



## 1990-1992 Readings and Workshops Publicity

These publicity materials belong to the Monstrous Regiment archive held in the V&A's Theatre and Performance Archives

Because some of the materials don't include the year in which the event took place, the chronological listing below might be helpful.

*The Mango Tree* Jenny Mcleod June 1990

*Theatrical Nomads Workshops* Part One July 1990

*Theatrical Nomads Workshops* Part Two Sept-Oct 1990

*Understanding The Dangers* Sheila Goff Oct 1990

*Bad Girl* Kay Trainor Oct 1990

*This Little Corner* Tash Fairbanks Dec 1990

*Call It Thursday* Peta Masters Feb 1991

*Never Did I* Lavinia Murray March 1991

*Caring* Jenny Morris April 1991

*Rent* Amanda Symonds Sept 1992

*What You Must Think* Paula Webb Sept 1992

**SUMMER WORKSHOPS SUMMER WORKSHOPS SUMMER  
JOURNEYS SUMMER WORKSHOPS SUMMER JOURNEYS  
SUMMER JOURNEYS SUMMER WORKSHOPS SUMMER**

**MONSTROUS REGIMENT**

**THEATRICAL NOMADS**

**SUMMER WORKSHOPS**

**PART ONE - FOR NEW PLAYWRIGHTS**

**THEATRICAL NOMADS Part One**

"We are the music makers  
We are the dreamers of dreams;  
We are the movers and shakers  
of the world forever it seems."  
O'Shaughnessy

Writers, like all creative artists, are nomads who journey constantly into the uncharted territory of the imagination. The first group of the workshops this summer is for the inexperienced playwright and will offer the basic techniques of the craft, to equip her for her own individual journey.

The workshops will be held on 14th, 28th and 29th of July and will include a visit to a theatre on the evening of the 28th.

There are a maximum of 20 places and priority will be given to older women and disabled women.

MONSTROUS REGIMENT was formed in 1975 to make exciting theatre based on women's experience. It is our policy to provide opportunities and encouragement for women in all areas of the theatre, particularly writing. Besides our national touring programme we regularly hold workshops and rehearsed readings.

**PROGRAMME**

**Saturday July 14th 10-1 FREEING THE IMAGINATION**

This introductory session will be led by director Chris Bowler, using improvisation and theatre games to open up the mind to the boundless possibilities of theatre. There will also be an opportunity to discuss with her what a director looks for in a script.

### Saturday July 14th 2-5 CHARACTER

With the help of three performers, this session will explore the creating of characters, their relationships and conflicts. It will also introduce subtext, i.e. what is happening beneath the surface. The day will end with a group feedback session.

During the intervening two weeks participants may wish to write a short scene to be read and discussed by the group. However, this is NOT obligatory.

### Saturday July 28th 10-1 STORY AND STRUCTURE

A good storyline is everything! This session will deal with plots, sub-plots, major reversals, the building of dramatic tension, cliffhanging and climaxes.

### Saturday July 28th 2-5 STYLE AND LANGUAGE

Finding a style and language to suit the content. This session will look at some of the styles used in contemporary theatre. The day will end with a group feedback session, followed by a visit to the theatre. (The play has not yet been decided upon, but the theatre will be totally accessible).

### Sunday July 29th 10-1 CONSOLIDATION

How to use the information of the last four sessions in order to get you started. In this session there will also be a reading and discussion of any scenes written by group members.

### Sunday July 29th 2-5 OPEN SESSION

The exact nature of the session to be decided by the group. It may include discussion, question and answer, practical information, networking and general feedback on the workshops.

The workshops will be held at: Hoxton Hall  
Hoxton Street  
London, N1

FEE: £45 Waged, £30 Low Waged, £15 Unwaged.

All enquiries to: Rose Sharp or Tash Fairbanks  
Monstrous Regiment  
190 Upper Street  
London N1 1RQ  
Tel: 071- 359 9842

Hoxton Hall is fully accessible, however, vehicular access to Hoxton Street is slightly complicated on Saturdays, so please ring for details. A sign language interpreter will be provided if required. Please let us know in advance.



## AUTUMN SHOW

**MONSTROUS REGIMENT** in co-production with **SALISBURY PLAYHOUSE** presents *THE COLONY COMES A CROPPER* by Marivaux and Robyn Archer. An eighteenth-century comedy with a twentieth-century ending, this action-packed adventure story brings together Marivaux's witty elegance and Archer's abrasive humour.

*THE COLONY COMES A CROPPER* is the third production in Monstrous Regiment's **WOMEN IN A EUROPEAN CONTEXT** season, sponsored by Hilton National.

— \* —

**Salisbury Playhouse, Malthouse Lane, Salisbury.**  
Box office 0722 20333.

Wed 19th Sept – Sat 6th Oct 7.45pm.  
Matinees 22nd Sept, 29th Sept & 6th Oct at 4.45pm.

Tickets £4.50 and £3.25 concs.

*ACCESS: Flat access to theatre and disabled toilets.  
Hearing loop system.*

— \* —

**BAC, Old Town Hall, Lavender Hill, London SW11. Box Office 071 223 2223**

7th – 25th Nov at 8pm.

Tickets £5.50 and £4.50 concs + £1 membership.

*ACCESS: Ramp at entrance, lift to theatre.  
Hearing loop system.  
All facilities have full access.*

## REHEARSED PLAYREADINGS

Fri Oct 19th at 1pm

*UNDERSTANDING THE DANGERS* by Sheila Goff. Graham weighs Lynne each morning. He wants her to be perfect. Flawless. She wants that too. Until the arrival of an imperfect stranger. A tense, chilling first play.

Fri Nov 16th at 1pm

*BAD GIRL* by Kay Tranor. Directed by Anna Birch. With Tracie Bennett. "So I talked to my sister about sex ...". Moira's guilt about her sex life is brought into focus through conversations with her matronly sister — and a more powerful and unexpected emotion is revealed ... Envy.

Fri Dec 14th at 1pm

*THIS LITTLE CORNER* by Tash Fairbanks. When pagan sacrifice and the incubating eggs of the tsetse fly are let loose on the charming Dorset village of Penrose, some very 'unBritish' passions, terrors and superstitions begin to emerge.

### ADMISSION FREE

All readings will be followed by a discussion/feedback session with the writer.

**VENUE: Drill Hall Arts Centre, 16 Chenies Street, London WC1E 7EX.**

*ACCESS: Ramp from street and flat access  
to theatre, bar and disabled toilet.  
Hearing loop in theatre.*



## THEATRICAL NOMADS PART TWO

These workshops are intended for those with some writing or theatre experience.

Sat 29th Sept  
2.00 – 7.30pm

**THE PLAY'S THE THING** (with  
which to catch the conscience of the king)

A workshop on writing plays with a socio-political agenda without writing polemic. Led by Tash Fairbanks, writer-in-residence with Monstrous Regiment. Her work includes *NOCTURNE*, to be shown on Channel 4 in November. The workshop includes a matinee performance of *THE COLONY COMES A CROPPER* (MIXED).

**VENUE Salisbury Playhouse, Malthouse Lane, Salisbury.**

*FEE £10 and £6 concs inclusive of show.*

Sat 20th Oct  
10.00am – 1pm

**MOVING THEATRE OUT OF  
THE KITCHEN**

The Epic is a form few women choose to tackle. Why? We're just as interested in the greater historical themes. How do we start to approach a wider canvas? Led by Tash Fairbanks (WOMEN ONLY).

2.00 – 5.00pm

**MOVING THEATRE OUT OF THE  
LIVING ROOM**

This workshop explores a more poetic and theatrical way of writing for the stage. Led by April D'Angelis, writer-in-residence for Paines Plough. Her work includes *CRUX* and *IRONMISTRESS* (WOMEN ONLY).

Sat 27th Oct  
10.00am – 1.00pm

**BRINGING THE HOUSE DOWN**

A workshop on Comedy by a writer who has never been contained within four walls. Bryony Lavery's work includes three plays and two cabarets for Monstrous Regiment and *HER ACHING HEART* for Women's Theatre Group (WOMEN ONLY).

2.00 – 5.00pm

**MOVING THEATRE INTO  
THE BEDROOM**

A workshop on the positive representation of female sexuality in the theatre. Led by Tash Fairbanks (WOMEN ONLY).

*THE FEE for each workshop is £15 waged,  
£10 Low waged, £5 unwaged*

*THE VENUE is still to be decided, but will be  
fully accessible*

# MONSTROUS REGIMENT

## LUNCHTIME PLAYREADING

MONSTROUS REGIMENT present a rehearsed reading of THE MANGO TREE  
a new one-act play by Jenny McLeod, directed by Claire Grove.

AT

THE DRILL HALL  
In the Theatre  
16 CHENIES STREET  
LONDON WC1

1 - 2 PM

FRIDAY 15TH JUNE 1990

ADMISSION FREE

Bar & Theatre fully accessible

A plantation in Jamaica, one hot Christmas Eve in the late eighteenth century. A slave uprising rages in the fields while, inside the house, the two protagonists reflect a different kind of conflict. The play explores the complexities of the power relations between two women, a black slave and her white mistress. In 1988 Monstrous Regiment with Nottingham Playhouse co-produced Island Life by Jenny McLeod. It subsequently toured Britain in 1989.

" On the evidence of Island Life, she certainly has a knack for writing disturbing dialogue - the play has a natural dramatist's gift for telling you things about its characters that are the opposite of what they're saying".....Guardian March 1989

Jenny McLeod went to school in Nottingham and then to Beeston College, half way through A levels she took a gamble and gave up conventional education and sat at home writing for four years. During the four years she wrote her first play CRICKET AT CAMP DAVID, which went on to win first prize in Nottingham Playhouse's WRITING '87 and a subsequent production at The Octagon, Bolton.

There will be an opportunity for discussion afterwards.

Monstrous Regiment Limited  
190 Upper Street London N1 1RQ  
Telephone: 071-359 9842  
Fax: 071-359 5773

© 1989 Monstrous Regiment Limited  
All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced  
without the prior written permission of the publisher.  
Printed in Great Britain  
Distributed by M. C. Brown & Co. Ltd.  
M. C. Brown & Co. Ltd.



# MONSTROUS REGIMENT

## AUTUMN REHEARSED PLAYREADINGS

"Plays are not written, they are re-written". The company's programme of rehearsed playreadings are part of a work-in-progress process for the playwright. They give her the opportunity to work with director and actors and to then receive the vital audience feedback that will enable her to take the play to final draft.

### "BAD GIRL" by KAY TRAINOR

DIRECTOR	Anna Birch
MOIRA	Tracie Bennett
FRANCES	Trish Kelly

Why does Moira remember her sixth birthday so vividly? She goes to see her sister, Frances, to find out, and finds out a lot more than she bargains for - and a lot less.

KAY TRAINOR has been writing for radio and television series for the past five years. "Bad Girl" is her first play for the theatre. The first draft was a monologue, and was only recently developed into a two-hander after workshops held in September with director, Anna Birch and actresses Tracie Bennett and Trish Kelly, who perform the reading today.

MONSTROUS REGIMENT was created in 1975 to provide a high profile for all areas of women's work in the theatre. The company has a strong commitment to new writing, believing it to be the precious lifeblood of a theatre which, given the present political climate, is increasingly under threat. We have a writer-in-residence, currently Tash Fairbanks, who runs a script reading service and numerous programmes of writers' workshops and rehearsed playreadings.

THE AUTUMN PROGRAMME continues with:- The Production of "THE COLONY COMES A CROPPER" by Marivaux and Robyn Archer, at BAC until November 25th at 8 pm. Box office 071 223 2223; And Lunchtime Rehearsed Playreading of "THIS LITTLE CORNER" by Tash Fairbanks, 1 pm on Friday December 14th at The Drill Hall.

LOOK OUT FOR MORE REHEARSED PLAYREADINGS NEXT SPRING

# MONSTROUS REGIMENT

DINNERTIME DRAMA - LUNCHTIME LITERATURE - AFTERNOON ARTS

REHEARSED READINGS 1 - 3PM - DRILL HALL ARTS CENTRE

22ND FEBRUARY 1991

CALL IT THURSDAY by Peta Masters

Directed by Angela Langfield.

"It's about love and sex and the meaning of life."

"Oh."

"A frothy pot pourri of wit and wisdom. It's about two tramps on a railway platform."

"Like Waiting For Godot?"

"No, nothing like that. This'll have train noises off stage."

This is the One Woman Show that Esther Glowman couldn't do by herself. It deals with appearance and reality, relativity, the new physics, chaos and the Grand Unified Theory that applies to you and me. Esther mentions none of these things and all of them as she transcends space and time in search of heart.

Call it innovative, call it inspirational or -  
Call It Thursday

Peta has written and co-written nine shows for theatre including "Shirley Holmes & The Case of The Spanish Indian" and "Um...er" for Theatre Venture, "Cinderella Hardup" for Croydon Warehouse, "Players'Worktime" for Dizzy Lips, plus two "Pia & Gill" revues, numerous songs, sketches and stories for such TV shows as Spitting Image and two short children's films for Central Television under the title of "Revolting Animals". She has just been contracted to play "Maureen Lipman" in a series of spoof BT ads for BBC2's Advice Shop.

CAST:-

ETHER GLOWMAN - Peta Masters

PAUL - Guy Manning

ROSEMARY - Geraldine Griffiths

NEXT REHEARSED READINGS:

15th March 1 - 3pm "NEVER DID I" by Lavinia Murray  
Directed by Saffron Myers

19th April 1 - 3pm "CARING" by Jenny Morris

# MONSTROUS REGIMENT

April 1977  
91

DINNERTIME DRAMA - LUNCHTIME LITERATURE - AFTERNOON ARTS

## CARING

by Jenny Morris

Directed by Saffron Myers

When Louise is confronted with the choice between looking after her disabled mother or moving away with her lover to run a thriving London bookshop, it is obvious which course of action is in her best interest. Or is it?

A play which challenges ideas of caring and community.

## CAST

LAUREN.....Letty Kay  
LOUISE.....Jo Howarth  
RACHEL.....Michelle Fine  
JOANNA.....Maureen Morris  
ANTHONY.....Justin Saunders  
MRS PARISH.....Pat Kensley

Jenny Morris is the author of "Pride Against Prejudice: a personal politics of disability" to be published by The Women's Press in October of this year.

"Caring" is her first play. She is also writing a play about the Nazi "Euthanasia" Programme.

Monstrous Regiment Limited  
190 Upper Street London N1 1RQ  
Telephone: 071-359 9842 - Fax: 071-359 5773



# **MONSTROUS REGIMENT**

**presents**

**PRIVATE VIEWS:**

**RENT**

**by Amanda Symonds**

March  
Mona  
Rene Lafont  
John Ham  
Patricia Ham  
Sylvia

Hazel Ellerby  
Janice Laurie  
Colin McFarlane  
John Ramm  
Sadie Shimmin  
Amanda Symonds

*Interval*

**WHAT YOU MUST THINK**

**(for Hilary)**

**by Paula Webb**

Child  
Father  
Mother

Hazel Ellerby  
John Ramm  
Sadie Shimmin

**Directed by Clare Venables**

**Designed by Lucy Bevan**

Administrative Director  
Production Manager  
Stage Manager

**Evita Bier**  
**Fleur Howard**  
**Charlotte McLelland**

*We would like to thank the Royal Court Theatre and Lukes Wine Bar for their assistance with this production.*

# MONSTROUS REGIMENT

*takes great pleasure in inviting*

---

*to a*

*PRIVATE VIEW*

*of*

## ***PRIVATE VIEWS***

*by Amanda Symonds and Paula Webb*

*Directed by Clare Venables    Designed by Lucy Bevan*

*7.00 for 7.30pm*

*on        September 1992*

*There will be drinks,  
food and interesting people.*

*Dress: as you please.*

*MONSTROUS REGIMENT is a theatre company specialising  
in extraordinary theatre by women. This is our first showing of  
experimental work carried out during the summer.*

*Ground Floor Studio  
78 Luke Street  
London EC2A 4PY*

*RSVP  
Evita Bier on  
071 613 0651*