

Press release
December 2013

Why Not Theatre Company

presents

WIT



Premiere: 6th March 2014 at Bådteatret

When Why Not Theatre Company performs at Bådteatret in March, it will be the third time the Company guests the unique and intimate setting in Nyhavn. Their production will be the Pulitzer prize-winning WIT by Margaret Edson, performed for the first time in Denmark.

In WIT, we meet Vivian Bearing, a professor in English renaissance literature. Vivian has been admitted to a large hospital's oncology research department where she is being treated for advanced metastatic ovarian cancer. All her adult life, she has hidden her real persona behind a somewhat crisp, academic mask. But now, as hospital doctors and personnel barge into her room at all times of day and night and talk about her in the third person as though she were just another statistic, Vivian finds it increasingly difficult to cope and come to terms with her new situation.

WIT is a heartbreakingly funny, unsentimental and – despite its subject – uplifting story about human relationships, about values, forgiveness and empathy, seen in the light of a woman's imminent death.

Margaret Edson wrote WIT in 1995, based on her personal experiences from a student job as a nurse for cancer and AIDS patients. When the play moved to Broadway in 1998, The New York Times opted to print

parts of the text. This exposure led to so much focus on the play, that it resulted in public debate about how patients are treated and communicated with by hospital and care personnel.

WIT is directed by Peter Dupont Weiss. On stage: Sue Hansen-Styles, Andrew Jeffers, Malte Joe Frid-Nielsen, Eira Pryce and others.

Playing period: 6 – 22 March 2014
In English

See more at: www.baadteatret.dk and www.whynottheatre.dk

With best wishes

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WIT:

On stage: Sue Hansen-Styles, Andrew Jeffers, Malte Joe Frid-Nielsen, Eira Pryce and others

Playwright: Margaret Edson

Director: Peter Dupont Weiss

Playing time: approx. 90 minutes without interval

Venue: Bådteatret, Nyhavn 16, 1051 Copenhagen K

Ticket information:

Playing period : 6. – 22. marts 2014. Monday-Friday 20:00; Saturday 17:

Prices:

Adult: 140 kr

Under 25: 70 kr

Teaterrabat: 80 kr

Group adults (min.10): 100 kr

Group under 25s (min. 6): 40 kr

Ticket sales:

www.teaterbilletter.dk or Tel.: 70 20 20 96

www.teaterrabat.dk

Director: Peter Dupont Weiss

Peter trained as theatre Director at the National Theatre School in Copenhagen, 1995-99. He has been in-house director and dramaturg at Ålborg Teater and on Radio Drama, DR. Peter has directed productions at Mammutteatret, Svalegangen, Får 302, Husets Teater, Jomfru Ane Teatret, Bådteatret, Kaleidoskop. Aarhus Teater and Odense Teater.

He has directed many readings and been workshop leader on various dramatic texts in progress. As well as having translated many theatre texts from English, Swedish and German into Danish, notably for Odense Teater, Betty Nansen Teatret, Folketeatret and the Royal Theatre, he has also worked as dramaturg, both at The Royal Opera and Betty Nansen Teatret in Copenhagen.

Actress and Artistic Director of Why Not Theatre Company: Sue Hansen-Styles

A self-taught actress, Sue has performed on a number of European stages including the Tower and Questors Theatres in London, the ECC in Brussels, That Theatre Company and CTC in Copenhagen and the ITM in Malmö.

She came to Denmark in 2001 and is married to a Dane.

Her roles have been many and varied, including Lady Macbeth in *Macbeth*, Joy in *Shadowlands*, Helen in *The Road to Mecca*, Stevie in *The Goat or Who is Sylvia*, Ines in *Life x 3*, Virginia (Woolf) in *Vita & Virginia* by Dame Eileen Atkins at CaféTeatret in 2011, Emilia in *Desdemona, a play about a handkerchief* at Bådteatret in April 2012, Anna in *Old Times* by Harold Pinter – a collaboration by Why Not Theatre Company and That Theatre Company – at Krudttønden in autumn 2012 and Clair in *The City* by Martin Crimp at Bådteatret in 2013. She also appeared in WNTC's production of *Digging Up Shakespeare*, as part of CPHSTAGE in summer 2013.

Sue has over 20 years' experience as a voiceover artist and has delivered speaks to clients the world over, including Novo Nordisk, Mærsk, Danske Bank, Lego, Elizabeth Arden and IBM.

Playwright Margaret Edson (born 1961)

Born in Washington D.C., Margaret gained a B.A. degree in renaissance history and a Masters in English literature from Georgetown University.

WIT was the first (and, so far, only) play Edson wrote. It premiered at South Coast Repertory, just outside Los Angeles, California in 1995. She used her own experiences from a student job as nurse for cancer and AIDS patients, as important research for the play.

In 1999, Margaret Edson won the Pulitzer prize for Drama, with WIT.