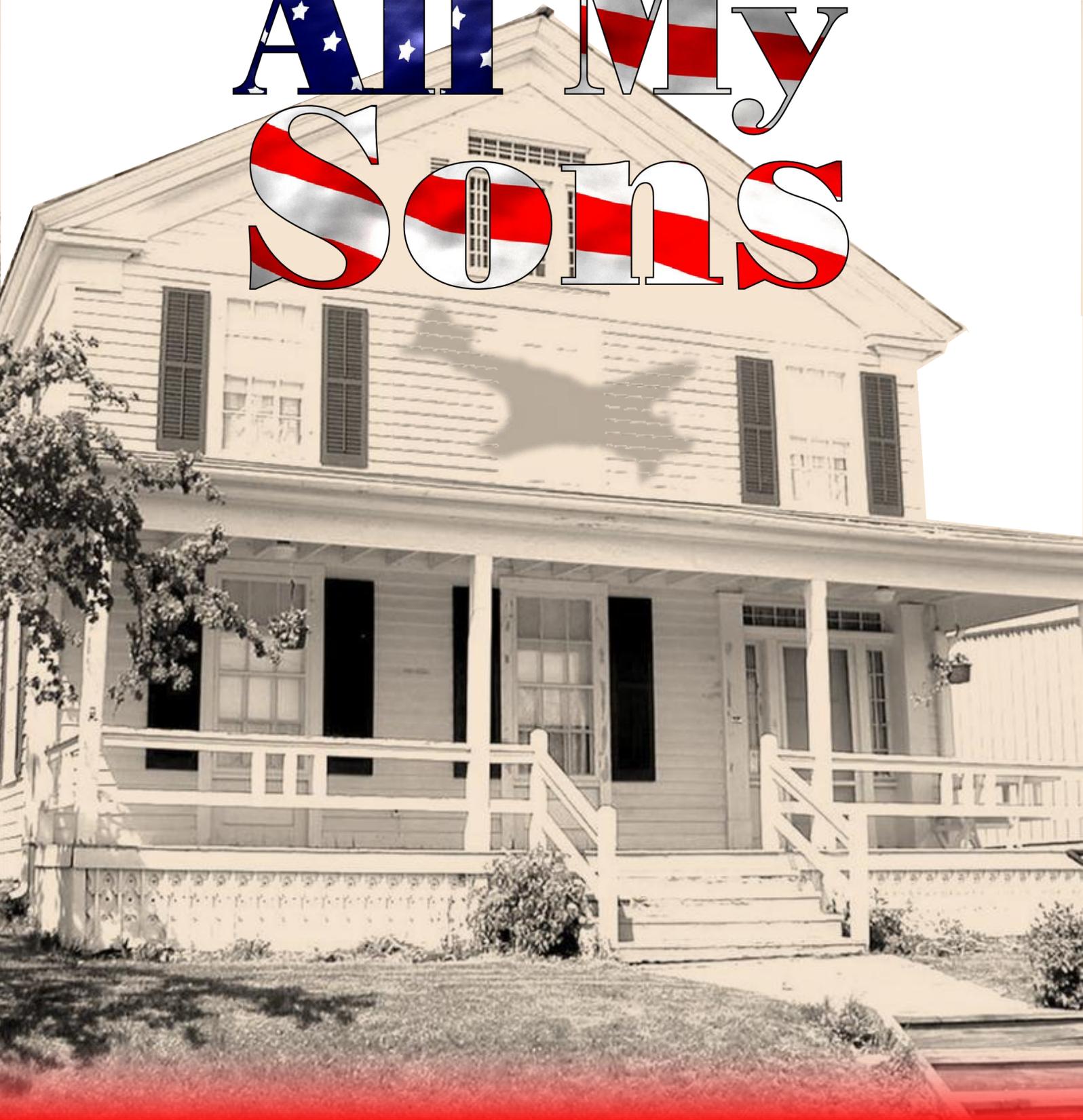


The Rotherfield Players present

ALL MY SONS



by Arthur Miller

13th - 15th October 2011 - Rotherfield Village Hall - Programme £2

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Josef Weinberger Limited

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New Members

The Rotherfield Players is a vibrant village dramatic society. We have a healthy membership but we always welcome new faces both on stage and back stage. Many different skills are required to put on a show apart from acting, singing and dancing. There's carpentry, painting, sewing and even computer skills. If you are interested in joining our group please contact James Gallifant, Tel: 01892 654219, Email: members@rotherfieldplayers.co.uk

For more information about Rotherfield Players, go to www.rotherfieldplayers.co.uk

Published by The Society of the Rotherfield Players

From the Director



Ros Williams

After frequently being told “You should direct something now, Ros” I plucked up courage some eighteen months ago and confirmed I would direct the Autumn Production 2011. It seemed an eternity away, I was relaxed.

I love all aspects of theatre but early on I had decided it would be a drama. I read script after script but nothing jumped out at me. I was becoming less relaxed! Then I read Arthur Miller’s “All My Sons” and knew straight away this was the one I wanted to do. Although written in 1947 this play has relevance to today’s military forces and how absolutely crucial first class equipment, weaponry and armoury is to the men and women who put their lives at risk for our freedom.

Last year I was lucky enough to see the London production at the Apollo Theatre with David Suchet and Zoe Wannamaker in the leading roles and I was so enthralled again by this powerful, moving play I couldn’t wait to get started. I have enjoyed the experience immensely and must give my utmost thanks to the following very special people.

Kate Organ, as Producer, has done a fantastic job of organising the paperwork, the front of house team and undertaken all the nitty, gritty stuff that has to be done for every production and also given me the odd very welcomed tip or two!

Stage Manager, Sarah Truelove, who has given me much encouragement and support and with her well chosen team of back stagers has yet again done a fabulous job, and Mark Tasker, set builder extraordinaire! And with the help of Andy Miller, what a team!

Nigel Cassford, for his advice and help in getting the atmospheric lighting that I wanted just right, after a long chat over coffee and biccies, it was sorted!

Helen Gallifant and her team of costume ladies, who early on came to rehearsals, tape measures in hand and again have done the Players’ proud with a brilliant selection of Forties costumes.

Deirdre Cornford, who has done a wonderful job as Prompt for this very wordy play.

And a huge thank you to Alison Organ, who not only designed the fabulous set but listened and advised on many occasions, a special friend.

And *especially* the fabulous Cast, who have worked tremendously hard over the rehearsal weeks, not least learning the American accent (helped by Ralph Miller, a genuine American!). I have been so lucky to have worked with these lovely people and will miss the camaraderie. I have to particularly thank Mike Hewett, who stepped in late only 6 weeks before performances to take over the role of George Deever after Steven Spedding became ill and had to retire early on from the play, and subsequently Andrew Burnett who, after taking on the role had to pull out too, due to injury.

My best wishes to Steven and Andrew for speedy recoveries.

And lastly to everyone else involved in this production, my very grateful thanks.

From the Chairman

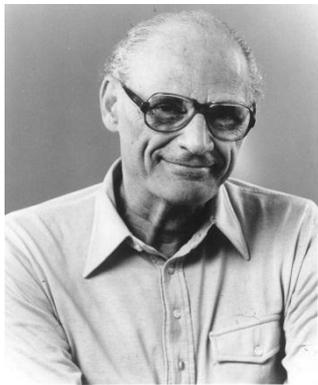


James Gallifant

The Players have always been keen to provide variety in their portfolio of productions. Undoubtedly, the musicals and pantomimes will draw the larger audiences but we do get asked by both our audiences and our actors to perform serious dramas from time to time. This policy provides a platform for our actors to extend their skills and an opportunity to 'move' our audiences. "All My Sons" has all the components for a classic drama.

This year we celebrated our 35th anniversary. For some of us older people it feels like no time at all until we view the black and white photographs of those early productions (available on our website under 'Past Productions!'). I accept that colour photography did actually exist in those days of yore albeit such colour would now have faded into an autumn fall of greens and browns. Thank goodness for the digital age, now that we can preserve our memories for ever. We still have two of the founder members (Alison Organ and Beattie Smitham) actively involved in productions. One has to admire their stamina or perhaps they have simply enjoyed the experience immensely.

About the Author



Arthur Miller

Arthur Asher Miller, the son of a women's clothing company owner, was born in 1915 in New York City. His father lost his business in the Depression and the family was forced to move to a smaller home in Brooklyn. After graduating from high school, Miller worked jobs ranging from radio singer to truck driver to clerk in an automobile-parts warehouse. Miller began writing plays as a student at the University of Michigan, joining the Federal Theatre Project in New York City after he received his degree. His first Broadway play, *The Man Who Had All the Luck*, opened in 1944 and his next play, *All My Sons*, received the Drama Critics' Circle Award. His 1949 *Death of a Salesman* won the Pulitzer Prize. In 1956 and 1957, Miller was subpoenaed by the House Un-American Activities Committee and was convicted of contempt of Congress for

his refusal to identify writers believed to hold Communist sympathies. The following year, the United States Court of Appeals overturned the conviction. In 1959 the National Institute of Arts and Letters awarded him the Gold Medal for Drama. Miller has been married three times: to Mary Grace Slattery in 1940, Marilyn Monroe in 1956, and photographer Inge Morath in 1962, with whom he lived in Connecticut. He and Inge have a daughter, Rebecca. Among his works are *The Crucible*, *A View from the Bridge*, *The Misfits*, *After the Fall*, *Incident at Vichy*, *The Price*, *The American Clock*, *Broken Glass*, *Mr. Peters' Connections*, and *Timebends*, his autobiography. Miller's writing has earned him a lifetime of honors, including the Pulitzer Prize, seven Tony Awards, two Drama Critics Circle Awards, an Obie, an Olivier, the John F. Kennedy Lifetime Achievement Award, and the Dorothy and Lillian Gish prize. He holds honorary doctorate degrees from Oxford University and Harvard University.

Throughout his life and work, Miller has remained socially engaged and has written with conscience, clarity, and compassion. As Chris Keller says to his mother in *All My Sons*, "Once and for all you must know that there's a universe of people outside, and you're responsible to it." Miller's work is infused with his sense of responsibility to humanity and to his audience. "The playwright is nothing without his audience," he writes. "He is one of the audience who happens to know how to speak."

Arthur Miller died in February 2005 aged 89.

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The Cast

Joe Keller	Ralph Miller
Kate Keller (Mother)	Jackie Jenkins
Chris Keller	Chris Walton-Turner
Ann Deever	Rachel Martin
George Deever	Mike Hewett
Dr Jim Bayliss	James Gallifant
Sue Bayliss	Alison Organ
Frank Lubey	Larry Robinson
Lydia Lubey	Sarah Thorn
Bert	Daniel Shaw



Ralph Miller

Ralph makes his RP debut as Joe Keller, which plays to his origins in the American Midwest. He began his theatrical career at the tender age of 12 in 'The Hither and Thither of Danny Dither' (don't ask!) before graduating to roles in high school and at university in 'My Fair Lady,' 'A Man for All Seasons,' 'Charley's Aunt' and the like. After an unusually long (even for an actor) 40-year 'rest,' he re-emerged locally as A Gentleman of Japan in the Stonegate Amateur Dramatic Society production of 'The Mikado' in May 2010, followed by a role as the American spy, Peter Kroger, in 'Pack of Lies.' Getting his kilt out of mothballs, Ralph will be appearing as the schoolmaster, Mr Murdoch, in the upcoming TWODS production of 'Brigadoon' in November.



Jacky Jenkins

Jacky Jenkins feels she has been very fortunate to have taken part in so many wonderful productions over the years. These include dramas such as Separate Tables, Night Must Fall and Accrington Pals and wonderful comedies including Abigail's Party, When we are Married and Outside Edge. In this production of All My Sons she is playing Kate Keller, referred to by Arthur Miller as 'Mother'. She is Joe's wife and Chris Keller's Mom. Her motherliness is one of her defining characteristics but her love is also accompanied by a need for control. Jacky is really looking forward to the challenge of this complex role.



Chris Walton-Turner

Chris has appeared in a number of productions on the Rotherfield stage over the last 10 years – roles as diverse as Jack Worthing in 'The Importance of Being Earnest' and, more recently, a radio in 'Babes in the Wood'. In 2010

Chris turned his hand to directing and staged Noel Coward's 'Present Laughter' after which he felt he needed a break. Chris plays the part of Chris – making things

a little easier for the rest of the cast! Chris (the real one) says he is looking forward to this challenging role. Raw anger doesn't come naturally to Chris (either of them), but as the story unfolds Chris finds himself torn between the love and admiration he has for his father and his deep rooted values – justice, fairness and taking responsibility for one's own actions. While he may seem pompous and "holy" to others, he is quick to admit his own faults and so expects nothing less from others – not even his own parents.



Rachel Martin

Rachel made her acting debut in The Rotherfield players when she was 11 in a production of "The Rose and the Ring" and she has been a member of the players on and off since this time. She has had many acting roles including Daphne in "Present

Laughter", Madame Tourvel in "Dangerous Liaisons" and Mary Warren in "The Crucible". She has also been a member of the backstage crew and she directed "Steel Magnolias" in 2002



Mike Hewett

Mike has considerable acting experience but he joined us in 2006 in 'An Ideal Husband'. Showing his versatility his next part was Baron Not-a-Lot in Goldilocks followed by John Smith in the hilarious 'Caught in the Net'. Mike then went off to "do

some writing" but we tracked him down to fill the role of George in this production to our great delight.



James Gallifant

James, although busy preparing to direct "Aladdin" for us this winter, has, as a true trouper, taken on the role of Jim Bayliss with a seriousness that is most out of character! Unfortunately for him there was no dress to wear, no ad libs and there is

also a requirement that he knows his lines accurately, something that he is not accustomed to doing in pantomime, a genre that he regards as real acting rather than this serious drama stuff. However, he has admitted, in an off guard moment, to being captivated by the tension of this drama during rehearsals. Will we ever convert him into a real actor? No chance whatsoever!!



Lawrence Robinson

Lawrence is 34 and based around Tunbridge Wells. He has loved acting since he was 16. He studied theatre and film at college and has been working with a local comedy group for several

years. The last two years have seen Lawrence become more and more involved in theatre, and in the last year he has played a small role in an independent feature and larger roles in several short films. Lawrence also recently directed his first short film "Butterfly Girl".



Alison Organ

As Arthur Miller is one of Alison's favourite playwrights (she directed his play "The Crucible" many years' ago), she is delighted to be playing the part of Sue Bayliss in "All My Sons". It has been a joy to her to be involved in this production. In recent years

she has directed frivolous shows like "The Farndale Avenue...Mikado", "Kiss Me Kate" and "Calamity Jane", but in the past she has directed more serious dramas, including "Hedda Gabler" and "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof". Having been a member of The Players since 1976, she has played many varied roles, but her favourite acting roles in recent years include Mrs Venables in Tennessee Williams' "Suddenly Last Summer", Lady markby in "An Ideal Husband" and Aunt Rosemunde in "Les Liaisons Dangereuses".



Sarah Thorn

This is Sarah's fourth production with the Rotherfield Players. She has found it fun and rather therapeutic to play such an upbeat "laughy" character as Lydia. The role is in considerable contrast to her last part as the stressed-out

Angela/Nanki Poo in the Farndale production of The Mikado last Autumn. Sarah is best remembered for her amazing performance as Kate in "Kiss Me Kate" in 2008.



Daniel Shaw

Daniel is making his acting debut for the players in this production of "All My Sons". He was the first member of the cast to learn his lines and has thoroughly enjoyed being part of an adult Drama group. Previously he has taken part in a couple of school

productions most recently playing Chief Stoat in "Wind in the Willows"

Backstage Crew

Director	Ros Williams
Producer	Kate Organ
Stage Manager	Sarah Truelove
Prompt	Deirdre Cornford
Props	Brett Seath
Costumes	Helen Gallifant Hazel Buck Beattie Smitham
Make up	Daniel Hoey
Hair Styles	Lisa McNally Helen Gallifant
Set Design	Alison Organ
Set Construction	Andy Miller Mark Tasker Nigel Cassford
Stage Hand	Mark Tasker
Sound and Lighting	Nigel Cassford
Box Office	James Gallifant
Bar Manager	Jane Littlefair
Front of House	Judith Hardy
Publicity	Alan Powell
Programme	Gillian Earle



Synopsis of Scenes

Act 1

The backyard of the Keller home in the outskirts of an American Town. August of 1946.

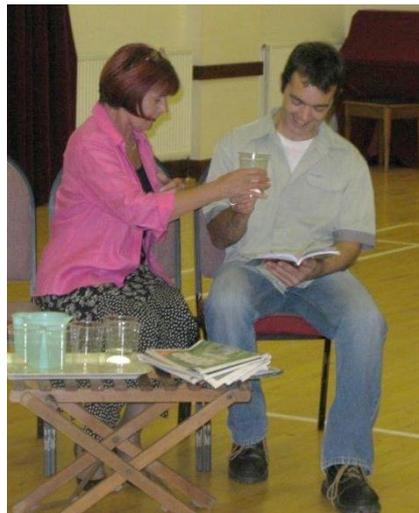
Act 2

The same evening, as twilight falls.

Act 3

Two o'clock the following morning.

Rehearsal Photographs



Next Production



Our pantomime production
this winter will be

Aladdin

Performances will take place in the Village Hall from 2nd to 4th February and will include a matinee.

Of course we will not reveal the story but we can assure you that the show will be lots of fun with jokes galore and all the essential ingredients for a rip-roaring show (Goodies, baddies, and lots of audience participation).

James Gallifant will be directing, Jo Evans is the Musical Director and Catherine Ireland will be directing the choreography.

Auditions will be held at the Village Hall on Friday 21st October 2011 at 8:00pm.



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Past Productions

The Happiest Days of Your Life	1976	All Aboard	1993
The Diary of Anne Frank	1976	The Matchmaker	1993
Lord Arthur Saville's Crime	1977	Ali Baba	1994
Rother Jubilant	1977	Sailor Beware	1994
Pool's Paradise	1977	Hedda Gabler	1994
The Winslow Boy	1978	The Magic Fruit	1995
Goodnight Mrs Puffin	1978	Queen Alice	1995
Night Must Fall	1979	Absurd Person Singular	1995
I'll Get My Man	1979	The Happiest Days of Your Life	1996
Dark of the Moon	1980	Babes in the Wood	1997
The Creature Creeps	1980	My Fair Lady	1997
Ghost Train	1981	An Inspector Calls	1998
When We Are Married	1981	Blithe Spirit	1998
The Rose and the Ring	1982	Smugglers	1999
Separate Tables	1982	Evening of One Act Plays	1999
Just the Ticket	1982	Aladdin	2000
Jack and the Beanstalk	1983	A Midsummer Night's Dream	2000
A Letter from the General	1983	A Review for the Millennium	2000
The Chiltern Hundreds	1983	Cinderella	2001
Aladdin	1984	Oliver	2001
The Man Born to be King	1984	Importance of Being Earnest	2001
Doctor in the House	1984	Jack and the Beanstalk	2002
Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs	1985	Don't Dress for Dinner	2002
Berkeley Square	1985	50 Years on the Throne	2002
Bedroom Farce	1985	Steel Magnolias	2002
Little Red Riding Hood	1986	Puss in Boots	2003
The Crucible	1986	Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's	
A Separate Peace	1986	Guild Production of MacBeth	2003
Season's Greetings	1986	Inn Love with Shakespeare	2003
Goldilocks and the Three Bears	1987	Dick Whittington	2004
Mother Figure	1987	'Allo 'Allo	2004
Larkrise	1987	A Murder is Announced	2004
Plaza Suite	1987	The Magic Fruit	2005
The Tinder Box	1988	Calamity Jane	2005
Moonset Over Zeron	1988	Garden District	2005
Murder in Company	1988	The Wizard of Oz	2006
Key for Two	1988	The Final Curtain	2006
Pinocchio	1989	An Ideal Husband	2006
The Brute	1989	Goldilocks and the Three Bears	2007
A Festival of Short Plays	1989	Godspell	2007
Getting On	1989	Bard from the King's Arms	2007
Cinderella	1990	Caught in the Net	2007
Something Borrowed	1990	Sleeping Beauty	2008
Arms and the Man	1990	Kiss Me Kate	2008
Our Town	1990	Les Liaisons Dangereuses	2008
Mother Goose	1991	Cinderella	2009
A Resounding Tinkle	1991	Busybody	2009
How the Other Half Loves	1991	Our Country's Good	2009
Joseph & the Technicolor Dreamcoat	1991	Babes in the Wood	2010
A Coat of Varnish	1991	Present Laughter	2010
Sinbad the Sailor	1992	The Railway Children (Junior Players)	2010
Rotherfield Pageant	1992	Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's	
Ten Times Table	1992	Guild Production of The Mikado	2010
The Sleeping Beauty	1993	Wind in the Willows	2011
Bird Bath	1993	Little Shop of Horrors	2011
Ghost Writer	1993	Three Characters in Search of a Verdict & Round	
Cat on a Hot Tin Roof	1993	the World with Class Six (Junior Players)	2011



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