



6-9 June 2025 at the Altonaer Theater Hamburg



FEATURING OUTSTANDING, AWARD-WINNING PLAYS FROM THE WORLD OF AMATEUR THEATRE



National Drama Festivals Association (NDFA)

AND YOU MIGHT BE WATCHING ONE OF THE CONTENDERS RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW **AT FEATS 2025!**







On behalf of the FEATS 2025 Organising Committee,

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our audience and to our FEATS participants who have travelled from all over Europe to be part of this unique theatre festival.

The Hamburg Players is both thrilled and proud to be hosting FEATS for a third time and hopes you get the chance to see something of our lovely city of Hamburg while you are here. Our friendly volunteers at the hospitality desk will be happy to help you out with tips.

This year's festival is more diverse than ever before, with half the groups performing in the main stage competition for the first time, and a whole host of new groups also performing for the first time in the FEATS fringe.

The programme promises to be as diverse, with quirky adaptations of classics, original scripts premiering here for the first time, a musical and a mix of comedy and drama. We are also delighted to see a number of youth groups performing at the festival this year, giving us hope that the FEATS community will continue to grow and flourish with new ideas and formats in the years to come.

If you have never been to FEATS before, I can assure you, you are in for a treat. The festival has an atmosphere like no other, the passion for theatre and communal enjoyment is infectious. The creativity of the groups in adapting their productions to a new theatre and working within the tight FEATS rules is truly admirable. And of course, let's not forget the adjudication, for many the highlight of the festival. We are very pleased to have Ben Humphrey as this year's adjudicator, who will be rounding off every evening with his illuminating, entertaining and constructive feedback. Do not be tempted to leave early you will regret it!

Finally, I would like to thank the core Hamburg organising committee for all their hard work, and our fifty plus volunteers who will do their best to ensure you have a wonderful festival.

Valence boyle

FEATS 2025 is supported by

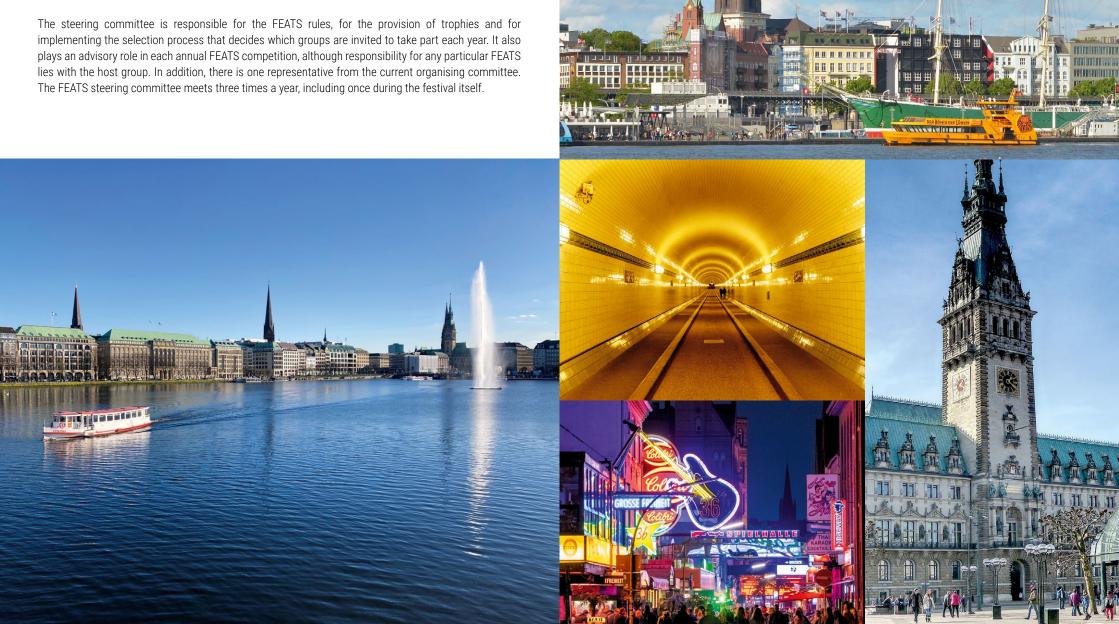






FEATS Steering Committee

The FEATS steering committee consists of one representative from each of the Anglo-American Theatre Group (AATG), British American Theatrical Society (BATS), English Comedy Club (ECC), Frankfurt English Speaking Theatre (FEST) and New World Theatre Club (NWTC), who, as host groups of previous FEATS, have committed themselves to ensuring the continuation of the FEATS festival.



Ben graduated from the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School (BOVTS) and is an Associate of the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA).

He is currently the Senior Creative Consultant for the National Trust for Scotland and a consultant for the Edinburgh Fringe. He is also the Artistic Director of Tortive Theatre and The Straw Yard in the Scottish Borders

As an actor he has countless professional credits to his name including successful seasons in London, Stratford-upon-Avon and with international tours. Directing credits include: A Midsummer Night's Dream, As You Like It, Trojan Women, Happy Birthday, Dick Whittington, Cinderella, The Comedy of Errors (which transferred to the National Theatre of Romania in Craiova for the International Shakespeare Festival in 2016) and the sell-out 800th Anniversary production of William Shakespeare's King John



Adjudicator Ben Humphrey

produced around the tomb of the King himself in 2016. He followed this with another sell-out production, *Othello*, in the same venue. Most recently he directed the five-star, smash-hit, one-man show *Shakespeare's Fool* at the Ed-Fringe 2021, which transferred to London before touring the UK in 2022.

In 2009 Ben became the youngest member of the Guild of Drama Adjudicators (GoDA) and has served as a member of its national council. He adjudicates all over the globe at full length, one-act and speech and drama festivals.

In 2012 Ben was made a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and in 2016 was honoured to have been made a Patron of the Royal Air Force Theatrical Association. He is a Member of the Chartered Institute of Journalists and currently a PhD Candidate at the University of York. Ben is a Presiding Justice of the Magistrates' Courts of England and Wales and an Appellant Justice of the Crown Court.

He is delighted to be adjudicating once again for FFATS which is one of his favourite festivals



Meet your hosts, The Hamburg Players

It's been 60 years this year since The Hamburg Players was founded by a group of expats from Great Britain and the USA living in the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg in the mid-1960s. Today, The Hamburg Players is a multicultural institution in the truest sense of the word. Presenting three English-language productions every year, each running for nine shows over the course of two weeks, the group has established itself as a permanent fixture for theatre in English in Hamburg.

Attracting many newcomers from all over the world, recently arrived in Hamburg – as well as, of course, anglophiles from Germany – the troupe offers a creative home from home with an international flair.

Apart from the three main stage productions, the group offers an Improv workshop as well as regular play readings and theatre-related workshops. So far, The Hamburg Players has staged 175 regular theatre productions – as well as a great number of shows for FEATS.



The Sonny Pathak Discretionary Award

Sonny Pathak had a long association with The Hamburg Players, becoming a member shortly after the club was founded. He was active in various roles as a committee member, and as the club's Treasurer. From 1994 to 2005 he was Chairman, and it was during this period that Sonny nurtured the idea of hosting FEATS in Hamburg. He was proud of achieving this goal when FEATS was hosted for the first time in Hamburg in 2005.

It is to commemorate his support for and commitment to FEATS that this award bears his name.





Friday, 6 June

19:30

- UNIVERSITY PLAYERS, Hamburg Trifles by Susan Glaspell
- DOWNSTAGE LEFT, Amsterdam I'm Home by Denis Burke
- ETL ENGLISH THEATRE LEIPZIG, Leipzig
 ETL F***s Up The Importance of Being Earnest
 by Oscar Wilde, adapted by Josiane Segar
- ADJUDICATION

Key

Saturday, 7 June

11:30

■ MEET 'N GREET, at Café Oelsner (theatre bar)

12:40-13:20

■ CIRCE THEATRE, Bonn Café Trauma

13:25-13:55

■ ESOC THEATRE GROUP, Darmstadt Degas, C'est Moi!

14:00-14:50

■ ENTITY THEATRE, Munich The Pillowman

15:00-15:20

CROSS-GARTERED PLAYERS, Brussels Yellow

15:30

JANICE DUNN, LEATSS
Acting on Impulse Workshop

19:30

■ ATC AMERICAN THEATRE COMPANY, Brussels
All Sales Final by Shannon Damery

■ DRAMATIC NOMADS, Vienna
The Valiant by Holworthy Hall
and Robert Middlemass

■ PIRATE PRODUCTIONS, Luxembourg
Too Darn Hot! by Neil Johnson

ADJUDICATION

23:30

■ PARTY at Café Oelsner (theatre bar)

■ Main Festival ■ Fringe ■ Workshop ■ Extracurricular

Sunday, 8 June

10.00-12.00

■ WALKING TOUR with Dave Earl

12:00 - 12:30

■ THEATER DE WAANZIN, Ghent Peeping Dom

12:35-12:50

■ NEAT, Stuttgart

Spain

12:55-13:25

■ WILDE THEATRE, Rotterdam Check. Please!

13:30-13:40

■ THE MADRID PLAYERS, Madrid Before It's Too Late

13:55-14:40

JUOZO VAIČKUS SKRAJOJANTIS THEATRE, Mažeikiai/Lithuania

Interactive Bouffon Workshop

14:45-15:20

LYCÉE EIB ETOILE, Paris
Love and Information

15:30

■ UNIVERSITY PLAYERS, Hamburg
As You Want It – The improvised movie night

19:30

■ ST GEORGE'S INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL THEATRE GROUP, Luxembourg

My Father, Odysseus by Timberlake Wertenbaker

■ NWTC NEW WORLD THEATRE CLUB, Luxembourg Escurial by Michel de Ghelderode

■ NEAT NEW ENGLISH AMERICAN THEATRE, Stuttgart Broken Strings by Bob Lind

ADJUDICATION

Monday, 9 June

11:30-12:30

■ FEATS FORUM, at Café Oelsner (theatre bar)

12:40-12:55

NOORDHAUS INTERNATIONAL THEATER COMPANY, Groningen Jonah

13.05-13.35

■ ETCETERA, Brussels
Blind Date

13:45-14:20

■ BELT, Belgrade
Bouncers

14:30-14:45

■ FEST, Frankfurt
People Will Talk

14:50-14:55

■ THE HAMBURG PLAYERS, Hamburg
Title

15:00-15:20

■ HUGH DOW, Brussels

Travels with a Donkey and I'm the donkey!

15:30

JOHN BRIGG, NWTC, Luxembourg
Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Verse? Workshop

19:30

■ BATS BRITISH AMERICAN
THEATRICAL SOCIETY, Antwerp
Emissaries by Adrian Veale

■ THEATER DE WAANZIN, Ghent Dom John inspired by Molière

 REST ROTTERDAM ENGLISH SPEAKING THEATRE, Rotterdam
 Mother Figure by Alan Ayckbourn

9

ADJUDICATION

■ FEATS AWARDS CEREMONY



12:40-13:20 Circe Theatre, Bonn

CAFÉ TRAUMA is a poetic one-act play where four characters confront personal wounds in a surreal café. Through fragmented dialogue and subtle choreography, they navigate trauma, vulnerability, and healing. The play explores how acceptance and compassion can transform pain, revealing the quiet strength found in facing one's past. Written & directed by Sepideh Tafazzoli. Choreography by Vanessa Basilio de Luca.

13:25-13:55 ESOC Theatre Group, Darmstadt

DEGAS, C'EST MO!! by David Ives. A man wakes up one morning in New York City and decides to be the French artist, Degas. An existential crisis perhaps? or an act of pure worship? Follow Ed, throughout a typical day, to find out just how well that decision works out for him! Don't miss this feel-good, bittersweet comedy by the ESOC Theatre Group, Darmstadt.

14:00-14:50 Entity Theatre, Munich

A writer is incarcerated over the gruesome content of his short stories and their similarities to a number of recent murders. **THE PILLOWMAN** is a tale of suspense, a dark fairy tale, a biting black comedy and a profoundly moving paean to human resilience in the face of unimaginable odds.

15:00-15:20 Cross-Gartered Players, Brussels

What next after FEATS? For YELLOW, which received two Best Actor nominations at FEATS 2023, the answer is - the Edinburgh Fringe. Join us for an excerpt of this witty, thought-provoking story, a modern-day reimagining of Mavolio's fate after his fall from grace – and to chat about the ins and outs of taking a show to Edinburgh.

15:30 Janice Dunn, LEATSS

(Luxembourg European Annual Theatre Summer School)

ACTING ON IMPULSE: A dynamic and fun workshop exploring various techniques for more effective use of impulse in both performance and character development. Janice Dunn is a professional theatre director with over 30 years' experience, including work at the Royal Court London, Folketeatret København, and throughout Europe. 18 participants max, sign up at Hospitality Desk. Audience welcome.

SUNDAY, 8 JUNE

12:00-12:30 Theater de WAANzin, Ghent

Meet at the parking lot on the west side of the Altonaer Rathaus!

Molière once wrote 'It is the public scandal that offends; to sin in secret is no sin at all.' In **PEEPING DOM**, three actors rehearsing Molière's play *Don Juan* have taken this to heart and indulge in their vices behind closed doors. Unbeknownst to them, no door can remain closed from the watchful eye of the audience. Sinful secrets will become scandalous soon enough.

12:35-12:50 NEAT - New English American Theatre, Stuttgart

SPAIN by Bob Lind is a 15-minute play that is seemingly about a happily married couple who meet regularly on a park bench for lunch. They cordially bicker and squabble, as couples tend to do. There is an element of mystery involved and the plot ultimately takes an unexpected turn.

12:55-13:25 WILDe Theatre, Rotterdam

WILDe Theatre from Rotterdam presents their spin on Jonathan Rand's CHECK, PLEASE! – a lighthearted short play about a series of mismatched blind dates. You'll meet one strange character after the other, as the dates quickly spiral from quirky to downright absurd. It's a witty, fast-moving comedy that reminds us how wild(e) dating life can be.

13:30-13:40 The Madrid Players, Madrid

BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE, a monologue. The Madrid Players (www.madridplayers.es) is delighted to be at FEATS for the first time! We have started the celebration of our 60th anniversary by staging an immersive experience about cybersecurity crime and performing a magical version of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, with much more to come. Do come and see us!

13:55-14:40 Juozo Vaičkaus Skrajojantis Theatre, Mažeikiai/Lithuania

This INTERACTIVE BOUFFON WORKSHOP combines various interactive and immersive theatre exercises based on physicality and contact improvisation, using the stylistic principles of bouffon theatre. The aim of the workshop is to encourage actors' freedom and creativity through bouffon principles — emphasizing features, highlighting extremes, and fostering external dynamism.

14:45-15:20 Lycée EIB Etoile, Paris

EIB Etoile is a bilingual Lycée in central Paris and our theatre workshop students are aged 15 to 16, finishing their first year in the programme. Our scenes are from **LOVE AND INFORMATION** by Caryl Churchill. We've enjoyed this text and the freedom that it gives to experiment and interpret.

15:30 University Players, Hamburg

AS YOU WANT IT – THE IMPROVISED MOVIE NIGHT is a fast-paced, fun and entirely unpredictable improv show. A whole movie will be made up on the spot, based on your suggestions – including songs! Join us for a play that has never been seen before and will never be seen again.

MONDAY, 9 JUNE

12:40-12:55 Noordhaus International Theater Company, Groningen

JONAH by Marin Sorescu, a play which shares its name with its protagonist, is an exploration of freedom, existentialism and poetry. It follows an extremely lonely fisherman who finds himself in the peculiar position of being swallowed by a very big fish.

13:05-13:35 ETCetera, Brussels

In **BLIND DATE** by Peter Quilter, two nervous fifty-somethings agree to meet on a pre-date to see whether a real date is worth the effort after finding each other on an app. The European Theatre Club (https://europeantheatreclub.eu) was founded in Brussels in 2009 and usually performs bilingual plays with surtitles.

13:45-14:20 BELT - Belgrade English Language Theatre, Belgrade

BOUNCERS is a comedy written by John Godber. We will explore the nightlife of modern times through the eyes of four bouncers working at a popular nightclub. The play looks at various aspects of nightlife, including club scenes, how girls get ready for nightlife, how boys get ready for nightlife, and their relationships.

14:30-14:45 FEST - Frankfurt English Speaking Theatre, Frankfurt

In PEOPLE WILL TALK, two strangers meet coincidentally on the ledge of a tall building one evening, both pondering jumping. As they talk, and discuss who gets to go first, they learn about the other person and come to decisions about their own lives, and quite literally their next steps. Performed by Jeff Book and Leah Coburn. Presented by FEST (Frankfurt English Speaking Theatre), the largest English-language community theatre in central Germany. FEST is also a permanent host of FEATS and member of the FEATS Steering Committee.

14:50-14:55 The Hamburg Players, Hamburg

TITLE is a two-minute play by Greg Allen originally performed as part of The Neo-Futurists' long-running show *Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind: 30 Plays in 60 Minutes.* An attempted seduction, where both parties say what they mean, and mean what they say. Literally.

15:00-15:20 **Hugh Dow, Brussels**

TRAVELS WITH A DONKEY AND I'M THE DONKEY! Is a 20-minute riff through journeys which have gone wrong, right, sideways, involved blagging my way into the USA, pretending I could speak Cantonese, watching a miracle on a 54 bus, and resurgent potted plants in Hong Kong.

15:30 John Brigg, New World Theatre Club, Luxembourg

WHO'S AFRAID OF THE BIG BAD VERSE? A workshop that presents techniques for an actor-friendly approach to verse in classical drama. Is Shakespeare (et al) off limits because the verse is a mountain too high to climb? This workshop will help you to make sense when speaking in verse – and enjoy the experience. 5-15 participants, sign up at Hospitality Desk. Audience welcome.

MEET & GREET your fellow FEATS-ers

Whether you are new to FEATS, an old hand who's keen on meeting people from the other groups, looking to network, or simply curious – then why not join us at the Meet and Greet session on Saturday morning?

During the hurly-burly of the evenings in the theatre, it's sometimes difficult to find the time to meet your opposite numbers from the groups taking part. So, The Hamburg Players will help set the scene for you and help you mingle in our Meet & Greet session.

Come to the theatre bar Cafe Oelsner, on Saturday at 11:30 and we'll introduce you all to each other!

FEATS Rules

- Each performance must be between 20 and 50 minutes in length.
- 10 minutes are allowed for setting and 5 minutes for striking the set.
- Each participant is allowed a 2-hour rehearsal period. The rehearsal period may be used by the participant in any way they deem fit.
- FEATS uses the NDFA marking system: with a maximum of 40 points for acting, 35 points for production, 15 points for stage presentation, 10 points for dramatic achievement adding up to a total of 100 points.
- 9 prizes will be awarded at the end of the Festival. The adjudicator will decide the allocation of these prizes, with the exception of the Best Stage Management Award which will be awarded by the Festival stage management team. There are awards for the Best Production, the Second Best Production, the Third Best Production, Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Stage Presentation, Best Stage Management, Best Original Script and a Discretionary Award. The adjudicator may choose not to give the award for Best Original Script.

VIEW FROM THE FRONT

A FEATS VADE-MECUM

Right! You've got to Hamburg safely, found your hotel and made your way to the Altonaer Theater. Nice place, isn't it? But perhaps you're new to FEATS and are wondering what goes on. If that's the case, read on.

Friday night can be a bit of a rush. Many audience members travel during the day and get to the theatre with little time to spare. The groups performing on Friday, however, will have been here since the previous evening. During the day they've been unloading vans, checking costumes and props, programming lighting and sound effects and making the best use they can of their allotted two hours' rehearsal time in the theatre.

With luck you've had time to get yourself a drink. You will find the bar is the social centre of the evening, and the place to be for the best gossip. Don't know anyone? Not to worry. Feel free to strike up a conversation. And on Saturday there's a 'meet and greet' session open to audience members and performers alike.

Wait! Did you hear the bell? Don't panic; the bell rings three times before performances start. There's time to finish your glass of Sekt before making your way into the auditorium and finding your place. But don't leave it too late.

Are you sitting comfortably?

Once seated, it's time to look around. See that guy in the middle, sitting at a makeshift desk with a lamp and a notepad? He's the adjudicator, a very important person. More about him in the pink box.

Lights down. But before the first performance there'll be a few words of introduction from the host group. Then we're off!

And before you know it, it's the first interval. You'll probably find yourself in a queue, whether for the loos or the bar. There's time for both; the twenty-minute break is needed to give time for the performing groups to clear the stage and set up for the next play. All strictly regulated, of course. There's a backstage team from the host group making sure that none of the performing teams gets an unfair advantage.

What? The bell again? Where did those twenty minutes go? Back to your seat for the second play.

Second interval. Repeat the procedure. (Note that you are not obliged either to go to the loo or to drink alcohol!)

Now you're getting the hang of it. Bell ... play ... interval. But don't be too sure of yourself. After the third play the audience stays seated for the adjudication, an entertainment in itself. It takes about half an hour

And that's it. Your first evening finished. Back to the hotel and bed. Unless, of course, the bar is still open and you fancy one for the road. (In case you're wondering, the bar this year is run by the theatre, not by The Hamburg Players.)

The morning after

After a good night's sleep and breakfast, the day is yours. There are theatrical happenings during the day (the famous FEATS fringe), including short plays, sketches, workshops, maybe singing and

dancing, who knows? The full schedule will be in your FEATS programme (don't say you didn't buy one!); and we've already mentioned the 'meet and greet' session at 11:30 am on Saturday, a great chance to meet FEATS-goers old and new. Or, if you prefer, spend the day sightseeing in Hamburg, a city with a lot to offer. The theatre foyer is open all day, so it can be a good meeting-point if you've arranged to see friends.

And think about eating at some point. Remember you'll be in the theatre from 7:30 pm, and food choice is limited. Many FEATS participants get into the habit of finding a restaurant around four or five o'clock, leaving time for a leisurely meal before the evening starts.

Saturday evening follows the same pattern as Friday, except ... after the adjudicator's summing-up it's time to let your hair down for the FEATS party. So if you feel like boogieing until the early hours, we are assured there will be good music, dancing and, of course, good company – and a few extras ... and this year it's free! Drinks and snacks can be purchased from the bar.

And so it goes

Sunday. You're getting into the routine now. If the weather's nice you might be tempted to explore Hamburg. Or there's a full fringe programme to divert you. And of course the main stage in the evening.

And Monday? The final day of the FEATS weekend. Two things to note: the FEATS forum takes place, usually around midday. It's a chance for the FEATS community to get together, for the FEATS Steering Committee to brief the groups on global

developments, and for individuals to ask questions. Discussion is encouraged, so if you'd like to know more about how FEATS works behind the scenes, make sure you're there.

Secondly, on Monday night, after the three plays, and after the adjudicator's words of wisdom, we can look forward to ... the award ceremony. Yes, our hard-working adjudicator will be called upon to announce the winners of the awards for best production, best actor and actress, etc. – nine in total. The full list is in your programme. (What do you mean, you still don't have a programme?)

And so the weekend comes to an end. Nothing for the audience to do now but make their way back to their hotels one last time and travel home the next day.

Enjoyed it? Sorry it's over? Well, the good news is – we'll be doing it all again next year! See you in The Hague!

Adjudicator? What's that?

The adjudicator plays a pivotal role in the festival, with his informative and entertaining assessments, delivered after the final curtain of the three plays performed each evening. The following morning the same groups each meet the adjudicator for a half-hour session and a more in-depth discussion. Finally, the adjudicator allocates points on the basis of a standard marking system, which determine the winners of the various trophies at the end of the four days.

This year's FEATS adjudicator is Ben Humphrey.

BEFORE WE GET STARTED

- Performances start at 7:30 pm with two intervals of approximately 20 minutes between plays.
- Latecomers will be admitted at the next interval.
- After the last play, we kindly ask you to remain seated until after the adjudication.
- Smoking is not permitted anywhere inside the Altonaer Theater.
- Please turn off mobile phones or any other devices that make a sound. If you
 don't ... we will find you!
- Photography, filming or recording of any kind is not permitted during performances.
- We'll try to answer all your questions at the hospitality desk in the foyer.
 The desk will be open from 8 am to 11 pm, where you can also buy programmes and t-shirts. Cash only accepted.
- The theatre bar, Cafe Oelsner, serves drinks and bar food. Card payment and cash are accepted. To avoid queueing, pre-order your drinks for the intervals. After the last play and evening adjudication, join us for drinks at the bar and a chance to mingle, network and discuss the evening's plays with other "FEATSers."
- Don't forget about the Fringe programme. All of the fringe performances will take
 place in the Café Oelsner. Some fringe shows may overrun slightly, so please be
 patient and wait until the previous show ends.
- We're also organising some workshops and a guided walk of the city, so please sign up at the hospitality desk if you're interested. Places are limited so make sure to book early.
- On Saturday night, the traditional FEATS party will be held in the Café Oelsner with music and dancing into the wee small hours. The party is free of charge, and you can buy drinks and snacks at the bar.

The Awards

Nine prizes will be awarded at the end of the Festival. The adjudicator will decide the allocation of these prizes, with the exception of the Stage Management Award which will be decided upon by the Festival stage management team.

The adjudicator may choose not to give the William Valk Award for best original script.

Award	My Prediction	Winner
THE JOHN KEAREY TROPHY Best Production		
THE ECC CENTENNIAL CUP Second Best Production		
THE BATS TROPHY Third Best Production		
THE BLACKIE AWARDS Best Actor		
Best Actress		
THE GRAND DUCHY TROPHY Best Stage Presentation		
THE MARCEL HUHN/BRUNO BOEYE MEMORIAL AWARD Best Stage Management		
THE WILLIAM VALK AWARD Best Original Script		
THE SONNY PATHAK DISCRETIONARY AWARD Discretionary Award		





Trifles by Susan Glaspell directed by Charlie Bierend & Lydia Preusch

About the play

Trifles is set in a rural farmhouse during a murder investigation. The story centres on the death of John Wright, with his wife, Mrs. Wright, as the primary suspect, accused of killing him in his sleep. As the male characters—the sheriff and county attorney—search for evidence, they dismiss the women, Mrs. Peters and Mrs. Hale, as preoccupied with insignificant details. However, as the women examine the domestic space, they reconstruct Mrs. Wright's life and bond over their shared experiences.

CAST

Sophie Peters Charlotte Hale Sheriff; Henry Peters Lewis Hale County Attorney; George Henderson Spectre Jenny Bergmann Helen Khorrami Marek Nowak Joseph Noble

Saneel Patil Benedetta Floridia

TRIGGER WARNINGS

• Violence (racial, physical, emotional)

About the group

The University Players (UP) are the English-language theatre group at Universität Hamburg and form a central component of student culture on campus and far beyond. Traditionally, the UP produce one English-language play per semester with the participation of mainly German and international students: contemporary drama, Shakespearean classics, musicals or improv theatre – we produce what we like. Activities have expanded significantly since 2023: there are additional projects and a distinct UP Improv section with regular performances of the long-running hit AS YOU WANT IT in the Motte cultural centre.

CREW

Stage Manager
Lighting
Sound
Assistant Director
Sound Design
Videography
Videography
Videography
Stage Design
Stage Design
Costume Design
Costume and Make-Up
Costume Design
Production Assistant

Florian Bergmann
Sarah Naumann
Nils Voges
Benedetta Floridia
Christoph Hellmich
Alicia Hoffmann
Naomi Pfaff
Jana Bauer
Henrietta Fleischmann
Dimitri Sherstneff
Lea Romer

Lilja Nuri Carrielle Somers

Miriam Barbi

www.universityplayers.de

A 40

P 35

S 15

D 1

Total 100

ww.uiiiveisitypiayeis.ut





I'm Home by Denis Burke directed by Ben Evans

About the play

After a heavy night of drinking, Lily forgets that she recently moved house and barges into her old apartment. Her unplanned visit (or break-in, depending on how you view it) leaves new resident Francesca bewildered, but allows her flatmate Neill a chance to finally get something off his chest.

I'm Home was shortlisted for the 2022 Ambassador Theatre Group Playwrights Prize and the Kenneth Branagh Award for New Drama Writing in 2020.

CAST

Lily Türkü Köksel Becky Blomgren Francesca Neill Denis Burke

About the group

Downstage Left is an Amsterdam-based international theatre company. We perform in English but we come from many backgrounds, cultures and languages. Roughly half of our performances are local-brew plays written in English in Amsterdam. We dish up original theatre in conventional and unconventional settings.

CREW

Stage Manager Martin Koster **Evonne Dunne** Lighting technician Sound technician Ben Evans Set Jess Graham

www.downstageleft.org





ENGLISH THEATRE LEIPZIG

ETL F***s Up The Importance of Being Earnest

by Oscar Wilde, adapted by Josiane Segar directed by Josiane Segar

About the play

In 1895, Oscar Wilde wrote a farcical play about two bachelors, Jack and Algy, who adopt the name Earnest in order to live a double life. In 2025, Leipzig's most earnest, yet incompetent group of theatre makers attempt to stage it. So, here we are. Our technician hasn't turned up, one of our actresses is in New Zealand, and our prompt has brought the wrong script with —

But the show must go on! Join ETL for a hilarious evening full of mishaps and f*** ups in a show where absolutely nothing goes right.

CAST

Sam Kioni-Roberts Jack Worthing & Josiane Segar Prompter Amy Varcoe Algernon Moncrieff Connor Fox Merriman, Butler Armin Axt Armin Axt Lane. Manservant Miss Prism, Governess Armin Axt Lady Bracknell Jevran Daraee & Sam Kioni-Roberts Gwendolen Fairfax Letizia Rivera Cecily Cardew Peter Hubbard Musician Peter Gunkel

About the group

English Theatre Leipzig was founded in 2013 as a community theatre company dedicated to providing a space for all English-language theatre enthusiasts in Leipzig. We present three productions each year at our home theatre, Neues Schauspiel Leipzig, offer an ongoing workshop series called "Playhouse"—including scriptwriting, an introduction to Shakespeare, and our science-theatre programme 'AnthropoScene'—and we foster performance opportunities for up-and-coming theatre practitioners.

CREW

Stage Manager
Lighting
Sound
Assistant Director
Assistant Director
Peter Gunkel
Amy Varcoe
Assistant Director
Lillian Kaufmann

TRIGGER WARNINGS

- Strong Language
- Substance Abuse
- Sexual Themes

www.englishtheatreleipzig.de

A 40

Technician

P 35

S 15

Lillian Kaufmann

D 1

Total 100





AMERICAN THEATRE COMPANY

All Sales Final by Shannon Damery (Original Script) directed by Karen El Haddad

About the play

We live, we die, we ... go shopping? In All Sales Final, by Shannon Damery, we are taken to an eerily familiar place, a typical supermarket you may have been to countless times. In this store, however, there's more at stake than stocking the fridge. How you pay remains a mystery, there's more than fruit being balanced on the scales, and "checking out" may be forever.

CAST

Sam Jace Jasper

Carrie Ellwanger/Shannon Damery Mel

Αl Eric Ollivier Lee Thomas Boxho

Carmen Prieto López Myrtle

Philip **Conrad Toft** Robynn Colwell Customer Nastassia Maes Customers Customers Fiona McGinnis Mihaela Petre Customers Customer Simon Smith

About the group

The American Theatre Company (ATC), based in Brussels, is a non-profit, all-volunteer organization fueled by the passion and dedication of its members. Since its founding in 1969, the ATC has been committed to bringing a broad array of American theatre to the stage, showcasing a diverse range of styles, voices, and genres.

CREW

Stage Manager Conrad Toft Lighting Jeremy Zeegers Sound **Quentin Clemens** Producer **Shannon Damery** Crew Member Renate Smith

TRIGGER WARNINGS

- Strong Language
- Substance Abuse

www.atcbrussels.com





The Valiant by Holworthy Hall and Robert Middlemass directed by Victoria Lutak

About the play

The Valiant, written by Holworthy Hall and Robert Middlemass, follows Warden Holt as she tries to unravel the mystery of James Dyke, a condemned man holding secrets right up to his final moments. Is a last-minute visitor the key to all the answers?

Under the pen name of Holworthy Hall, Harold Everett Porter published plays, novels and short stories. He was an American writer from Massachusetts who took his pseudonym from the dormitory for first-year students where he stayed at Harvard University with Robert Middlemass.

Robert Middlemass was an American actor and playwright from Connecticut best known for The Valiant and his numerous portrayals of detectives and policemen across stage and screen. In his later life, he moved to Los Angeles and appeared in over 50 films.

CAST

Warden Holt Josephine Paris Father Daly James Dyke Jailer Dani

Éilis O'Sullivan Una Louise Goeschl Fergus Moloney Chris Ciosk Christina Sen

About the group

Dramatic Nomads is a Vienna-based community of theatre-loving geeks brought together by the thrill of bringing interesting stories to the stage. We are a rapidly growing community of artists, founded in 2023. Each of us comes from a different culture, but our shared flair for the dramatic binds us together!

CREW

OKLW	
Stage Manager	Stefan Rudiger
Lighting	Andreas Gaubitzer
Sound	Sarah Laderman
Stage crew	Stanislav Dušek
Stage crew	Ilona Krehka
Stage crew	Hannah Troger
Marketing	Éilis O'Sullivan
Marketing	Victoria Lutak
Producer	Sarah Laderman
Costumer	Leigh Walker
Makeup Design	Sabina Garayeva

www.dramaticnomads.com





PIRATE PRODUCTIONS

Too Darn Hot! by Neil Johnson (Original Script) directed by Neil Johnson

About the play

New York, 1962 - an elderly & infirm Cole Porter is being interviewed in his Upper East Side apartment by a young reporter from "LIFE" magazine. Reminiscing about an episode in his life some 30 years previously, he ponders the meaning of love, loss & regret. Do we get just one shot at true happiness? Or are we ultimately all prisoners of our past?

CAST

Cole Porter Dustin Andersen Linda Porter Samantha Huffman Samuel Pelan Armando Miss Otis Catriona Gillham Old Cole Porter Neil Johnson Bar Owner Tara Klassen Director/Waiter Jan Thoemel Sarah Fuller Sabine Goedert-Breil Valet Ignacio Gonzales Bar Singer Chantal Kirsch Dorothy Parker Ciara Barker Louis B Mayer Florin Purice Ensemble Jasper Frank Ensemble Margaly Monelus Marina Tomasic **Ensemble** Ensemble Natacha Wagner Ensemble Zoe Amador Martinez Musician Philip Dutton Musician Eric Gherardi Musician Mick Swithinbank Musician Julien Farlin Musician Daniela Kryouger

About the group

Pirate Productions have been staging English language musical theatre in Luxembourg since 1979. The group name was taken from Pirates of Penzance - the very first production. In those early days Gilbert & Sullivan and pantomimes were very much to the fore. However, tastes (and demographics) change and we now produce Broadway style musicals like La Cage aux Folles, Fiddler on the Roof, Throughly Modern Millie, Calamity Jane, Oliver!, Scrooge, Young Frankenstein and, most recently, The Sound of Music. We also present smaller-scale pieces, often in cabaret style, sometimes home-grown (like the one we have brought to Hamburg this weekend) and sometimes published shows (like Side-by-Side by Sondheim which we brought to the FEATS fringe in 2009).

CREW

Stage Manager Lighting Sound

Anne Louise Littlejohn Roman Mozgovyi Victor Bonanno

www.pirates.lu







St George's ST GEORGE'S INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL LINCENDURY SCHOOL THEATRE GROUP

My Father, Odysseus by Timberlake Wertenbaker directed by Clare Williams

About the play

My Father, Odysseus, a new story based on the ancient myth of Odysseus. The play, written by Timberlake Wertenbaker, focuses on the people Odysseus left behind, instead of on his exploits whilst he was away at war and the ten years he spent trying to get home. Telemachus' father left long ago to fight a war. Telemachus doesn't remember him. Now the man of the house, he must step up to defend his father's legacy and protect his mother from the suitors that lounge around the court. Meanwhile, the great Odysseus has been trapped by the goddess Kalypso for ten long years. This interpretation is upbeat and at times fast paced with music and live vocal performances. The story of Telemachus' anxieties about his abandonment, his looks and his lack of strength ring true and are very human in the face of the old war stories belonging to the great Odysseus.

About the group

St George's International School is an international British school in Luxembourg. Clare Williams has been teaching there since 2014 and after making successful contributions to the FEATS fringe over previous years, she is excited to bring a show to the main festival for the first time supported by her wonderful colleague Arron Lemon. The cast is truly international and is made up of young people aged 14 and 15 who are all enthusiastic about theatre and all things performance. The group has come together specifically for this project and they cannot wait to set foot on the FEATS stage for the first time

CAST

Musician/ensemble Katy Athena/ensemble Guia Bella Athena/ensemble Athena/ensemble Berenice Telemachus Sufian Penelope/ensemble Mia Odysseus Ashton Michelle Kalypso/ensemble Menelaus/ensemble Alex Safirah Nestor/ensemble Circe/ensemble Lauren Eumaius/ensemble Polina

CREW

Stage Manager Lighting Sound Chaperones

Clare Williams Jasper Frank Victor Mark Stenton

Lvnne Frank

TRIGGER WARNINGS

Uses Smoke Machine

www.st-georges.lu





Escurial by Michel de Ghelderode directed by John Brigg

About the play

Escurial is a series of "short but profound" games or japes, as court jesters would have said-played with deadly seriousness, each penetrating deeper into the withered soul of a man who wields absolute power but is short on empathy. The Flemish playwright De Ghelderode wrote the play in 1926, in his grotesque-macabre style that reflected the uncertain times after an unimaginable First World War when people were searching for meaning.

Our situation is not that different today with our secure world seemingly again in the balance. Yet now, our modernist sensibilities allow us to strip away the macabre and concentrate on the man, exposing the narcissistic self-centredness that emerges when he jettisons constraints, and lives without love. Escurial is performed in a new translation by John Brigg in which the language has been modernised to facilitate accessibility, yet still strives to maintain the richness and concision of the original French.

CAST

The King Folliall (the Fool) Ensemble (various roles) Giacomo Mureddu

Julian Farlin Gav Guilfoyle Elena Andreeva Jasmine Singh

Raphael Neumann

Zoi Ioannidi

About the group

New World Theatre Club (NWTC) is one of the core members of FEATS and has been staging English-language plays in Luxembourg for over 50 years. Productions have ranged from farce and high psychological drama to the classics of Shakespeare, Chekhov, Tennessee Williams and many more. NWTC seeks to promote English-language theatre in Luxembourg and welcomes club members and audiences from a wide variety of nationalities.

The club runs a thriving youth theatre group, organises regular play readings, hosts "Villon" evenings where theatrical work may be tried out, playwriting evenings and workshops on various theatre-related subjects.

CREW

Stage Manager Lighting Sound

Production design

Helena O'Hare Victor Bonanno Roman Mozgovyi John Brigg

TRIGGER WARNINGS

· Violence (physical)

www.nwtc.lu





NEW ENGLISH AMERICAN THEATRE

Broken Strings by Bob Lind (Original Script) directed by Charles C. Urban

About the play

The play *Broken Strings* is one part of Bob Lind's *Road Plays* trilogy. These three thematically linked pieces deal with the joys, sorrows and dangers of life on the road and tell the stories of nomadic mortals who enjoy the gifts and pay the price of living in what is often described as "a goddamn impossible way of life". There are a few mad souls on this earth who thrive in the sometimes thrilling, sometimes heartbreaking, always risky realm of life on the move. Forsaking the warmth of the home fires, and the comforting nearness of the ones they love, they're driven to bring what they have to strangers who wait for them in faraway corners of the globe.

The playwright Bob Lind is an iconic American singer/songwriter who helped shape and define the 1960's folk rock movement thanks to his eloquent, emotionally moving compositions. At age 82, Lind continues to compose, record and perform music. He also writes poetry, short stories and has published a novel. His latest passion is writing for the theatre, at which he has become quite prolific.

CAST

Marcus Potter Thomas Wahrlich
Arnie Moore David Burmedi
Gail Flame Gabriela Nelson
Boris Brown Steven Jones

About the group

NEAT (New English American Theatre) was conceived in 1991 as a means of making English language entertainment more readily available to Stuttgart audiences. From the outset, it has been the aim of NEAT to provide uncompromising performances of original version, English language presentations of musical theatre, children's theatre, staged monologues, one-act plays, music & poetry projects, dramatized radio plays, improv theatre and more.

CREW

Stage Manager
Lighting technician
Sound technician
Stage Crew

www.neatstuttgart.com





Emissaries by Adrian Veale (Original Script)

directed by Adrian Veale

About the play

Emissaries is a triptych of stories about English expatriates in Antwerp at different points in the city's history. The FEATS 2025 audience will see the second act and centrepiece of the play: the story of Aphra Behn's days in Antwerp. Based solidly on historical fact, but with some liberties taken.

We meet Aphra Behn as an established figure in English theatre, directing a play for a royal audience in the 1670s. But moves are afoot to send her on a repeat of a mission she undertook back in 1666: to Antwerp.

This triggers Aphra's memories of those times as we re-live her Antwerp experience. But why was she there? And what was her mission?

Aphra's story – like *Emissaries* as a whole – is a melting pot of roleplay, spin-doctoring, intrigue, betrayal, international politics, love stories and cautionary tales. It's a lovesong to theatre, to music, and to people who get-up-and-go. And it's an ode to Antwerp and the expats it welcomes.

CREW

Stage Manager Shannon Cloud
Assistant Stage Manager Dominique Van der Velden
Lighting Andrew Williams
Sound Peter Muller

CAST

Nell Gwyn Annelies Lightband Aphra Behn Melanie Willow King Charles II Sid Wilkins Lord Arlington Saskia Van Nuffelen Liesbeth Leemans Ellen De Smet Mevrouw Leemans Hilary Dennis William Scott Wietse Janssens Coachman Iain Law **Boris Skerath** Marieke De Koninck Uliana Naumovich Nienke De Koninck Fiona Robertson Elske De Koninck Inge Hödl Erik Tytgadt Letter sorter

About the group

BATS (British American Theatrical Society), Antwerp's only English-language theatre group, will be celebrating its 70th birthday next year, still in spritely shape and putting on some four shows a season. These include our annual stalwart, the pantomime, which we are constantly re-inventing, a variety show, comedies and dramas.

While our origins are in the expatriate community, our membership is now probably two-thirds locals and one third native speakers. And our audience – like Antwerp itself – is both international and local.

www.batsantwerp.be





THEATER DE WAANZIN

Dom John inspired by Molière directed by Willem Vereecken

About the play

Don Juan, Don Giovanni – a concept, a cliché, a character, an opera, a play. Inspired by the timeless tale of Don Juan in general and Molière's *Don Juan* in particular. Who was Don Juan and who would he be today? We found Dom John at his campsite, far removed from the world. Join us in our crazy and absurd interpretation – WAANzin style.

CAST

Sammy Frederik Declercq
John Jeroen De Waegemaeker
Charles Jan Van Croonenburg
Ellie, Mom, Meghan
Dad, Harry Peter Decroubele
Pauwer Bart Ideler
Director Willem Vereecken

TRIGGER WARNINGS

- Violence (racial, physical, emotional)
- Strong Language
- Substance Abuse
- Gun shots (or other loud noises)
- Uses Strobe Lighting
- Uses Smoke Machine
- Sexual Themes

About the group

Theater de WAANzin is an amateur theatre group based in Ghent, Belgium. They primarily perform in Dutch but occasionally performances in English are also on the cards. The name of the group refers to both delusion and sense. The group aims to present tenacious theatre, seeking a balance between classic repertoire and creative invention. De WAANzin strongly believes in international exchange through theatre and is very proud to be performing at FEATS 2025.

CREW

Stage Manager
Lighting technician
Sound technician
Roadie
General Manager
Special Assistant to the GM
International Affairs Officer

Willem Vereecken
Andy Cooke
Astrid Van Ingelgom
Pieter-Jan Rosiers
Joke Van Huffel
Evander Cooke
Guy Verzele

www.dewaanzin.be

A 40

P 35

S 15

D 1

Total 100





Mother Figure by Alan Ayckbourn directed by Lara Stanisic

About the play

Motherhood never clocks out... but what happens when it takes over completely?

Lucy is so consumed by caring for her children that she loses touch with the outside world. When her neighbours check in on her, they find themselves being mothered instead. After all, mother knows best.

CAST

Lucy Anusha Varanasi Isabella Maria Papastavrou Terry Marcus Karlsson

About the group

Rotterdam English Speaking Theatre (REST) started in 2012 when a group of friends, fresh out of Leiden University and hooked on performing, landed in Rotterdam. They were eager to keep the drama going—but the city had no English-language theatre scene. So they created one. What began as a small, passion project became REST: Rotterdam's first group dedicated to performing in English. REST now hosts two shows per year, attracting a global mix of people who enjoy being in the spotlight.

CREW

Stage Manager
Lighting
Sound

Szymon Branka
Lara Stanisic
Lara Stanisic

www.rotterdamenglishspeakingtheatre.nl

A 40

P 35

S 15

D 10

PAST FEATS WINNERS (2016 TO 2024)

2024 Antwerp

First Place The Hamburg Players

Second Place Irish Theatre Group, Brussels
Third Place Geneva English Drama Society

Best Actor Brian Hartnett, Irish Theatre Group, Brussels

Best Actress Megan Nerlich and Hannah Davis, Entity Theatre, Munich

* * *

 Best Stage Presentation
 University Players, Hamburg

 Stage Management
 Entity Theatre, Munich

 Best Original Script
 Geneva English Drama Society

Disretionary award InPlayers International Drama Group, Amsterdam

2023 Bad Homburg

First Place Theater de WAANzin, Ghent

Second Place New English American Theatre, Stuttgart

Third Place English Youth Theatre, Brussels

Best Actor David Burmedi, New English American Theatre, Stuttgart

Best Actress Elizabeth Goetze, Entity Theatre, Munich

Best Stage Presentation Theater de WAANzin, Ghent Stage Management Theater de WAANzin, Ghent

Best Original Script Bonn University Shakespeare Company

Disretionary award Semi-Circle, Basel

2022 Luxembourg

Not held as a competition

2020-2021

The festival took a hiatus due to the COVID pandemic.

2019 Munich

First Place Theater de WAANzin, Ghent
Second Place Geneva English Drama Society

Third Place Semi-Circle, Basel

Best Actor Gabriel Bird, Geneva English Drama Society

Best Actress Masha Neznansky, Geneva English Drama Society

Best Stage Presentation Semi-Circle, Basel
Stage Management Semi-Circle, Basel

Best Original Script Anglophone Collaborative Theatre of Stuttgart

Disretionary award English Drama Group Salzburg

2018 Antwerp

First Place The Hamburg Players Second Place The Bonn Players

Third PlaceAnglo-American Theatre Group, The HagueBest ActorHarald Djürken, The Hamburg PlayersBest ActressJoanna Thorn, The Bonn Players

Best Stage Presentation The Bonn Players
Stage Management The Bonn Players

Best Original Script American Theatre Company, Brussels
Disretionary award British American Theatrical Society, Antwerp

2017 Frankfurt

First Place Theater de WAANzin, Ghent
Second Place The Hamburg Players
Third Place Entity Theatre, Munich

Best Actor Jason Couch, The Hamburg Players

Best Actress Meryl Davenport, InPlayers International Drama Group, Amsterdam

* * *

* * *

Best Stage PresentationTheater de WAANzin, GhentStage ManagementEnglish Comedy Club, BrusselsBest Original ScriptESOC Theatre Group, Darmstadt

Disretionary award InPlayers International Drama Group, Amsterdam

2016 Brussels

First Place Irish Theatre Group, Brussels
Second Place University Players, Hamburg

Third Place Anglo-American Theatre Group, The Hague Best Actor Brian Foley, Irish Theatre Group, Brussels

Best Actress Marion Carter, Anglo-American Theatre Group, The Hague

Best Stage Presentation Irish Theatre Group, Brussels

Stage Management British American Theatrical Society, Antwerp

Best Original Script Geneva English Drama Society

Disretionary award The Hamburg Players

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*

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*

... and to everyone who donated anonymously or whose names were not with us at time of going to print.

THANK YOU!

FEATS 2025 VOLUNTEERS

Thanks to all who have volunteered working backstage, in the tech booth, front of house and on hospitality:

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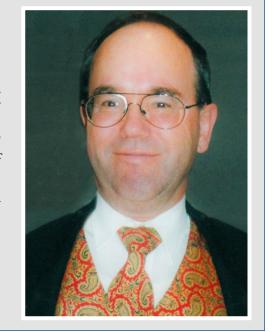
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IN FOND MEMORY

of Axel Kloevekorn, a dear friend to us and long-standing supporter of The Hamburg Players and FEATS.

Rebecca Garron, Herwig Lührs



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From **22-25 May 2026**, we will celebrate **50 years** of FEATS and **75 years** of the AATG!

We're thrilled to announce our venues! **Theater Diligentia** and **Theater Pepijn**, both located in the heart of **The Hague**, will host our main stage and fringe performances. It promises to be a festival of theatre and an unmissable party!

For more information and to book your tickets visit: www.aatg.nl

Good luck to everyone in Hamburg! See you soon!









WELCOME TO HAMBURG

