

Minutes for the proceedings of the EGM of the Dramatic Society of the Imperial College Union in the 2015/2016 session

November 2015

Committee Members Present

Zoë Edwards, Gautam Kambhampati, Steven Kingaby, Andrew Finn, Chris Love, Kieran Gilmour, Robert Schüssler, Ellie Rose, Ben Williams, Sam Gardiner and Oscar Gill.

Committee Members Apologies

John Oliver and Oscar Gill.

Honorary Members

Jack Steadman and Helen Root.

Agenda

- Approval of minutes from the last committee meeting
- Socials
- Merchandise
- Shows
 - Pillowman
 - Neverwhere
 - Play Proposals
 - Edinburgh Fringe Festival Show
 - Potential January play

- Workshops
 - Writing Workshop/LSDF
- Crew Mentoring
- Website

Agnes Donnelly is chairing the committee meeting in **Zoë Edward's** initial absence.

Approval of minutes from the last committee meeting

- Unanimously approved.

Socials

- Ice skating social at the Natural Museum is next week on the 2nd of December.
- From here on in everyone is now buying their tickets on the Natural Museum website.
- **ACTION: Sam Gardiner** to post this update in Dramsoc Facebook group.
- **NOTED:** there is a bar night in the last week of term.
- **ACTION: Ben Williams** to remind people on event for the bar night that they need to have DramSoc membership.
- **NOTED:** MTSoc joint social is now in January due to scheduling conflicts. Furthermore, COMUS is on the 15th of January; so we will not have the joint social between 11th and 18th of January.

Merchandise

- **Oscar Gill** and **Elena Stronach** have been looking at potential DramSoc mugs, oyster card holders, and other forms of potential merchandise.
- **Elena Stronach** has already sent out an email outlined specifications. Might introduce a distinguish between actor and techies. Initially was only going to have stageblack T- shirts.
- **NOTED:** there are already “Department of Theatrical Engineering” hoodies available.

- **ACTION: Elena Stronach** to put poll on DramSoc Facebook group to inquire what colours and designs should be available.
- **Ellie Rose** has looked at Neverwhere T-shirts; they will cost less than a £5.
- **ACTION: Ben Williams** to talk to **Elena Stronach** and **Oscar Gill** about designs for merchandise.
- **NOTED:** everyone wants to have **Helen Root** on their DramSoc T-shirts with her hair colour (at time of writing, purple).

Shows

Pillowman

- **Gautam Kambhampati**, the producer, reports that dress and tech rehearsal went well. He hands responsibility over to the stage manager, **Agnes Donnelly**. **Cian Leow** is helping out with set.
- **NOTED: Ben Williams** has taken publicity photos of the rehearsals already and uploaded them onto the facebook event, in order to advertise the show.

Neverwhere

- Rehearsals are reportedly going well too. Fighting scenes are to be choreographed on Friday the 27th of November. The paper tech took 10, long, hours! However **Gautam Kambhampati** says that in spite of how long the paper tech took, a lot was accomplished. **Rob Schussler** is doing sound and **Jacks Steadman** is doing lights for Neverwhere
- Video for Neverwhere trailer has been filmed and the photoshoot has taken place. **Cem Hurrel** is producing the video and still deems it unfit for public viewing. The trailer will be released next week
- **NOTED:** Centrefold to take place Saturday the 28th of November.
- We haven't organised a reviewer yet for Neverwhere. We want to have an article out for the Friday of show week and hence it would be ideal if the reviewer came on the Tuesday of that week. However **Jack Steadman** would rather not have the reviewer come on that Tuesday as the lights for that the show will not be ready.
- Furthermore, **Jack Steadman** has strong opinions on how we approach Felix, etc with regards to publicising our play. We want to use these bodies as means to persuade to people to join our shows. We want a review but also a report to advertise DramSoc. Continuing on with this them, for

Neverwhere we could get an actor and techie to give a non-biased report of “what it’s like to do a show with DramSoc”.

Zoë Edwards arrives at the committee meeting.

Play Proposal

- On Sunday the 29th of November, we have Play Proposals! One proposal has been submitted so far, with rumours of another one as well.
- **ACTION:** Committee to review submitted play proposals so far.
- “Neverwhere ... Birdland” - **Agnes Donnelly** likes putting these words together.
- “Neverlesbians” - **Kieran Gilmour**
- For the Birdland proposal, **Jack Steadman** is “creative” director for this play proposal. **Jack Williams**, back from his travels in Australia, is directing. **Elena Stronach** is attached as producer.
- **ACTION:** **Zoë Edwards** to promulgate the link so committee members can read the review.
- **ACTION:** everyone to encourage others to direct small plays.
- **Ben Williams** officially announces that he is proposing a (Greek) play - “Lysistrata”. In a line the play is about the women of Greece forcing peace by denying their men sex. Might be co-directing it with **Simon Parker**. At time of writing, to-be-proposed play is still need of a producer. **NOTED:** DramSoc hasn’t done a Greek play for a while and Lysistrata has a chorus involved (hence can get lots of people involved).

Edinburgh Fringe Festival Show

- DramSoc, Acapella and other societies are thinking of renting a flat (for three weeks) to put on a show. Instead of their usual tour to California, this year the Technotics are going to Scotland. Given that there are a lot of performing societies going to edinburgh, this plan of sharing a flat has started to take place. We have already talked to **Chris Kaye** and he has given his favour. We would prioritise societies taking up a show, then we would just release it to anyone.
- **ACTION:** have a meeting to confirm if we will book a flat or not.

Potential January Play

- **Elise Van Lil** expressed an interest in doing a play, and **Jack Steadman** also interested in doing a reading of some sort.
- We might be able to do something, but no point trying to organise it with only a few days before play proposals.

Workshops

Writing Workshop/LSDF

- **Agnes Donnelly** reports that so far the writing workshops have been going smoothly. At the moment there are 4 solid thought out ideas, 2 of which have parts written. There is currently an ongoing vote to decide which one will be sent to LSDF.

Helen Root, Gautam Kambhampati, Elena Stronach leave to continue Neverwhere Papertech. Ominous crashing sound shortly after they leave.

“Elenaa ...” - **Gautam Kambhampati**.

- We are confident that there will be a student written play for LSDF. LSDF show similar to Edinburgh Fringe Festival ones in terms of tech constraints and cast. It was suggested that we could do 2 Edinburgh Fringe shows based on how many plays have been written.
- **Andrew Finn** wants to get Edinburgh Fringe show sorted earlier. It was suggested that we formed a Edinburgh Fringe subcommittee for this venture.
- Auditions for LSDF are going to be in the very first week of January.

Crew Mentoring

- **Chris Love** and **Zoë Edwards** to sit down and assign mentors to technicians. We want to do this before Neverwhere show week starts. “I have cancer on my jeans” - **Zoë Edwards**.

Website

- “Light of my life” - **Ben Williams**
- **ACTION:** in terms of content **Ben Williams** says that we need something from **Andrew Finn** about acting, workshops, background. **Chris Love** to write something about tech. **Zoë Edwards** to write a welcome piece. Everyone to write a biography for themselves.

- **Ben Williams** thinks that some of the website still needs redesigning.
- Deadline for website: end of next week 6th December.

AOB

- Next committee meeting clashes with Neverwhere dress rehearsal. So instead it will be moved to the last week of term; right before the DramSoc bar night.
- **Zoë Edwards** got an email from Imperial Hub saying that if we could raise our tickets by £1 and donate it to them, in return they will publicise our event through the Hub. A decision was reached saying that we don't really need this extra advertisement. Instead we could raise the prices and instead make a charitable donation. Note that Imperial Hub is a student run advertising body.

Summary of Actions

- **Sam Gardiner** to post update (i.e. buying tickets on the Natural History Museum website) in Dramsoc Facebook group.
- **Ben Williams** to remind people on event for the bar night that they need
- **Elena Stronach** to put poll on DramSoc Facebook group to inquire what
- **Ben Williams** to talk to **Elena Stronach** and **Oscar Gill** about designs for merchandise.
- Committee to review submitted play proposals so far.
- **Zoë Edwards** to promulgate the link so committee members can read the review.
- With regards to the upcoming Play Proposals, everyone is to encourage others to direct small plays.
- Have a meeting to confirm if we will book a flat or not for the Edinburgh Fringe Festival Show.
- With regard to the content for the website, **Ben Williams** says that we need something from **Andrew Finn** about acting, workshops, background. **Chris Love** to write something about tech. **Zoë Edwards** to write a welcome piece. Everyone to write a biography for themselves.

Adjournment:

At 19:19 PM **Zoë Edwards** made motion to adjourn the meeting and **Steven Kingaby** seconded it.