



TOP GIRLS



by Caryl Churchill

6th – 9th July 2016

Directed by Zoë Freedman

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Samuel French Ltd





Leeds Arts Centre is a prestigious amateur theatre group founded in 1945, and member of the Leeds Civic Arts Guild.

We are a friendly society, working together to maintain the high standards for which our productions are known. We produce four to five plays each year at the Carriageworks Theatre, as well as organising green room shows and workshops to help members to develop their acting, directing and production skills.

We offer opportunities to all who are interested in becoming involved with any aspect of drama, including acting, directing, stage management, props, designing, costumes, lighting, sound, publicity and front of house.

New members are always welcome!

If you are interested in acting, directing, designing or making scenery or costumes, helping backstage with stage management or props, or lending a hand with publicity, then please speak to one of our members front of house this evening, or in the theatre bar after the show.

You can also write, with contact telephone number, for further information to:

The Secretary, Leeds Arts Centre
c/o Carriageworks Theatre
Millennium Square, Leeds LS2 3AD
or e-mail us at: publicity@leedsartscentre.org.uk

www.leedsartscentre.org.uk



A NOTE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

Probably the best known of Caryl Churchill's plays, *Top Girls* is a classic of modern theatre. Set in the early 1980s, the play explores the changing role of women in society and the workplace, the choices women make and the impact these choices have on their future.

The format of the play is unusual, with a long opening scene in which Marlene, our central character, hosts a drinks party to which she has invited a number of influential women from literature, art and history. The play then goes on to follow Marlene in her workplace and on a visit to her estranged family.

The script often calls for characters to speak over each other, bringing a naturalistic feel to the way the characters speak, but breaking the traditions of theatre, where actors usually wait for their cue to finish before speaking.

I first came across this play when I worked backstage on a production as a teenager. I instantly loved the play, the strong female characters and wonderful mix of humour and drama throughout. There are few plays with all female casts and it has been a great opportunity for the actresses in the cast to show what they can do. The discussions in rehearsal about who the characters are, how they relate to each other and the choices they have made have been fascinating and have added to the cast's portrayal of these often complex women.

I would like to thank my incredibly hard working cast and crew for their commitment and support.

I hope you enjoy the show

Zoë Freedman



Cast

Marlene	Carol Bell
Isabella Bird / Mrs Kidd	Maureen Willis
Lady Nijo / Jeanine	Ayshea Megyery
Dull Gret / Shona	Katie Eleanor Dawson
Pope Joan / Louise	Jessica Glanz
Patient Griselda / Win	Lucy Rowe
Joyce	Maria Kwater
Angie	Georgina Martindale
Kit	Morgan Parker
Nell	Thea Pilikian Strachan

Act 1 - A London Wine Bar

INTERVAL

Act 2, Scene 1 - Top Girls Employment Agency, London

Act 2, Scene 2 - Joyce's backyard

Act 2, Scene 3 - Top Girls Employment Agency, London

Act 2, Scene 4- Joyce's Kitchen - A year earlier



Production Crew

Director	Zoë Freedman
Production Manager	Oliver Brierley
Stage Manager	Steve Fryatt
Prompt	Lydia Waller
Properties	Jenny Carter, Fiona Galloway,
Wardrobe	Maggie McCulley, Kathryn Francis, Lena Gazey
Set Team	Steve Fryatt, Rachel Vernelle, Denise Davies, Digna Sindin Rodriguez, Naomi Harrison
Sound and Lights	Steve Fryatt
Front of House	Joyce King (and LAC members)
Flyer / Poster design	Jake Logan

Thanks to the Carriageworks Theatre for all their assistance, including the use of various pieces of furniture for our set.

Extra thanks go to the hard-working cast and to all Leeds Arts Centre members who have helped out along the way.

This production uses the following sounds from freesound.org:

"Crowd In A Bar (LCR)" by Leandros.Ntounis

"Hard Rain" by barkenov



Leeds Arts Centre is a registered charity and non-profit making organisation. We are currently looking for companies and organisations that would benefit from advertising in our programmes or sponsoring our productions.

To find out more, contact:

The Publicity Officer, Leeds Arts Centre

c/o Carriageworks Theatre
Millennium Square, Leeds LS2 3AD
or e-mail us at: publicity@leedsartscentre.org.uk

Visit www.leedsartscentre.org.uk
to see an archive of previous productions.

The programme for this production was produced with the kind
assistance of

Lewis Francis Blackburn Bray
----- solicitors -----

14-16 Paradise Square Sheffield S1 2DE
0114 272 9721

www.lfbbsolicitors.co.uk

ADVERTISING AND SPONSORSHIP

Phil Dodgson & Partners Limited

Phil Dodgson & Partners are Pudsey based accountants offering services throughout West Yorkshire and surrounding areas and are pleased to work with Leeds Arts Centre in the preparation of their annual accounts.

49 Chapeltown, Pudsey, West Yorkshire, LS28 7RZ Tel: 0113 255 7406





Leeds Arts Centre has a wide range of high quality men's and women's costumes available to hire at competitive rates.

These include:

- Period costumes
- Character costumes
- Evening dress
- Military uniforms
- Suits
- Accessories

For more information, please see our website at <http://www.leedsartscentre.org.uk/costumeHire.htm>



The Leeds Civic Arts Guild is the 'umbrella' association of various amateur dramatic, musical, operatic and other voluntary arts societies & companies that are based in the centre of Leeds at the Carriageworks Theatre. Each group has its own identity, however they all come together as part of the Guild, working with Leeds City Council and the Carriageworks. The member societies are:

Cosmopolitan Players * Leeds Amateur Operatic Society
Leeds Arts Centre * Leeds Children's Theatre
Leeds Gilbert & Sullivan Society * LIDOS
Leeds Writers Circle * Leeds Youth Opera
Morley Amateur Operatic Society
Shatterproof Theatre Company
STARS * St. Mary's Youth Theatre * West Riding Opera

For more information visit lcag.org.uk



**LEEDS ARTS
CENTRE**

presents...

Amazing Grace

by Leo Charlton

28th September - 1st October 2016

Carriageworks Theatre - Upstairs @ The Carriageworks
Directed by Leo Charlton

Tickets on sale now £9

Contact the Carriageworks Theatre Box Office on
0113 376 0318 or www.leeds.gov.uk/carriageworks

Upcoming LCAG productions at Carriageworks Theatre

Leeds Youth Opera

West Side Story

06 July 2016 to 09 July 2016

LIDOS

Stephen Sondheim's

Company

20 September 2016 to 24 September 2016

The video and / or audio recording of this performance by any
means whatsoever is strictly prohibited