

GENEVA | WINTER 2016

Backstage

SIMPLY
THEATRE

Academy★
joining the scene

www.simplytheatre.com

022 860 05 18



2016 Showcase Students

WELCOME

Welcome to our “Backstage” newsletter as we approach the end of our first term.

It has been brilliant to welcome back old faces as well as new ones and we hope that all of our students have enjoyed their courses this term. Our site in Etoy opened this year and we want to say a big thank you and “well done” to all of our new students there – and of course to our teachers, who are really enjoying teaching at the new venue. We hope to expand our courses here and in Vevey in future so watch this space!

The new academic year has, as always, been very busy for us on the Productions side of things; we’ve had 2 fabulous Cabaret shows from *Christina Bianco* and *The West End Men*. We’ve had a fantastic family production of *Dotty The Dragon*; a stunning interpretation of *Macbeth* from our Academy students; and to round it all off - our traditional Christmas production, which this year is *Sleeping Beauty*.

And of course we are now in Open Class season...

We hope you enjoy the newsletter and wish you and your families a very Happy Christmas and all the best for the New Year.

The Simply Theatre Team



LAMDA

We are extremely pleased with our hardworking LAMDA students for their amazing achievements with their examinations in 2016. The hard work paid off and 120 students took the exams with a 100% pass rate with over 60% of our students achieving a distinction. All the staff are incredibly proud!

Our examiner was very impressed with the standard of work produced and the opportunities Simply Theatre is offering. She was delighted to visit and hopes to come back again soon. LAMDA is in full swing again and we are looking forward to another terrific and rewarding year. Thanks again for all your hard work and very well done to all of you!



OPEN CLASSES, REPORTS AND SHOWCASES

At Simply Theatre Academy we have 3 opportunities for parents to get involved in what is happening in class:

OPEN CLASSES run for the last 3 weeks of term. They take place during your child's class and last for approximately half of the duration of a class. The open classes are semi-taught and semi-performed which gives you an opportunity to see the type of activities the students have been working on during the first term.

After each Open Class, the class teacher will be available to catch up with parents. This is the perfect chance to ask any questions regarding the course curriculum, your child's development or any other burning questions you may have. If you've already attended your child's Open Class then we hope you found it insightful!

REPORTS are an opportunity for the teachers to give individual feedback on each student. The report enables the teachers to reflect on each student at the end of the first term's activities. For students, the report gives them a chance to put into practice any tips that are given which will help them during the rest of the year, ensuring that they get the most out of their course. Students should receive their reports by email before Christmas.

SHOWCASES take place in the third term, with each class working towards a Showcase that is the culmination of the year's work in the form of a performance. The Showcases take place in June and you will have been given the date of your showcase at the beginning of the academic year. The performance experience at the end of each year is really important, so please make sure that you have your child's Showcase date in the diary, and that they are able to attend. If you have mislaid your Showcase date, please don't hesitate to let us know and we'll remind you!



Christina Bianco meeting some of the Simply Theatre students



Dotty The Dragon



The West End Men

PRODUCTIONS

The Simply Theatre Productions season has got off to a fantastic start in Geneva with sold-out shows, incredible performances and happy audiences!

World class impressionist and Youtube sensation Christina Bianco opened the season with *'Diva Moments'*, showcasing some of the biggest divas in the world, including Barbara Streisand, Celine Dion and Julie Andrews, singing songs you would not expect to hear! A sold-out theatre gave Christina the standing ovation she deserved and we hope to welcome her back in the future.

Next up was *Dotty the Dragon*, from Simply Theatre regulars Blunderbus Theatre Company. The enchanting story of Dotty was brought to life on stage and our younger audiences (and their families) loved this heart-warming tale.

The West End Men arrived in Geneva at the start of November and performed 2 sold-out performances. Featuring close harmonies and beautiful arrangements of some of musical theatre's best-loved songs, the standing ovation and stomping feet would not let the men rest with one encore, they had to rush back down from their dressing rooms to perform a second encore as well!



Macbeth - November 2016

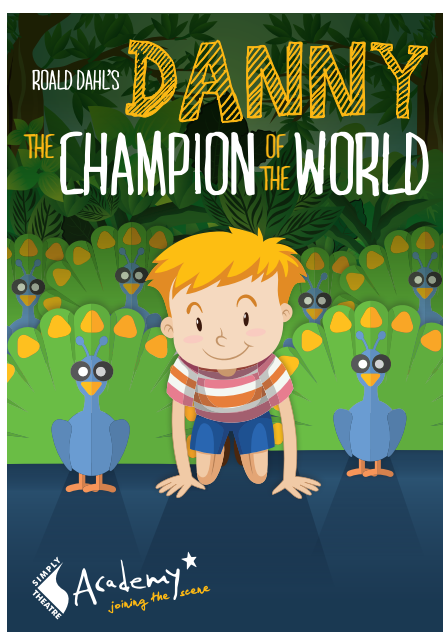
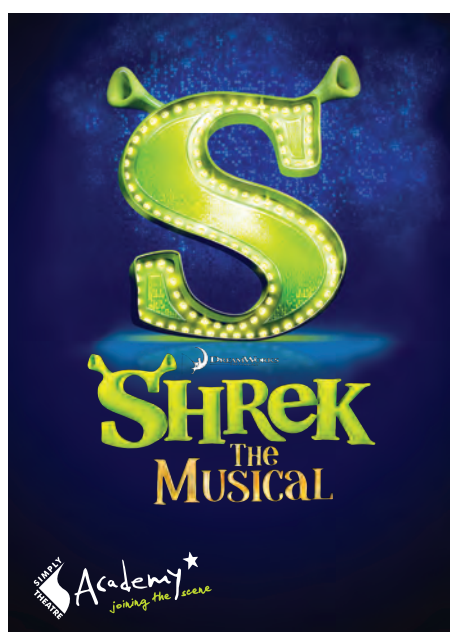
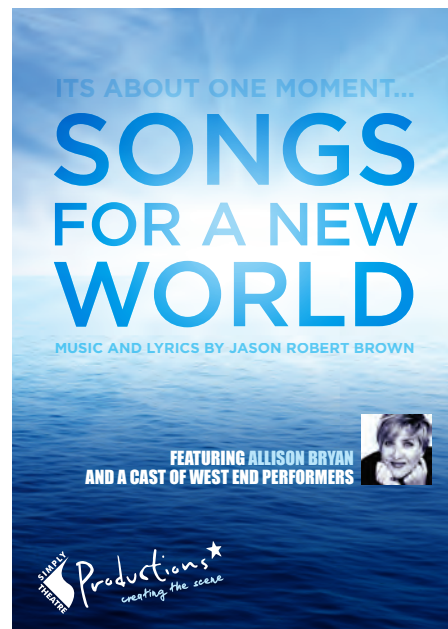
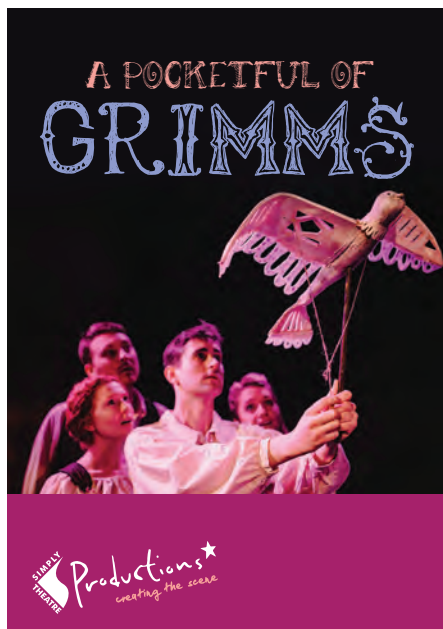
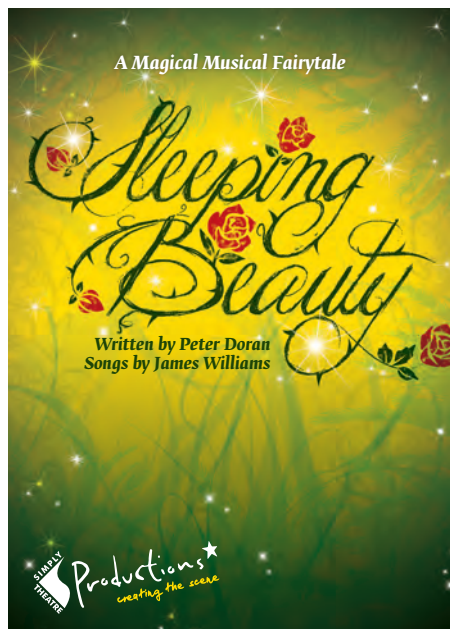


MACBETH

It was then the turn of our students to take to the stage in our chilling production of *Macbeth*. Advertised for audiences 12+, this creepy and disturbing take on this classic tale was performed incredibly by our talented students, led expertly by visiting director Simon H West. Sold out performances and audience members returning again to see the show made this a hugely successful production in our autumn season.

Congratulations to the entire cast who made this performance a phenomenal success:

Macbeth	Théo Marceau
Lady Macbeth	Yasmin Khan
Duncan / Priest / Seward	Callum Macdonald
Macduff	Patrick Lynch
Lady Macduff / Hecate / Gentlewoman	Alexa Bryan
Malcolm / Second Murderer	Nicolas Olney
Donalbain / Menteith / First Murderer	Leo Khan
Banquo / Caithness	Alex Devine
Fleance / Young Seward / Son of Macduff / Apparition 2	Anton Askaard Edmonds
Lennox	Eve Macdonald
Ross	Sophia Borkenhagen
Angus / Scottish Doctor / Apparition 1	Kayleigh Sheader
Sergent / Porter / Third Murderer / Seyton	Fiona Fleischmann
Servant / Apparition 3 / Messenger	Caitlin Forsyth
Witch 1	Evie Cooper
Witch 2	Talia Wilkinson
Witch 3	India Woodall



The final show of this autumn season, our magical Christmas production of *Sleeping Beauty*, has now opened and is a wonderful way to start your Christmas with the whole family. Tickets are selling fast so grab yours now and come down to get yourself into the holiday spirit with Simply Theatre Productions.

Looking forward we have the welcome return of Story Pocket Theatre with their production of *A Pocketful of Grimm's* to help you shake off the January blues, before Allison Bryan takes to the stage, alongside 3 West End performers (to be announced in the new year), performing *Songs for a New World*. All eyes are then towards *Shrek* at the Casino Theatre before students can once again audition for our May production of *Danny Champion of the World*. More information on these auditions and on all the upcoming productions can be found on the website or by asking at reception.



AUDITIONS UPDATE

As always, we are overwhelmed by the number of students that wish to audition to be part of our productions at Simply Theatre Academy. It takes a lot of courage to get up and put yourself out there and we are always grateful to the students that come along to take part. Every year the wealth of talent on display is incredible and it is wonderful to see students go from strength to strength between auditions. Decisions are always incredibly tricky and for all those that do get parts in our shows, there are many more that do not. Here at Simply Theatre, we strive to make the audition process as easy and enjoyable as possible and hope that even if not cast, students still benefit from the experience of getting up and having a go!

For those that do wish to take part in our next set of auditions, *Danny the Champion of the World* will be auditioning in the new year, so grab an audition pack, prepare yourself and come along and have a go!

Shrek rehearsals begin in January and we are delighted to share details of the cast with you. Congratulations to:

Floris Draaisma	Shrek	Madalena Morris	The White Rabbit
Parker Bryan	Princess Fiona	Margot Sauvagnat	The Fairy Godmother
Leon Ramos Fujihara	Donkey	Miko Matheron	Peter Pan
Alexander Devine	Lord Farquad	Adriano Movarekhi	The Mad Hatter
Jeremy Gobrogge	Pinocchio	Prithvi Gopalakrishnan	Humpty Dumpty
Yasmin Khan	Gingy / Sugar Plum Fairy	Lily Slater	Teen Fiona / Blind Mouse
Théo Marceau	King Harold / Big Bad Wolf	Mia Many	Young Fiona / Elf
Fiona Fleischmann	Mama Ogre	Juko Talvivaara	Captain of the Guards
Christopher Gudaitis	1st Little Pig	Félix Marceau	The Pied Piper
Isabella Crosby	2nd Little Pig	Ensemble: Audrey Cabanel, Sally Johnson, Sophie Tschanz, Tally Gallos, Elise Dubois, Lily Lo Conte, Jonathan Beringer, Dylan Maguire, Samuel Diaz, Catrin Donkin, Aislinn De Buitlier, Cindy Cohen-Dumani, Isla Gunneberg, Mert Ayik, Saoirse Boyle, Kayleigh Sheader	
Anton Askgaard Edmonds	3rd Little Pig		
Ylan Assefy	Papa Bear		
Alexa Bryan	Mama Bear		
Mia Schütze	Baby Bear		
William Churchill	The Ugly Duckling		
Noa Cohen-Dumani	The Wicked Witch		



Simply Theatre student Theo Marceau meets GES Secondary students

MACBETH VISITS GENEVA ENGLISH SCHOOL

Thanks to Theo Marceau who was interviewed by Geneva English School students recently on his role in *Macbeth*. Here is a lovely note from their Year 7 teacher about their enthusiasm for Shakespeare. Well done Theo & cast of *Macbeth* and thank you to Year 7 GES for coming to watch.



Dear Simply Theatre,

I am the Secondary English Teacher at GES Secondary. We came to see your production of *Macbeth* as my Year 7's class first introduction to Shakespeare. I thought that the production was wonderful and I was astonished at the quality of the performance that you had produced in such a short amount of time. The pupils loved it and are very enthusiastic now about studying Shakespeare.

Yesterday, Theo Marceau came into GES Secondary so that we could interview him about the play *Macbeth*, his passion for theatre, dance and singing and Simply Theatre. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed it and it has led to a deeper understanding of the play and the fantastic commitment it takes to take part in a production like that. Theo was a credit to Simply Theatre, his enthusiasm for your company was infectious and the way in which he answered the pupils questions was professional and mature.

Thank you very much



ENROLMENTS FOR NEXT YEAR

As Simply Theatre members for this year, we will automatically reserve your places on your current course (or if different, where possible, your first choice course) for next year. Around the end of January we will send out re-enrolment options. Your priority place is guaranteed until the end of March, at which time we allocate places to our waiting list. If you would like to talk to us about your child's development before making a decision as to what course/s they should take, please speak to your child's teacher or email us at academy@simplytheatre.com and we will get in touch with you.

SUMMER DAY CAMPS

20% discount if you book by the end of January!

Use booking code: **Summer2017**

Enrolments are already open for our Summer Day Camps next year. Check out the courses here and don't forget that you'll receive a 20% discount if you book by the end of January!

MONDAY 3RD JULY - FRIDAY 7TH JULY

ACTING BOOT CAMP - Versoix
(Ages 7-11)

DANCE BOOT CAMP - Versoix
(Ages 7-11)

DANCE BOOT CAMP - Versoix
(Ages 12-17)

WEST END MUSICALS WEEK - Etoy
(Ages 7-17)

MINI PERFORMING ARTS CAMP - Etoy
(Ages 7-17)

MONDAY 10TH JULY - FRIDAY 14TH JULY

BROADWAY KIDS - Versoix
(Ages 7-11)

MOVIE IN A WEEK - Versoix
(Ages 7-11)

ACTING BOOT CAMP - Etoy
(Ages 7-17)

MINI PERFORMING ARTS CAMP - Etoy
(Ages 5-6)



MONDAY 17TH JULY - FRIDAY 21ST JULY

MOVIE IN A WEEK - Versoix

(Ages 12-17)

POPSTAR TO SUPERSTAR - Versoix

(Ages 12-17)

MONDAY 24TH JULY - FRIDAY 28TH JULY

POPSTAR TO SUPERSTAR – Versoix

(Ages 12-17)

MINI THEATRE CAMP (9-12 noon) - Versoix

MINI THEATRE CAMP (1pm-4pm) - Versoix

(Ages 5-6)

MONDAY 31ST JULY - FRIDAY 4TH AUGUST

PLAY IN A WEEK - Versoix

(Ages 7-11)

PLAY IN A WEEK - Versoix

(Ages 12-17)

MINI THEATRE CAMP (9-12 noon) - Versoix

MINI THEATRE CAMP (1pm-4pm) - Versoix

(Ages 5-6)

MONDAY 7TH AUGUST - FRIDAY 11TH AUGUST

MUSICAL IN A WEEK - Versoix

(Ages 7-17)

BACKSTAGE PASS - Versoix

(Ages 12-17)

MONDAY 14TH AUGUST - FRIDAY 18TH AUGUST

MAGIC & CLOWN WEEK - Versoix

(Ages 7-11)

WEST END MUSICAL STAR - Versoix

(Ages 12-17)

MONDAY 21ST AUGUST - FRIDAY 25TH AUGUST

BROADWAY KIDS - Versoix

(Ages 7-11)

SHAKESPEARE MASTERCLASS - Versoix (21 AUG)

ACTING AUDITION MASTERCLASS - Versoix (22 AUG)

VOICE AUDITION MASTERCLASS - Versoix (23 AUG)

DANCE AUDITION MASTERCLASS - Versoix (24 AUG)

(Ages 12+)



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PROFESSIONAL

A Pocketful of Grimms

17th-29th JANUARY 2017

Burglar Bill

18th-26th MARCH 2017

Tales from the Trees

3rd-7th MAY 2017

Little Howard's Big Show for Kids

3rd-4th JUNE 2017

CABARET

Songs for a New World

1st-5th FEBRUARY 2017

ACADEMY

Shrek

25th FEBRUARY - 5th MARCH 2017

Broadway Bound

29th-30th APRIL 2017

Danny the Champion of the World

12th-21st MAY 2017