**MERMAIDS PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**

**6:00, 19th  OCTOBER**

**LARGE REHEARSAL ROOM**

1. Attendance

     -1.1: Joanna Bowman (President), Natalie English (Vice-President), Beth Atkin (Marketing Officer), Michael Laird (Productions Co-Ordinator), Cat Scott (Secretary), Annabel Ekelund (Box Office Manager), Ryan Hay (Costumes Officer), Danielle Donnally (Technical Officer, ‘Cat on a Hot Tin Roof’), Beth Atkin (Marketing Officer), Charlie Maguire (Barron Manager), Nataliea Abramowitz (Set & Props Officer, ‘Equus’), Alexander Gillespie (Engagement Officer, ‘Equus’), Eilidh Hughes (‘Equus’), Jackie Ashkin (‘Miracle Material’), Cameron Wright (‘An Impromptu Performance’), Uloaku A-O (‘His Duchess’), Alberto Michelletti (‘Role Play’/’New Youth’), Clarence Leong (‘New Youth’), Daniel Radzinsky (‘One for the Road’), Polly Windsor (‘The Pretentious Young Ladies’)

2. Apologies

     -2.1: Laura Antone (Productions Treasurer, unwell), Ali Saldanha (Christmas Ball Convener, out of town)

3. Minutes from Previous

     -3.1: On the Mermaids website

4. Matters Arising

     -4.1: Use of the workshop – book time rather than going in without a booking so we know who’s using the workshop when – book w/ Nataliea

5. President’s Report

     -5.1: Two plays, Equus and His Duchess last week – both pushed aesthetic boundaries, looked incredible, today as part of SSC cleaned up Raisin foam fight, Byre Advisory meeting – no pricing structure we know about, will be more transparent let us know what they’re charging us for and how, will hopefully have more info about this at next meeting in January, have apologised for how they treat student productions, hopefully will have better service in future, meeting with Al re: new writing, monthly writers group in Sandy’s, bring back SAND branding, two scratch nights next semester, doing plays written themselves in an informal short way, applications for Fringe rep as now open, spend a month surrounded by people who love theatre, any questions send to Jo, sorted out line-up for Freshers’ Drama Festival, directors should have received an e-mail, will be formally announced in the next couple of weeks, talk about directing in the School of English at 5:00 this Wed, Mermaids radio show, ideas for radio plays/theatre etc talk to Jo, would love to chat to people about theatre for an hour

This week we have RolePlay going up – Thurs, Fri, Sat

6. VP’s Report

     -6.1: New rule – buying things online for show? Use the Union credit card not your own card, Union’s insurance better for getting money back, how to do this – e-mail Natalie the link to the page (ne22), she will put on Union credit card, not if in a rush though! Natalie will let you know when it’s ready to pick up from the Union - Michael reiterates order props etc in advance
Raised £429 for the charity supported by ‘A Normal Heart’
Forgans 20% off vouchers to be given out at Christmas Ball ticket sales, Christmas Ball is two weeks on Wednesday, it’s terrifying

7. Productions’ Treasurer’s Report

     -7.1: Will ask to send report, money is good we can assume.

8. Production Co-Ordinator’s Feedback

     -8.1: Freshers’ Festival: Secondary Auditions – Someone had to drop out of the Freshers’ Drama Festival, secondary round of auditions, booked in Society Room C from 5:00 till 6:30, just so everyone is aware
Meetings last week w/ Freshers’ Drama Festival shows to go over costume/set/props and publicity all progressing really well, Michael will start coming along to rehearsals for that
Equus and Duchess – will be sending out feedback form, have it back by this time next week

9. Subcommittee Reports

-9.1: Christmas Ball: Ticket sales on 4th November, tell everyone, transfer hat money to Ali ASAP, Ali will be in Rectors 4:00 to 6:00 on Wed

10. Show Discussions and Feedback

       -10.1: An Impromptu Performance: Rehearsals going smoothly, props ordered (four guns and a knife) ‘So it’s a nice play?’, looking into wardrobes and judging them, sorting costumes, also looking at fake blood recipes/tips – sugar syrup, food colouring, tbsp or two or flour, two parts red to one part blue, post designs, Union design team hasn’t got back, Jo will let them know this

-10.2: Black Comedy: Not present

-10.3: Cat on a Hot Tin Roof: Had to take a break with Equus, good rehearsal on Sat, cast members keep going out of town but otherwise going well, have e-mailed Nataliea re: possibility of purchasing a dressing table, comes w/ matching chest of drawers, N- it’s rad, it will be very useful

-10.4: Check, Please: Not present

-10.5: Equus: Have receipts, went very well, lots of people came, it happened, we didn’t destroy the Byre or it destroy us, Jo – super impressed it sold so well, bit of a risk (not Earnest), well done, boxes owned by the Barron, for other shows to use (eg. Impromptu)

-10.6: East Coast Chicken Supper: Not present

-10.7: His Duchess: Went well, have receipts but will e-mail Laura, stage manager interested in producing etc, if anyone wants to have her in a team, Michael asks her to e-mail him to register interest, all went well, sold really well

-10.8: Miracle Material: 10 days till the show, not panicking or anything, happy and only a tiny bit panicky

-10.9: New Youth: Almost have the whole play blocked, will be by the end of this week, thinking about poster design, happy

-10.10: One For The Road: Two rehearsals, went well, one issue re: scheduling, director in 12th Night but also directing, talked to Michael in person, something that will be discussed

-10.11: Role Play: All going really well, line run happening as we speak, looking forward to it

-10.12: The Pretentious Young Ladies: Everything’s fine, have had rehearsals, difficult getting people there as some are in other plays but all going well, may need help in future finding spaces

-10.13: Twelfth Night: Not present

11. Committee Business (public)

 -11.1: Michael – dates for next semester proposals, 16th and 23rd are deadlines, Weeks 1-7 inc. one Byre slot and OTR (23rd), Byre slot in week 4
-11.2: Social next Monday (26th), free wine, Beacon Bar
-11.3: Barron team – probs last week w/ people showing up at wrong time or not at all, unlocked or unattended, drop e-mail if need conf. of dates, there must always be someone in the Barron, if finished early just call down keyholders, if poss will come and lock up, expected to stay in slot up to 10 mins after slot is done, in case keyholder coming from North Haugh etc.
-11.4: Reminder – Blind Mirth at 8:00, RolePlay – Thurs, Fri, Sat, workshop on Sunday, Ryan’s workshop 8:00 on Wednesday, special effects, nearly Halloween, come along!

**END OF PUBLIC MEETING**

12. Committee Business (in camera)

-12.1: Name for radio show – Theatrical Superstitions? A gossip of Mermaids? Have it sorted by Wed. 5 minute segment by Natalie, Mermaids bitches xoxo? Last week had His Duchess, had a good conversation, will advertise later when more competent, meeting Rosie this week to talk about radio play, karaoke musical next week, Michael suggests musical innuendo bingo

-12.2: Facebook moments – Crave passed this time last year, maybe this deadline is too late, need to push it a week back, would be during FDF but Freshers can still propose for OTR, gives them two weeks to make application better should they want to propose again, makes sense not to have two weeks back to back – move it to the 11th (proposals, deadline the 9th) two weeks to audition and start rehearsing before exams, can rehearse in exams as well and during holidays before Week 1 show next semester

-12.3: Michael – will chase up Freshers plays that haven’t shown up, 4:00 – 6:00 Sunday slot, do proposals first as M has Rocky Horror

-12.4: Secondary auditions, Beth to create a FB event, for males only

-12.5: Have a photographer for the upcoming social

-12.6: Looking for team to direct/costume/team for The Vagina Monologues – extra FDF auditions – change of proposal dates, will change in event tonight – all to go in an extra Mermail tomorrow

-12.9: Ryan – should speak to Inklight re: new writing – Jo to send e-mail to affiliated societies, ask how Mermaids can help them, at present mostly insurance purposes, need to have something in place – Mermaids as a buffer, mediating party between groups and Sabbs, neutral place, what can be done as there aren’t rules in place at present, no authority over affiliates, they are satellite societies, can’t say will lose insurance benefit etc. Can remind people of duties etc but have no punitive power, relationship needs to be clarified/terms of affiliation, what we give them/they give us – give them promotion/money etc.

-12.10: all that goes in Byre programmes has to be made by Uni print and design, apparently – Jo will send them Beth’s advert

13. AOCB  (in camera)

     -13.1: