



ECCO: May 2019



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If you have any contributions for ECCO, please send them to

ecco@ecc.theatreinbrussels.com

The next ECCO will come out in July 2019

Message from the Chair



We are approaching the end of a busy season, with **Pygmalion** taking place this week and next in the Studio. I hope you all have your tickets. Director, Emily Bowles, has done a fantastic job of bringing this classic play to life, aided by a very talented cast. We hope you will enjoy it as much as we have enjoyed putting it on.

After *Pygmalion*, the ECC will be taking an original script to Munich to participate in the pan-European competition FEATS. The play 'The Impotence of Being Frank' is directed by Hugh Dow and was initially staged in Brussels a couple of years ago (more later in this issue).

We are already preparing next year's calendar. In September, we will be bringing **Sleuth** by Anthony Shaffer to the stage directed by the multi-talented Alexandre Diaconu, followed by our traditional panto in January and a further show in the Spring to be announced in the next issue of the ECCO. Of course, we will continue with our monthly play readings and hope to have a few social evenings (games nights, quizzes, wine-tastings) throughout the year.

Thank you for your continued support and see you at one of our shows!

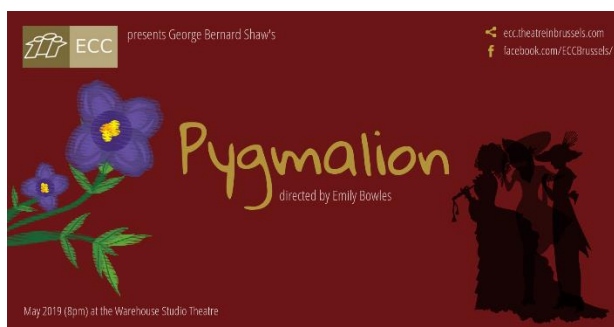
Kerry Lydon, ECC Chair

chair@ecc.theatreinbrussels.com

PERFORMING NOW!

Pygmalion

Our current ECC production is George Bernard Shaw's **Pygmalion**, directed by Emily Bowles, at the Warehouse Studio Theatre from 2-4 and from 8-11 May, 2019.



The cast are ready, the costumes are ready, the set is ready. Are you ready? Have you bought your tickets for our brilliantly cast, deftly directed and beautifully presented version of Shaw's classic?



Tickets have been selling fast but we still have a few left if you hurry. Performances are on 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 11 May at the Warehouse Studio Theatre, starting at 8pm (doors open 7.30 pm). Full running time, including interval, approximately 2h30. Tickets €16.00

Box office:

<https://thelittleboxoffice.com/ecc>

ECC FEATS ENTRY

The Impotence of Being Frank

Written by 'Jo Wilde', directed by Hugh Dow



This year the ECC is a contestant in the Festival of European Anglophone Theatrical Societies (FEATS), which will take place in Ottobrunn, near Munich, from 30 May to 2 June 2019. We are entering an original script, the verbal farce "The Impotence of Being Frank". We put the play on two years ago at the warehouse and I am greatly looking forward to re-directing it. It was written as a radio play by local resident, distinguished author and academic Martin Westlake. As the title hints it is a take on Oscar Wilde and - more so - Joe Orton. Sinister policeman ignores procedure, logic, common sense, evidence and the protests of the innocent to bang up somebody, anybody for a putative murder.

I've got a great cast and crew. Four of the original stalwarts - Jules Johnstone, Brian Holland, Bryony Ulyett, James Hogan - plus Lynne Vaughan and Robert O'Meara. Backstage features Andrew Williams, Steve O'Byrne, Andrew Ing and Kerry Lydon. We

had our first production meeting on 9th April and I'm greatly looking forward to the first read through and full blocking on the 24th.

I intend to cleave, as far as I dare, to the Occam's razor school of directing. Simplicity is the watchword. Minimum props and furniture, and everything being, as far as possible, in on the joke. The glorious thing about a play written for radio is that the words do all the work. So there is no need to spell anything out to the audience. I've been there before and totally love looney props and furniture.



Unlike some previous FEATS we are not running the show in Brussels prior to our Bavarian box-office blast off! But we will be doing it informally for an invited audience at the Warehouse on - probably - 28th and 29th of May. We will issue invitations at a later date to the theatrical community with instructions on how to book.

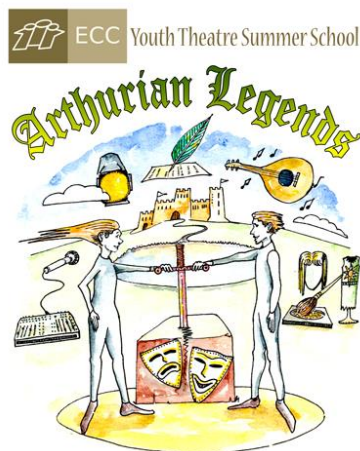
The last time I went FEATS-wards I directed "Albert's Bridge" by Tom Stoppard in Luxembourg. That was also a radio play (a step ladder symbolised the Forth Rail Bridge which Albert was painting) and likewise had an Oz in the cast. These are omens; or would be if I was even vaguely superstitious. But what really counts is hard work. Rehearsals start in earnest - no pun intended - in May.

Wish us luck. We want to do well. For us, for the club, for the craic!

Hugh Dow.

YOUTH THEATRE SUMMER SCHOOL 2019

(8-12 July and 15-19 July 2019)



Following the success of last year's event, the ECC is running its Youth Theatre Summer School again, for children aged between 6 and 16 years old. This year's theme will be **Arthurian Legends**. Given the high

demand, we have decided to run the summer school for two weeks, from 8th to 12th July and from 15th to 19th July. Although both weeks will essentially be the same, children wishing to do both will have the possibility to focus on different workshop activities each week. The week's activities will be based around a central theme and will include acting, singing and dancing rehearsals. Additionally, there will be a series of workshops on some of the back-stage aspects of theatre, such as hair and make-up, costumes, sets, props, sound, lighting, publicity, programmes, and more. The aim is to give a short performance for parents on the Friday afternoon, with the children getting involved back-stage, if they wish to do so!

Venue

The Summer School will take place at the Warehouse, Rue Waelhem 73, 1030 Brussels.

Times

The day's activities will run from 9h until 17h each day with supervised child minding from 8h in the mornings and until 18h each evening.

Prices

The cost for the week will be €175 per child with a reduction for any siblings (€150).

Online registration is now open.

Please contact **Steve O'Byrne**, on the ECC committee, if you have any questions.

May Play Reading

Wednesday 8 May

Malinda Coleman will lead us in reading

ENCHANTED APRIL

by Matthew Barber

We will meet chez Lyn and Julian

13 rue Nisard Bte 1

1170 Watermael-Boitsfort

7.45pm for an 8pm start

When two proper London housewives rent a villa in Italy for a holiday away from their bleak marriages they recruit two other, very different, English women to share the cost and the experience. During their enchanted month in the Ligurian villa they fall under the spell of their surroundings and rediscover laughter and romance.

The play was made into a film in 1991 starring Joan Plowright and Miranda Richardson.

There are five good parts for women and three for men.

If you would like to join us please sign up to the Doodle here:

<https://doodle.com/poll/sd7n8wyi7qmzdaxp>

How to find us:

Leaving Place Wiener in the centre of Boitsfort follow the Boulevard de Souverain in the direction of Auderghem and take the first turning on the right which is rue Nisard.

Then, almost immediately, turn right following the sign to 'Les Fougères'.

This has a sign which says 'Propriété Privé' which can be a bit off putting but persevere.

Follow the road up the hill passing several apartment blocks until you arrive at the last one, number 13, which is where we live.

Please ring the bell marked Oliver/Sully.

There is also a gate at the entrance which will be open until 8pm. If you arrive after 8pm please ring the bell at the gate and you will be buzzed in.

Tram and Buses: 8, 17, 95 WIENER. If you come by car, there are parking spaces at the top of the hill.

New members are always welcome to join our group, and there is no requirement to be with us every month.

We usually meet on the first Wednesday of every month. This is a purely social event and you are welcome to bring along something small to eat or drink to share with others- not a meal, just nibbles!

Ideas for plays to read and offers to host are also very welcome.

FORTHCOMING PRODUCTIONS

<u>ECC</u>	<i>Pygmalion</i> by George Bernard Shaw, 2-4 & 8-11 May 2019, Warehouse Studio Theatre
<u>ATC</u>	<i>The Providence of Neighboring Bodies</i> by Jean Ann Douglass, 14-18 May, Warehouse Studio Theatre
<u>BLOC</u>	<i>The Sorcerer</i> , 23-26 May 2019, De Bosuil Cultural Centre, Overijse
<u>BSS</u>	<i>Henry V</i> by William Shakespeare, 24-29 June 2019, Théâtre la Balsamine

**Click on the name of the theatre group above to go directly to their website.
For more information and auditions see also www.theatreinbrussels.com**

ECC PRIVACY POLICY

In line with the General Data Protection Regulation the ECC has adopted a **Privacy Policy** to give you a clear understanding of what information we collect about you, how we collect it (from you directly and from third parties), how we use it, and how we keep it secure. [Full details of the ECC Privacy Policy are on our web site: http://ecc.theatreinbrussels.com/?page_id=1954](http://ecc.theatreinbrussels.com/?page_id=1954)

You can contact us at any time to access the information we hold about you on privacy@ecc.theatreinbrussels.com