

BOOKINGS & RESERVATIONS

Ticket bookings can be made in person, by post or over the telephone. Our Box Office is open from 11.30am to 5.00pm, Monday to Friday, and from 10.00am to 1.00pm on Saturdays.

On a performance night, the Box Office will open 45 minutes prior to the start of the show.

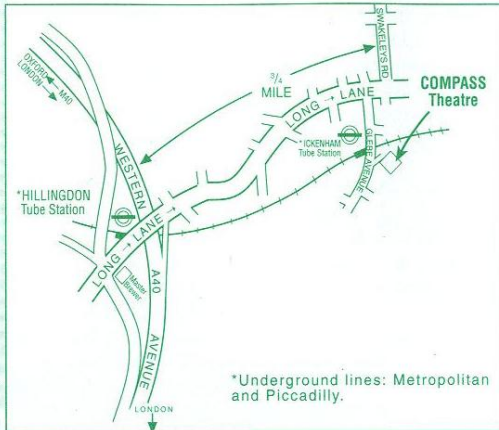
We particularly welcome credit / debit card bookings by telephone (no charge is made for this service). If you book by post or telephone, your tickets will be posted to you free of charge. Please make cheques payable to 'Compass Theatre'.

We are happy to reserve tickets for you. Reserved tickets will be held for 3 working days, or 45 minutes prior to the performance - whichever is sooner. We are able to offer concession price tickets on most of our shows, for Senior Citizens, Students, UB40 holders and Registered Disabled. If you require a concession price ticket, please let our Box Office know at the time of booking. If you are a wheelchair user, please inform our staff at the time of booking to ensure that an adapted space is made available for you.

Our Box Office telephone number is 01895 673200

HOW TO FIND US

The Compass Theatre is on Ickenham's Glebe Avenue, just 150 yards from Long Lane. Ickenham Underground Station is just across the road (Metropolitan and Piccadilly Lines), whilst West Ruislip Underground (Central Line and British Rail) is a 15 minute walk away. Ickenham is served by the U1 and U10 bus routes.



CAR PARKING

In addition to our own parking facilities at Compass Theatre, patrons also have free access to Ickenham Station car park at performance times. Simply park your car at the Station, and present your ticket at the Box Office for a token for use on exit. Please help us maintain our good relations with local residents by not parking in streets adjacent to the theatre.

For customers with mobility problems, we have two dedicated parking spaces next to our main entrance. If you require the use of these spaces, please advise our Box Office staff when booking your tickets, to ensure a parking place is reserved for you.

FREE MAILING LIST

Impress the postman! Be the envy of your friends! Arrange your theatre visits without moving from the comfort of your armchair! Enjoy the Compass programme hot off the press, plus specialised mailings delivered straight to your door. If you would like to join our free mailing list, call our Box Office on 01895 673200 or complete a form whilst at the theatre.

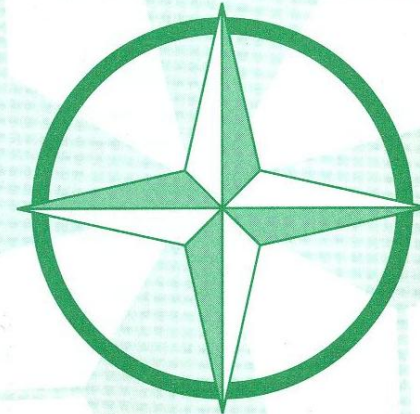
Compass Theatre
Glebe Avenue
Ickenham
Middlesex UB10 8PD



Box Office 01895 673200
Administration 01895 632488
Fax 01895 623724
Manager: Bryony Flanagan



THE Compass ICKENHAM



Theatre Programme
SPRING 1998

January, February, March & April

JOIN OUR VOLUNTEER STAFF TEAM!

The Compass Theatre is entirely dependent upon our dedicated team of volunteer staff. If you fancy working in our Box Office, Wine Bar, Wardrobe, Coffee Bar or Front of House, we'd love to hear from you! To join our friendly team, please call our Manager, Bryony Flanagan on 01895 632488 for an informal, commitment-free chat.

This Spring our volunteer staff are being supported by:



Randalls OF UxBRIDGE LIMITED
The Furnishing Store

Vine Street, Uxbridge, Middlesex.
Telephone: 01895 236501

Programme Designed and Printed by

Jacksons

70 Wood End Green Road, Hayes, Middlesex UB3 2SL

Tel: 0181 561 4002

SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

The Compass Theatre can offer a full range of sponsorship packages to local or locally-based businesses. Supporting the arts can create a range of benefits to you and your customers. We believe your business can benefit through a partnership with Compass! Call our Manager, Bryony Flanagan on 01895 632488 for further information or to discuss your individual requirements.

BISTRO & BAR

Our coffee bar is open for refreshments every day during the week, and for all performances. On Friday and Saturday nights prior to performances, bistro meals are available (advance booking is recommended). A vegetarian option is always on the menu. Call our Box Office on 01895 673200 to book.

Our Wine Bar is open on all performance nights. For your convenience, interval drinks can be ordered with bar staff on the night.

HIRE OF ROOMS

Are you looking for a comfortable space for a meeting, seminar, training session or rehearsal? The Compass Theatre has a number of rooms available for hire. We have a selection of presentation aids available, substantial parking, catering and refreshment service and excellent public transport access. We can also offer a warm and relaxed atmosphere in our beautiful Georgian house set in five acres of grounds. Call Stan Quin on 01895 632488 for further information and booking.

COMPASS PRESENTATIONS

Are you looking for a unique guest talk, presentation or after-dinner speech? The Compass Theatre can offer you, in the comfort of your own meeting place, an entertaining evening of local history, culture and a behind-the-scenes look at the venue. For further information call our Manager, Bryony Flanagan on 01895 632488.

CENTRE STAGE DRAMA CLASSES

Is your son or daughter an aspiring actor, or are they just interested in creative but challenging fun? The Compass runs weekly drama classes on a Friday evening. There are three classes: 7 - 8 year olds, 9 - 10 year olds and 11 - 12 year olds. No experience is necessary, but enthusiasm is essential! Please call our Administration on 01895 632488 for further details or an application form.

THEATRICAL COSTUME & FANCY DRESS HIRE

Are you looking for a costume or outfit for a play, fancy dress party or a special occasion? Our Wardrobe Department is open to the public every Wednesday night from 8.00pm to 10.00pm. We have an extensive selection of costumes including fancy dress, period costume, hats, shoes and other accessories. Costumes for a full cast can usually be catered for - a special fitting evening can be arranged. Our Wardrobe can be contacted on 01895 632488 at the above times.

ACCESS

The Auditorium is fully accessible for customers with mobility problems. We have two dedicated spaces in the Auditorium, car parking facilities and an adapted toilet. We welcome guide dogs and are happy to provide a bowl of water for them. We regret that our hiring rooms are not fully accessible for customers with mobility problems, and that the Auditorium is not fitted with an induction loop at present. If you have any special requirements, please advise our Box Office staff when booking your tickets to ensure that your visit is 'hassle free'.

CHILDREN

We welcome children, and have an extensive programme of performances, workshops and other activities dedicated to the under 12's. Please note that children under the age of 3 years are not permitted in the Auditorium (including children's performances). Children under the age of 8 years must be accompanied by an adult at all times. We have baby changing facilities and can warm bottles on request.

HILLINGDON MUSIC SERVICE

Hillingdon Music Service is based at the Compass Theatre. The Service is one of the London Borough of Hillingdon's Education Services. The Music Service operates in borough schools and teaches 2,000 pupils on a weekly basis. Music Service staff also give concerts and workshops to 12,000 pupils each year. Groups of students form bands, orchestras and choirs which meet centrally. For more information contact the Music Service office on 01895 630155

HY-ART

Hillingdon Youth Arts (Hy-Art) is also based at Compass Theatre. Hy-Art run two youth theatres: Magnetic North for 14 - 21 year olds and Magnetic North Too for 13 - 14 year olds. As well as regular acting workshops, we stage productions throughout the year. We are also able to offer technical instruction for those who prefer to be behind the scenes. Please call Clare or Louie on 01895 465572 for further details.

ADULT EDUCATION & WEA CLASSES

Hillingdon Adult Education and Workers Education Association both run a number of classes at Compass Theatre. For full information and details about current courses, please call Adult Education on 01895 634616

PROGRAMME FOR JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH & APRIL 1998

Murder Most Fun



Saturday 10 January 8.00pm - Tickets: £8.00 Pre-Mystery Buffet £8.00

Murder Most Fun present

PENALTY

The Murder Most Fun team return to Compass, for the sixth time, presenting a brand new murder mystery to solve.

Have you ever wanted to play detective? To solve a murder mystery perhaps? Well, here is your chance.

It is 23rd December 1996, and the players, staff and supporters of Aston Vanilla Football Club are enjoying a Christmas fancy dress party at the local leisure centre. Things are really going well on the surface. However, there is an undercurrent of intrigue, blackmail, arguments, seduction and all those little things that help to make a party go with a swing! Then, key player Gary Knockemin is found face down on the floor of the Sauna. He has been shot - twice. On the tiled floor are a set of initials - written in blood.

Clearly this cannot be suicide, but surely none of his fellow players or supporters can be considered as a suspect? Or can they? Scotland Yard could do with your help in questioning them. Come and join the investigating teams (or bring your own team of between 6 and 8). Winkle out the dark secrets. Expose the skeletons that lurk in the cupboard. Cross examine. Force confessions. Discover motives. Suspect everyone. Surprise yourself and solve the mystery. You could even win a prize that in a hundred years from now will be an antique!

Please note that tickets are limited and that the buffet must be booked in advance.

Friday 16 & Saturday 17 January 7.30pm nightly - Tickets: £7.50 / £6.00 concessions

Tour De Force Theatre Company presents

EDUCATING RITA by Willy Russell

Following the sell-out preview of Shaw's 'Pygmalion' at Compass Theatre last year, Tour De Force present this funny but moving Willy Russell classic. This is the story of Rita: A working class girl who seeks knowledge, inspiration and an escape from hairdressing. Her mentor is Frank, an alcoholic university lecturer, who shows her the difference between intellect and wisdom. You've seen the film with Julie Walters and Michael Caine, now catch this exciting stage production before it tours the continent for ten weeks.

Tuesday 20 - Saturday 24 January 7.45pm nightly & 2.30pm Saturday

Tickets £6.50 / £5.50 concessions; All Tickets £5.50 for Matinee

Pastiche Theatre present

SALAD DAYS by Julian Slade

'Salad Days' is a light-hearted romp, following the fortunes of Jane and Timothy after they leave university. Timothy's family urge him to find a job, whilst Jane's mother is anxious for her to find a suitable husband. The couple decide to marry secretly and for Timothy to take the first job that comes along.

When a tramp appears and offers them money to look after his piano, Minnie, for a month it seems that their problems are solved for the immediate future. Minnie turns out to be a magic piano and makes people dance! Follow Jane and Timothy in their adventures as they first lose Minnie, then find her.

With the aid of Tim's uncle Zed and his flying saucer, Minnie is kept safe, the tramp reappears and the care of the piano is passed to the next young couple, Nigel and Fiona.



Sunday 25 January 10.00am - 5.00pm All Tickets: £12.00

VOCAL WORKSHOP

Do you sing or would you like to sing? Whether you have only sung in the bath or want to improve your technique, this is the day for you! Leading duettists in the world of music, Angela Jenkins and John Noble, will spend the day teaching vocal skills to a small group.



Saturday 31 January 7.30pm - Tickets: £3.00 / £1.50 concessions

CHAMBER CONCERT

Talented local young musicians present an evening featuring clarinet choir, brass and wind ensembles with solo items.

Saturday 7 March 11.00am - All Tickets: £4.00

All-Electric Puppet Theatre present

THE SECRET OF GHOST CASTLE

A big welcome back to the brilliant All-Electric Puppet Theatre Company. 'The Secret of Ghost Castle' is a fun packed show for the over 4's, and features small, life-sized and gigantic puppets, plus the voice of Bill Pertwee (Dad's Army).

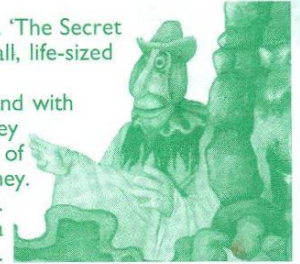
Prince Denzil designs gardens. He is going to marry Princess Coriander, and with Potterton (the talking flowerpot) he sets off to meet her at the Royal Ball. They have no sooner finished their first dance than he is carried off by a squadron of bats. He is locked in Ghost Castle where the Queen Bee has run out of honey.

Denzil is to be kept prisoner until he has planted a flower garden. Coriander isn't the sort of Princess to put up with any nonsense from a squadron of bats, so with the cook and her cat, she sets out to rescue him.

Then the fun really begins.....

Kids will love this colourful action-packed show - Mum and Dad might even enjoy it too!

Suitable for 4 years upwards



Wednesday 11 - Saturday 14 March 7.30pm nightly

Tickets: £7.50 / £6.00 concessions (Wed); £8.50 / £6.50 concessions (Thurs - Sat); Group booking rate available

Harrow Opera present

THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO by W A Mozart

Written in 1786, 'The Marriage of Figaro' is widely considered to be one of the greatest *opera buffa* ever composed. The opera is extremely accessible and contains some of Mozart's most beautiful music, including the popular aria 'Voi Che Sapete'.

The story takes place over the course of one day, the day that Suzanna and Figaro are to be wed. The court wishes to exercise his *droit de seigneur* over the new bride to be, much to the dismay of Suzanna and the Countess. Will he succeed in his amorous pursuits? Marcellina, Bastolo and Basilio add to the confusion of the plot with their grievances, and the young romeo Cherubino further complicates matters. However, love conquers all and the confusion is resolved in a grand finale where the happy couples are united.

Simon Brown, Head of Academic & Choral Music at the Purcell School of Music, Bushey, directs the music in this lively production.

Thursday 19 - Saturday 21 March Tickets: £6.00 / £5.00 concessions

Harlequin Players present

YESTERDAY'S WITNESS - Young Harlequins (Thursday & Saturday 7.45pm)

THE ENEMY WITHIN - Junior Harlequins (Friday 7.45pm & Saturday 2.30pm)

Harlequin Players make their Compass debut, presenting their dynamic youth groups, Young Harlequins and Junior Harlequins. Both plays are new works written by the company leaders and the young people themselves. 'Yesterday's Witness' tells the story of Alison, who, bullied at school, finds herself transported into the past with her friend Kim. Life in 1913 for many young women was dangerous, exciting and frightening. When the girls find friends with different social backgrounds, they are forced to look at



their own beliefs and gain understanding of the sacrifices made by the suffragettes.

'The Enemy Within' is set in Ditching Village, near Oxford, in 1648. It is apparently a peaceful and law-abiding village, remote from the turmoil of Royalist and Puritan quarrels.

The advent of a parliamentary witch finder reveals a brew of spite, superstition, frustration and greed. Luckily, there is also love, loyalty and common sense. Are they enough to prevent the death of an innocent woman, and the disintegration of the community?

Wednesday 25 - Saturday 28 March 8.00pm nightly

Tickets: £5.00 / £3.00 concessions Group booking rate available

Magnetic North Youth Theatre present

BLOOD WEDDING by F. Garcia Lorca

Lorca offers his poetic and disturbing personal vision of Spanish life in the 1930's. In a society where all weddings are blood weddings, this classical tragedy, starkly plotted, offers all the traditional elements of ill fated lovers and family feuds. Magnetic North Youth Theatre create their own stylised version of this passionate play.

Saturday 7 February 11.00am - All Tickets: £4.00

GEORGE'S MARVELLOUS MEDICINE by Roald Dahl NORWICH **Puppet THEATRE**

Acclaimed company, Norwich Puppet Theatre make their debut at Compass Theatre with this delightful story by the ever popular Roald Dahl.

Most grandmothers are kind old ladies, but George's treats him very badly. To cure her nastiness once and for all, George makes a magic medicine. It transforms his grandma but also does surprising things to the animals on his farm where he lives.

Using rod puppets and innovative designs to create the imaginative and unique world of Roald Dahl, this production captures all the energy and excitement of this brilliant story.

Suitable for 5 years upwards.

Saturday 14 February 8pm - Tickets: £4.00 / £2.00 concessions Group booking rate available

Hy-Art present

YOUTH DANCE WEEK

Special performance week of youth dance projects by schools and various youth arts programmes. Valentine spectacular featuring traditional African dance and drumming, which will be the result of a six week course run by Abundance Dance company. The course is offered to 14-21 year olds (still a few places left, contact the Hy-Art office 01895 465572) The same evening NRG, a youth contemporary dance company from Hayes will share the Bill. Watch this space for further information!



Sunday 15 February 7.30pm - All Tickets: £4.50

FILM QUIZ presented by James Skinner & Tim Leman

A fun evening to test your knowledge on film and cinema from the 1930's to the present day. Make up a party with friends or join a table if you come alone.



Tuesday 24 - Saturday 28 February 8.00pm nightly

Tickets: £6.50 / £ 5.50 concessions

OUTWARD BOUND by Sutton Vane

Sutton Vane's gripping story tells the tale of a motley group of passengers who meet on a mystery ocean-going liner. None of them can remember exactly how they arrived on board! More alarmingly none are certain where they are going. This exciting play contains many moving moments, and the humorous dialogue provides plenty of laughs to relieve the tension until all is revealed at the end of the voyage.....

'Outward Bound' has received rave reviews in the West End and on Broadway, and has been filmed twice by Warner Brothers. One critic described the play as "strange, original and remarkable..... built on a brilliant and daring idea, contains much humour, poetic beauty and sharply antagonised characters".

Tickets also available from Theatre 7's Box Office on 01895 446507

Tuesday 3 - Saturday 7 March 7.45pm nightly - Tickets: £6.50 / £5.50 concessions

STUDIO THEATRE COMPANY present

NIGHT MUST FALL by Emilyn Williams

Following the recent success of 'Breezblock Park' and 'Accrington Pals', STC present a spine chilling thriller.

Set in a lonely backwater of rural England, a cottage dominated by various women is infiltrated by a young man. With Svengali-like charm, he oozes his way into their lives, gradually gaining their affection. As we become curious about his chequered past, the vulnerable women suspect nothing about their precarious future.

This classic British thriller of the 1930's is packed full of intrigue, suspense, love and, of course, murder.

Friday 17 & Saturday 18 April 7.00pm nightly & 2.00pm Saturday - Tickets: £6.50 / £5.50 concessions

Constellation present
MASQUERADE

Following in the success of their recent 'Spirit of the 70's', Constellation return to Compass with another exciting music and variety show. With a cocktail of pop music, songs from the shows, modern dance, and film favourites plus lavish costumes, dancing and much more, 'Masquerade' has something for everyone. The ultimate toe tapper!

Wednesday 22 - Saturday 25 April 7.45pm nightly

Tickets: £6.50 / £5.50 concessions (Wednesday & Thursday); £7.00 (Friday & Saturday)

THE LION IN WINTER by James Goldman

This powerful play is based on the final years of the reign of King Henry II of England. His eldest son is dead, whilst his wife and remaining sons fight against him and each other. Henry's powerful and alluring Queen, Eleanor, is determined to secure the succession of her favourite son, while Henry plays his sons off against one another. The story is fraught with deceit, rivalry, jealousy and ambition.

Henry and his sons ruled England for over sixty years. They brought fire, passion, wantonness and greed into the business of governing England. They had few scruples and killed with impunity, turning on each other without hesitation.

This gripping play follows the couple as Henry, still in towering command, and Eleanor fight an underlying battle for allegiance of their devil's brood, while still fatally attracted to each other's lust for power.



Thursday 23 April 7.30pm **WINSTON CHURCHILL HALL (RUISLIP)**

Tickets: £6.50 / £4.00 concessions / £2.50 Ruislip and Northwood Arts Festival Participants

ORPHEUS & BACH WITH BITE

Presented in association with Compass and sponsored

Adonais
BALLET COMPANY

by Flora London Marathon Festival, this dynamic ballet company make their debut performance at Winston Churchill Hall (Ruislip) with an exciting double bill. The performance of 'Orpheus' and 'Bach with Bite' also provides a highlight of the 41st Ruislip and Northwood Annual Arts Festival.

Highly acclaimed company Adonais, present a dazzling programme of two contrasting ballets which will excite, entertain and enthral dance lovers of all ages. 'Bach with Bite' is a zesty, sparkling, light hearted celebration of the music of J S Bach. 'Orpheus' tells the emotional story, based on the Greek myth, of a love stronger than death. It is a dramatic, passionate and beautiful ballet set to the exquisite music of Debussy, Chausson, Fauré and Saint Saëns.

Beautifully costumed, inventively lit and with stunning choreography, 'Bach with Bite' and 'Orpheus' will appeal to both new and existing ballet fans. This is a wonderful opportunity to see one of the country's most talented middle-scale ballet company's at Ruislip's own Winston Churchill Hall. Unmissable!

Tickets available from Compass Theatre Box Office on 01895 673200



Tuesday 28 April - Saturday 2 May 7.45pm nightly & 2.45pm Saturday

Tickets: £8.00 / £6.00 concessions (Tuesday & Saturday Matinee only)

A Triple Bill: **ZOO** by Row & Sullivan; **COX AND BOX** by Madison Morton & Sullivan; and **TRIAL BY JURY** by Gilbert & Sullivan

Kenton Light Operatic Society present a unique programme of these three short shows, often performed individually to support large-scale Gilbert & Sullivan operas, but rarely performed as a triple header.

Set in a zoo, the first part of this 'triple header' tells the tale of two individuals and their romantic problems. Who is the mystery man who regularly buys food for the animals just so he can get the attention of a certain girl? Why is a young man suicidal because his offer of marriage has been refused? The lively 'Zoo' will answer all these questions and more.

'Cox & Box' is the story of two men who, unknown to each other, share a rented room. One occupies the room by day and works at night, the other occupies the room by night and works by day. Finally, their paths cross and they learn what the landlord has done. The men turn out to be long lost brothers.....

'Trial by Jury' is one of Gilbert & Sullivan's most popular short operetta's. Our heroine, the Plaintiff, takes a man to court whom she has accused of breach of a promise of marriage. The court case unfolds, revealing more complications. The problem is eventually solved by the Judge who offers to marry the Plaintiff himself!