



'ENDGAME' – by Samuel Beckett - Performed by Blind Elephant

Review by Christine Lawler.

Blind Elephant bring an exceptional version of *Endgame* by Samuel Beckett to Edinburgh Fringe. Performed by four young graduates of Tring Park School for the Performing Arts who also make up the company Blind Elephant.

Endgame is the darkly comic tale of a post-apocalyptic world where there is no life outside, just the four inhabitants of a strange household who endure the same banality each day. Ross McCormack is excellent as Clov, the lame servant who struggles to keep some form of order. From his first moment on stage he captivates attention and shows immense focus and incredible depth to his performance. His physical acting and comic timing is impeccable every step of the way. It is surprising that such strength of acting comes from someone so young.

The same can be said of John Pritchard, who plays the wheelchair bound Hamm so convincingly it is hard to believe he is a young actor. His physical and speech mannerisms are excellent and he conveys great comedy and emotion despite the fact he rarely moves throughout the whole performance. Sammy Moore and Jessica Revell as the bin-inhabiting parents Nell and Nagg again provide brilliant comedy and emotion in their short moments on stage and the make-up, though obvious, really adds to the performance.

The acting from all four is faultless, the direction is tight and while it is visually simple – but fantastic – there is much depth and complexity throughout the whole performance. With this level of focus and intelligence from their debut production, Blind Elephant are surely destined for great things.

Blind Elephant will be performing 'Endgame' at the Markova Theatre on 19th May 2015





Ross McCormack (Drama Course Graduate 2013)

Ross has had lead roles as a child actor in 3 of the biggest musicals of the last 20 years and a featured role in the Tom Hooper movie of Les Misérables. Ross recreated the role of 'The Artful Dodger' in the 2009 revival of Oliver! The Musical and can be heard on the live cast recording and has also appeared in the world's most popular musical, 'Les Misérables' playing the role of 'Gavroche'. Ross also played Michael banks in the London production of 'Mary Poppins' on top of all this he has recently completed a feature film (The Great Ghost rescue) which is due for release late in 2011.

His recent appearances include:

The Sparticle Mystery (TV Series)
Bryan

All Good Things (Feature Film)
Darren Palmer

Cradle to the Grave (TV Series)





Craig Fletcher (Drama Course Graduate 2007)

After graduating from Tring Park School for The Performing Arts, Craig completed a BA Hons at RADA on the Acting Course.

Craig's most recent appearances include Mr Selfridge (2013), Doctors (2000) and Pink Elephants (2015).

Mr Selfridge (TV Series)

Billy

Casualty (TV Series)

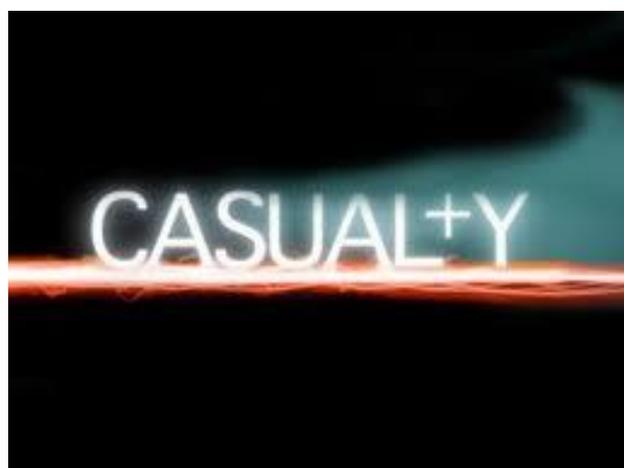
Arron Wilson

Doctors (TV Series)

Sam Rush

Pink Elephants (Documentary) (*post-production*)

Himself





Jonny Weldon (Drama Course Graduate 2011)

After graduating from Tring Park School for the Performing Arts, Jonny has made appearances on TV series' *The Bill*, *Doctors* and *The Half Moon Investigations*. He has just finished a season at the RSC playing Chiron in *Titus Andronicus* and is now part of the UK Tour of *A Mad World My Masters*.

A Mad World My Masters (Theatre)

Servant

UK Tour

2015

Titus Andronicus (Theatre)

Chiron

RSC – Swan Theatre Stratford

2013

Narnia (Theatre)

Edmund

2012

Treasure Island (Theatre)

Jim Hawkins

Bristol Old Vic

2011





Sabrina Bartlett (Drama Course Graduate 2010)

Actor Sabrina Bartlett graduated from the Guildford School of Acting in 2013 and has since appeared in TV series' *Doctor Who*, *Suspects*, and *Holby City*. She has most recently been known for *Respite* (2015), *The Crossing* (2014) and *Poldark* (2015)

Poldark (TV Series)

Keren Smith

2015



The Passing Bells (TV Mini-Series)

Katie

2014

Da Vinci's Demons (TV Series)

Sophia

2014



Aimee Kelly (Drama Course Graduate 2011)

Best known for the role of *Maddy Smith* in the CBBC series 'Wolfblood'.

Aimee played the lead role of *Kayla* in the 2011 feature film 'Sket'.

More recently, Aimee appeared in the latest series of 'Call the Midwife' alongside fellow Tring Park graduate Bryony Hannah.



Jessica Revell (Drama Course Graduate 2013)

Jessica played *Elektra* in 'Tracey Beaker Returns', 'The Dumping Ground' and 'The Dumping Ground Survival Files' for CBBC (2011 - 2014).

She was recently seen in the current series of 'Casualty' playing the role of *Kelly Bange*.

She is one of the founding members of *Blind Elephant Theatre Company* whose production of 'Endgame' performed to rave reviews at last year's Edinburgh Festival.

