

Newsletter

In Players In Players

February 2005

Dates for your diary:

Wednesday 16th

Play-reading

Dear All,

Hope this newsletter finds you well and happily settled back into previous routines following the New Year's holiday.

This month's newsletter has something of a cinematic feel with a movie crossword on page 3 followed by a special report from this year's Rotterdam Film Festival.

However, the big news for us this month is that we now have definite dates for *The Merry Wives of Windsor* and *Svarupa* has cast the play (with one or two roles still to be definitely decided) as follows:

<i>Mistress Page</i>	Nina Cohen
<i>Master Page</i>	Daniel Andrews
<i>Anne Page</i>	Lisa Sparreboom
<i>Mistress Ford</i>	Christine Blakely
<i>Master Ford / Nym</i>	Johan Muller
<i>Sir John Falstaff</i>	David Hulks
<i>Bardolph</i>	Simon Challis
<i>Pistol / Dr Caius</i>	Frank Percy
<i>Hostess</i>	Henny Vos
<i>Sir Hugh Evans</i>	Mike Williams
<i>Mistress Quickly</i>	Polly Perkins
<i>Master Slender / Simple</i>	Viney Dhiri
<i>Justice Shallow</i>	Ken Kitchen
<i>John</i>	Tamara Richards
<i>Robert</i>	Marta Kuzirenko



Congratulations to all those involved. The play will be staged at The Chameleon Theatre between 19th and 22nd June. Helping with the lights will Louis Spoelstra and Andrew Watson. Thanks to both of them.

February Play Reading, Café Carels II, Saenredamstraat 32



It was nice to see so many of you at the January playreading of *Liquid Love* by Teresa Merilainen and I hope that you will be able to make it again for February's reading of *Oscar Wilde's Lord Arthur Saville's Crime* as adapted for the stage by **Constance Cox**. The play was suggested by new In Player member, Lesley Hirons, who has sent me a short introduction to whet our appetites:

Set in 1890, Lord Arthur is deliriously happy: a pillar of society on the verge of marriage, until a brief departure from Victorian convention leads him to a chilling clairvoyant who pronounces that before he can marry he must commit murder.....

Wednesday, February 16th, 7.30pm, Carels Café II , Saenredamstraat 32 in Amsterdam Oud Zuid. Situated between Hobbemankade and Ferdinand Bolstraat. Trams 16, 24 and 26 pass nearby. Look carefully on the map, as there is another café with the same name in Amsterdam.

Would you like to hear a play read at a future playreading? If so, please contact Mike Williams (020) 623 0665 or mwilliams@xs4all.nl



The Open Stanza

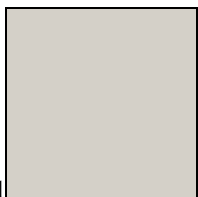
If you are interested in watching or performing English poetry, there is The Open Stanza. The Open Stanza generally consists of 4 invited poets and a musician. NB this is not an open mike! The next Open Stanza date is on **17th February** and is set to continue on the third Thursday in every month.

Open Stanza Info: www.wordsinhere.com There's still a naked bottom on the website. I've spoken to the organisers to try and get it removed but apparently it's artistic. Submissions to openstanza@wordsinhere.com or contact Jeremy Keighley (020-770 4984)

Open Mike Night

The ABC Treehouse on Voetboogstraat has a regular open mike night for singers, poets, musicians' etc which is generally on the last Friday of the month - if you would like to perform or attend please contact curatorsclub@abc.nl or 020 - 5352573. Apparently anyone can perform but you do need to arrange with them beforehand. They are scheduled for the last Friday of every month, the next date being Friday 25th February. The price is 4.50 euros incl one drink. More info <http://www.treehouse.abc.nl/> Everybody welcome regardless of previous experience.

Movie Crossword no. 1



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26													█	█

Across

1. Best Film Oscar 1954 (2,3,10)
8. British gangster film (4,4,6)
10. 1980's bandits (4)
11. Rival for James (2,2)
13. Material for Hitchcock (4)
15. The uncivilised one (5)
16. Lovable feline (6)
17. Contributed music to *Morvern Callar* (3)
18. Managed in 2003 (5)
20. Mad fella (3)
22. Religious satire (5)
23. Seafood? (7)
26. Italian director? (5,8)

Down

1. Quentin Crisp as Elizabeth I (7)
2. Ends at 12:05 (4,4)
3. Natalie or Sam (4)
4. Syohodni (1997), before tomorrow (5)
5. Small part, not often seen (4, 7)
6. In 1 across (3,7)
7. Heard in *Black Beauty*? (3)
9. Keys in ET (5, 6)
12. Metallic percussion (3, 4)
14. The King of Siam's girl (4)
17. Out now in a cinema nearer you (6)
19. The man from '71 (5)
21. First name of 'Iris' (4)
24. Fleming or Carmichael (3)
25. Preposition with periscope (2)



Rotterdam Film Festival 2005

It's a new year and luckily something to look forward to in January. So off I went to the international film festival in Rotterdam accompanied by my trusty friend Mike. Of course Theo van Gogh was a theme at the festival but despite pressure from the government on the Mayor of Rotterdam, *Submission* was not shown for safety reasons. One of the advantages of the festival is that most foreign films have English sub-titles. One of the disadvantages is that there are so many films to choose from and you can't always get tickets for your first choice.

At the festival they print a Daily Newspaper in which, on the first day, they suggest a few films "you might like to take your mother-in-law to" - no gratuitous violence or sex, not too much politics and preferably something romantic, thought invoking, flowers and perfume films based in far away lands. Don't take their advice otherwise you are going to have a few pissed-off mother-in-laws. Being a mother-in-law myself, I can assure you that my preferences go beyond National Geographic wild horses crossing the cold steppes. And I'm passed all that gushy romantic nonsense - seen it, done it and don't believe in it. Confront me, please!

We saw 12 films each in three days, 14 in all. Some of these films will certainly come to Amsterdam so I shall describe the films according to our preferences. Our top three are *Brothers*, *Dead Man's Shoes*, and *I Am A Sex Addict*

1. Top of the list for both of us is *Brothers*, A Danish film directed by Susanne Bier. A must-see film! Raw, to the bone, emotion and brilliant acting, about a Danish major who disappears in Afghanistan and the consequences this has on his family - so realistic that it hurts watching it - take your hanky with you.
2. Next, one of the two English films we saw, *Dead Man's Shoes*, directed by Shane Meadows. You get thrown into a small-town drugs gang somewhere probably in Derbyshire where someone calls to take revenge. It's a very hard, violent film but worth seeing because Paddy Constantine is great in the lead and, it'll confront you with how certain parts of England are, and some English blokes behave - just in case you've forgotten.
3. Unfortunately I could only get 1 ticket for the third on the list *I Am A Sex Addict*, director Caveh Zahedi . I thought Mike might need the message more than me so I gave it to him (fool, fool) Well, apparently it's a great film which describes the director's addiction to sex and prostitutes for which he eventually ends up at sex addicts anonymous. I bumped into the director in the lift but I think I was too old for him - the mother-in-law syndrome again?

The following are not in any particular order

4. I enjoyed seeing *Baghdad Blogger*. Salem Pax, the Baghdad blogger went on line during the Iraqi war, just after the bombing started. <http://www.thebaghdadblog.com/home/> If you knew the website address you could follow his diary, in which he gave an account of the experiences he and his family went through, holed up during the bombardment. Sometimes he didn't write for days and you didn't know whether he had been blown up or not. This film is a video diary about the last year in Iraq. I thought it was good. I liked it

- when the Americans thought his mother was up to something because she was having a 'new' kitchen fitted. Mike thought it was not anti war and Bush enough!
5. ***Boats out of Watermelons***, director Ahmet Ulucay, is a Turkish film and I suppose your so-called official mother-in-law would like this but so did we. It's a film about the first love of a young Turkish boy who's hobby is to try make bits of film 'move'. Lovely Turkish scenery!
 6. Go and see ***Les Revenants*** director Robin Campillo, a 'zombies return from the dead' film. It will confront you with loss and also with acceptance of things changed in an unusual way. I found this film a bit of a mind-bender.
 7. We both enjoyed and relaxed with ***Temporada de patos*** director Fernando Embocke. Two boys are left alone in a high-rise flat while their mother sorts out her divorce. They order a pizza which arrives 11 seconds late. They refuse to pay, the deliverer refuses to leave - hash cake, ducks in pictures, family heirlooms blown up - what more do you want?
 8. The second English film we saw was ***A Summer of Love*** Pawel Pawlikowski (yes, he's Polish) filmed in probably Derbyshire again - about the romance between a working class and an upper class girl. There's a confrontation between the w.c. girl and her born-again brother (Paddy Constantine again) who converts his pub to a prayer centre and sticks an enormous cross on top of a hill to save the valley from encroaching evil. I found it all a bit far fetched and obviously made by a non-British director who has tried, in his way, to get hold of the British class system. This was very popular at the festival with the rest of the visitors who obviously like the English countryside and probably a bit of your lesbo-love.
 9. ***Hotel*** by director Jessica Hausner I quite liked. It's a bit of an Austrian minimalist thriller. The only problem is that after lots of tension, it fizzles out without a real solution.
 10. We both liked the series of short films ***Love, Swedish style***. I liked it especially because two of the films are about older women. The main film was about a woman of a certain age whose husband had just left her for a younger bit (heard it before?) But this little lady takes matters in her own hands and goes in search of another. The only problem is that I cannot for the life of me, understand what she finds attractive in the new man in her life. Mind you, her ex wasn't up to much either - keep looking, I say!
 11. Saturday night was a bit of a bummer. Mike went to see ***The family that eats soil*** director Khavn De la Cruz - don't go. He walked out and said it was horrible.
 12. I went to see ***Blue Automobile*** Okuhara Hiroshi - boring and not worth the trouble!
 13. For the Dutch amongst you, we did see a Dutch film ***Het mysterie van de Sardine***, director Erik van Zuylen which started off really well but got bogged down in all kinds of side-plots and continually stated 'the bleeding obvious' as Mr. Fawlty would say. Mike loved the beginning but fell asleep half way.
 14. Last but not least ***La nuit de la verite*** from Fanta Regina Nacro, an all African film about two tribes in Africa who have both been guilty of genocide and who come together for a night of peace-making which doesn't go quite according to plan. In places gruesome but it is well worth seeing. Mike couldn't face it but he missed an experience. This film has already won the Amnesty prize.

Polly Perkins

Chinta's Paintings / In Players Website

The paintings of In Player member Chinta Pavlova can now be viewed on-line on the following site: <http://www.xs4all.nl/~kix4ever/welcome/index.htm> Well done Chinta!

Another website worth checking out is ours! Nathalie has spent quite a bit of time updating it with photographs from previous productions as well as lots of information - <http://www.inplayers.org/home.html>

Workshops

We will be continuing with workshops in March, probably on a Thursday. If you would like to stage a workshop yourself please contact a member of the committee and we will arrange a date for you. I've already spoken to one or two people and will have some news in the next newsletter of the programme for March.

**ENGLISH CASTING seeks Native English Speaking Actresses
Actors/Performers. Tel 020 4270301/ 023 5577989 Send C.V**

Photo to info@englishcasting.com

Would you like to submit something for the next newsletter?

If you would like me to include an item in the next newsletter please contact me by February 28th. I would be particularly interested in hearing about anything unusual you may have noticed.

In Players Committee

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Ken Kitchen - 030-2947654 *Secretary*

Nathalie Koch natalie.koch@planet.nl 0299 65 69 25 *Membership, Database*

Mike Williams, mwilliams@xs4all.nl 020 - 6230665 *Co-treasurer,
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