

sedos grapevine

Issue 3 - October 2008

"My dear, never confuse efficiency with a liver complaint"

Tickets Still Available for the Amateur Premier of RENT

There are still two weeks left to get your tickets to see the sedos autumn musical, the UK amateur premier of RENT. Jonathan Larson's Tony award and Pulitzer prize winning musical opens at the Bridewell Theatre on the 13th November and will run for two weeks. Although tickets have been selling incredibly well, there are still some available from www.sedos.co.uk.

RENT closed on Broadway only seven weeks ago, and the sedos production takes RENT back to its roots, back to when it was first performed at the off-Broadway New York Theatre Workshop. Set in New York's bohemian Alphabet City in the height of the 1990's AIDS crisis, RENT follows the fortunes of a group of eight friends through an eventful and turbulent year as they deal with life, love, sickness and art; all the while scratching to pay their rent.

This spectacular musical is sure to top off a fantastic year for sedos.

sedos presents : RENT by Jonathan Larson

Bridewell Theatre, Bride Lane, off Fleet Street, London

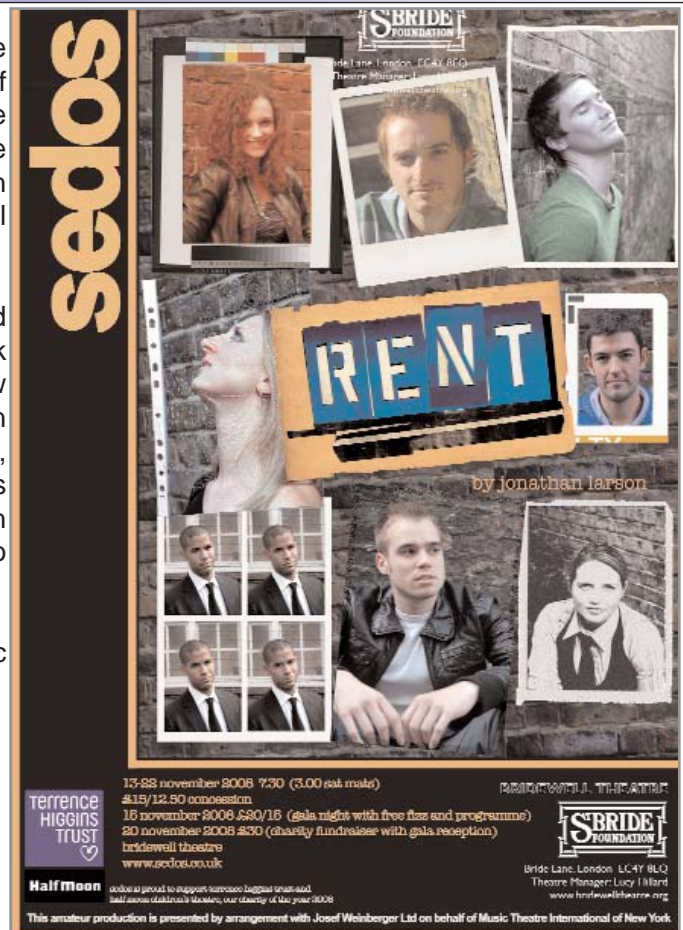
Box office: www.sedos.co.uk

13, 14, 18, 19, 21, 22 November
7.30pm £15 (concessions £12)

15, 22 November
3pm £15 (concessions £12)

15 November (gala performance)
7.30pm £20 (concessions £15)

20 November (charity fundraiser)
8pm £30 (no concessions)



sedos

RENT

by Jonathan Larson

13-22 November 2008 7.30 (3.00 sat mat) £15/12.50 concessions
16 November 2008 8.30/16 (gala night with free fizz and programme)
20 November 2008 8.30 (charity fundraiser with gala reception)
bridewell theatre
www.sedos.co.uk

terrence higgins trust
Half Moon

we are proud to support terrance higgins trust and half moon's charitable theatre, our charity of the year 2008

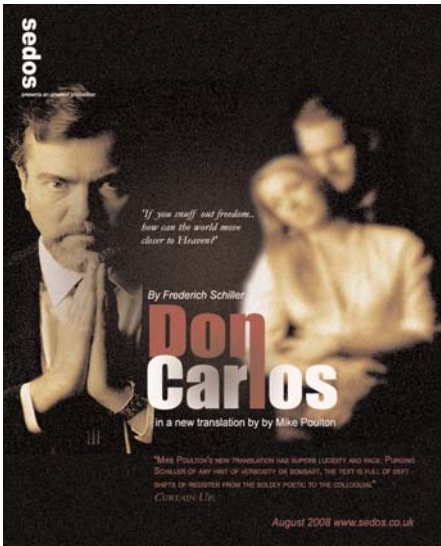
BRIDEWELL THEATRE
SBRIDE FOUNDATION
Bride Lane, London, EC4Y 8LQ
Theatre Manager: Lucyillard
www.bridewelltheatre.org

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Josef Weinberger Ltd on behalf of Music Theatre International of New York

The sedos 2009 Season is Announced!

It is with great pleasure that we can announce our programme of shows for the 2009 season. Once again it is an ambitious season, with Tragedy, Comedy, Musicals, Dancing, and some general tomfoolery. For more information on the shows that will be being performed next year, please turn to page 4

"Friedrich Schiller's Spanish Thriller Trimmed"



Review by Dave Warburton for remotegoat on 21/08/08

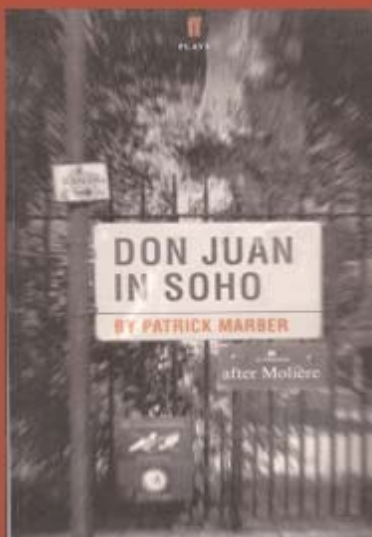
Rebecca Smith's directorial adaptation of Friedrich Schiller's 'Don Carlos' is unusual for a Fringe play in lasting well over an hour, though the performance has still been heavily edited by Mike Poulton by a remarkable two-thirds. The performance feels inhibited by this time pressure, as scenes overlap for a quick turnaround to waste as little time as possible, but this keeps the drama intense.

Smith's production is effectively minimalist, performed by a cast in basic formal attire with only basic lighting and sound effects to supplement the fine acting. Well-chosen from Sedos' players, each cast member really looks the part, from the young and effeminate Don Carlos himself to the King's creepy aides, and each puts in a heartfelt performance, unperturbed by the fact that the audience surrounding them is hardly larger than the cast itself.



Despite its classical foundation, this is an accessible modern play that avoids deterring casual theatregoers through pompous language, but at the same time its themes of conspiracy, near-incestuous love and honour are timeless.

The heavy editing means that marginal activities are kept to a minimum, the ending being particularly abrupt, but this is still a high quality performance if you can catch it in its limited run.



Kytes Audition Notice

Don Juan in Soho

By Patrick Marber (after Moliere)

Kytes Theatre Group

"World Premiere commissioned by and first presented at the Donmar Warehouse on 30th November 2006"

Audition Date : Saturday 1st November 2008, Pre Registration Required
Possible call backs Sunday 2nd November

Audition Venue : Hornchurch (Details to follow to all those who register)

Show Dates : 14th-16th May 2009 (Possible 4th late show on 16th)

Show Venue : The Brentwood Theatre (20 mins from Liverpool Street)

Rehearsal Dates : Two weekdays a week and occasional Sunday nearer show from late February

More Info : www.kytes.net

register@kytes.net

Facebook : Search Groups for ' Don Juan'

Don Juan is the greatest lover ever to have walked the face of the earth. (No pressure chaps).

It is one of a number of plays written by Patrick Marber (Closer, Dealer's Choice) all of which have won numerous awards and critical acclaim.

Molieres farcical, tragic, anarchic original of 1665 is relocated to modern day Soho: swank, new hotels and festering, old clip joints, crackheads in alleys and cokeheads in clubs. The destitute, the delirious, the broken and the brazen, the hustlers and hoorays, the media movers and merciless whores - all packed in to one seething square mile. Don Juan - the infamous amoral hedonist in a society entranced by sensation.

A Review of Stepping Out

“Not merely a good show but also, a great night out!”



Review by Mary Couzens of www.remotegoat.com

This enjoyable slice of life comedy centring on the teacher, pianist and students of a weekly tap dancing class seems to have something for everyone: fly on the wall type mini dramas via 'private' conversations for the voyeuristic, some great one liners for stand up fans and lots of hilarious 'laughter of recognition' moments which tickle the funny bone and inadvertently remind us that life isn't a dress rehearsal.

The cast of Stepping Out are all very good in their roles. However, certain players definitely deserve special mentions. A solo dance scene in which Michelle Loader really lets loose before her class



arrives is simply sensational.

Kate Fearnley, who plays the class' pianist, Mrs Fraser, does things her way, adopting an 'I've never been so insulted in my life,' attitude whenever she feels the class are not appreciating her enough.

Ruth Huntman is also very naturalistic and likeable as Maxine, a flash woman with a heart of gold who's been around the block a few times and refers to her present partner as 'Wonder-boy.'

Lauren Mole is a stand-out as Sylvia, a brash, pony-tailed, big-eared young woman who makes everything she says sound like a punch-line, which it generally is, as audience laughter follows on from her every line. Mole seems to have an inborn knack for highlighting irony.

Penny Mullord also generated her fair share of laughs as Vera, a seemingly posh cleaning fanatic who inspires groans in her fellow characters, and great audience response via her way with simplistic lines like, 'I just popped into Pineapple,' while wearing an over the top silver tap dancing outfit to class, class being the operative word.

By the concluding good natured and extremely enjoyable ensemble tap dancing number, choreographed by Jane Saunders, which, according to the play's storyline, takes place a year after the initial laughingly awkward one (which the bulk of the play

leads towards), the talented cast had the roaring approval of the crowd, with some audience members even spontaneously jumping to their feet. Stepping Out is not merely a good show but also, a great night out!

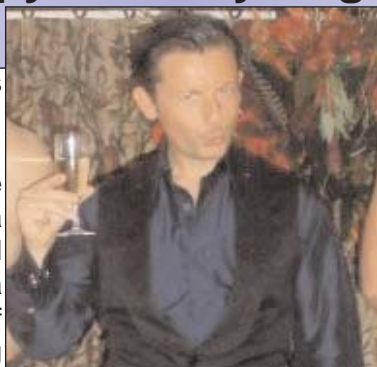
For anyone who missed the show, some of the dance peices are now viewable on YouTube - just search for "Stepping Out Sedos"



Happy Birthday Angus!!

sedos wishes song and dance man Angus Jacobs a very happy 40th birthday.

As those who know him would expect, he saw off his 30's in suitable style with a party of awesome decadence and excess...lovely ladies, sexy fellas and a couple of cheeky butlers in the buff set off an all round elegant soiree including



speeches and songs, much mirth (and merlot).

Angus has been with sedos for longer than he cares to remember and we wish him many happy returns!!

2009 season

24th - 28th February - The Bridewell Theatre

26th May - 6th June - The Bridewell Theatre

Festen

Directed By Anne-Marie Leigh

I am intensely excited about this production; in all senses it appeals to my own personal doctrine of economy, efficiency and honesty on stage. Paying homage to the Dogme manifesto to which the film subscribed, our production will be minimalistic, character-driven and a wondrously compelling challenge to any that would pick up the mantle.

The story:

Family and friends gather to celebrate Helge's 60th birthday. Rocked by the recent death of his twin sister Linda, Christian, the eldest son, raises the first toast. His shocking exposure of a dark family secret deals a staggering blow to their middle-class veneer of respectability, tolerance and discretion. Like a greek tragedy, no character is left unaffected, no reaction predictable; all that is left is the very human response to an unspeakable crime.

Cast of 14: 9 male, 5 female - playing age range 8-80

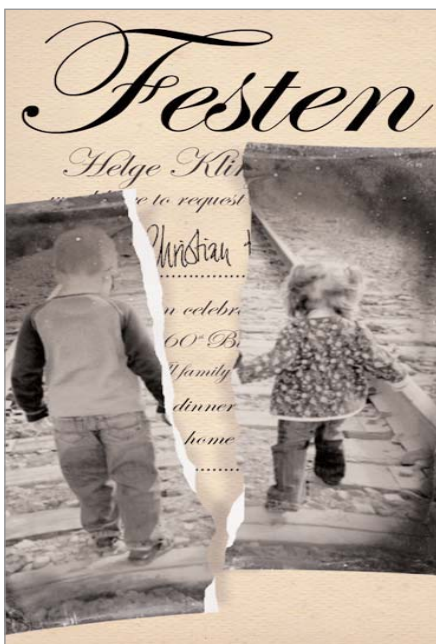


photo appears courtesy of Charla Cuthbertson



Directed by Chloe Faine

Debbie Does Dallas: The Musical is an Off-Broadway style musical with a book by Susan L. Schwartz, composed by Andrew Sherman, with Tom Kitt and Jonathan Callicutt providing additional music and lyrics. It is based on the 1978 pornographic film Debbie Does Dallas. The musical, like the movie, centers around high schooler Debbie and her friends' attempts to become Dallas Cowboys cheerleaders; however, the musical contains far less sexual content than the movie.

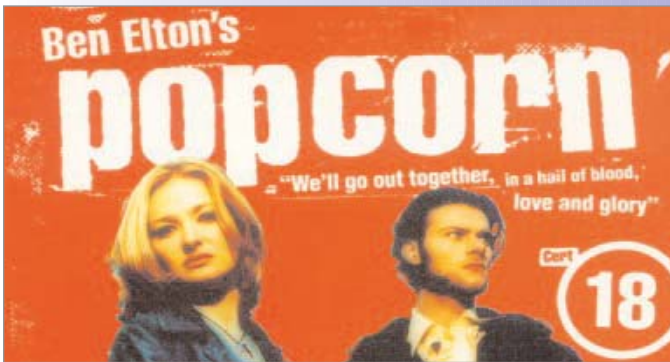
'an unpretentious, utterly titillating slice of American cheese, do Debbie a favour and check out her pom-poms' - **Edinburgh Evening News**

'lots of fun, energy and gross-out humour' - **British Theatre Guide**

'more sexual innuendoes than you can shake a pom pom at' - **Skinny Fest**

'this production has it's tongue firmly in-cheek, pulling plenty of laughs from the audience' - **Fresh Air**





Directed by James Newall

It's the afternoon of Oscar night and Tarantino-esque film director Bruce Delamitri is frustrated - he can't understand why the media despise his art. In his eyes his films don't inspire violence, they reflect it – in a stylish and ironic way. But little does Bruce know that he is about to be paid a visit by Wayne Hudson and his girlfriend Scout – spree killers dubbed the 'Mall Murderers' by the media. The result is a brilliant, tense, darkly hilarious look at film violence, society, popular culture and the media.

A combination of Ben Elton's always-biting social commentary and witty dialogue.

Contains frequent strong language and adult concepts.

Characters:

Bruce Delamitri – main protagonist, an artist and Oscar winning director

Wayne – A killer

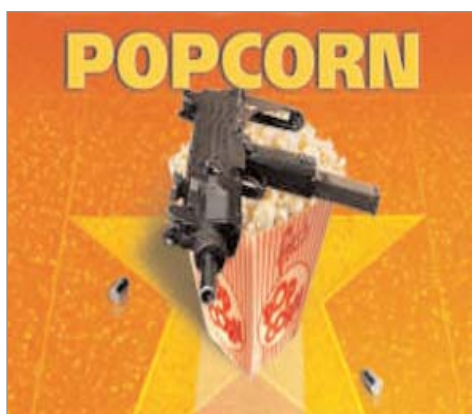
Scout – A killer

Brooke Daniels – A Model / Actress

Velvet Delamitri – Daughter of Bruce

Farrah Delamitri – Soon to be divorced wife of Bruce

Karl Brezner – Bruce's producer



Directed by Rebecca Smith

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest is a Tony award winning play by Dale Wasserman based on the 1962 Ken Kesey book of the same name. The play concerns the antics of the rebellious Randle Patrick McMurphy, a happy-go-lucky transferee from a prison workfarm to a mental hospital. Having been found guilty on a battery charge, McMurphy fakes insanity to serve out his sentence in the hospital and meets his match in the all powerful Nurse Ratched. The play deals with such themes as independence, power, repression, mind over matter, the state versus the individual and sexual liberation.

The story reflects the experiences of Ken Kesey, both during his time working at a mental hospital and also the experiments he undertook at Stanford's Psychology department involving LSD and other substances. Cuckoo is hugely reflective of the culture in which it was written. Kesey himself was a leading figure of the counterculture movement and themes such as freedom from authority and liberated views of sexuality reflect the changing attitudes of the time.

The play is 2 acts with 12M and 3F parts. The roles of RP McMurphy and Nurse Ratched are iconic, once-in-a-lifetime roles for 2 actors and all other parts are in themselves exciting and interesting. The version we will be staging will be true to the original era in which it was written and as such I will be looking to immerse the cast in the counterculture movement of the 1960s exploring the enormity of the changes that occurred at the time and also having some fun with the imagery and culture of the era.





Director: Alan Pavis

Musical Director: Matthew Gould

**Co - Producers: Alex Sandercock and
Matthew Gould**

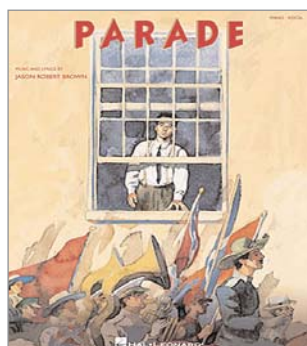
Parade is set in Atlanta Georgia in 1913, and is based on the real-life trial of Leo Frank for the murder of a 13 year old girl. The murder took place on the day of the Memorial Day Parade, hence the title, and deals with the prejudices of those living in the Southern US states, after the American Civil War.

The tragic, true story of the trial and lynching of a man wrongly accused of murder is brought to emotional and theatrical life by acclaimed playwright Alfred Uhry ("Driving Miss Daisy") and Jason Robert Brown, one of Broadway's most promising young composers ("Songs For A New World"; "The Last 5 Years").

Frank, a Brooklyn-born Jew living in Georgia, is put on trial for the murder of 13-year-old Mary Phagan, a factory worker under his employ. Already guilty in the eyes of everyone around him, a sensationalist publisher and a janitor's false testimony seal Leo's fate. His only defenders are a governor with a conscience, and, eventually, his assimilated Southern wife, Lucille, who finds the strength and love to become his greatest champion.

Daring, innovative and bold, Parade won Tony Awards for Best Book and Best Score in 2000. Its subject matter offers a moral lesson about the dangers of prejudice and ignorance that should not be forgotten. It is a stirring, epic tale.

Cast - 15M/15F



*The Compleat
Wrks of Mr. Wllm
Shkspr (abridged)*

Director : Dan Chasemore

Assistant Director/Producer : Bridget Cross

In these times of credit crunches, falling footsies, depressed dows and other alliterative crises, the City is not the place it was a mere three months ago. Once was a time when the work of the great bard was welcomed into city institutions, keen for a respite from the demands of selling stuff they didn't own, and bringing us all one step nearer to the inevitable global apocalypse.

Times have changed, and so must Shakespeare in the City! We will be offering a once in a lifetime 37 for 1 offer! Yes, thats right, all Shakespeares 37 plays in one 90 minute performance! This time with added sonnets!

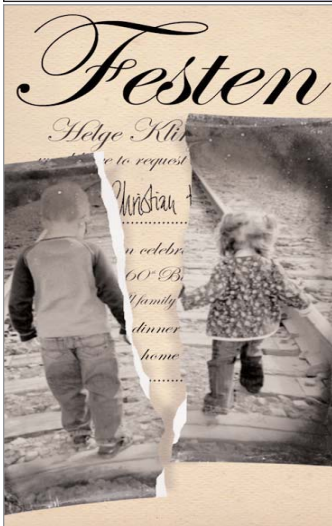
The Compleat Wrks of Wllm Shkspr is a play, devised by the Reduced Shakepeare Company, and it quickly became Londons longest running comedy (actually thats a lie, it took ten years to become Londons longest running comedy, but you know what I mean.)

We will be looking for 3 (or more) fantastic classical sctors, who are funny, can improvise, mime vomiting on the audience, and that won't mind wearing a dress. Auditions will be held around February 2009, although exact dates have yet to be confirmed. If you have any questions, please email Dan Chasemore at ilovecross@gmail.com.

And keep your eyes open for...



Audition



FESTEN, adapted for the stage by David Eldridge

Directed by Anne-Marie Leigh

Based on Thomas Vinterberg's 1988 Dogme film, Sedos are delighted to present this award winning adaptation.

Family and friends gather to celebrate Helge's 60th birthday. Rocked by the recent death of his twin sister Linda, Christian, the eldest son, raises the first toast. His shocking exposure of a dark family secret deals a staggering blow to their middle-class veneer of respectability, tolerance and discretion. Like a greek tragedy, no character is left unaffected, no reaction predictable; all that is left is the very human response to an unspeakable crime.

PERFORMANCE / REHEARSAL DETAILS:

Performing: Tue Feb 24 to Sat Feb 28th 2009

The Bridewell Theatre

Rehearsing: Start Tue Dec 9th (break Dec 22-Jan 2nd for Christmas & New Years)

Tue, Thu and all day Saturday

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN (by gender):

HELGE: Playing age: 45-60 - Patriarch of the family. Reserved but iron-willed and holds the family together.

CHRISTIAN: Playing Age 25-40 - Eldest Son of Helge, Twin of deceased Linda. Shy and unassuming, warm and loving.

MICHAEL: Playing Age 25-40 - Youngest son. Chip on his shoulder, aggression seems out of needing to seek approval.

HELMUT: Playing Age 30-45 - Lodge brother to Helge, and long time employee - currently MD of his company. Thinks of Helge as a father, has a deep and protective love for the family.

POUL: Playing Age 30-45 - Lodge brother to Helge and family friend. Quite the hypochondriac.

GRANDFATHER: Playing Age 60-80 - Lovable and quite senile. He exists happily in his own world.

LARS: Playing Age 25-40 - Family valet and has a deep fondness for Helene.

KIM: Playing Age 25-40 - Family chef, childhood school friend to Christian.

GBATOKAI: Playing Age 25-40 Special note: black actor required - Boyfriend of Helene. Protective and loving he is a guest at the family celebration.

ELSE: Playing age: 45-60 - Wife of Helge. Subservient but quiet strength. Clear morals but self-deluded about her family's happiness.

HELENE: Playing Age 25-40 - Middle Child. A typical don't-rock-the-boat attitude. Eager to please.

METTE: Playing Age 25-40 - Wife of Michael. Ballsy. A true match for Michael. Protective.

PIA: Playing Age 25-40 - Family servant and love interest to Christian.

LITTLE GIRL: Playing Age 8-10 - Daughter of Michael and Mette. Innocent and very shy, she is protected from her surroundings and the unfolding tragedy.

WORKSHOP:

Dec 2nd 7-930pm
Venue: BPP Waterloo

A chance to meet and speak to the production team, hear about the vision and expectations of the show, the roles, what to expect from the auditions and a chance to ask any questions.

Additionally there will be a chance to get on your feet and explore the style and demands of the show before the audition.

AUDITION:

Saturday Dec 6th with potential recalls on Sunday Dec 7th
Venue: The Distiller's - Smithfield
Time: 2 available sections: 1100 - 1330 and 1430 - 1730
(leaving plenty of time to get home to change for the Sedos Christmas party)

To arrange an audition slot please contact Rebecca Smith at rebecca.m.smith@gmail.com and you will be provided with the scenes for the audition.

Becks Weymouths' sedos Social Page Christmas Masquerade!

With grandiose pleasure Sedos brings to you their annual Christmas party!

Prepare yourself for a magical night of mystery and delight. Ticket price includes a full evening of live music, champagne reception and canapés plus many more surprises.

Dress to impress and a mask is a must.

Prizes for the best dressed and remember: No mask, no entry!

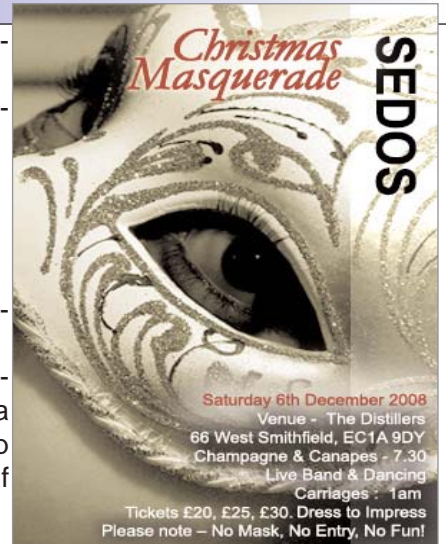
The party is open to non-members of Sedos, so do invite your partners, flatmates and any fellow thespian friends to join us in the revelries of Christmas and the closing of another successful Sedos Season.

Saturday 6th December 2008

The Distiller's, West Smithfield, London EC4

Champagne reception: 7:30pm
Main entertainment: 9pm
Carriages: 1am

Ticket prices:
£20 - Members
£25 - Non-Members
£30 - Non-Members plus a years membership as a 'Friend of Sedos'*



Tickets available from

www.sedos.co.uk

Wig Out!

JERWOOD THEATRE DOWNSTAIRS

Wig Out!



Written by Tarell Alvin McCraney

20 November - 10 January

"In this gossamer-laced reality there is never a moment to be without your face, to not be together. One false move and you'll get chopped. One night can leave you legendary or a subsidiary."

Enter the legendary House of Light, a hyper-glamorous, uber-competitive drag queen refuge where a daughter who was once a son, can find a family.

While the House are primping and preening for a catwalk showdown with the other houses, drag queen Nina is wooing the delectable Eric as Wilson, a de-camped, make-up free 'straight' gay man. How can Nina/Wilson strut the thorny divide between opposite genders and differing worlds?

With sassy music, killer costumes and performed in a club cabaret setting, Wig Out! brings to glorious, vivid life, a riotous, defiant drag queen sub-culture.

And all the Other sedos Social Stuff

2009 Playreadings - Send your suggestions to me now!

The aim is to hold a playreading everymonth, but to do this we must have a list of works you would like to hear brought to life from the page.

Please email me with any particular plays you love, new ones you've not yet heard or maybe something you might like to pitch to direct or produce for Sedos in the future.

Leave the venue and details to me - just drop me a line at rebecca.weymouth@gmail.com

WORKSHOPS

There has been much talk in the booths of the Bridewell Bar and echoing amongst the membership but these can't happen unless your desire is known.

We have the resources to hold a variety of workshops during 2009 from Musical Theatre Audition Technique to Directing, Acting and

Improvisational skills and more.

Please email me with any ideas, wants or challenges you would like us to tackle and we'll endeavour to deliver a solution, or be it just for fun. Workshops aim to be run by a professional and will therefore incur a small charge each to cover, and commitment from when you book to attend. Again, email me at rebecca.weymouth@gmail.com with any inquiries or contacts you may have.

Sing-along-a-Sedos - With Matt Gould.

Forget dressing up as a Nun or a Brown Paper Parcel, from the comfort of his own Marylebone pad, Maestro Gould invites you to come in out of the cold and warm your chords with a rendition one of the Musical greats. Exact date tbc. Watch your inbox for an update!

February/March 2009 - Social night - tbc

BRIDEWELL THEATRE



Bride Lane, London EC4Y 8EQ
Theatre Manager: Lucy Hillard
www.bridewelltheatre.org



sedos presents the uk amateur premier of rent, jonathan larson's timeless re-telling of puccini's la bohème, set in new york's bohemian alphabet city at the height of the AIDS crisis

winner of the 1996 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, the New York Drama Critics Circle Award, four Tony Awards and six Drama Desk Awards

13-22 november 2008 7.30 (3.00 sat mats) £15/12.50 conc
15 november 2008 £20/15
(gala night with free fizz and programme)
20 november 2008 £30
(charity fundraiser with gala reception)
bridewell theatre
online box office only - no phone bookings - www.sedos.co.uk

Half Moon

sedos is proud to support the terrence higgins trust and half moon children's theatre



by jonathan larson

this amateur production is presented by arrangement with josef weinberger ltd on behalf of music theatre international of new york

Dates For Your Diary

29th October

sedos EGM & 2009 Season Announcement at The Albion

28th October - 1st November

Tower Theatre present - The Dresser at the Bridewell Theatre

4th - 8th November

Tower Theatre present - Les Liaisons Dangereuses at the Bridewell Theatre

13th - 22nd November

sedos presents - RENT at the Bridewell Theatre

25th - 29th November

KDC presents Black Comedy

2nd - 6th December

KDC presents Much Ado About Nothing

2nd - 13th December

Sideshow Theatre present - Jane Eyre - the Musical at the Bridewell Theatre

6th & 7th December

Festen Auditions

6th December

Sedos Christmas Masquerade Ball

11th - 20th December

Tower Theatre present - Putting It Together at Theatro Technis

