

ABOUT YAT

Youth Action Theatre is dedicated to stimulating the love of drama and theatre through drama workshops and production experience in young people aged 16 to 25. Other than age, there is no restriction on membership which is also completely free. Founded in 1970, YAT's first production in spring 1971 was *The Diary of Anne Frank*. Since then, it has presented over 120 major productions of a full range of plays including classical, modern, progressive and musical.

For more details, call 0844 740 1970 or visit our website at www.yat.org.uk

COMING SOON...

YAT's next production will be the musical *Into The Woods* by Stephen Sondheim. This will be performed in the main auditorium at the Hampton Hill Playhouse from 12th to 15th November 2014. Reading and Auditions will start on Thursday 14th August at Teddington School in Broom Road from 7.30pm.

IMPORTANT THEATRE INFORMATION

For reasons of safety, glassware must NOT be taken into any part of the auditorium. Bottled water and ice-cream is allowed.

Latecomers will be admitted at the first convenient moment provided that no interruption or distraction to the performers might be caused.

All gangways, passages and stairways must be kept free from obstruction. Persons are not permitted to sit or stand in any gangway.

Smoking is not permitted anywhere in the theatre.

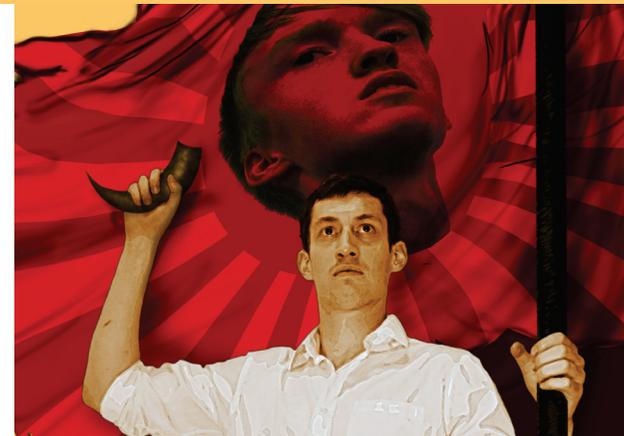
The taking of photographs and the making of sound and/or video recordings in the auditorium is strictly not permitted.

An induction loop system is installed in the main auditorium to assist those who use hearing aids with the relevant setting.



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ANIMAL FARM



**By George Orwell, Adapted by Peter Hall
Lyrics by Adrian Mitchell and Music by Richard Peaslee**

**Directed by Anna Carlson and Tom Wright
Musical Direction by James Hall**

**Hampton Hill Playhouse
Thursday 7th to Saturday 9th August 2014**

ABOUT THE PLAY

The animals at Manor Farm are sick of their lot - endless work, not enough food and a cruel master. So one day, they decide to take control and overthrow Mr Jones, the farmer. Under the leadership of Napoleon and Snowball, the pigs, they create a new world for themselves, where all animals are equal. But as time goes on, it seems that Napoleon's idea of "equal" is perhaps not the same as everyone else's...

Animal Farm was first published in 1945, and is one of George Orwell's best known books. While on the surface it's a fable about cute animals, in reality Orwell wrote the whole thing as a parody of Joseph Stalin's regime with different animals standing for different figures and groups in Revolutionary Russia, with Napoleon taking the role of Stalin himself. This was an unpopular portrayal in the Britain of 1945, where Stalin was viewed as a friend. Since then, we have come to learn that in fact, Orwell was completely right, and the book has rightly come to be considered a classic of twentieth century literature. Sadly, it seems that the world hasn't learned much, and the book's warnings about dictatorship, corruption and cruelty remain as relevant today as they were seventy years ago.

DIRECTORS' NOTES

Animal Farm is a story we both love, combining as it does fantasy with serious political allegory, and so doing justice to it presented us with a number of challenges - most obviously, how do we portray a vast number of different animals, given that our cast all have two legs (which is bad)? We decided to extend Orwell's metaphor, and dress our cast in mid-20th century working clothes, relying on the cast's physicality and a few costume indicators to convey the "animal-ness" of the characters. The cast and crew embraced this concept wholeheartedly, and we hope you enjoy watching the results as much as we enjoyed directing them.

Anna & Tom

CAST

THE STORYTELLER	Mary Cox
OLD MAJOR, a boar	Christian Dart
SNOWBALL, a boar	Miranda Evans
NAPOLEON, a boar	Joe Evans
SQUEALER, a porker	Johanna Dart
MINIMUS, a porker	Johanna Chambers
YOUNG PIGS	Lizzie Ward
	Jojo Leppink
BOXER, a carthorse	Jason Evans
CLOVER, a mare	Amanda Astwood
MOLLIE, a pony	Beatrice Ragea
BENJAMIN, a donkey	Alex Farley
MURIEL, a goat	Mima Davey
THE CAT	Jojo Leppink
MOSES, a raven	Jack Tidball
HENS	Caroline Gudge, Miranda Evans, Beatrice Ragea
	Rob Henderson,
SHEEP	Janina Teitz, Jake Lennon
	Karin Carlson, Johanna Chambers
COWS	Christian Dart
BULL	Karin Carlson,
DOGS	Jack Leary
	Jack Leary
MR JONES	Jake Lennon
MR WHYMPER	Jack Tidball
MR PILKINGTON	Christian Dart
MR FREDERICK	James Hall
STABLE LAD	David Gudge
GEOFFREY	

BAND

PIANO	James Hall
FLUTE	Caroline Bradshaw
GUITAR/PERCUSSION	David Gudge
CELLO	Johanna Chambers

CREW

DIRECTORS	Anna Carlson Tom Wright
MUSICAL DIRECTION & ARRANGEMENTS	James Hall
MOVEMENT WORKSHOPS	Rowan D'Albert
FIGHT CHOREOGRAPHY	Mark Wren Rowan D'Albert
STAGE MANAGER	Asha Gill
ASSISTANT SMS	Michael Bishop, Rowan D'Albert
LIGHTING DESIGNER & OPERATOR	Annie Brett
SET	Jack Tidball
COSTUME	Anna Carlson Tom Wright Eileen Baker
WARDROBE MISTRESS	Sarah Dowd
PUBLICITY	Jojo Leppink
REHEARSAL PHOTOGRAPHY	Mark Notley
PRODUCTION PHOTOGRAPHY	Anna Carlson
POSTER DESIGN	Michael Bishop, Rowan D'Albert,
TRAILER	David Gudge, Joe Olney
CHICKEN WHISPERER	Stephanie Wiera
USHERS	Kerry-Ann Gill, Stephanie Wiera
PRODUCER	Bill Compton

SPECIAL THANKS

One of the reasons we love working with YAT is the fact that so many people donate their time, effort and skills purely for the sake of putting on a great show, so really we would like to thank our entire cast and crew for their talent and hard work.

Aside from the above, we would like to thank Rowan D'Albert for all the various forms of assistance provided, Jojo Leppink and David Gudge for their help with the set "out of hours" and Stephanie Von Wiera for letting us film at her place. Asha Gill also deserves recognition for performing the gruesome task of providing us with a pig's skull, and we suppose we should also thank George the pig. Bockett's Farm were immensely helpful in providing research material. Finally, we would like to thank the YAT committee for the help and advice they have provided us throughout the rehearsal process.