

Minutes of EGTG Committee Meeting – 21 September 2021 via Zoom

Present: Angela Harkness Robertson  
David Grimes  
Alma Forsyth  
Hannah Bradley Croall  
Alastair Smith  
Claire Wood  
Martin Foreman  
Beverley Wright  
James Scott

1. Apologies were received from Siobhan McGovern.
2. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.
3. The Committee welcomed its new members, Martin Foreman, James Scott and Beverley Wright.
4. David Grimes reported to the committee on the financial success of the Fringe show. 73 tickets had been sold, which gave a small profit following deduction of the Fringe Society commission. The Committee had previously agreed to make the recording available to the casts of the three productions after the Fringe had ended; this would now be uploaded to YouTube with a link from the EGTG web page. A time-limited download link would also be made available to cast members.
5. David reported on progress with Bug. This had been fully cast and blocked. He suggested that the publicity for the show should make it clear that it would be violent and bloody.
6. The Committee discussed the COVID precautions which should be adopted for Bug. There was unfortunately nothing to be done in the event that cast members required to self-isolate, though David noted that all of the cast were double vaccinated. So far as the audience was concerned, the Committee voted by a majority to require proof of vaccination as a condition of admittance.
7. Martin informed the Committee of his plans for The Satyricon. This would involve a cast of 12: 3 young men, 2 older men and the remainder of any age and gender. He hoped to be able to present the show in mid-September 2022, subject to venue availability.
8. The Committee noted that the Fringe programme for 2022 would carry over the shows had initially been proposed for 2021, namely Bloody Wimmin (directed by Hilary Spiers) and The Merchant of Venice (directed by Angela Harkness Robertson). It was unclear whether the RSC would be hosting shows as in previous years, but Anji did propose to tour Merchant to the Dunbar Battery. The Committee briefly discussed whether the updating of Merchant to reflect Brexit themes, which had been part of Anji's original proposal, was still appropriate given the delay in the production. The general view was that it might be appropriate to omit this element.
9. It was agreed that the next newsletter should include a call for anyone interested in producing an entry for the SCDA one-act play festival to be held at the Church Hill Theatre on 15-19 February 2022.

10. The Committee noted that there might be a party interested in purchasing Home Street. Martin volunteered to investigate the cost of acquiring equivalent premises before any decision was taken as to whether to entertain any offer.
11. The Committee noted the resignation of Alastair Smith from the role of secretary and agreed that this role should rotate among committee members pending the appointment of a permanent replacement. Alma Forsyth volunteered to act as secretary for the next meeting.
12. The next meeting was fixed for Wednesday 20 October at 19.30, to be held online via Zoom.