

# DAG DIGEST

Reviews, news and previews from Dewsbury Arts Group

March 2022

## LOOKING FORWARD

### In this number:

- \* 60 years on.
- \* Switzerland.
- \* Youth Theatre.
- \* Art Section.
- \* Beside the seaside (when the tide's in)
- \* Next up.

**A new play by David Foxton stands out from the vibrant collection of productions for next season.** Free from the constraint of restrictions the Group will be able to offer not only the usual six main productions and Youth Showcase but also a tribute to Stephen Sondheim in September, a seasonal miscellany curated by Kat Brook and Lucie Raine and the return of an evening of one act plays. Mixed in with “we must do that again” favourites we hope the attached bill of fare whets the appetite to celebrate the past sixty years.

**Crime writer Patricia Highsmith, who wrote *Strangers on a Train* and *The Talented Mr Ripley*, has been described as deeply unlikeable, nasty, mean, cruel and narcissistic.** Not someone, then, that you would want to spend two hours in a dark room with. In *Switzerland*, by Joanna Murray – Smith, we find a dying Highsmith hiding away in the Swiss Alps expecting a visit from Edward Ridgeway, an editor from her publisher. A psychological drama ensues that explores Highsmith’s fascination with evil. Lisa Wales’ strong portrayal conjured up a slightly more palatable character than described whilst Iain Winstanley balanced innocent likeability with a sinister and ultimately deadly streak. Sensitively directed by Stephen Goddard the

action was often taut and tense and never strayed, as it could so easily have done, into caricature.

**Rehearsals move on apace for the Youth Theatre Showcase to be presented on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May.** The Junior Group will be performing *'Figments'* by David Foxton and the Senior Group will be performing *'The Searchers'* also by David Foxton. The latter has never been performed before by the Group.

**Although, currently, youth classes are full, we are now taking names for the September 2022.** Classes are for children who will be 11 and going into year 7 in September 2022. If you wish to put your child's name down or know of anyone who is interested, please email [dagyouth@btinternet.com](mailto:dagyouth@btinternet.com) or contact Maria Bailey on 07586 297492.

**Live drawing sessions continue on Wednesdays between 7 and 9 p.m.** These sessions are open to all members of the group. Whilst there is no tuition as such for absolute beginners, materials and friendly encouragement are readily to hand. For more information contact Art Secretary Zahoor Sakharker (07979316858 [haseemmultimedia@gmail.com](mailto:haseemmultimedia@gmail.com))

**The Group is a member of the Little Theatre Guild, a support network for theatres like ours.** Members of the Group are invited to the LTG National Conference in sunny Southport from 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> May 2022. Details of the agenda, workshops choices and timetable are awaited. There will be a performance on Saturday evening, of "The Vicar of Dibley". If interested, please contact Jacky Fletcher on [jackym.fletcher@gmail.com](mailto:jackym.fletcher@gmail.com)

## COMING UP

### COMPANY

Music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim,  
book by George Furth

*30<sup>TH</sup> April and 2<sup>nd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> May 2022*

(See flyer attached)

BOOK NOW **Valid for season tickets**

### TO FOLLOW

#### YOUTH SHOWCASE

*FIGMENTS* and *THE SEARCHERS*

By David Foxton

*20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> May 2022*

BOOK NOW

### TICKETS

[www.dewsburyartsgroup.info](http://www.dewsburyartsgroup.info) or call the **Ticket Source box office** on **03336663366**. Please see the revised seating plan attached as we are now able to offer something like full capacity.

*If you have any queries regarding the booking, return or exchanging of tickets, please ring David Fletcher on 01924 505861 or e-mail: [dewsburyartsgroup@ntlworld.com](mailto:dewsburyartsgroup@ntlworld.com)*