

Sitting Pretty

by Amy Rosenthal
9th – 18th May 2019

Medway Little Theatre is delighted to bring you our production of *Sitting Pretty* by Amy Rosenthal. Many may recognise the name of Rosenthal, Amy is from a very theatrical background as the daughter of Jack Rosenthal, a famous English playwright and Maureen Lipman, a famous English actress.

Sitting Pretty is a bittersweet comedy and a warm and funny play. The play revolves around the lives of two sisters – Nina and Nancy. Both middle-aged and unmarried, they share a London flat. Nancy has recently been made redundant from her job as a shorthand typist and has sunk into depression, spending her days lying on the sofa eating pickled onions from the jar. Nina is a dynamic, successful lecturer at the National Gallery.

Nina and their friend Max persuade Nancy to stop moping around the flat, and suggest looking into courses at the art gallery. Nancy visits the gallery and enrolls onto a life drawing art class, as a model. What Nancy doesn't realise is that life drawing models don't actually wear any clothes, and Nancy soon finds herself reluctantly *au naturel* in front of a bunch of eccentric strangers. The experience is life-changing for Nancy, and ultimately for her sister Nina, and for their friend Max. Each character in the play is well-defined and believable, and each one has their own story to tell.

Medway Little Theatre has never before shown a play by Amy Rosenthal so this will be a first for us all. In fact, MLT's production of *Sitting Pretty* is the only one in the world being performed at the moment!

Regular patrons will recognise some of our characters from past MLT productions with Chris Loft as Max, Lesley Godwin as Nancy, returning member Diane Hodgson as Nina, Mark Kitchener as Philip, Nan Morran as Sylvia. New members coming to MLT are Amy Morgan as Zelda, Darren Little as Luka, Pat Wilson as Bridget, Dave Wilson as Martin and Lisa Gibbons as Josie.

Our thanks and gratitude go to our amazing backstage support team who will be dealing with an ever-evolving – and revolving – production.

Maggie Coleman – Director

About Amy Rosenthal

Born in 1974, Amy Rosenthal is a British playwright from Muswell Hill, London. She is a recipient of the Sunday Times Drama Award. She is the daughter of screenwriter Jack Rosenthal and actress Maureen Lipman; she and her brother were raised in their parents' Jewish faith.

Rosenthal studied to be a playwright at the University of Birmingham, where she took a Masters in Playwriting. She won the Sunday Times Drama Award with her debut play *Henna Night* in 1999. In 2015, she wrote the libretto to the opera *Entanglement* by composer Charlotte Bray. She was shortlisted for the Susan Smith Blackburn Prize for female dramatists and teaches playwriting on the Arvon courses, and at Birkbeck College, University of London.

Her plays include

Sitting Pretty (1998)

Henna Night (1999)

Jerusalem Syndrome (2000)

Little Words (radio play)

Jack Rosenthal's Last Act, a four-part series adapted for BBC Radio 4

Thank God It's Friday, co-written with Cosh Omar (2007)

On The Rocks (2008) (about D. H. Lawrence and his circle, shortlisted for the Susan Smith Blackburn Prize 2009)

The Jitterbug Blitz (2009)

The Workroom, adapted from *L'Atelier* by Jean-Claude Grumberg

Fear of Cherry Blossom, which premiered at the Cheltenham Everyman Studio Theatre (2016)

Coming Next

DEATHTRAP

by Ira Levin

13th – 22nd June 2019

This ingenious play offers a rare and skilful blending of gasp-inducing thrills and spontaneous laughter. Unknown dramatist Clifford Anderson has sent his new thriller to award-winning Broadway author Sidney for comment. Without a success to his credit for some years, Sidney plots with his reluctant wife Myra about how best to plagiarize *Deathtrap*, and when Clifford turns up to discuss the play with the 'Master' events take a sinister turn.

Medway Little Theatre Needs You!

Our theatre produces several shows a year and we always welcome new members, whether they are interested in acting, stage managing, set building, working lights and sound, or any of the dozens of other jobs needed to produce live theatre. If you are interested in moving from seat to stage, please ask our front of house team or bar staff for information on how to join, or just turn up at one of our social nights, held every Tuesday evening in between show runs. The next one will be on Tuesday 21st May.

This amateur production of *Sitting Pretty*
is presented by special arrangement with Samuel French, Ltd.

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9th – 18th May
Doors 7pm
Show 7.30pm
Tickets £10

256 High Street, Rochester

01634 400322

www.mlt.org.uk

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is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, LTD.