

# KAOS THEATRE

KAOS Newsletter Summer 2007

The past year has been a time of change and redefinition for the company both artistically and for company development.

KAOS toured to sell out audiences an acclaimed new work, MINE, developed a piece of new writing, SWING, and were involved in the making of an extraordinary new feature film.

KAOS worked with a diverse range of talent from across Europe, significantly adding to the pool of artists who work with the company.

## **A word from Xav**

Over the last year or so I've have been thinking carefully about what KAOS is. I am bored of the old policy. I am tired of trying to conform to what the company used to represent. But the thing is I haven't been able to re-write our policy. Every time I've sat down to try and define us I'm stumped. I don't want to say this is what we do because I don't want us to , one minute, physical theatre, the next thing along we might make a movie. KAOS is a mad flux of material. It is never the same. It is, however, always motivated by the political and social landscape surrounding us. I try to understand the human condition through the work I make. That for me is what art is so if anything that is what KAOS is. No rules or rhyme, just reason.

Xavier Leret, Artistic Director

## **Hellos and Goodbyes**

Jo Carr left KAOS in March 07 after 6 fruitful years with the company. She is now working with UK Arts International as well as producing her own productions. We wish Jo lots of good luck for the future and a HUGE thank-you for the 'KAOS Years'.

And a HUGE welcome to Bekah Cross (formerly of David Glass Ensemble) who joined KAOS in March 07 as our new Creative Producer and whose impact is already being felt with lots of new and exciting co-productions in the pipeline as well as the imminent national tour of THE KAOS DREAM.

## **A word from Bekah**

I had heard of KAOS through reputation. I have friends and colleagues who still rave on about The KAOS' Importance of Being Ernest, so I responded to the job advert with excitement.... and fear of not being crazy enough! I was intrigued and excited about the prospect of going back to classic texts and making them explosive. As a teenager this is what I always wanted when I was faced with an English teacher bearing a thick text!

Since starting at KAOS I have seen that this is only a part of what they do. Part of my interview was to sit in on a rehearsal of SWING, which made me laugh one minute and then feel real sadness the next. The new writing and the film work are aspects I feel lucky to be a part of and am already learning a lot from. Taking over from the lovely Jo Carr, was not an easy act to follow so I knew I had my work cut out!! Once I found the kettle, the tea bags and my way round the office the real work started. It has been a whirlwind the past few months, and although I am still a 'newie', I am starting to kick off my slippers and feel like part of the family.

Enjoy this year of KAOS. Check out the new website, and you can follow all the shenanigans from rehearsals of The Dream!

Rebekah Cross, Creative Producer

## A CHANCE TO DREAM.....

**THE KAOS DREAM is imminent!**

**An outrageously sexy and daring spectacle that we are sure William Shakespeare will be amazed by! The Dream is touring both autumn and spring, so do come along. Pole-dancing, live music and Jazz singing all feature in this dark, underground version. The KAOS Dream will make a fantastic night out.**

**See the enclosed flyer for details of our AUTUMN 07 Tour.**

**Visit our website for FEB 08 dates.**

**And vlog on to follow all the shenanigans from rehearsals of The Dream!**

### **MINE by Xavier Leret ( KAOS's National Tour 2006)**

*"A meditation on the shifting perspectives which underlie any large scale conflict... With its near existential agenda treating war as a psychic state rather a political one – a bold foray into terrain that big budget boys fear to tread."* METRO

MINE was a claustrophobic tightly scripted powerful theatre piece that got to the heart of the relationship between conflict and the media. Set in Bosnia in MINE proved to be an extraordinary piece of work. In contrast with past physically explosive work, by KAOS, MINE was a tense, still, emotionally driven philosophical drama. MINE toured to arts centres and studios in Autumn 06.

Thanks to Flickbook Pictures, White Fire Films and an injection of funds from Monto Holdings, **MINE the feature film** was shot in May of 2006. Shot on Hi Definition and blessed with an extraordinary amount of rain MINE marks Xavier's debut as a filmmaker.

MINE, the feature film, has just completed post-production and was screened as a 'breakthrough' film for LUFF (London UK Film Focus) at the BFI (June 07). Since this screening the film has received intense interest from Sales Agents and distributors. **A screening in London is planned for November.**

### **SWING - A new work by Xavier Leret, inspired by Arthur Schnitzler's *La Ronde* (Work in Progress 2006/7)**

SWING follows a series of sexual encounters. Harry, a man in his late fifties sleeps with a young sex worker. Harry's wife, Janet, is not what she was, she is disabled, her hip has gone and with it her self esteem. In an effort to re-light her sense of self worth Harry buys her some lingerie – it 's a mistake. Janet has an online sexual relationship with Mark. Mark has developed a serious addiction to cyber sex and porn. In a brutal scene Ruth, his wife, confronts him with it. In an effort to re-kindle her own wavering need for sex and her need for revenge Ruth visits sex worker John. John's partner Janice wishes that he would just turn his phone off...

SWING was 'scratched' at BAC in Feb 07 with a cast including the disabled performers Mat Fraser and Lisa Hammond. . It was a sell-out success. Audience reaction was incredible. KAOS is currently in discussions with The SOHO THEATRE and BAC concerning the future of the show. We are looking to mount a 3-week London run in early 2008.

The processed was VLOGGED – currently viewable at [www.KAOStheatre.com](http://www.KAOStheatre.com) and [www.xavierleret.com](http://www.xavierleret.com).

[www.KAOStheatre.com](http://www.KAOStheatre.com)

**The new KAOS website has now gone live!!**

**Visit it for all the latest blogs, vlogs, news, dates, ideas and opportunities.**

**Click the link to join our E-MAILING LIST.**

**Become an active part of the KAOS Community.  
We look forward to your comments... Let the dialogue begin!!**