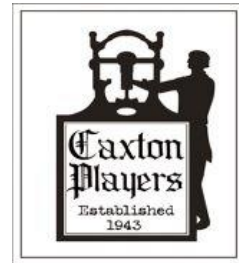




THE CAXTON PLAYERS

18-20TH OCTOBER 2024

Workshops



Writing for the stage with Andy Evans: Saturday morning

Note: 16 person per session limit for this workshop, due to space limitations.

Andy Evans is a published playwright who has worked with a number of professional companies. His first work for the stage was performed by the Caxton Youth Theatre in a play called “What’s the Difference Between a Donkey and a Mule?” the first of many plays written for the CYT. The most successful was “Moonlight Marionettes”, published in America by Playwrights. Inc. with performances worldwide including America, Canada, Japan, Russia and Australia.

Andy worked with Hull Truck Theatre and was commissioned to write “Taking a Bullet”. He has since worked with Conor McKee Productions, Daniel Bye, Slung Low, Middle Child, Dirty Protest and National Theatre Wales, Breakwater Theatre Company, Fusion Youth Theatre, Class Act Productions and Kazbah Theatre. His most recent play “Sixteen Trees” played to a sold-out house earlier this year. He is currently working on a new comedy entitled, “Tickler’s Angels” for Class Act Productions.

As a former teacher, currently studying for a PhD in Drama, Andy has taught on the MA Theatre degree at the University of Lincoln. In 2013, created a playwriting course for adults which has run successfully for three cohorts and has been hired to run numerous workshops for other festivals and events.

Andy is on the National Council of the British Puppet Guild. He recently directed puppetry in a production of “Avenue Q” at the Lincoln Arts Centre. He is the AD of Kazbah Theatre, a Cleethorpes based award-winning puppetry company where he created “Cap’n Fishcake and His Fabulous Fish Fingers”, a family show for audiences aged 3+.

Andy’s session will cover the basics of writing for the stage and will explore the fundamentals of plotting, structure and writing dialogue through a series of practical exercises. The aim is to encourage participants to explore their innate creativity and their ear for dialogue. He hopes to see the creation of a new scene by each participant by the end of the session.

Workshop content:

- Introduction
- What is drama? Q&A
- Storytelling in outline
- Plotting & Structure – and exercise in recognising the structure in a play
- Monologue v Dialogue – writing exercises
- Sharing of writing with fellow participants if time allows

WORKSHOP: Unarmed combat with Michael Mayne: Saturday morning

Note: 12 people per session limit for this workshop due to space restrictions.

Michael started his theatrical career as a child actor attending the Corona Stage School. He then attended LAMDA where he achieved an Honours Diploma and Fellowship of the Fight Arrangers Association. He was taught by Bill Hobbs and BH Barry, two of the most experienced fight arrangers in the industry in the past 50 years. They pioneered teaching actors to do their own fights and founded the FAA for that purpose.

Michael has spent over 65 years in the entertainment industry, working in theatre, films and TV. He has worked on such films as *Macbeth*, *A Clock Work Orange*, *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* and 2 of *The Three Musketeers* movies plus others. He has also worked as a fight co-ordinator on stage productions of *The Three Musketeers* and *Troilus and Cressida* with the RSC and most recently, the Caxton Theatre's acclaimed production of *Macbeth*.

Michael has taught at LAMDA, RADA, the London Film School, the Royal Opera House and Nottingham Repertory Theatre.

Workshop content:

Michael's workshop will concentrate on how to choreograph hand to hand combat so that it looks authentic and will wow your audiences, without damaging your actors! If time permits, some dagger work will be included. Sign up for a combat lesson from a professional fight co-ordinator!

WORKSHOP : How to get the most out of Social Media Advertising with Oberon de Monet: Saturday morning.

Note: *There is no attendance limit to this workshop.*

Oberon has worked online, focusing on selling via content, for 13 years. She has worked as a paid consultant as well as offering online tutorials to people setting up in business or wanting to give their established businesses a new lease of life. She has an original take on life and is passionate about what she does.

Workshop content:

- Social media 101 • Guide to the Platforms • Choosing a platform/platforms • Coming up with a strategy & a content plan
- What to post • What is your theatre's 'voice'? • Types of content 'buckets'
- When to post • Consistency is key • Thinking about your audience's habits • Analytic tools to help
- Supercharging your content • Repurposing content • Going viral - tips and tricks
- Handouts will be provided.

DEMONSTRATION: Cuts and bruises with Jess Howden and Kimi Vora: Saturday afternoon

Jess and Kimi are mature students presently taking a course at our local University Centre on special effects make up. They have both done very well in their first year and have kindly agreed to share their skills at this conference.

They will demonstrate how to create convincing looking cuts and bruises and there will be an opportunity for having a go yourself, time permitting. They have most recently, for the Caxton Theatre, bloodied and bruised Banquo's ghost during the interval of *Macbeth* and during the interval of *Hens* earlier this year, given one of the actors a lovely black eye.

TALK ON THE HISTORY OF THE CAXTON PLAYERS with Mike Wilson: Saturday afternoon

Mike has been a member of the Caxton Players for over 20 years and is no stranger to public speaking. He has given a talk on the theatre's history on many occasions. We have 81 years of fascinating history which Mike will condense in to no more than an hour.