



86th

**Welwyn
Drama Festival**

17-22 May 2021

Adjudicator: Walker Ewart OBE

Tickets (£4 per session) available from

ticketsource.co.uk/wdf

Monday 17 May 7.30pm

Big Squirrel

AI Love You by Kattreya Scheurer-Smith

Toby isn't great with words, but he knows almost every fact about the solar system. He's in love with a beautiful woman, but that woman is his best friend's girlfriend. He's against technology, but given a Gynoid 2.0 for his 30th birthday. Little does Toby know, his life is about to change.

Gate Productions

Dreamers by Linda Dyne

Lockdown 2. Two actors past Characters emerged and wouldn't go away. They inhabited the actors lives until you couldn't see where one started and the other finished.

Woodhouse Players

Two the Same by Sarah Flanagan

Two women find more in common than they would like.

Tuesday 18 May 7.30pm

The Company of Players (Hertford)

The Strange Case of Henry Jekyll and Edward Hyde by Laura Ilinca

It's been a long lockdown for everyone, and everyone's life has been affected. A group of friends from Hertford is struggling with the disappearance of their friend, Henry Jekyll, and the appearance of a strange, unknown man named Edward Hyde in their life.

Spiral Curtain

Nightmare on Downing Street by Rodney Pearson

A surreal, fly on the wall look at the domestic life of the Prime Minister at a time the UK had emerged from the 1st lockdown but little was going right.

Wednesday 19 May 7.30pm

Corvus Amateur Drama Society

Seven Movies by Roy Maddox

A group of neighbours form an online film group but in the process discover more about each other than they anticipated.

Out of Ideas Theatre Company

Throw Me A Rope by Sarah Ridley

Taken from the real words of frontline ambulance staff throughout the Covid 19 pandemic, *Throw me a Rope* shows the mental and physical toll the last year has had on our emergency services.

Thursday 20 May 7.30pm

Shattered Windscreen Theatre Company

Girl Walks into a Bar by Matthew Wilkie

A girl walks off the train into a remote town. She has just one day to solve a mystery: who killed her sister. She meets three locals, Tracy, the beautician; Ryan, the barfly; and Francis, who claims he can talk to the dead. By the time the day is over, the girl has her answer and leaves.

Digswell Players

Book Club by Emma Northcott

Lockdown forces a small book group to meet on Zoom for the first time. For most of them it's their first experience at a virtual meeting. What could possibly go wrong?

Company of Ten

Wordsworth Writes by Mial Pagan

William Wordsworth discovers the perils of being the close neighbour of Samuel Taylor Coleridge during a time of lockdown. This humorous reimagining of the poetic friendship was shortlisted for the Audience Award at the 2021 UK International Audio Drama Festival.

Friday 21 May 7.30pm

Biggleswade Amateur Theatrical Society

Trammel Net by Mel Wilcox

A Trammel Net is a three-layered fishing dragnet, designed so that a fish entering through one of the large-meshed outer sections will push part of the finer-meshed central section through the large meshes on the further side, forming a pocket in which the fish is trapped. 3 families, 3 stories all connected within the net.

Tiger Theatrical Productions

The Tenant by Alan Smithee (adaptation)

Looking for a room to rent in London? Near the tube? Come and meet the Landlord, he has a room for you. Although it may not quite be what you are expecting.

Saturday 22 May 2.30pm

Barn Theatre Club

The Best Man by Glyn Maxwell

The Best Man tells the story of Bailey, the best man at his oldest friend's wedding. In his search for anecdotes to embellish his speech, Bailey has stumbled across a secret so shocking that it changes everything.

Woodhouse Players

Perceptions by Ian Powell

In discussing the audience's response to their performance, a well-established acting couple find out all sorts of things about each other they didn't know. The result is both amusing and disturbing.

Saturday 22 May 7.30pm

Nantwich Players

Girl in the Machine by Stef Smith

A dystopian drama exploring our potential digital future and what it might mean for 'life' as we know it. Set 'not too far into the future', Polly is given a new gadget by husband, Owen. 'Black Box' is to help her relax, offering virtual reality experiences, that are both seductive and addictive. Are their definitions of reality and freedom the same?

The College Players

Bing and Bong's Am-dram Special Report— Unstaged by Nick Wilkes

Bing and Bong interview members of an amateur drama group to see what they have been doing with themselves during lockdown.

The Adjudicator Walker Ewart OBE

Walker Ewart is a native of South Derry in N. Ireland and is living currently in Bangor Co. Down.

He has been an adjudicator for 22 years, working mainly throughout Ireland and Scotland. He has adjudicated the British One-act Finals twice; the three All-Ireland Finals (Open Full-length in Athlone, Confined Full-length and One-Acts) twice; the Ulster Drama Finals and the Scottish finals once.

Having worked in education as a teacher of Modern Languages and then as a member of the Education and Training Inspectorate for 38 years, he was awarded an O.B.E. for 'services to education' in 2012 on his retirement.

He has been involved with amateur drama since teacher-training college in 1975 as an actor, director and administrator.

He is currently a volunteer French teacher for the University of the Third Age. He is also the Chair of the Panel which adjudicates new Irish play-writing by amateurs organised jointly by the Drama League of Ireland and the Amateur Drama Council of Ireland and sponsored by the Ramor Theatre, Virginia, Cavan.

He is very much looking forward to being your 'remote' adjudicator.

