



# Playbox Theatre

## Members' Newsletter

May 2024



**Over the past few weeks, we have had a wonderful Warwick Uni student, Jas Fuller, on placement with us at Playbox. We've loved showing her all the different areas of Playbox life, and she's co-edited this edition of the newsletter! Here are some words from Jas:**

My name is Jasmine and I have been on placement with Playbox over the last month. From helping paint set, to sitting in on Lord of the Flies rehearsals, to helping out with this newsletter (!) I have been thrown into all aspects of Playbox and it has been fascinating to see how the company runs behind the scenes. I've found it really interesting to explore the administration which helps this company function. I have gained skills in learning how to create invoices, manage memberships and marketing, all of which I am sure will help me in the future. I have most enjoyed assisting The Addams Family Auditions, and it was so wonderful to see just how talented the Playbox members are!

Working with Playbox has given me the chance to understand just how much work goes on behind the scenes to curate the best possible experience for every single child. Yes, Playbox certainly creates professional-standard theatre for young people, but as someone who has only just started interacting with Playbox over the last month the thing which has really struck me has been the focus on developing the confidence of the young people. The way in which Playbox supports young people to express themselves is where this company particularly shines.

I want to thank every one of you who I have interacted with over the month. You have all been so welcoming and friendly and I am so pleased to have been able to meet you!



## WELCOME

Hello Playbox families!  
We're catching up on all of the wonderful news that's passed through Playbox over the last few months.

This edition of the newsletter is particularly exciting, as the articles have been written by our wonderful Warwick Uni placement student, Jas! Jas has been getting engaged with every aspect of the business, and has taken the care to write this month's articles for a cracking newsletter.

We have a number of events currently open for booking, so keep an eye on the Playbox website 'What's on' page for tickets! Tickets for our next Wasted 'rave', Miss Julie, and The Odyssey are on sale, and places for holiday projects are flying off the shelves. The next Millennial Wizard show is also on sale through their instagram page. We can't wait to see you for all of these brilliant events!



Amelie Friess  
Editor

Next edition due June 2024

If you have news to share, please email - [info@playboxtheatre.com](mailto:info@playboxtheatre.com)

## WHAT'S ON

### WASTED RAVE - MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S RAVE



After the huge success of our first event, Wasted Rave is back! This under-18s rave blends house, dance and balearic tunes mixed by DJ Sam for a night authentic rave culture, with a focus of sustainability. Tickets are on sale now, so organise your carpool and get thrifting for an eco-friendly outfit!

**Sunday 7th July**

7-9:30pm

Tickets are £10, and members are permitted to purchase another ticket for a non-member friend!

### THE ODYSSEY

Returning from the Trojan War, Odysseus, on a hazardous voyage, is tested by gods and goddesses, encounters witches and monsters and enters the spirit world of the dead, all to find his way home to Ithaca, to his wife and son. But after ten years away, things in Ithaca may have moved on...

This exciting, fast-paced play is one of the greatest tales in European literature and will be brought to life by Playbox Theatre's Young Production Company.

**Thursday 4th-6th July**

Tickets available on the Playbox website.





## **CREAKERS HOLIDAY PROJECT WAS A CRACKING SUCCESS!**

In May we hosted a fantastic holiday project based on Tom Fletcher's children's book, *The Creakers*. In *The Creakers*, Lucy wakes up and finds out that every single adult has disappeared! The children are elated, but Lucy, along with some of her friends, decide that they must get to the bottom of this mystery...



Led by Alumnus Sammie Horton, the children spent the morning getting to know one another and exploring Tom Fletcher's story through theatre, mime and roleplay. In the afternoon, they became expert set designers, creating miniature versions of their very own concepts for a *Creakers* stage play.

We hope you all had a fantastic time and it was so lovely to have you all here for this workshop. We can't wait for the next one!

## **HOLIDAY PROJECTS OPEN FOR BOOKING!**

We have a number of fantastic summer holiday projects open for booking. There's something for all age groups and interests, from pre-school adventures to musical theatre and filmmaking. Here we are delighted to highlight two fantastic projects on offer!

### **Murder Most Theatrical**

The 'BoxPlay' Theatre has been shaken by a dastardly plot to destroy their opening night and ruin their reputation forever...

We must don our detective hats and use our cunning to gather clues and evidence that will help us solve the mystery at hand...

The workshops will be based off classic murder mystery stories, and our group of detectives will play games and use theatre skills in order to uncover this great mystery! If you are a fan of murder mystery, and crime solving, this is definitely for you! Think Agatha Christie, Robyn Stevens... with a hearty dose of Sherlock Holmes thrown in for good measure!

**Monday 29th- Wednesday 31st July**

**Age: 7-12 years**

**Cost: £165 to include lunch and refreshments**



### **Lawless- worlds without rules...**

What would the world look like without rules?

Without adults? With different codes of behaviour? Could we survive...or even thrive? By the end of this holiday project, you will have created performances incorporating stage combat, acting, movement, and devising to explore the compelling theme of dystopia. If you enjoy stories such as Lord Of The Flies, Maze Runner, Divergent, The Hunger Games, then this is for you!

**Thursday 1st- Friday 2nd August**

**Age: 9-15 years**

**Cost: £115 to include lunch and refreshments**



**Playbox members receive a 10% discount- use code HOLIDAY24 at the checkout!**



## WHAT'S ON

### SHAKESPEARE YOUNG COMPANY & PUCKS

Auditions are open again for our renowned Shakespeare companies. Exploring Shakespeare and his contemporaries, workshops will give members insight and tools to understanding and staging texts, bringing an active approach to classical texts.

Those auditioning must prepare 14 lines of Shakespeare to perform.

If offered a place, this is a high commitment course, and members will be expected to prioritise their Friday night sessions.

These auditions are open to members of Playbox acting workshops.

**Tuesday 18th June**

4:30-6:00pm

9-18 yrs



### MISS JULIE

Miss Julie follows a brief but passionate affair between Julie, a Countess, and Jean, the valet who works for her father. At its heart, the play is about class, desire and two people struggling for power.

Directed by alumnus Alfie Jones, this project will be intensely rehearsed over two weeks by the company, and will be an excellent demonstration of their collaboration and skill.

This powerful performance takes place in the intimate setting of The Studio at The Dream Factory.

Suitable for ages 13+.

**29th-30th June**

Tickets are available on the Playbox website.



# THE ODYSSEY

## How well do you know your Greek myths?

Our next main stage show, *The Odyssey*, is well into rehearsal. This adaptation for the Young Production Company tackles one of the most epic adventures in world literature- Homer's *Odyssey*. This story has inspired countless pieces of literature art and film, from James Joyce's *Ulysses* to comedy film '*O brother, where art thou?*', but how well do you know the original? Take our quiz to test your knowledge (answers below)!

### 1. Which war did Odysseus fight in?

- A) The Peloponnesian War
- B) The Trojan War
- C) The Corinthian War



### 2. Roughly how old is *The Odyssey*?

- A) Over 1, 800 years old
- B) Over 2, 300 years old
- C) Over 2, 700 years old

### 3. How many books are in the *Odyssey*?

- A) 16
- B) 24
- C) 31



### 4. Which is a creature that Odysseus meets on his travels?

- A) Cyclops
- B) Minotaur
- C) The Sphinx

### 5. When was the *Odyssey* translated into English for the first time?

- A) 14th Century
- B) 16th Century
- C) 18th Century



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Answers: b, c, b, a, b

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