

# Lost in the Stars

Pirate Productions Presents

The Lives and Music of

Kurt  
Weill



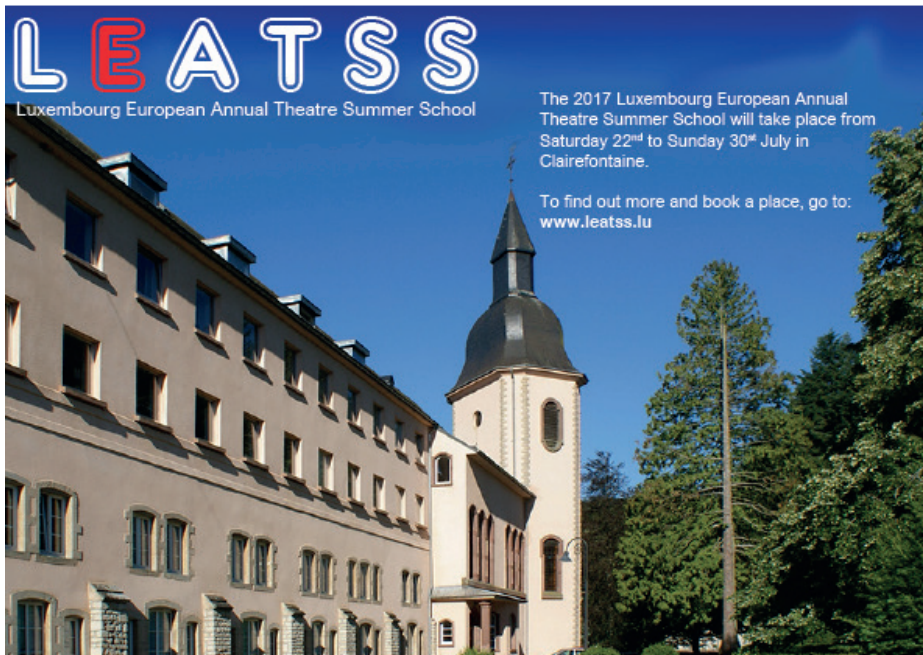
Lotte  
Lenya



Veräinshaus, Schiffflange

Thu 18<sup>th</sup>, Fri 19<sup>th</sup>, Sat 20<sup>th</sup> & Sun 21<sup>st</sup> May 2017





# LEATSS

Luxembourg European Annual Theatre Summer School

The 2017 Luxembourg European Annual Theatre Summer School will take place from Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> to Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July in Clairefontaine.

To find out more and book a place, go to:  
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# WELCOME!



I started listening to Kurt Weill's music when I was growing up and was fascinated by the unique sound of his Berlin period. The melodies were captivatingly 'human', yet set with these dramatic, dissonant, or almost dissonant arrangements that turned each into a little drama of its own. I later found out how his oeuvre extended into many other genres: French chanson, light-hearted review songs, opera from the stylised to realist, symphonies, epic religious works and Broadway-style musicals. And always this unique style of strong music.

When I became involved with musical theatre, I thought that the music of Kurt Weill would make an excellent theme for an evening's entertainment. But over the years I also read up about the man himself, and started to think his story would be interesting to tell, and give some context to the music. It came even more into focus when I read a book of the letters from Weill to his wife Lotte Lenya. Their real-life story is quite something, and so I set out to tell it using his music.

As a sometime writer I worked up a script, and started planning a show. As well as telling their stories I wanted to incorporate some of the styles of music theatre that he wrote for. Oh, and also entertain people. Most of the Pirates I spoke to didn't know the music but have really enjoyed learning it. It's been great how everyone has worked to bring this show to life, and brought their own ideas and talents. We've had great fun putting the show together, so we hope the audience will enjoy themselves, and maybe learn something or something new about the great Herr Weill.

Rachel Parker





## From the Pirates Co-Chairs

We are delighted to present our latest musical theatre production *Lost in the Stars* which has been directed by Rachel Parker. Rachel is a Kurt Weill aficionado and, back in 2006, she directed her first show, *Wine and Song*, which included a selection of songs written by Weill.

This time she has written a script especially for this show to support the development of Weill's career which is humorous, and at times, poignant as he leaves Germany for the USA where he finds success.

The café theatre format we've chosen is in keeping with many of our recent productions where you can enjoy an evening of good entertainment with food and drink and we hope you enjoy this show in this new, intimate venue in Schiffflange.

So, please sit back and enjoy!

*Valerie and Philip*

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## From the Musical Director

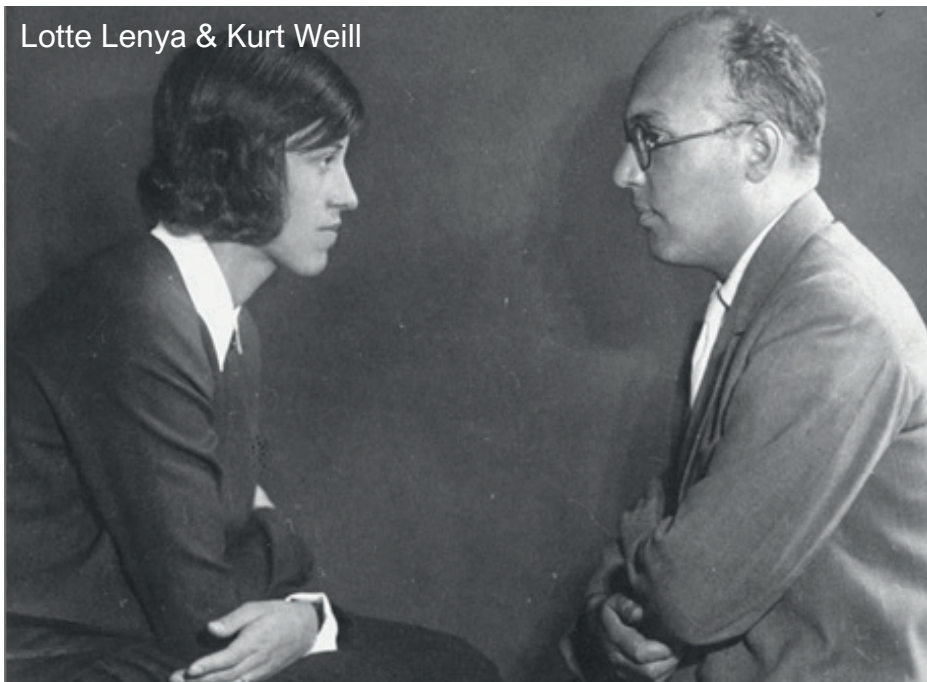
I have to confess to not really knowing the music of Kurt Weill (other than Mack the Knife and September song) before Rachel asked me to be MD for this show. As a person interested in all aspects of theatre I was aware of his collaboration with Bertolt Brecht and that they pushed against the boundaries of theatre and music of the time, but I didn't actually know his music.



I was delighted to find that working with the singers and musicians on these songs was most rewarding. Yes, his music written before going to America is at best quirky and sometimes disturbingly discordant but the point is, it works. All of those songs are "singable" but at the same time make for the most wonderful drama through the stories they tell.

*Philip Dutton*

Lotte Lenya & Kurt Weill







## Impulse Training Workshop

Actors Repertory Theatre Luxembourg (Actors Rep) are organising an 'Impulse Training' workshop on Saturday 17 June 2017 (location yet to be decided).

The objective of this day-long workshop is to allow our acting to become more alive by trusting our impulses. Impulses are understood as both inner and outer impulses, which lead us to an effortless reaction.

Workshop Leader, Hans Kieseier, has over 30 years in theatre, improvisation, comedy, television and film as an actor, director and acting trainer.

For more information: [www.ActorsRep.lu](http://www.ActorsRep.lu) or email: [ActorsRep.Erik@gmail.com](mailto:ActorsRep.Erik@gmail.com)



## Trust Truth Acting Courses

Have you ever watched a play or a film and thought, "I don't believe them". At the actor's core is truth, truth about the character and more importantly, oneself. To find the truth of the character you must be confident with your own truth.

The course explores the actor's truth – in body, voice and being and is geared for every level and experience. The weekly classes are led by Christine Probst, a professionally trained actress with over 20 years' experience who has acted professionally both in the USA and Luxembourg.

The classes will resume in September 2017.

For more information email: [christineprobststeffen@gmail.com](mailto:christineprobststeffen@gmail.com)





# SYNOPSIS

## ACT 1 - Germany & France

Introduction to the show and to Weill & Lenya.

1924: Weill and Lenya meet: they soon move together to Berlin and agree to marry.

1928: Weill starts working with Bertold Brecht and they have a hit with the Threepenny Opera.

1930: They plan their opera The Rise and Fall of the City of Mahagonny.

1933: The political situation in Germany deteriorates and Weill has to leave. He attempts to collect money owed for his music, but has no success.

He moves to France, but the turmoil follows, even breaking up performances of his music.

Lenya seeks divorce and leaves with a lover. Weill is left bereft as Europe approaches war.

## ACT 2 - America

1935: Weill and Lenya go together to the US and are reconciled.

They make their way into American society, with carefully cultivated contacts.

Weill achieves professional success and works with many different collaborators.

1941: He contributes to the Allied war effort with song-writing and also helps as a plane spotter.

Lenya does not find similar success and leaves the theatre.

1950: Weill dies at the age of 50.

After his death, a revival of the Threepenny Opera brings new and lasting fame to Weill and a resurrected career for Lenya.

Both their lives and Weill's music are remembered and celebrated including in these performances.











## MUSICAL NUMBERS

### ACT 1

**Mack The Knife** (lyrics: Bertold Brecht / tr: Ralph Mannheim and John Willett Brecht) - *performed by Randy Melton*

**Pirate Jenny** (Brecht) - *Ciara Barker*

**Love Song** (Brecht) - *Ciara Barker & Alex Teligadas*

**Ballad Of The Easy Life** (Brecht) - *Steve Wilkie*

**Bilbao Song** (Brecht) - *Julian Farlin & Chorus*

**Surabaya Johnny** (Brecht) - *Rachel Parker*

**Off To Mahagonny** (Brecht) - *Men's Chorus*

**Alabama Song** (Brecht) - *Ladies' Chorus*

**J'Attends Un Navire** (Jacques Deval) - *Catriona Gillham*

**Je Ne T'Aime Pas** (Maurice Magre) - *Alex Teligadas*

**What Keeps Mankind Alive** (Brecht) - *Valerie Scott & Randy Melton with Chorus*



Lotte Lenya & Kurt Weill ca.1942





## MUSICAL NUMBERS

### ACT 2

**Stranger Here Myself** (Ogden Nash) - *Rachel Lloyd*

**This Is New** (Ira Gershwin) - *Ciara Barker*

**September Song** (Maxwell Anderson) - *Stuart Alexander*

**One Life To Live** (Gershwin) - *Rachel Lloyd & Steve Wilkie*  
*with Dancers*

**Buddy On The Nightshift** (Oscar Hammerstein) - *Ruth Gillen*  
*with Dancers*

**Speak Low** (Nash) - *Neil Johnson*

**Moon-Faced, Starry-Eyed** (Langston Hughes) - *Ruth Gillen &*  
*Julian Farlin*

**Saga Of Jenny** (Gershwin) - *Ciara Barker, Chantelle Bonnici,*  
*Neil Johnson, Catriona Gillham & Stephen Wilkie*  
*with Chorus*

**Lost In The Stars** (Anderson) - *Ciara Barker & Alex Teligadas*



Oscar  
Hammerstein



Ira  
Gershwin



Bertold  
Brecht





**Ciara Barker**  
*Lotte Lenya*

## THE CAST



**Alex Teligadas**  
*Kurt Weill*



**Stuart Alexander**  
*Soloist*



**Chantelle Bonnici**  
*Soloist*



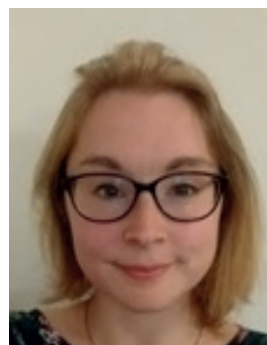
**Tanja Duhr**  
*Dancer*



**Julien Farlin**  
*Soloist*



**Ruth Gillen**  
*Soloist*



**Catriona Gillham**  
*Soloist*







**Neil Johnson**  
*Bertold Brecht*



**Martina Krasnik**  
*Publisher*



**Daniela Krueger**  
*Band Member*



**Randy Melton**  
*Soloist*



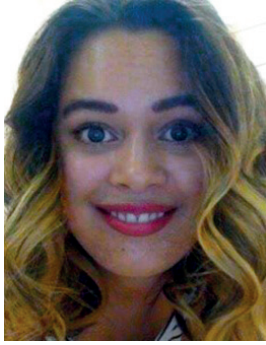
**Céline Planata**  
*Dancer*



**Rachel Lloyd**  
*Soloist*



**Valerie Scott**  
*Soloist*



**Athena  
Turek-Hankins**  
*Dancer*



**Stephen Wilkie**  
*Mack the Knife*







## BAND

<i>Piano</i>	Mick Swithinbank
<i>Piano / keyboard</i>	Liz Turner
<i>Percussion</i>	Eric Gherardi
<i>Bass guitar</i>	Daniela Krueger
<i>Trumpet</i>	Philip Dutton
<i>Saxophone</i>	Julien Farlin





## PRODUCTION TEAM

<i>Director &amp; original script</i>	Rachel Parker
<i>Musical Director</i>	Philip Dutton
<i>Stage Manager</i>	Athena Teligadas
<i>Producer</i>	Valerie Scott
<i>Lighting</i>	Anthony McCarthy
<i>Sound &amp; Projections</i>	Brian Parker
<i>Microphones</i>	Claire Haigh
<i>Choreography</i>	Marina Tomasic, Sue Brackenbury
<i>Costumes</i>	Debbie Lloyd, Ciara Barker
<i>Props</i>	Malcolm Turner
<i>Poster Design</i>	Liz Turner
<i>Publicity</i>	Ailbhe Jennings, Rose Flammant
<i>Box Office &amp; Front of House</i>	Pam Carlisle
<i>Hair</i>	Tekla Skowronski
<i>Programme</i>	Alex Teligadas Philip Dutton
<i>Bar Staff</i>	Vicki Ball, Steve Reilly, Christine van Marion, Natasha Wagner

### Special thanks to:

Eric Gherardi for making arrangements with the commune of Schiffange.

Alex Teligadas for the use of his home for rehearsals.





**Château de Bourglinster  
(Les Annexes) Luxembourg**

Thu 25th, Fri 26th  
& Sat 27th May (19:30)  
Sat 27th & Sun 28th May (14:30)

**Evenings:**

non-members €19  
members €17  
students €12  
for the one act play and inclusive  
Indian buffet supper.

**Matinées:**

non-members €10  
members €8  
students €6  
for the one act play only (no meal)

**Tickets:**

email: [tickets@nwtc.lu](mailto:tickets@nwtc.lu)  
telephone: 356 339

Pirate Production's next show is ....



# SCROOGE!

## THE MUSICAL

The perfect show to bring all the family! We guarantee you will come away singing the tunes and be in a great mood to celebrate your own family Christmas.

9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> November 2017

Kinneksbond Centre Culturel, Mamer

[www.pirates.lu](http://www.pirates.lu) | 35 63 39 | [tickets@pirates.lu](mailto:tickets@pirates.lu)

