

METIS PRESENTS

the bunker project

Directing Staff: Zoe Svendsen (director), Simon Daw (artist), Lucy Caldwell (writer), Neil Brinkworth (lighting), Tom Hall (sound), Chris Rogers (digital), Steve Crozier (artist).

Operative: Haidee Carpenter (stage manager), Jordan Savage (assistant director), Patrick Rolfe (assistant director), Samantha Lane (education), Naomi Needs (local liaison), SCAMP (administration)

Players: Catherine Dyson (performer), Jeremy Hardingham (performer), Lizzie Hopley (writer/performer), Tommy Mullins (performer).

Volunteer Corps: Jon Lloyd, Lucy Razzall, Elaine Cusack, Lee Steele, Mike Hewin, Liz Palles-Clark, X Wang, B Zhang, X Zeng, Kate O'Connor, Jack Livesey.

ABOUT THE BUNKER PROJECT

The Bunker Project is a community-focused heritage project, exploring memories of the (now) hidden war spaces of Cambridge, from air-raid shelters in peoples' back gardens to the nuclear war bunker on Brooklands Avenue. Over the past few months the project has been gathering together peoples' memories of these spaces in and around Cambridge. There are several outcomes to the project, including a DVD of the interviews we have conducted, a website displaying our research (currently in development) and an exhibition in collaboration with the Cambridge Library Cambridgeshire Collection.

What you will see tonight is a performance installation of our immediate responses to the wealth of material we have uncovered - through a fantastic voluntary effort as well as the creative input of all participants in this stage of the project. Our week-long workshop began with a creating and carrying out a fictional exercise, followed by much discussion and improvisation responding to the material, included a visit to a former ROC bunker and concludes today with this presentation.

The starting point of the project was an interest in spaces and their uses. What has come to fascinate us particularly in the course of meeting people and sharing memories, is the extensive system of exercises that rehearsed 'post-attack scenarios' during the Cold War. These trained a wide variety of personnel, from volunteers in the Royal Observer Corps, to local government workers, to undertake a variety of tasks that were designed to enable the continued functioning of government administration, for the purposes of coordinating rescue, such as would be possible, across the UK.

This lead us to consider what a contemporary equivalent of Civil

Defence or the Royal Observer Corps might look like, in the light of new technologies and the extensive privatization of society. Many of our interviewees have felt that contemporary society is no longer geared towards the sustained voluntary effort contributed by groups such as the Royal Observer Corps. What has shone through in all the responses, was the sense of camaraderie and pulling together in the event of crisis - a response which we feel would revive also in the contemporary world, but which is not reflected or encouraged by the 'consumer society', or the rhetoric of individual 'choice'. In the workshop, this led to the satirical invention of 'Catastrofix', a private company dedicated to capitalizing on peoples' fears and training businesses and individuals to protect themselves.

PERSONNEL

Neil Brinkworth - Lighting Designer

Recent Lighting Design: *Bridgetower* (City of London Festival), *Dido & Aeneas*, *Jephthe* (English Touring Opera); *Spangleguts* (London Bubble); *Fair* (Trafalgar Studios); *The 7 Pomegranate Seeds* (Oxford Playhouse); *The Cure at Troy* (Delphi, Greece and UK Tour); *The Handsomest Drowned Man* (Circus Space); *Deptford Stories* (National Theatre AOR); *A Square of Sky* (The Kosh); *Strauss Gala* (Raymond Gubbay) *The Canterville Ghost*, *Creditors*, *Judith Bloom* (Southwark Playhouse); *Totorama* (Context Theatre). Relights Include: '0' (Michael Clark Dance Company); *The Vagina Monologues* (The Old Vic/Mark Goucher Ltd.)

Lucy Caldwell - Writer

Lucy Caldwell was born in Belfast in 1981 and graduated with a First in English from Queens' College, Cambridge. Her first novel, *Where They Were Missed* (Viking, 2006), was shortlisted for the Dylan Thomas Prize and the Waverton Good Read Award. Her first full-length play, *Leaves* (Druid/Royal Court, 2007) won the George Devine Award and the Susan Smith Blackburn Award. Other short plays include *The River* (winner of the PMA Award for Most Promising Playwright) and *Toner's Bog* (Big Telly, 2007; currently touring Ireland). Lucy's short stories and journalism have been published in various journals, magazines and newspapers.

Haidee Lee Carpenter - Stage Manager

Haidee Lee Carpenter completed a Masters in Theatre and Physical Theatre at Royal Holloway, London. Since then her theatre experience has been extremely diverse, including lighting and sound operation stage management and assistant directing in addition to crowd entertainment and running workshops in circus skills. Most recently her role includes touring technician and project assistant for The Crow Show, who have just returned after touring at the Edinburgh fringe festival.

Simon Daw - Artist

Simon studied at Glasgow School of Art and Motley Theatre Design Course. He has exhibited photography, video and installation work in both the UK and abroad including the online/performance work *Wavestructures*, commissioned by the Aldeburgh Festival, and *New Town*, a series of site-specific performances in diverse locations ranging from a 13 storey tower block to a Siberian nuclear bunker.

Currently: *Elling* at Trafalgar Studios and *The Enchantment* at the Cottesloe and *Kebab* at the Royal Court.

Theatre includes: *French Without Tears* (English Touring Theatre); *Not The Love I Cry For* (Arcola); *Aladdin* based on Philip Pullman's book (Bristol Old Vic); *Jackets* (Young Vic/Theatre 503); *The Bodies* (Live Theatre); *Rutherford and Son* (Royal Exchange); *Tall Phoenix* (Belgrade); *Romeo and Juliet* (RSC); *Adam and Eve* (TPT, Tokyo); six plays for the *Imprint Young Writers Festival* (Royal Court, Upstairs); *Astronaut* (Theatre O, Barbican Pit and UK Tour); *The Changeling* (NT Studio); *Rafts and Dreams* and *Across Oka* (Royal Exchange Studio); *Relatively Speaking*, *The Witches*, *Everyman* and *Habeas Corpus* (Northampton); *Under the Curse* and *Tragedy: A Tragedy* (Gate); *Touched* (RSAMD); *The Singing Group* and *Exclude Me* (Chelsea Theatre); *Fragile Land* (Hampstead); *The Arbitrary Adventures Of An Accidental Terrorist* (NYT, Lyric Hammersmith Studio); *Kes* (NYT, Lyric Hammersmith).

Design for Dance includes: *Bloom* (Rambert) choreographed by Aletta Collins and *The Stepfather* choreographed by Arthur Pita for CandoCo Dance Company.

Design for opera includes revival design of *Fidelio* for Scottish Opera.

Film includes: *The Fall* (35mm, National Film and Television School).

Catherine Dyson - Performer

Catherine Dyson is a performer and deviser. Recent theatre work includes *Half Life* (National Theatre of Scotland/NVA); *Speed Death of The Radiant Child* (Chris Goode); *The Night Shift* (Mark Murphy), for which she was nominated Best Actress in the Stage Awards 2005; and *It Is Like It Ought To Be* (Uninvited Guests). She performed and co-wrote *Dead Man's Biggest Fan* with Melanie Wilson, and *found* and *The King & I* with Norwegian based artist a smith. She also appeared as a monster in 2005 horror film *The Descent*.

Tom Hall - Sound Designer

A Cambridge-based composer, SuperCollider user and guitarist, Tom performs in the ensembles butterflyCut and [rout]. Recent and upcoming performances include the Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival and the SuperCollider conference, The Hague. Tom is a lecturer in creative music technology at Anglia Ruskin University and a co-founder of the slow code movement. www.ludions.com

Jeremy Hardingham - Performer

Jeremy Hardingham has been working in fringe and mainstream theatre in the UK and elsewhere for over ten years, as a performer, writer, director, production manager and technician. He has collaborated with London-based companies Shunt, The People Show Signal to Noise and Mapping 4D. He has created two collaborative and two solo works with

his company, incarnate: *Incarnate; And yet but still just this; Terrific Pathetic* and *Happiness for All*. Currently the Judith E. Wilson Drama Studio Manager at the Faculty of English in Cambridge University, he runs workshops on performing Shakespeare, and is conducting practical research into structural aspects of performance-making and the historical avant-garde. Two new collaborative works will be produced in 2007/8.

Lizzie Hopley - Performer

Lizzie Hopley trained at RADA and is an actress and writer. Written work includes **Salome** (Drama on 3), **The Elizabethan Beauty Law** (Radio 4) and **The Cenci Family** (her first radio play, nominated for a Sony Academy Award). Theatre plays include **Frank & Dolly** (Edinburgh Festival 2007 starring Dillie Keane), **The Rebel's Path** for Creation Theatre, and **Pramface** (awarded the Plat de Jour, Edinburgh 2005, UK tour & Croydon Warehouse). She is currently under commission to write **Beautiful Monster** for Annette Badland. For Film, her screenplay **The Revenant Code** was short-listed for a British Film Council Sony Award in 2004. She also writes for the **Doctor Who: Short Trips** series including **The Centenarian** (2006) and **Snapshots** (published this September).

Lizzie has just appeared in **Frank & Dolly** at the Edinburgh festival. Other acting work includes Kate in **She Stoops to Conquer**, Liz Morden in **Our Country's Good** (both for Mercury, Colchester), Ang in the No 1 tour of Mike Leigh's **Abigail's Party**, Beatrice in **Much Ado About Nothing** for Creation and **Punch & Judy** at the Jerwood Space with Simon Callow, Viola in the National Theatre tour of **Twelfth Night** and **Six Characters in Search of an Author** at the Young Vic. For TV, she has appeared in **Randall & Hopkirk Deceased II** (BBC), **Impact** (Company Pictures), **Life As We Know It** (BBC), **Active Defence** (Granada), **The Things You Do For Love** (Granada), **Pure Wickedness** (BBC) and for Film: **Pierrepont** (with Timothy Spall, 2006) and **Woman X**, (winner of best short, Texas film festival 2003).

Tommy Mullins - Performer

Tommy trained at the RSAMD. He has just finished appearing in HANSEL AND GRETEL for Catherine Wheels. Other recent theatre includes THE ESCAPOLOGIST for Suspect Culture, FIERCE for Grid Iron, SNOW WHITE the Citizens Theatre, directed by Kenny Miller, ROMEO AND JULIET for Prime Productions, and HELMET for Paines Plough/Traverse. TV credits include DOCTORS for the BBC, HIGH TIMES and THEARAPY both for SMG.

Chris Rogers - Digital Consultant

Chris Rogers manages the London Symphony Orchestra's digital technology education programme. He has worked previously as Programme and Production Manager for the Enter Unknown Territories Festival of New Technology Art and Arts, and New Technology Programmer for the Junction, both in Cambridge. Graduating in 1999 with a degree in Music and Audio Technology, his interests lie specifically in integrating reactive and interactive technologies into live performance.

As a guitarist and Max/MSP programmer he has performed regularly with

the likes of Keith

Fullerton Whitman and *My Cat Is An Alien*, including sessions for Resonance FM, and has had work released on Palimpsest Recordings.

Patrick Rolfe - Assistant Director

Patrick Rolfe grew up in the pre-apocalyptic wasteland of west London, spending his time reading books about Nuclear war. He now studies politics at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge.

Jordan Savage - Assistant Director

Jordan Savage is in the final year of an English degree at the University of Cambridge. She was drawn to The Bunker Project by her interest in cultural history and pscho-geography; when not involved in complicated imitation government exercises, she is usually to be found reading cowboy stories and calling it work...

Zoe Svendsen - Director

Zoe Svendsen is a theatre maker and researcher. She runs METIS, which specialises in research-based performance projects (www.metisarts.co.uk). Recently she directed an adaptation of a Brecht short story, *Four Men and a Poker Game*, for a residency with Grid Iron, Edinburgh, working with composer David Paul Jones, and actor David Mckay. She has created a variety of projects in the past few years, including a festival bringing together theatre makers from Pakistan and the UK, and working as an associate artist (dramaturgy) with LOT Teatro, in Lima, Peru. With the *New Wolsey*, Ipswich, she has been working to develop a intercultural laboratory with LOT, exploring themes of globalisation through focussing on the cities of London and Lima, which will take place in October. Zoe is currently researching a PhD and has given presentations on her academic and performance work in a variety of forums both in the UK and abroad. Zoe used to live in Berlin, and has worked as a translator from the German. Zoe is represented by Blue Box Entertainment.

THANKS

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