



SCENE & HEARD

HAPPY 20th BIRTHDAY SCENE & HEARD

Celebrating 20 years of creating the best theatre with the Somers Town Community: 369 Member Playwrights, 697 plays, 92 courses, 16 trips to West End theatres, 159 original songs, 1846 unique characters created and brought to life since 1999.



1999 - ONCE A MEMBER PLAYWRIGHT, ALWAYS A MEMBER PLAYWRIGHT - 2019

In October this year we celebrated twenty years of playwriting at our Big Birthday Book Launch to mark the publication of *Only Cheese Can Leave – The Universal Truths of Scene & Heard*.

We filled The Knowledge Centre at The British Library with Member Playwrights young and old, their families, teachers and headteachers together with volunteers and supporters. Dame Hilary Mantel, who wrote the Foreword to our book, joined the celebrations. She spoke with passion and understanding about our work and our mission. A team of actors read the Introductions chapter of the book, bringing to life some of the characters we love from plays past. Our youngest and oldest Member Playwrights presented a copy of the book for deposit in The British Library. Kaylee wrote her first play with us in 1999 and Abigail's first play will be performed at the end of 2019. The whole event was an absolutely joyous celebration of our twenty year history and the publication of our book.



We could not do what we do without our army of volunteer theatre professionals who give up their time and dedicate their talents, over and over again, to the children of Somers Town. What better way to thank them than with a BIG PARTY. Volunteers from the earliest days of the charity travelled from all over the country to celebrate with us. There was cake, singing and much dancing.

Purchase your copy now at www.sceneandheard.org or by visiting **Owl Bookshop**, Kentish Town Rd, or **Word On The Water**, Regent's Canal Towpath.



Many Happy Returns: The Birthday Plays



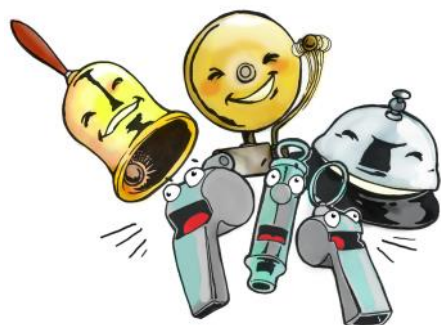
We started the year with our Replay course which resulted in *Many Happy Returns – The Birthday Plays* March 2019. This production saw Scene & Heard stalwart Andrew Pepper demonstrate his glorious versatility and skills as the third man playing everything from a Michael Kors green belt bag to a gorilla clown. There was even a much celebrated dental opera!

Beyond the Teens: The Grown-Up Plays



Our Summer Playmaking One production *Beyond the Teens – The Grown-Up Plays* written by ten children aged 9-11 featured a special gala performance for our Eyes & Ears Individual Givers. Characters included a 4-piece girl band, a lettuce, the English Channel, a headteacher award sticker, liquid nitrogen and a bike with the soul of Albert Einstein.

Bells & Whistles: The Celebration Plays



As we go to print we're very excited about our 10 new member playwrights who have written 10 new plays currently in rehearsal for our upcoming Playmaking One production, *Bells & Whistles: The Celebration Plays*.

Dear Member Playwrights, Volunteers and Supporters,

This year has been one of celebrating our achievements in so many different ways as well as looking forward to the next twenty years of success and inspiration. We have had a birthday quiz, recorded an updated version of the Scene & Heard song, produced a beautiful book of quotes and testimonials from the past twenty years and eaten a lot of cake.

In creating our book I had the absolute treat of reading hundreds of quotes from scores of plays, each bringing its own memories and magic. I was overwhelmed with the number of Member Playwrights and their families who came to have their photo taken for the book. I was delighted by the even greater numbers who came along to our fabulous Big Birthday Book Launch at The British Library in October.

We welcomed the incomparable Katie Wee onto the staff working alongside me with the children and families on our courses and productions. We said a fond farewell to our office manager of seven years Kai, and welcomed Euan onto the team.

It is my mission to ensure the long-term future of Scene & Heard, to secure a permanent home where we can have more of our activities under one roof; where we can grow and become a more visible presence within the community. Scene & Heard continues to develop as a Centre of Excellence, providing consultancy and advice to a range of individuals and organisations. Our own home will help us expand this work further. Rest assured, when this does happen, I will be asking for your help and support as we look forward to the next twenty years and beyond.

Thank you to each and every one of you – onwards and upwards

Rosalind Paul
CEO & Artistic Director



Audience Donations so far this year are an amazing...
£3,814.00

Thank you to everyone who put money in the red buckets and on the card reader.

Stage One 2019

Our Stage One workshop weekend took place at one of our favourite venues, the Old Diorama Arts Centre. Eight children aged 11-12 began to flex their acting muscles for the first time.



DOWNTON ABBEY SCREENING

Heartfelt thanks to our Patron Hugh Bonneville and his on-screen wife Elizabeth McGovern, who hosted a pre-release screening of *Downton Abbey* at the Curzon Mayfair for us in September. Volunteer Roger May took beautiful photographs as guests of Lord and Lady Grantham were treated to the hottest ticket of the Autumn with fizz, popcorn and Gilbert & Swayne chocolates. We raised an eye-watering £22,000.



ANNIVERSARY ATHLETES

Trustees and Volunteers celebrated our twentieth birthday by running and cycling to raise funds over the year. A huge thank you and well done to our Anniversary Athletes who raised a whopping £8,680. We are in awe of your achievements and your stamina! Our cyclists: Keith Ackerman, Morag Cross, Gordon Peaston, Inez Thorn & Will Wharfe. Our Marathoners: Roger May & Alan Park.



We have two places in the Prudential RideLondon 46 on Sunday 16 August 2020. If you are interested in riding and raising some money for Scene & Heard, contact Simma.

EYES & EARS

A donation of £5 a month will support the imaginations of our Member Playwrights on and off the stage. You can join Eyes & Ears via our website or by contacting the office to make a real difference. www.sceneandheard.org Eyes & Ears members can book for our oversubscribed performances before the general public.

A huge Scene & Heard Thank You to our in-kind donors:

- White Light Ltd www.whitelight.ltd.uk
- Jez Worsnip www.thequizteam.com
- Old Diorama Arts Centre www.diorama-arts.org.uk
- Illustrator Ian Bass who continues to produce the images for our flyers, programmes and Christmas cards. www.ianbassillustration.co.uk



Alongside our courses, we are committed to introducing our Member Playwrights to the world of theatre outside of Scene & Heard. This year we took three groups of young people on Theatre Trips to London's West End to enjoy *Wicked* at the Apollo Victoria, *Come From Away* at The Phoenix Theatre and *The Lion King* at The Lyceum.

THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS THIS YEAR

- BBC Children in Need
- Boris Karloff Charitable Trust
- Camden Giving - Communities Together Fund
- Camden Giving - Kings Cross Fund
- Deutsche Bank in partnership with the London Community Foundation
- Garfield-Weston Foundation
- John Lyon's Charity
- The North London Philanthropic Trust Fund with the London Community Foundation
- LABTech
- The Shadworth Hodgson Bequest
- The Sir James Roll Charitable Trust
- Tesco Bags of Help
- The Thompson Family Charitable Trust
- The Tom ap Rhys Pryce Memorial Trust
- The Woodward Charitable Trust

We are enormously grateful to our benefactors who donate significant funds over several years: **The Carlile Family, Ralph & Patricia Kanter and Juliet Wrightson.**

Scene & Heard is very proud to be Argent LLP's Charity Partner for 2018 - 2020.



Thanks to Charlotte Weston for all the lovely props this year and particularly for Octavia the Peg created for the Somers Town Festival.



Gilbert & Swayne chocolates are unique and delicious. Chocolatier Jane Swayne donates a portion of her proceeds to Scene & Heard. This year Jane went above and beyond by supplying chocolates for the *Downton Abbey* Screening and our Eyes & Ears evening. You can order your own chocolates and support us at: www.gilbertandswayne.co.uk

SISTER

We are delighted to announce the beginning of a beautiful friendship. Clerkenwell-based production company Sister has adopted Scene & Heard as their corporate charity. In 2019 they funded our trip to The Lion King.



2020 Productions

19th - 22nd March

What's Next?

The Quizzical Plays

A Replay Production

9th - 12th July

Just in Time

The Urgent Plays!

A Playmaking One Production

24th - 26th September

The Carousel Plays

A Writeback Production

26th - 29th November

Kicking Up Leaves

The Autumn Plays

A Playmaking One Production

- **Spread the word about Scene & Heard:** Actors and Directors, please include your volunteering with Scene & Heard in your biographies for programmes.
- **Saturdays are Member Playwright Nights:** Come along, meet your friends and see your actors - we always love to see you and hear your news.
- **Keep in touch:** Please remember to tell us if your contact details change.
- Follow us on Social Media



SceneandHeardUK



@SceneandHeardUK



SceneandHeardUK



Announcements!

Congratulations to those welcoming new members into their families in the last year, including: Simon Scardifield and his son Jack Ray, Viv Gibbs and her son Sacha, Austin Hardiman and his daughter Joya Hope, Ben Tuntingley and his daughter Jessica Rose, Sarah Wolf and her son Barnaby and Michael Sheen and Anna and their daughter Lyra.

Volunteers Doing Extra

In addition to all the other wonderful things they do at Scene & Heard – **Amy Bailey, Barbara Barnes, Ben Moor** and **Justin Brett** all donated funds from shows and appearances this year.

You are all awesome!

Also thanks go to **Simon Grover** for updating the lyrics and **Rebecca & Ronnie** who re-wrote the Scene & Heard song. Not to forget our volunteers who recorded it at Tigersonic in Feb 2019: **Sarah Lawn, Morag Cross, Nigel Pilkington, Andrew Pepper** and **David Ahmad**

PUB QUIZ

Thank you to Patron & Quiz Master Samuel West for our Anniversary Quiz. It was a great evening of difficult questions and head scratching.

Come to our next quiz on Sunday 2 February 2020 set by our resident quiz master extraordinaire – Jez Worsnip.



VOLUNTEER FOR SCENE & HEARD



Join our highly respected team of 400 theatre professionals who dedicate their skills and talents to create fabulous theatre and make a difference in young people's lives at the same time.

We are actively seeking actors and directors from all the different heritages and backgrounds that London has to offer. Email mail@sceneandheard.org for an application pack.

FOUNDERS

Sophie Boyack
Kate Coleman

PATRONS

Hugh Bonneville
Anna Chancellor
Jennie Darnell
Tom Goodman-Hill
Max Hill QC
Damian Lewis
Dame Hilary Mantel
Helen McCrory
Bill Nighy
Michael Sheen
Zoë Wanamaker
Emily Watson
Samuel West

TRUSTEES

Keith Ackerman (Chair)
Emma Bell
Nick Gray
Jo Millard
John Nevin
Andrew Porter
John Rolph
Will Wharfe

CEO & ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Rosalind Paul

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