

Eurydice

by Sarah Rühl

*An imaginative retelling of
the Greek myth*



**Directed by
Malcolm Todd**

12-15 July 2023

**The Studio Theatre,
Stamford Road
West Bridgford
NG2 6LS
www.wbds.co.uk**

Chair's Welcome



Welcome to the Studio Theatre for the last production of the 2022-23 season. Our production today of *Miles and Eurydice* has been great to be involved in, and I'm sure you will enjoy the show. You will likely be engaged and challenged, so welcome to both regular visitors and first timers to the Studio Theatre.

It is also my pleasure to share that WBDS were recently successful at the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Drama Association (NANDA) annual awards, winning Best Director for Barbara Seymour for *Mother Courage* and Best Costumes to Kathryn Tuddenham and team for *And Then There Were None*. We also received numerous nominations—congratulations to all winners and nominees.

To bring our productions to life takes a lot of hard work by a committed bunch of enthusiasts. If you are interested in joining this vibrant group of people passionate about drama, please drop in on a Tuesday club night. There is a vast array of roles available. For information visit our website www.wbds.co.uk or speak to a member of the Front of House team. We have been fortunate to have a bunch of new members this year, some involved in this production. Welcome to them all. We are also able to announce our schedule of plays for next season:

Death by Design - 21 to 25 November 2023

Di and Viv and Rose - 20 to 24 February 2024

Twelfth Night - 14 to 18 May 2024

Eight - 10 to 13 July 2024.

Check website for details.

Rob Dixon/Chair

Running order:

***Miles* by Ella Hickson**

***Eurydice* by Sarah Ruhl**

There is no interval, so after *Miles*, please stay seated whilst we prepare for *Eurydice*.

The evening should finish about 9pm (4pm for matinee). If you need a glass of water, please ask front of house before the show starts, as there will be no other refreshments or ice cream and there is no interval.

Note: There are flashing lights and short periods of total blackout during the performance.

This amateur production of *Eurydice* is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd. on behalf of Samuel French Ltd. www.concordtheatricals.co.uk

Amanda Pearce—Director of *Miles*

As a directorial debut, a monologue with a minimal set couldn't be less of a toe in the water but it has still presented an interesting challenge. *Miles* was chosen as a companion piece for *Eurydice* because of the parallels in the protagonists' stories (how many can you spot?) but they are very different dramas in style and mood. Performing a monologue is an actor's dream (the stage all to yourself) and nightmare (nowhere to hide) rolled into one. Calum has worked incredibly hard to do the story and the brilliant script justice and made this new director very proud.

Malcolm Todd—Director of *Eurydice*

This wasn't supposed to be my play. For the second time this season, circumstances forced the intended director to pull out, and this time it was my turn to step in.

I wasn't reluctant, though. The timing, admittedly, could have been better – I had just finished a demanding six months directing with the Lace Market Youth Theatre, was just about to move house and wouldn't have minded concentrating on acting for a bit – but the play is one that I adored when I first read it a year ago and always wanted to be involved with, in some capacity or other.

It's been a pretty intense three months – far less time than we'd normally hope to have to get a play like this done. If it's worked in the end, that is down to the hard work and creativity of a great team of people. There isn't room to thank them all individually here – though most of their names are to be found elsewhere on these pages – but I would like to give special mentions to Arran Mackay, who took my wildly ambitious but usually vague demands for a sound plot and turned it into a thrillingly rich and involving soundscape that is virtually an extra character in the play; to Nik Hedges, who as well as joining us to play a magnificently creepy 'Nasty interesting man' and unchildlike 'Child' has almost single-handedly painted the stage, again taking my rather naïve but demanding ideas for the set and turning them into a beautiful reality; and to Margarita Papadopoulou, first for bringing this wonderful play to West Bridgford's attention and then for graciously allowing me to take it over when she was unable to direct it. I hope, Margarita, you will be happy with what we have made of your gift!

The Company

In alphabetical order



Amanda Pearce (Director of *Miles* and stage manager) has appeared in numerous plays since joining WBDS four years ago, but this is her first time both as director and as stage manager.



Arran Mackay (Sound designer/operator) has been a mainly backstage member of WBDS since 2017. She has produced the sound design for 10 plays (including radio plays), though this has proved to be the most technically challenging play yet.



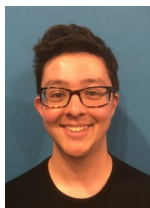
Asta Knight ('Little Stone') is a new member of WBDS and is very much enjoying her first time on stage playing a stone and getting involved.



Calum Sharp ('Miles') appears onstage with WBDS for the third time this season, after *Mother Courage* and *And Then There Were None*. He hopes to avoid dying this time.

The Company

continued



Dom Gaskell ('Orpheus', and assistant director of *Eurydice*) was last on stage as the Narrator in *Mother Courage* last November. This is his first time as assistant director.



Emily Girton (Front of house manager) has been a member of WBDS for 7 years. She most recently appeared on stage in *And Then There Were None* and was last in the director's chair for *The Thrill of Love* in 2021. This isn't her first time front of house but it is her first time as manager.



Emily Martin ('Eurydice') debuted with WBDS in February (*A Bunch of Amateurs*) and was assistant stage manager for *And Then There Were None* in May.



Jacky Tivers ('Loud Stone' and box office manager) joined WBDS in 2007 and has appeared in a number of plays, including *Copenhagen*, 'Allo 'Allo, *Edge of Darkness* and most recently *Six Characters in Search of an Author* (online); she has also run the Box Office for over 10 years.



Jan Dizon (Props & costumes) has been a member of WBDS for 9 years, and has enjoyed various back stage roles and front of house duties. Often found rummaging for and making props and for this production having fun with costumes.



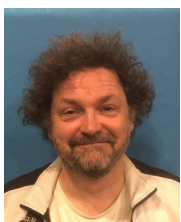
Jerome Foley (Lighting designer/operator) has been a member of WBDS for almost twenty years and served in almost every capacity. Most recently he was onstage in *And Then There Were None*.



Katie Minns ('Big Stone') is in her second play with WBDS after joining this season. She enjoyed her first role, as a sassy American teenager in *A Bunch of Amateurs*, and now as a 'big' stone serving the terrifying Lord of the Underworld. Needless to say, they are two very different roles!



Lynn Burges (Front of house) has been a member of WBDS since her acting debut in *Goody Two Shoes*. Since 2012 she has had a couple of spells as Chair of the Society, been Stage Manager too many times and acts whenever the chance presents itself. Her last time on stage was in November as Mother Courage.



Malcolm Todd (Director of *Eurydice*, production manager and set designer) has been a member of WBDS for 14 years, and has appeared in 16 plays here (most recently *The Thrill of Love* and *Mother Courage*). This is the sixth play he has directed for WBDS.



Margarita Papadopoulou (Creative consultant and photographer) brought this play to the Society and hoped to direct it herself, before life got in the way. Her understanding of the myth of Eurydice and Orpheus, from her native Greece, has informed the approach to this play.



Nik Hedges ('Man'/'Child', and set painter) This is Nik's first production with WBDS. He has acted, directed, designed and painted productions with The Lace Market Theatre since returning to Nottingham in 2018.



Rob Dixon ('Father', and publicity) has been a member of WBDS for 28 years, and is currently Chair. This year he has acted in *Mother Courage*, directed *A Bunch of Amateurs* and stage managed *And Then There Were None*.



Sue Scrimshaw (Rehearsal prompt) has been a regular and invaluable contributor in this role and backstage since joining WBDS in 2016.

Many thanks also to Ali Bakewell, Andy Bakewell, Annie Haley, Candice Gush, Carol O'Connor, and Charlie Willcox for technical assistance, creative advice and help with set building and costumes; to Trevor Martin for building the magnificent elevator / 'arch'; and to our front of house volunteers Carol O'Connor, Caroline Todd, Danny Longbottom, Linda Stafford and Victoria Carr, without whom the production could not go on.

Music

The following music was used in this production:

Eurydice's theme:

Experience, Ludovico Einaudi & Daniel Hope & I Virtuosi Italiani

Overture:

Orfeo ed Euridice, Act III: *Che farà senza Euridice?*,
Christoph Willibald Gluck

Eldorado Overture, Electric Light Orchestra

Peter Grimes (Op. 33), *Interlude I: On the beach*, Benjamin Britten

Orphée aux enfers - Overture, Jacques Offenbach

Hadestown – Wait for Me, Anaïs Mitchell

Incidental music:

Wedding March, Felix Mendelssohn

Don't sit under the Apple Tree, Glenn Miller

Nada Como Viver, Belchior

On the Nature of Daylight (Orchestral Version), Max Richter Orchestra & Lorenz Dangel

Please Mr Postman, The Carpenters

Telephone Line, Electric Light Orchestra

Don Giovanni (K. 527), Act II, Scene 17: "*Don Giovanni, a cenar teco*", Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Peter Grimes (Op. 33), *Interlude II: Storm*, Benjamin Britten

Canon in D, Johann Pachelbel

On the Nature of Daylight (Piano Version), Max Richter, cover by Jacob's Piano



West Bridgford Dramatic Society

Di and Viv and Rose



By
Amelia
Bullmore

About friends and loss

20 – 24 February 2024

The Studio Theatre, Stamford Road West Bridgford NG26LS

Tel. 07942 352982

www.wbds.co.uk

Directed by Jerome Foley



West Bridgford Dramatic Society

TWELFTH NIGHT

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

Directed by Lane Herring

14 - 18 May 2024

The Studio Theatre, Stamford Road West Bridgford NG26LS

Tel. 07942 352982

www.wbds.co.uk

Orpheus and Eurydice

The myth of Orpheus and Eurydice is a well-known story from Greek mythology that holds deep cultural and symbolic meaning.

Orpheus' journey to the Underworld symbolises humanity's fascination with death and the afterlife. By descending into Hades' realm, Orpheus represents the human desire (especially in the ancient world) to challenge the natural order of life and death. The myth raises questions about the nature of existence, the boundaries between life and death, and the consequences of defying the natural order.

Sarah Ruhl has a very poetic structure to her writing which captivated me from the start. But what I also truly love about this work is that each character can be interpreted in so many different ways and as a director you can be very creative with bringing these characters to life.

I also loved the quirkiness of the play. This play is neither a drama nor a comedy. It has funny moments, yet if you know the ending of Orpheus, it is not necessarily a happy ending. But the play hits on all the key points about love and the different ways and different kinds of love that we have for a family member, a partner, or a child; just as it hits on the key points of loss involved with losing a loved one, or losing your memory, or losing your mind and dipping into insanity.

When I lived in Greece I had had the opportunity since I was 16 to be involved in Ancient Greek drama, so I wanted to bring a small flavour of Ancient Greek theatre to WBDS and Nottingham :)

Margarita Papadopoulou

WBDS
West Bridgford Dramatic Society

West Bridgford Dramatic Society

DEATH BY DESIGN

by Rob Urbinati
Directed by Craig Russell

Comedy Thriller Who Dunnit – with Twists
Think Hay Fever meets Murder Mystery

21 – 25 November 2023

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The Company - *Miles and Eurydice*

