



Prompt

The Teignmouth Players' Newsletter

September 2024

TWO PEOPLE · INFINITE POSSIBILITIES

CONSTELLATIONS

By **Nick Payne**

Directed by **Al Dunn**

OPENS THIS WEEK!



Teignmouth
Players
teignmouthplayers.org.uk


ICE FACTORY
STUDIO THEATRE
Somerset Place · Teignmouth · TQ14 8EN



TWO PEOPLE · INFINITE POSSIBILITIES

CONSTELLATIONS

By **Nick Payne** Directed by **Al Dunn**

Nick Payne's *Constellations* is a wonderful insight into how simple decisions can change the course of your life - the way you react, a quip you make, a look you give someone, whether you go to a party - alongside how many possibilities exist because of those decisions.

The official précis of the play starts "A quantum physicist and a beekeeper meet at a barbeque. They hit it off, or perhaps they don't. They go home together, or maybe they go their separate ways..." and this is a delicious taster of what's to come.

All of these possibilities happen within the play.

The Many Worlds Theory might seem confusing, but it's quite simple really. Here's one explanation:

Every time a "random" event takes place, the universe splits between the various options available. Each separate version of the universe contains a different outcome of that event. Instead of one continuous timeline, the universe under the many worlds interpretation looks more like a series of branches splitting off of a tree limb.

OPENS THIS WEEK!

5-7 & 11-14 SEPTEMBER 2024

Nightly at 7.30pm



ICE FACTORY STUDIO THEATRE
Somerset Place · Teignmouth · TQ14 8EN



MEET THE TEAM

AL DUNN DIRECTOR

EMMA FIRTH MARIANNE

SAM MERRELL ROLAND

An increasingly familiar face at the Ice Factory Studio Theatre, Al has worked in both amateur and professional theatre for over 15 years, in pretty much every department (except hair and make-up - you'll know why if you've met him!)

Usually one for singing and dancing, it seems, after playing many characters (seven to be exact) in **TWO**, Emma now has the bug for performing in plays.

Raised in Bristol, Sam caught the acting bug early and studied Theatre at college. He then joined the RAF, and toured several plays with the RAF Theatre Association and got involved with Am Dram groups wherever he was based, from Scotland to the Falklands!



CONSTELLATIONS

5-7 & 11-14 SEPTEMBER 2024

CONSTELLATIONS

PRODUCTION REVIEW

CONTRIBUTED BY **DESPINA CARR**



This evening I was invited to a dress rehearsal for Teignmouth Players production of *Constellations*. The play is directed by **Al Dunn** (director of the 2023 production of **TWO**) so I knew it was going to be an experience that should not be missed.

Upon arrival, you walk into the theatre and head up the stairs to the bar area leading to the performance space where the scene has been set for the play. You may not understand why until you leave, but as you walk into the performance space you are surrounded by stars - totally transported to outer space in every way.

At the very start, the introduction sets the scene for what is a beautifully presented play.

The story follows two people, **Marianne** (played by **Emma Firth**) and **Roland** (played by **Sam Merrell**) and their various journeys through life.

They both played their parts with such ease and showed a real connection on stage.

I want to give a special mention to Emma for portraying Marianne's frustration at life's challenges with the grace and dignity it truly deserved.

I think the way that Sam played the character of Roland suited him completely. The way he explained the inner workings of a beehive whilst trying to tell Marianne his true feelings was particularly impressive and made me laugh out loud.

The lighting throughout the play was simple and yet so effective which again is a credit to Al Dunn. One of the most stunning things about this production is how it plays with all of your emotions.

One moment you could be laughing out loud and then in an instant have tears streaming down your face.

As I left the theatre I started to think about the 'what if' moments that have happened (or have never happened) in my life.

A cosmic masterpiece from director Al Dunn which needs to be seen to be believed.

Well done to the cast and crew of this emotive and powerful play.

CONSTELLATIONS

5-7 & 11-14 SEPTEMBER 2024



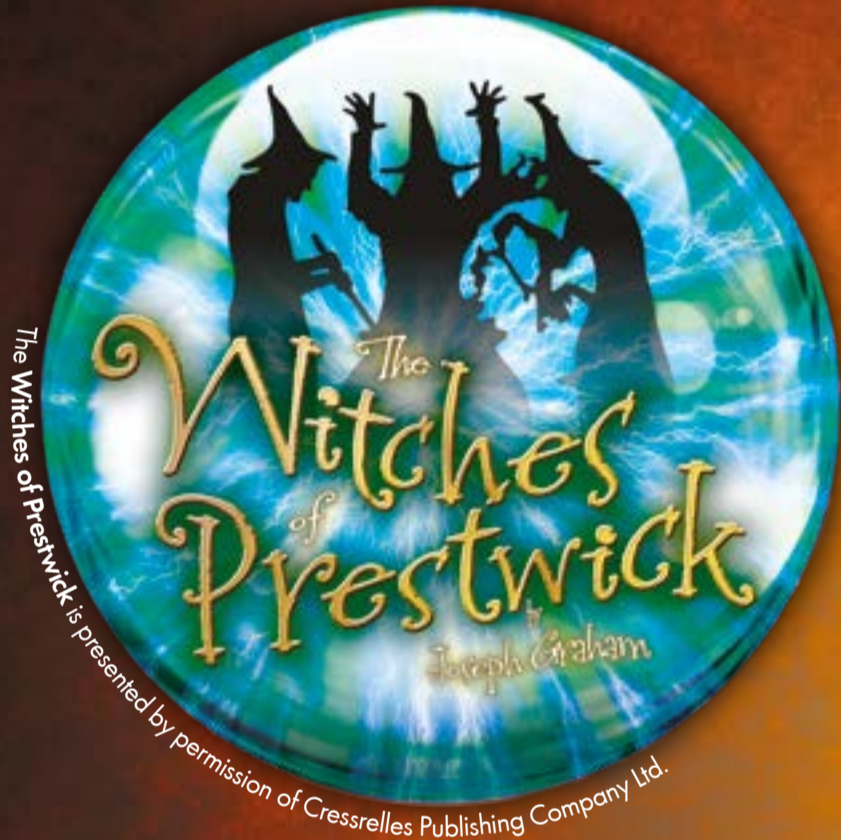


CONSTELLATIONS

5-7 & 11-14 SEPTEMBER 2024

EXCLUSIVE PRODUCTION PHOTOGRAPHS
COURTESY OF ROB WALLING

UP NEXT - A DOUBLE BILL OF **ONE ACT COMEDIES**



**24 - 26 OCTOBER &
30 OCTOBER - 2 NOVEMBER 2024**

Nightly at 7.30pm

ICE FACTORY STUDIO THEATRE

Somerset Place · Teignmouth · TQ14 8EN



TICKETS ON SALE SOON!



THE LAST
5
YEARS

PRODUCTION REVIEW
CONTRIBUTED BY ANDREW MALCOLM

This is a somewhat unknown musical to many and one which is seldom performed on the amateur scene, which is a travesty in its own right as it is one of the finest pieces of modern writing this decade.

Set as a two hander, the actors have an enormous weight of responsibility placed on them to ensure the story is effectively told, and with **Jen Parker** as Cathy (with **Claire Waring** playing Cathy in the first week) and **Jonathan Bisby** as Jamie, we were treated to exactly this.

This production is almost exclusively musically based (with minimal dialogue interjections) and their powerful performances of each and every memorable song kept the audience engaged at all times with strong interpretation of the nuances and meaning of each song shown throughout.

Joanna Walling had clearly drilled the actors to the max with regard to the singing, and **Rob Walling**, likewise, with the acting. That said, each were given license to make the characters their own and this added warmth and reality to the parts. This show also allows the removal of the fourth wall and invites the audience (sat in

the round) into the whole show, becoming confidantes, almost voyeuristic in nature, of their lives being played out in a Benjamin Button-esque manner with only one moment where the characters come together in the middle of the piece at the wedding.

The Ice Factory, as a studio theatre, is a terrific venue for such an intimate show, and the use of the floor to write narrative on as the show progressed was a clever touch which was much appreciated by the audience. This mellifluous act tied in the thoughts, feelings and actions of the characters in a way rarely seen. Set was minimal, as were props, and this placed additional demand on the actors to utilise physical acting to, again, portray action and emotion. Lighting and sound were balanced, never intruding but always highlighting the performances.

Finally, is it a musical and just that? For me, no, (and as overheard from other audience members last night) it is a true piece of art which encompasses many different forms.

Bravo, TP, for allowing this to be produced as it showcases incredible talent and skill that is within the vibrant amateur scene here in South Devon.

THERE WERE MANY AMAZING COMMENTS ABOUT THIS PERFORMANCE, TOO MANY TO INCLUDE HERE, BUT VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE TO READ WHAT AUDIENCES HAD TO SAY!



Teignmouth
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27 DECEMBER - 1 JANUARY

SEE BOX OFFICE FOR PERFORMANCE TIMES

The Fairy Godmother Of All Pantomimes

Cinderella



Written & directed by **AMY BURTON-SMITH**

Choreographer **CARMEN LOUISE**

PAVILIONS Teignmouth

Box office: 01626 249049 or book online: pavilionsteignmouth.org.uk

Adults: £14 Children: £10 Family saver ticket (2 x A + 2 x C) £45 - Group discounts available (10+)*

Torbay Thespis

3 September, 2024

The performance listing for amateur productions in South Devon, from Dawlish to South Brent compiled by John Miles.

To add your event, contact John Miles johnmilesandmiles@gmail.com



Auditions: Please check with the societies' individual websites for up-to-date times and dates.

Paignton Pantomim Productions

Sleeping Beauty

Playing dates 21st Dec-5 Jan. Palace Theatre

Pricipals auditions: 8th September. 10.30am Stage Left

Dance / Juniors / Chorus audition: 15th Sept. Palace Theatre

See PPP website for full details.

Productions:

5-14th September.

Constellations

by Nick Payne, directed by Al Dunn

Teignmouth Players

[The Ice Factory Studio Theatre](#)

9-15th September. Plus Sat mat.

The Unexpected Guest

Directed by Jon Manley

TOADS Theatre Company

www.littletheatretorquay.co.uk, **01803 299330**

12-14th September. 7.30pm

Witness for the Prosecution

by Agatha Christie directed by Patti Dine.

BOADS

[Brixham Theatre](#)

24-27th September.

Blood Money

by Heather Brothers, directed by Daniel Chambers

Bijou Theatre Co

[The Palace Theatre, Paignton. 01803 665800.](#)

25-28th September

Sheila's Island

by Tim Firth, directed by Mike Davies.

Kingsbridge Amateur Theatrical Society (Kingsbridge KATS)

Malborough Village Hall.

www.kats-kingsbridge.co.uk

14-19th October

Chinamen and Doubles

by Michael Frayn, directed by Anna Reynolds

TOADS Theatre Company

www.littletheatretorquay.co.uk, **01803 299330**

17-19th October

Two one act plays:

Reheated by Ella Nanaleasy, directed by Jo Mathews and

Looking Back written and directed by Andy Charlton.

SADS, Shiphay.

TAODS, Totnes

The Three Musketeers

Read-through: 9th Sept 7.00pm. Masonic Hall

Auditions: 15th Sept 2-4.00pm. Masonic Hall

Auditions: 16th Sept 7-9.00pm. Masonic Hall

24th October - 2nd November

Two one act plays:

The Bear by Anton Chekhov, directed by Rolande Burrows

The Witches of Prestwick, directed by Jane Branch

Teignmouth Players

[The Ice Factory Studio Theatre](#)

26-27th October

The Little Theatre Cabaret

Directed by Ben Tisdall.

TOADS Theatre Company

www.littletheatretorquay.co.uk, **01803 299330**

24-27th November

Don't Dress for Dinner

Directed by Julie Sharp.

Bijou Theatre Co

[The Palace Theatre, Paignton. 01803 665800.](#)

11-16th November. Plus Sat mat.

Sheila's Island

Directed by Julie Hancocks

TOADS Theatre Company

www.littletheatretorquay.co.uk, **01803 299330**

13-16th November.

Elf, the Musical

Directed by Polly Ferguson-Carruthers;

Musical Director Rob Young; Choreographer Tracey Loverage.

TOPS Musical Productions

[Princess Theatre, Torquay.](#)

27-30th November. 7.30pm

Tartuffe

by Moliere, adapted by Roger McGough, directed by Patrick Cooper.

Dartington Playgoers www.playgoers.co.uk

Venues. Most societies use the same venue for all their productions.
Unless otherwise stated those venues are.....

Toads Theatre Company

The Little Theatre, Torquay.

Teignmouth Players

The Ice Factory Studio Theatre

Bijou

The Palace Theatre, Paignton

BOADS

Brixham Theatre.

Gilbert and Sullivan Society

The Little Theatre, Torquay.

Dartington Playgoers

Studio 31, Dartington Hall.

SADS

St John's Church Hall, Shiphay.TQ2 7HP.

TOPS and Toads (SM)

perform their musicals at The Princess Theatre, Torquay.

South Devon Players Film and Theatre Company

Brixham Theatre and on tour.

southdevonplayers.com/box-office.html

Dawlish Repertory Company

Shaftsbury Theatre, Dawlish.

Ipplepen, Bovey Tracey, Bishopsteignton

and South Brent

in their local parish halls.

Please inform me of your future productions, even if they have not been finalised. This may help to avoid similar productions or overlapping dates.

Send me your information as soon as you can; it's always possible to amend or even cancel any item. I will try to include your production on the next listing, but reserve the right to edit the content.

John Miles. johnmilesandmiles@gmail.com



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Email Prompt



Teignmouth Players

teignmouthplayers.org.uk

Teignmouth Players:
CIO Charity number 1176546.



The Ice Factory Studio Theatre
Somerset Place, Teignmouth
TQ14 8EN



Teignmouth Players is a member of the National Operatic and Dramatic Association

Privacy: Teignmouth Players is registered with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), and operates with full compliance of our GDPR obligations required under the Data Protection Act 2018 and GDPR.

Except where required by law or as necessary for the effective running of the Charity, we will not share your details with anyone outside the Society without your express permission to do so.

All members are reminded of their obligations under data privacy laws and where information is shared, it must only be used for the operational needs of Teignmouth Players.

Our membership and other records are managed using remote on-line systems that are UK based and fully GDPR compliant.

WHO'S WHO

and how to get in touch

You can contact us by several channels including through our Facebook page, by email or on the good old fashion telephone.

Website: teignmouthplayers.org.uk

Email: hello@teignmouthplayers.com

Tel: 01626 778991

Society officers:

Theatre administrator
Margaret Long
Treasurer
Mark Smith

Committee:

Edith Wilmot
Pauline Dean
Amuy Burton-Smith
Dominic Jeffery
Alan Haden

IT'S YOUR SOCIETY and it needs YOU



To contribute to the next edition of Prompt, you can leave a note through the door of the Ice Factory Studio Theatre, or by email to prompt@teignmouthplayers.com