warm welcome too, to our competing teams, some who have visited the festival many times and others, for whom this is their first year.

Come and meet them at the Green Room, aka the bar at the Empress Hotel, each evening after the adjudications, along with the adjudicator, committee and audience members, all ready to discuss the evening's play.

Last, but by no means least, welcome to our adjudicator Robert Meadows, GoDA. Some of you may remember him, particularly from last year's One Act Festival. I hope he enjoys the week: much adjudicating, a lunchtime talk and hopefully some spare time to enjoy all the island has to offer.

This year saw Olga Gray, former President and festival supporter for many years, honoured with an MBE for Service to the Manx Community. So well deserved, I'm sure you'll agree. I and the rest of the committee very much appreciate her continued support and committee contributions.

We have a fantastic festival lined up for you this year. A full week of plays which will make you laugh, cry and perhaps question the meaning of life!

All that remains for now is for you to sit back and enjoy tonight's production - open tabs!

Our Adjudicator

Robert Meadows

Robert Meadows has adjudicated for many festivals in England, Wales, Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man since 2003, including the All Ulster Drama Festival Final at Newtownabbey in 2015 and the All England One Play Festival in the same year.

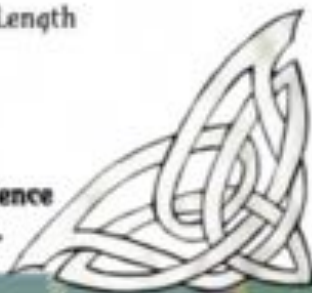


Since his visit to the Isle of Man for the One Act Play Festival last February, he has been the adjudicator for the Cambridge Drama Festival, Totton Festival of Drama, the Young Farmer's Drama Final at the Winter Gardens in Blackpool and the Larne Drama Festival. In 2017 he is working for theatre festivals in the Orkneys, Stirling and Newtownabbey as well as adjudicating two of this year's All England Theatre Festival semi-finals.

Over the years, he has written and directed many community theatre plays and street theatre festivals across the North West of England as well as having professional performances of his work presented in the Sherman Theatre, Cardiff and Calgary Theatre in Canada. He also ran his own 'Murder Evening' company and his scripts continue to be performed in the UK and abroad. He also works as an arts consultant: promoting partnership working between the amateur and professional theatre sectors; providing advice and support to schools and universities in the field of arts learning; and undertaking evaluation work for museums, galleries, orchestras and, of course, theatres.

He is delighted to be the adjudicator for this year's Full Length Play Festival and looks forward to enjoying the feast of theatrical delights on offer.

Olga and Michael Gray wish the Teams, adjudicator, audience and everyone involved in the Festival a very happy week.





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Many thanks

The Manx Amateur Drama Federation is extremely grateful to everyone who has contributed to our festival once again.

This includes the financial support and invaluable advice from our sponsors, the companies who have helped us and advertised for us and in this programme.

The time given by our committee, all the volunteers who work to organise all our festivals each year and the Friends of Manx Drama for their continuing support.

The Gaiety Staff and Friends who keep the venue running smoothly and the Empress Hotel who host our Green Room each evening and our Festival Lunch.

Finally, we would also like to thank the teams whether local or from further afield who are entertaining us so wonderfully each evening, and lastly our audience, all the regular theatre goers who are joining us every night.

We sincerely thank you all.

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Saturday 15th April

Bejou Productions

The Night Alive

by Conor McPherson

Cast:

Maurice	David Streames
Tommy	Richard Foster
Aimee	Joanna Mitchell
Doc	Robb Stow
Kenneth	Jeremy Battersby

Backstage:

Director	John White
Stage Manager	Carole Jonas
Stage crew	Tracy Foster

Running Time: 2 hours (one interval)

Synopsis:

"You only get a few goes at life. This is it." Tommy's not a bad man, he's getting by, keeping his ex-wife and kids at arms' length. One day he comes to the aid of Aimee, who's not had it easy herself. But the past won't let go easily. Together there is a glimmer of hope.

Sunday 16th April

Peterborough Mask Theatre

The Pillowman by Martin McDonagh

Cast:

Katurian	Pete Unwin
Tupolski	Phil Lewis
Ariel	Matt Robertson
Michal	Carl Perkins
Father	Jonny Hate
Mother	Becky Owen-Fisher
Maria	Faith Perkins

Backstage:

Director	Helen McCay
Performance Guide	Laura Smyth

Running Time: 2 hours 25 minutes (one interval)

Synopsis:

Katurian, a writer of short stories which often depict violence against children, has been arrested by two detectives, Ariel and Tupolski, because some of his stories resemble recent child murders. When he hears that his brother Michal has confessed to the murders and implicated Katurian, he resigns himself to his execution but attempts to save his stories from destruction. The play includes both narrations and reenactments of several of Katurian's stories, most notably the autobiographical "The Writer and the Writer's Brother", which tells how Katurian developed his disturbed imagination by hearing the sounds of Michal being tortured by their parents.

www.masktheatre.co.uk

Page kindly sponsored by Jeff Clague

Monday 17th April

White Cobra Productions

Dizzy Boo by Brian Wright

Cast:

Nick Brenner & D.S. Duval
Donna Brenner & Mrs Fiona McNee
Hugo Fogg & Jez Herbert
Ben Toye & Prof. Rory McNee
Paddy Nolan-Toye & Sergeant Radda
Louise Herbert
Lucy Pasco

Fraser Haines
Kate Billingham
Richard Jordan
Rod Arkle
Kimberley Vaughan
Bernie Wood
Denise Swann

Backstage:

Director
Producers
Stage Manager
Lighting and Sound Technician

John Myhill
White Cobra Productions Ltd
Denise Swann
Ella Drake

Running Time: 1 hour 45 minutes (one interval)

Synopsis:

Set on the Brenner and Toye barbecue terraces from July-October 2017. The Brennens, Toyes - and later the Herberts - live at Saxon Mead, a gated estate of detached five-bedroom houses with landscaped gardens overlooking old water meadows and a picturesque bend of the river. Perfect in every way - until compulsive womanizer Nick Brenner's latest conquest, a lissom solicitor working for the Council, breathes the words "new housing development" across the pillow, and a mysterious stranger appears, changing our three marriages forever.

www.whitecobarproductions.co.uk

Page kindly sponsored by Joyce Lockstone

Tuesday 18th April

Legion Players

The Last Obit

by Peter Tinniswood

Cast:

Millicent

Stephanie Gray

Backstage:

Director/Producer

Olga Gray

Stage concept, design & effects

Benjamin Heath

Stage Crew

Members of Legion Players

Running Time: 1 hour 15 minutes (no interval)

Synopsis:

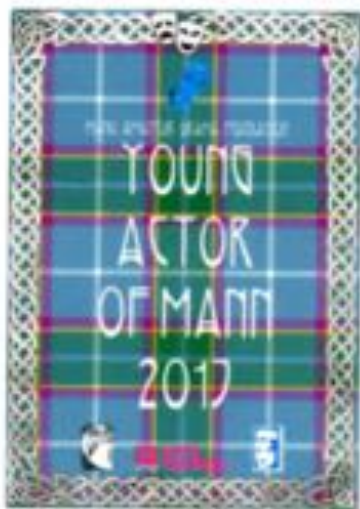
Millicent has been computerised. After a lifetime's work in the Obituary Department of the Morning Telegraph she has been made redundant. The firm, however, has allowed her to go out in style - she can write her last obit in her own hand with her own fountain pen. But whose last obit will it be? She plunders her memories, her fantasies and her friendships before she makes her decision.

www.legionplayers.com



Young Actor of Mann 2017

The final will be held on Wednesday 19th April at the Studio Theatre, Ballakermeen High School at 2pm.



Finalists will perform one of their original pieces and a test piece set by the adjudicator Robert Meadows, GoDA,

All playgoers are invited to attend this event and tickets are available on the door - £3 per person.

The winner will be announced after the final play of the Easter Festival at The Gaiety Theatre.

The Manx Amateur Drama Federation (MADF) provides a Bursary to the value of £500 for the winner to be used for fees towards attending a UK Summer School/Holiday workshop at a Drama school of the winner's choice.

Thanks to Jacqui Hawkes for organising the Young Actor of Mann Competition



Wednesday 19th April

Wellington Theatre Company

The Lying Kind by Anthony Neilson

Cast:

Gobbel	Matty Richardson
Blunt	Dave Beddows
Gronya	Laura Delves
Garson	Ali Fear
Balthasar	Ben Branson
Reverend Shandy	Joseph Maclean
Carol	Victoria Cooper
Woman	Jasmine Walsh

Backstage:

Director	Brian Hughes
Producer	Jack King
Set Design	Andrew Foster
Lighting	Fiona Boyle
Sound Effects	Jack King

Running Time: 1 hour 30 minutes (one interval)

Synopsis:

A darkly comic farce featuring policemen, a mad old couple, some local chavs, a chihuahua and a vicar! Constables Blunt and Gobbel have one last duty to fulfil before they can finish for Christmas Eve; telling an elderly couple some terrible news. But what if the shock is too much for them? They didn't join up in order to ruin people's lives. And maybe it would all be easier if they weren't also stuck in the middle of a full-scale village lynch-mob.

This production is dedicated to the memory of Marianne Foster. A talented actress, director, and the heart and soul of Wellington Theatre Company.

www.belfreytheatre.com

Page kindly sponsored by Dorrie and Harvey Garton

Thursday 20th April

University Players, Hamburg

Lift Not the Painted Veil

Original script by Julie Lerpiniere & stage adaptation by
Nigel Harvey

Cast:

The Nurse	Svenja Baumann
William Godwin	Paul Kahre
Old Mary Shelley	Jana Stüven
The Creature	Jasper Koch
Young Mary Shelley	Clara Kasten
Percy Bysshe Shelley	Marc Borchert
Jane Claremont	Gesa Penthin
Lord Byron	Steven Montero
Dr. John Pollidori	David Heuberg
The Maid / Mary Godwin	Annika Gosset
Critic / Young Dr. Frankenstein	Simon Deggim
Critic	David Rothmaier

Synopsis:

Lift Not the Painted Veil tells the story of Mary Shelley and her creation Frankenstein. An old Mary Shelley in her final hours is visited by her creation. Through this meeting Mary is transported back to the period when she got the ideas for her famous novel. But why is the monster here? What does he want?

Continued...

University Players, Hamburg

Frankenstein

by Mary Shelley (adaptation by Svenja Baumann)

Cast:

Elisabeth	Svenja Baumann
Young Creature	Paul Kahre
Agatha	Jana Stüven
Old Creature	Jasper Koch
Safe	Clara Kasten
DeLacey	Marc Borchert
Justine	Gesa Penthin
William	Steven Montero
Alphonse	David Heuberg
Chorus	Annika Gosset
Victor Frankenstein	Simon Deggim
Felix	David Rothmaier

Synopsis:

In the second half, the Creature himself gives his account of the story through Mary Shelley's famous words. The often neglected perspective of the so-called "monster" uncovers where the actual horror of Frankenstein lies: Prejudice, isolation, vengefulness and the lack of responsibility that human-beings feel for each other. Who are the real monsters in our society?

Backstage:

Lighting and Sound	Tom White
Stage Management and Crew	Arja Sharma & Annika Gosset
Producer	Svenja Baumann
Director	Nigel Harvey
Composer	Marc Borchers
Costume	Marina Schneemann & Marleen Jalas

Running Time: 1 hour 30 minutes (one interval)

Friday 21st April

Garden Suburb Theatre

The Regina Monologues

by Rebecca Russell & Jenny Wafer

Cast:

Cathy	Rachel Berg
Annie	Jemima Lane
Jane	Bryony Taylor
Anna	Fiona White
Katie	Freya Carroll
Katherine	Trudi Dane

Backstage:

Director	Debbie Lane
Production Assistant	John Colmans
Stage Manager	Charlotte Lane
Lighting & Sound	David Lane
Props	Veronica Woolf
	Mo Colmans
Crew	Richard Kinder
	Tony Newton

Running Time: 1 hour 15 minutes (no interval)

Synopsis:

Six women, at one time all married to the same man called Henry – it just couldn't happen nowadays.....The Regina Monologues is a modern take on a certain 16th century English king whose wives tell their stories, separately and yet all together, in a room in which they have all once lived. A funny, thought-provoking reflection on love, sex, motherhood and marriage.

www.gardensuburbtheatre.org.uk

@GdnSubTheatre

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Remembering happy times with dear members and friends of MADF

MADF members were deeply saddened to lose three of their most valued friends and loyal supporters over the last few months of 2016.

Brian Keenan was one of the most colourful, charismatic, caring and much loved members of our Island community. A constant supporter of MADF and indeed all live theatre, arts groups and events on and off the Island, Brian also helped many local charities. As General Manager of the Empress Hotel, our Easter Festival headquarters and Green room, his hospitality and help were outstanding, and his sense of humour and quick wit, unsurpassed. He was indeed a "Star" and his loss is immeasurable.



Barbara Curtis was a delegate for The Legion Players on MADF's committee for many years. Her quiet and unassuming manner hid a great ability for "getting things done" efficiently and without any Drama. An accomplished actress she always supported amateur theatre. Our thoughts are with her family and especially her two grandsons, one of whom she was confident would be treading the boards in her footsteps before too long.

Peter Bradley - (or "Mr Fix It" as one of our visiting teams named him) was someone who would provide that "certain elusive prop" not to be found anywhere. His cellar at The Gresham Hotel was indeed an Aladdin's cave and he never let us down, nothing was ever too much trouble for him. He, together with his wife Gill, offered hospitality and support to MADF over many years.



Thank you Brian, Barbara and Peter for many happy memories.



Ron Blackburn (1940 – 2017)

Ron was a founder member of Group Theatre Company (The London Lot) and acted in nearly every play we brought to the Easter Festival. He played a wide variety of parts from the bandit, Tajomaru, in "Rashomon" via Laurence in "Abigail's Party" and Mr Gradgrind in "Hard Times" to Vladimir in "Waiting for Godot".

Not only an actor, Ron also loved the backstage get-in/get-out and along with the rest of the company built and painted sets (when we had them!) and was our primary driver whenever we brought the minibus.

Ron was as much involved in festival activities off stage as well as on, not least the infamous darts matches at the "Mines" in Laxey. He was also instrumental in instigating, organising and running the Friday Night Green Room Cabaret which he loved to MC. He is sadly missed.

Stan Woollock, President of Rushen Players died in his 102nd year, April 2016. He played the lead in "Sunshine Boys" at the age of 90 and his last role on stage was at the age of 96, playing Theseus in the "Dream". His voice was heard in the theatre as a Radio announcer in 2015. Stan was an actor and director par excellence.



Don Williamson who died January 2016 aged 94 was the last founder member of Rushen Players, formally known as The Rushen Amateur Dramatics Society. It was formed in 1948 and Don acted, directed and chaired the society until having a stroke in 1990. He then continued his support and could often be seen at their performances.

We offer our deepest sympathy to their families and loved ones in their loss.



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- 1985 - Tudor Players, Manchester *Bedroom Farce*
1986 - Tudor Players, Manchester *Accrington Pals*
1987 - Clarence Players, Belfast *The Goodbye People*
1988 - Martello Productions, Wicklow *Children of a Lesser God*
1989 - Group Theatre Company, London *Hard Times*
1990 - Martello Productions, Wicklow *Agnes of God*
1991 - Sedgfield Players, Co. Durham *Stepping Out*
1992 - Sedgfield Players, Co. Durham *Woman in Mind*
1993 - Group Theatre Company, London *September in the Rain*
1994 - St James' Players, Burnley *Last Tango in Whitby*
1995 - Sedgfield Players, Co. Durham *Dancing at Lughnasa*
1996 - Tryst Theatre, Falkirk *Under Milk Wood*
1997 - Brigstow Theatre Company *Driving Miss Daisy*
1998 - Tudor Players, Manchester *Hindle Wakes*
1999 - Tryst Theatre, Falkirk *Cemetery Club*
2000 - Tudor Players, Manchester *The Curious Savage*
2001 - Bovingdon Players, Herts *Abigail's Party*
2002 - Everyman Productions, Sliqo *The Mai*
2003 - In Yer Space, Blackpool *A Night in November*
2004 - Tudor Players, Manchester *The Prisoner of Second Avenue*
2005 - Tudor Players, Manchester *Humble Boy*
2006 - Cytringan Players, Kettering *'night, Mother*
2007 - Cytringan Players, Kettering *Peggy for You*
2008 - Everyman Productions, Sliqo *Juno and the Paycock*
2009 - Bejou Productions, Essex *Someone who'll watch over me*
2010 - Bejou Productions, Essex *Burn This*
2011 - Bejou Productions, Essex *The Birthday Party*
2012 - Romiley Little Theatre, Stockport *The Thirty Nine Steps*
2013 - Martello Productions, Wicklow *By the Bog of Cats...*
2014 - White Cobra Productions, Northampton
The Days of Wine and Roses
2015 - Romiley Little Theatre, Stockport *Frozen*
2016 - White Cobra Productions, Northampton *Scaramouche Jones*

For Winners prior to 1985, please see our website - www.madf.im

Awards

Trophy	Nominations	Winner
The John Bryan Award Audience Appreciation		
The David Sugden Memorial Trophy Set Conception, Design and Construction		
The J & B Green Award Costume and Makeup		
The Jackie Banner Award Comedy		
The Michael J. Lees Award Drama		
The Olga Gray Adjudicator's Award Outstanding Contribution		
The Raven Players Award Best Producer/Director		
The Richard Harris Memorial Trophy Ensemble Acting		
The Frances Isaac Award Best Performance over the age of 60		
The June Edge Cup Most Promising Performance under 21		
The Mollie Corkill Award Best Female Performance in a Supporting Role		
The David Kennaugh Award Best Male Performance in a Supporting Role		
The Vanda Lambert Award Best Female Performance		
The S. E. Benn Award Best Male Performance		
The Jack Lynch Cup Second Runner Up		
The Dick Craine Cup 1st Runner Up		
The F.M. Cubbon Trophy Best Play		

Certificates and frames kindly donated by Meg and Peter Cooper

The commemorative plaques given to each team participating in the festival have been donated by Karen and Michael Goodman and Patricia Wilkinson.

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