

FOOTLIGHTS

The Newsletter for Barton Theatre Company
Issue 2a: May 2011 Extra

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1. EDITORIAL

Please forgive this unscheduled intrusion into your email.

However, I've recently received some news from David Milne regarding the RSC Open Stages, which he has asked me to pass on.

So here is a little extra news.

See you next month.

PS. David also informs me that we're at the Salford Arts Theatre for the set build tomorrow (8 May) from 12pm, NOT 10pm as originally stated. Apparently it's a minimalist set so we won't need as long to put it up hence the later start.

Andrew Nevill (Editor)
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2. RSC OPEN STAGES

As reported in our April issue, Barton Theatre Company has applied to join the RSC Open Stages programme.

The Royal Shakespeare Company is running a programme of events with local amateur groups invited to stage a Shakespeare play or related work with their support. As part of these events the RSC are running workshops throughout the country for groups taking part. The ones in our part of the world are taking place at the Contact theatre.

David Milne has received the following email, which is quoted below, giving details of these.

“As you know, one of the principal aims of this exciting programme is for the groups involved to take part in a skills exchange event which will bring together all of the participating groups at their regional partner theatre in order to enjoy training workshops given by RSC and Contact practitioners. As some of you may have spotted on the Open Stages website and facebook page we were planning on starting the Skills Exchange this coming weekend unfortunately due to some miscommunication we realise that you weren't sent this information so we have rescheduled the Skills Exchange dates for late June and July to give everyone a chance to attend. We apologise if this has caused any confusion but we hope the new

dates give you plenty of notice and time to plan your attendance.

The Skills Exchange Workshops for the North West region will be held on:
Sunday 19th June 2011 (Non - performers)
Sunday 24th July 2011 (Performers)

Sunday 19th June is intended for directors and those with production responsibilities including set, sound, lighting, and stage management.

Sunday 24th July is for performers with workshops in acting, movement and voice and text.

Schedules for both days will be sent through later this week but you should expect to be here ready to start for 9.30am on each day and we expect to finish around 6pm. We can offer each group a maximum of three places at each of the workshop days so (3 places for performers who will all experience the same programme for the day) and three places for Non-performers who will be split in to directors, lighting & sound design and stage management groups.

The RSC and Contact are providing their practitioners' time and experience without charge, so the training itself is free. There will be lunch and refreshment breaks throughout the day Contact Lounge will be open to purchase drinks and food should you wish to purchase them.

Michael Boyd, Artistic Director at the RSC, and Ian Wainwright, RSC Producer for Open Stages, have made it clear that participation in the Skills Exchange Workshops is an essential part of this project and so you are urged to sign up.

Attendance at the weekend will also give you a great opportunity to understand the facilities that Contact have on offer for those who go on to participate in the North West showcase in 2012.

To register your places please email me with the names and contact details of the people attending each day for the non-performers please specify who is attending the directing workshops (this should be the person directing your RSC Open Stages production), who will be attending the sound and lighting workshops and who will be attending the stage management workshops.

Please confirm your attendance no later than Tuesday 31st May this will give us time to re-allocate any places which have not been filled.

The schedule and exact timings for the days will be sent to you later this week.

We look forward to welcoming you all to Contact and to working with you over the next 12 months.

Kind regards,

Suzie

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If you're interested in taking part in the workshops, the best thing is probably to get in touch with Dave and express your interest.

Useful links:

RSC Open Stages website:

<http://www.rsc.org.uk/explore/projects/open-stages/>

Contact Theatre website:

<http://www.contactmcr.com/>

For a location map type Contact Theatre

into Google Maps



3. THE FINAL CURTAIN

That it's for this unscheduled mini edition. Your regular Footlights will be back next month

Contact Information:

Email: anevill@ntlworld.com

Barton Theatre Company Committee
Chair: Brian Cogswill, Treasurer: Elaine Hayton, Secretary: Janet Johnston,

Officers: Joan Breen, Beverley Greenhalgh, David Milne, Andrew Nevill

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