

# *A Doll's House*



**Programme £2**

**Tue 4 JUL - Sat 8 JUL 2023**



**TEDDINGTON  
THEATRE CLUB**

# Teddington Theatre Club

Formed in 1927, Teddington Theatre Club (TTC) is now one of the leading amateur drama groups in south west London, performing in their own custom-built theatre in Hampton Hill. Starting out to stage Shakespeare for schools, it soon developed to stage a wide repertoire of plays for the general public, originally to raise funds for its schools programmes.

TTC's first production, in 1927, was *Scenes from Twelfth Night* followed in 1928 with *The Merchant of Venice* and *Scenes from As You Like It*. Since then, the Club has gone on to put on over 670 productions and counting as it rapidly approaches its hundredth anniversary. Having performed four or five productions a year in hired halls for many years, in 1969 the Club was granted a lease of part of Richmond Council's Hampton Court House and after two years of conversion work finally opened its own theatre in 1971.

As the lease came towards its end, negotiations with Richmond Council secured a site on Hampton Hill High Street for a new theatre and after a concentrated period of fundraising and with a grant from the National Lottery, the well-equipped Hampton Hill Playhouse (now Theatre) was opened in 1998.

TTC present about ten productions a year and welcome new members - from those who wish to be on stage to the technical teams or front of house. All shows at the Theatre are supported by a huge team of volunteers – so thanks to all of those who have supported this show with marketing, front of house, bar, health & safety, box office, finance and more.

There are lots of ways to get involved, so please go to our website to find out more and to keep in touch with what's on at Hampton Hill Theatre, sign up to our monthly show listing at .....

**[www.hamptonhilltheatre.org.uk](http://www.hamptonhilltheatre.org.uk)**

# *A Doll's House*

Written by Henrik Ibsen

A new version, translated by Christopher Hampton

Directed By Douglas Schatz

Set in the home of the Helmer family  
in an unspecified Norwegian town or city, circa 1879.

Act 1

Act 2

Interval

Act 3

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Concord  
Theatricals Ltd.

# Welcome



Welcome to Hampton Hill Theatre and Teddington Theatre Company's production of Henrik Ibsen's iconic masterpiece *A Doll's House*. It's marvellous to see audiences back enjoying the unique communal experience of live theatre. Thank you.

My thanks also to Douglas Schatz, making his directorial debut, and to his committed, accomplished cast and creative team. Douglas has assisted on three TTC productions, including our only (to date) movie: Caryl Churchill's *Escaped Alone*, filmed between 2021 lockdowns (and directed by, ahem.... yours truly). Especial thanks to Fiona Auty, Harry Jacobs and Zoe Man - the latter having bestowed unstinting backstage support on all our 2022/23 shows.

First presented in the same year as Thomas Edison's light bulb, *A Doll's House* continues to cast a revealing ray upon marital relationships, society and sexual politics. More recently, actors as diverse as Ruth Gordon, Claire Bloom, Gillian Anderson and Jessica Chastain have assayed the pivotal role of Nora. Only last year, I saw the UK premiere, at London's Donmar, of Lucas Hnath's stripped-back, bare-stage sequel: *A Doll's House, Part 2*.

As for TTC's continuing story, while we've a summer break onstage, behind the scenes there is no pregnant pause. We're already rehearsing Dario Fo's sadly still-timely satire *They Don't Pay? We Won't Pay!* and have just cast our rollicking half-term adaptation of Robert Louis Stevenson's classic *Treasure Island*. We then penetrate Peter Nichols's provocative comedy about sex, love and infidelity (appropriately titled *Passion Play*) before delivering our Christmas present: the pastiche-packed, madcap musical *Spamalot*.

Would you like to be more than a mere spectator at the feast? Then we'd love to hear from you! We welcome valiant volunteers to support, not just with acting, but stage management, lighting, sound, set, costume, props, production management and front of house. So please go to our website or follow us on social media (see the back page) or, even better, contact me at [artistic@teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk](mailto:artistic@teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk). I hope you enjoy tonight's show & return soon. And please bid an appreciative 'au revoir' to our marvellous stewards and bar staff as you head into that balmy night. just as with you, we could not do any of this without them.

**Daniel Wain, Artistic Director**

# *In Rehearsals*



# Director's Note

Henrik Ibsen's "modern tragedy", *A Doll's House*, premiered in Copenhagen in 1879, and is the first of his series of great late dramas that include *Ghosts*, *The Wild Duck* and *Hedda Gabler*. His daring, naturalistic representations of the realities underlying conventional social life changed the course of dramatic history.

The play shocked the critics on its debut, with producers in Germany and Britain compelled to change the ending to protect audiences from moral corruption. Curiously the British censor, Lord Chamberlain, passed the play because Nora's actions were deemed "too absurd altogether". Audiences however flocked to see it. What is it about a play written more than 140 years ago that touched such a nerve and continues to speak to us today?

Well, the outline of Nora and her husband Torvald's relationship, and the expectations of the society that they inhabit and which have shaped them, remain strikingly familiar. As Ibsen himself wrote in his time: "A woman cannot be herself in modern society," since it is "an exclusively male society, with laws made by men". It would be difficult to argue that this has fundamentally changed.

So the challenges that Nora and Torvald face to establish their happy home and independent identities are the same as we recognise in our modern lives. As testimony to the enduring relevance of this play - without giving away the story - I will simply say that during a recent run in London's West End, the lead actress stated that she and other cast members personally knew people in the audience who decided to change their lives after seeing this show. That is the power of theatre!

Thank you to an inspiring cast of actors who have made this such an enjoyable and rewarding experience, and to an amazingly creative and supportive crew. Special thanks to Matt Beresford, mentor and friend, for his wise counsel.

**Douglas Schatz, Director**

# *The Cast and Production Team*

**Nora** ..... **Amanda Adams**  
**Helmer** ..... **Paul Downey**  
**Mrs. Linde** ..... **Madeleine Gordon**  
**Krogstad** ..... **Owen Huxford**  
**Dr. Rank** ..... **Dominic Lloyd**  
**Anne-Marie** ..... **Liz Salaman**  
**Helene** ..... **Siân Walters**

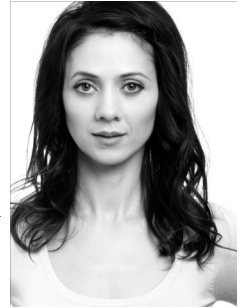
**Director**..... **Douglas Schatz**  
**Production Manager and Artistic Link**.....**Daniel Wain**  
**Stage Manager and Lighting Design**.....**Zoe Man**  
**Assistant Stage Managers** ..... **Aliesje Chapman, Emily Porter**  
**Set Designer and Props** ..... **Fiona Auty**  
**Costume Designer** ..... **Sally Cadle**  
**Costume Assistant** ..... **Ann Broder**  
**Sound Design and Operator** ..... **Harry Jacobs**  
**Lighting Operator** ..... **Rob Foot**  
**Marketing**.....**Christine Wayman**  
**Photographer** ..... **Kim Harding**  
**Rehearsal Prompt**..... **Heather Morgan**

With additional thanks to Junis Olmscheid, Trine Taraldsvik, Gita Singham-Willis, Aisha-Jane Harris, Josh Bayfield, John Williams, Alan Corbett, Steve Wayman, Nigel Cole, Priya Virdee and the TTC Sewing Bee for their help and of course the front of house, box office and bar teams without whom the show couldn't go on!

# Biographies

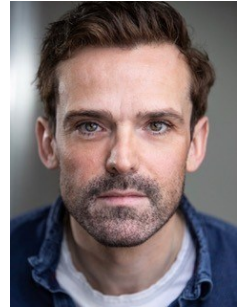
## Amanda Adams - Nora

Amanda trained at ALRA. Recent favourite roles include Annette in *God of Carnage*, Katherine in *Summerland*, and Ibsen's other, eponymous heroine *Hedda Gabler* at RSS. She was last seen at Hampton Hill Theatre as Fay in Joe Orton's *Loot*.



## Paul Downey – Torvald Helmer

Paul is originally from Belfast and trained at ALRA. Theatre credits include: *After Liverpool* (King's Head Theatre and UK Tour), *Tartuffe* (Wimbledon Theatre), *You're So Vain* (Baron's Court Theatre), *Grope Box* (UK Tour). Film and TV work include: *Hummingbird* (Sky Arts), *W.I.S.H.* (Sci-Fi Channel), *Ghosts in the Machine* (Hulu), *Ghosts I Have Known* (Paramount+), *Sum of My Parts* (Winner - Best short film and actor, Hollywood Film Festival), *Red Lion Square* (Sky), (Hulu), *My Brother Jude* (Sky Arts), *Willow* (Disney+). Paul is married with three young daughters and a manic cavapoochon – all of which keep him very busy and active! When he has spare time, he also enjoys the occasional boxing class!  
Agent: [info@marcusandmccrimmon.com](mailto:info@marcusandmccrimmon.com)



## Madeleine Gordon – Kristine Linde

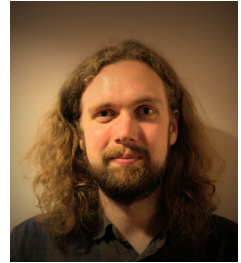
Maddie's last TTC performance was back in September 2015: *Colder Than Here*. Since then, she's done several productions both am dram and professional and has trained at East15 Drama School. When she's not performing, she has her own theatre company 'Slap 'n' Tickle' and has written and performed in two original shows (*Meat Cabaret* - 2020, *Spit Me Out* - 2021), winning a critics award and a sponsored Edinburgh Fringe run respectively.





### **Owen Huxford – Nils Krogstad**

This is Owen's first performance with Teddington Theatre Club. He previously studied GCSE drama and played the role of Sir Toby Belch and subsequently Malvolio in productions of *Twelfth Night* at school and university respectively. He has also performed in a collection of scenes from various operas as part of a production by Oxford Opera Society, and has given recitals of lieder.



### **Dominic Lloyd – Dr. Rank**

Dom had his first stage experience in the late 1980s. A chance conversation with a work colleague led to a role in Tony Harrison's *The Mysteries*. This was followed by the excitement of taking a show to the Edinburgh Fringe with Steven Berkoff's *Agamemnon*. Dom made his TTC debut last year. Since then, his roles have included the thug Lambert and actor Peter in *Shakespeare in Love*, and as village copper Ernie Lauderdale in 1960s comedy *Maynard's End* for Q2. Most recently he has been seen as Alfred Doolittle in *Pygmalion*, and as scheming politician, Richard Sheridan, in *The Madness of George III*.



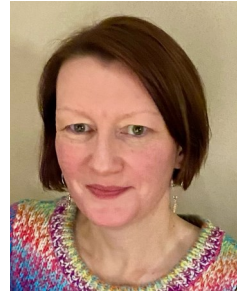
### **Liz Salaman – Anne-Marie**

This is Liz's fifth TTC production and, as she had three Norwegian grandparents, it gives her great pleasure to have been cast in an Ibsen play. She previously appeared in the Studio in the 2016 production of *Stevie*, for which she received a Swan nomination, and then in 2018 in *Echoes of the War*. Appearances on the main stage include *Cause Célèbre* and *When We Are Married*. Liz has also worked at RSS appearing in *Collaborators*, *Tom and Viv*, *The Railway Children* and another famous Ibsen play, *Hedda Gabler*.



### **Siân Walters – Helene**

Siân made her stage debut aged five playing a snowflake and has been involved in all things theatrical ever since! She enjoys working on both sides of the curtain, so when not treading the boards can usually be found lurking in the wings dressed in black. Since joining TTC in 2012, Siân has performed in six pantomimes and several plays. Her most recent appearances were in *The Madness of George III* and *A Family Affair*. In ‘real life’, she’s owned by two cats, drinks too much tea, works in TV-land and is also a member of BROS Theatre Company.



### **Douglas Schatz - Director**

*A Doll's House* is Douglas's debut as a director. He has previously been Assistant Director on the TTC productions of *Our Country's Good* and *The Recruiting Officer*, as well as on the filmed production of *Escaped Alone*. He formerly worked at the drama publisher Samuel French, and now contributes his publishing experience as Chairman of the TTC Programming Team. Douglas is also the founder and host of The Play Podcast, the first-ever episode of which was dedicated to *A Doll's House*.



# COMING SOON

**Booking at [www.thelittleboxoffice.com/teddingtontheatreclub](http://www.thelittleboxoffice.com/teddingtontheatreclub)  
or phone 020 8410 4546 (5.00pm - 8.00pm Mon - Sat)**

**TUE 3 OCT - SAT 7 OCT 2023**

## **THEY DON'T PAY! WE WON'T PAY!**

By Dario Fo

**The poorest of society must choose between food or fuel, two  
neighbours get into a pickle after a supermarket looting!**

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with United Agents LLP

**WED 25 OCT - SUN 29 OCT 2023**

## **TREASURE ISLAND**

By R L Stevenson, adapted for stage by Jago Hazzard

**Set sail for silliness with our children's show which returns at October  
half-term'**

**TUE 21 NOV - SAT 25 NOV 2023**

## **PASSION PLAY**

By Peter Nichols

**Falling in love is easy. Being faithful is much harder.**

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd.

**SUN 3 DEC - SAT 9 DEC 2023**

## **SPAMALOT**

Book and lyrics by Eric Idle, music by John Du Prez and Eric Idle

**A new musical lovingly ripped off from the motion picture Monty  
Python and the Holy Grail**

This amateur production is presented through special arrangement with and all authorised  
performance materials are supplied by Theatrical Rights Worldwide (TRW),

Teddington Theatre Club is affiliated to Arts  
Richmond and this production is entered for the  
Swan Awards for Drama and Musicals.





# **TEDDINGTON** THEATRE CLUB

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**[www.teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk](http://www.teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk)**

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**HAMPTON HILL**  
THEATRE

