



Cambridge University Amateur Dramatic Club

Meeting Minutes, 30th October 2016, 7.00pm, Larkum Studio

Meeting Begins: 19.17

1. Apologies for Absence

Received from: Alice Brightman

Present: Ellie Mitchell, Lewis Scott, Alex Barnett, Saskia Baylis, Amy Malone, Rebecca Vaa, Will Bishop, Oscar Yang, Catja Hamilton, Jack Rowan, Emma B-P and Toby Molyneux.

2. Minutes and Matters Arising

Last week's minutes are approved.

3. Action Points

- a. Oscar Yang to contact the Freshers' Shows Producers to get a list of names.
10-20 people from Freshers' Shows went to Teahouse.
- b. Ellie Mitchell to do a doodle poll to work out the best day for constitutional review.
It's looking like Thursday 10th November is the most popular date.
- c. Everyone to do their constitution homework.
- d. Lewis Scott to publicise *e x i l e*.
Ticket sales have gone up.
- e. Rebecca Vaa to chase up on show report for *e x i l e*.
See show reports below.
- f. Ellie Mitchell to email Jamie Rycroft to find out when meetings with Freshers' Shows' producers are happening so a member of committee can be at every meeting.
This is being arranged.
- g. Everyone to let those involved in the Freshers' shows know they can talk to Emma B-P if they don't want to talk to their rep or their Producer about any worries.
Everyone has been notified.
- h. Sheanna Patel to email Mitchell Clarke to let him know who is on the Show Selection panel.
Done.

- i. Ellie Mitchell to put reserves on the Agenda for next week.
- j. Ellie Mitchell to chase Mitchell Clarke up on garden party photos.
Do this! Apparently Mitchell has three. But which ones?! The saga continues.
Action Point: Ellie Mitchell to chase this up with Mitchell Clarke.
- k. Will Bishop to find a good date and source a room for fight choreography.
Here Ellie Mitchell makes a hilarious joke about Will Bishop finding a good date generally. Robbie Taylor Hunt has said that he can do the 19th or 26th November. Will Bishop thinks the 26th would be best as it will be after the Freshers' Plays. The workshop will run 3.45-7.45pm. He is going to try to book the Blythe Room at Clare Colony.
- l. Will Bishop and Ellie Mitchell to arrange a composing workshop with Toby Marlow.
Will Bishop has messaged him.
Action Point: Ellie Mitchell and Will Bishop to meet up with Toby Marlow to discuss this.

4. Show Reports

- a. *Teahouse* (ADC Theatre, Show Contact: Will Bishop)
Quote: 'I hear it went well'.
Will Bishop hasn't obtained a SPAT report yet, but he did see the show and says he had a great evening. Ellie Mitchell is glad but she would like a SPAT report too.
Issues with reviews of the shows are raised, to be discussed later. Brings up review thing and Sophia Luu's FLY girls of Cambridge response. Sales were something like 87% in the end with two sold out nights though. We all agree that the Producer was really fantastic and did an excellent job.
- b. *e x i l e* (ADC Theatre, Show Contact: Rebecca Vaa)
S – Not massively high but have increased.
P – Publicity is happening, everyone is happy. They have a really good preview out.
A – Rehearsals are all going well with choreography coming together.
T – Props and sandpit are happening, they just need to do a get in plan!
- c. *24 Hour Plays* (ADC Theatre, Show Contact: Saskia Baylis and Oscar Yang)
S – N/A
P – Three director applications have been received and five writers' applications, and applications are still open.
A – 20 actors confirmed and many more on waiting list, many of the

confirmed actors are freshers

T – They haven't received any tech applications yet, but one person has expressed interest in SMing.

Action Point: Catja Hamilton to encourage LDs to apply, perhaps from the Freshers' Shows?

d. *Panto* (ADC Theatre, Show Contact: Ellie Mitchell)

S – All remaining tickets will go on general release on Tuesday 1st November.

P – Publicity has been approved and sent to print; they are trying to develop a gif of a spinning wheel; programme is happening; full company meeting happened today; all set related teams got together earlier this week; they are holding paint parties to ensure that all the painters get involved on more than a casual basis.

A – Rehearsals are all going well; the script rewrites are ongoing.

T – The revolve has been tested!

e. *Rules for Living* (ADC Theatre, Show Contact: Oscar Yang)

S – 12%

P – The team met last week; the budget is sorted; Producer has met everyone minus one ASM; current issue is the cost of getting a fridge – we suggest freecycle or gumtree; publicity design is being worked out.

A – The whole of act 1 is blocked; they are hoping to get Act 2 blocked this week.

T – The set design is meant to be sent to the TD today and they're meeting with John Evans very soon. The build plan has been discussed and budgeting thought about.

f. *Bed* (ADC Theatre, Show Contact: Alice Brightman)

No show report received.

g. *Britannia Waves the Rules* (ADC Theatre, Show Contact: Lewis Scott)

The Producer hasn't yet replied.

Action Point: Lewis Scott to circulate show report once he receives it.

6. LTM – Programming and CUMTS Proposal

We discuss the pros and cons of pre-programming a more popular musical. We are largely in favour of the idea and agree that we are happy to bind future committees and directors to a pre-chosen show if it means better opportunities for directors. However, we agree that it would not need to become a precedent; an LTM should only be pre-programmed in the event of a good show being available.

Action Point: Ellie Mitchell to check the constitution to see if such pre-programming is permitted.

Quote from the above discussion:

Emma B-P: 'I'd do a Masters if it meant I could do Cabaret!'

Amy Malone to Emma B-P: 'You'll be contending with Judi Dench in a year's time'. Emma B-P takes this to be a comment on her looks rather than her talent.

Rebecca Vaa provides a list of musicals she would like to find out about the rights for: Fiddler on the Roof, Guys and Dolls, Beauty and the Beast, Little Women, Parade, The Producers, Soosical the Musical, Thoroughly Modern Millie. Oscar Yang adds Chicago and Alex adds Cabaret.

Action Point: Ellie to check rights for these shows.

Ellie Mitchell reads out Jack Rowan's briefing document on the financial implications of the CUMTS proposal to part-fund LTM. These demonstrate that, as was the case with *West Side Story*, LTM doesn't always make a large profit. Had CUMTS funded the Sound and Music budget for *West Side Story*, they would have taken £10.

However, Jack Rowan does explain that the *West Side Story* rights were much more than budgeted for, so it is an odd example in that profit was unusually low. Lewis Scott asks if we have the RENT figures.

Action Point: Jack Rowan to get hold of the RENT figures.

We debate the issue at length. Ellie Mitchell points out that CUMTS co-funding LTM would mean they would have to be involved in the pre-programming decision and bigger musicals might mean a bigger potential loss for them. Jack Rowan and Lewis Scott raise issues pertaining to brand, as does Emma B-P.

Lewis Scott points out that the LTM is CUADC's resident company slot, which is something every resident company has. CUMTS' is the week 4/5 Musical, ours is the LTM. We agree this is a very valid point. Ellie Mitchell adds that every show's adverts go through the CUADC mailing lists, which weakens CUMTS' argument regarding the use of CUMTS mailing lists to fill the LTM band. Jack Rowan is concerned that CUMTS have less provision for non-performance aspects of productions than CUADC and Ellie Mitchell further adds that we cannot predict the actions of further CUMTS committees down the line and how they might use the arrangement.

We agree to invite Joe Beighton to a meeting to clarify what CUMTS would want from the arrangement and to hear from both sides.

Action Point: Ellie Mitchell to invite Joe Beighton to the next meeting.

7. Christmas Party

Ellie Mitchell would love for committee to hold a Christmas event for members, potentially on the weekend between the two panto weeks? Saturday would be the ideal night but we would have to negotiate with management as that is also the half-way out for Panto. Jack Rowan says there is a budget for mulled wine and mince pies.

Lewis Scott asks if it can be an end of term or seasonal party rather than Christmas in order to be more inclusive. Saskia Baylis suggests winter party and we agree on this. Ellie Mitchell gets excited about decorations!

Action Point: Ellie Mitchell to form a winter party sub-committee and organise a meeting with management. Lewis Scott is ridiculously excited about sub-committee.

Toby Molyneux can be Santa in his dungarees! He says he will bring a tree from near his house! As you do. Ellie Mitchell says to think about games and fun things! Emma B-P suggests a photo booth area.

Amy Malone snurms her way out at 20.14.

8. Info List

Workshops

Panto tickets

e x i l e

9. A.O.B

Catja Hamilton

- a. Asks if we have heard anything about *The Flick* and the rights issue. Jack Rowan hasn't contacted them yet. He is going to do it with the end of year accounts.

Will Bishop

- a. He has booked the Blythe Room for the fight workshop! #efficiency Talk turns to *Teahouse*: Emma B-P has stolen *Teahouse* shoes from the skip.
Saskia Baylis: 'Did you just come to the theatre with no shoes?'
Emma B-P: 'Yes! And was like what luck??!!!'

Rebecca Vaa

- a. In response to the issue with cultural insensitivity in *Teahouse* reviews, she asks if we can do anything to provide guidelines for reviewers generally. Someone has actually recently organised a meeting to discuss reviews, on Thursday 3rd November, 5.30-7.30pm at Blythe Room. Ellie Mitchell would like some people from committee to go. We discuss issues with reviews more generally; reviewers change every time and reviewers are very varied. Lewis Scott says there has also been punctuality issue in the past.

Alex Barnett

- a. Says that apparently there is an alumni list according to the constitution. If it exists can she take it over?
Action Point: Alex Barnett to ask Alan Egan about this.
- b. Says she has spoken to management about drinks tokens for Playroom shows. It has been agreed that they should be given them on opening night so they're used in time to go on the final settlement.

Lewis Scott

- a. Raises the issue of building during tech and dress rehearsals; he found it extremely distracting during the *Teahouse* tech. The welding for Panto is also blocking the fire passage. Toby Molyneux passes on some issues that have also been raised associated with this.
Action Point: Sheanna Patel to email both the Panto TD and John Evans about the issues that have been raised.

Ellie Mitchell

- a. She has had contact from an ARU student who would like to do some filming for a project at the ADC. We agree that the Week 5 Mainshow would probably be best.
Action Point: Ellie Mitchell to put them in touch with the Director of the Week 5 Mainshow.
- b. She has received an email from someone who was in a CUADC production in 1968 who would like a company list. Alex Barnett says this should be available at the archives.

Toby Molyneux

- a. Says there are some small things in the workshop that could do with being replenished; they are semi-stock items not owned by the theatre, but shows buy them and leave them behind and they become useful. He has made a list.

Action Point: Toby Molyneux to send list to Jack Rowan.

Emma B-P

- a. Says that she would like to organise a committee Secret Santa; we all agree that this would be lovely!

Action Point: Emma B-P to organise committee Secret Santa.

Jack Rowan

- a. Reports that show selection is going really well! However, Katie Hook and Elinor Lipman couldn't be at the panel for some of show selection, which meant that the panel was entirely male for a few hours.

Action Point: Jack Rowan to ask Mitchell Clarke if this kind of thing could be considered beforehand so it can hopefully be avoided in the future.