

Escapade Theatre Company presents

Dinner for One

the untold story



«The same
procedure as last
year, James?»-
»Not quite, Miss
Sophie, not
quite...»

the play

This hilarious new play, based on the classic T.V. sketch, reveals the astonishing, untold story of James and Miss Sophie's anniversary celebrations.

Every year James helps Miss Sophie celebrate her birthday by taking on the roles of her companions around the table.

But what happens one year when the usual guests can't come? Will James cancel the soirée? Or will he reinvent himself and the dinner guests in order to keep Miss Sophie happy?

This fresh and original, hour-long version of the popular Christmas and New Year tradition that is Dinner for One, maintains all the well known comedy moments we love, but also, takes us on a helter skelter journey with James, around the table, around Europe and nearly, around the bend!

Dinner for one

«A fantastic comedy! We've rarely witnessed such great acting talent around these parts!» LA RAZON

I'm reminded of the great Peter Sellers. Don't miss it!
SALIR SALIR MADRID

Brilliant tones of comedy....an overdose of laughter. NOTODO

«Marvellous, strange, curious, tender, evocative and hilariously funny. The actors are superb!»
ATRAPALO



the press

Escapade's other plays

Decadence:

«It's obvious that people are talking because Decadence is filling the theatre every night with an audience that are having a fantastic time.....it's a production which doesn't need translation because Caspar and Sue Flack's performances are so extraordinarily funny and so perfectly English using such comic, facial mimicry that it deserves to be seen only for that.» EL PAÍS

«The actors, Sue Flack and Caspar, fill the stage with authentic, theatrical magic. A frankly elegant, remarkably simple show, full of overwhelming talent. A rare pearl that deserves cultivation. EL MUNDO

Metamorphosis:

« with hardly any props or set Escapade bring us once again the opportunity to split our sides laughing. Don't miss it. This is serious theatre to kill for.» EL MUNDO

The Government Inspector

«Sue Flack is a director with very clear ideas...the best show to be seen on the current Barcelona circuit.»

« Highest audience attendance rate during the first ten days of GREC 99» EL PERIÓDICO



The original vs The new

Sue flack saw the original Dinner for One sketch with Freddie Frinton and May Warden, one Christmas whilst visiting relatives in Germany and she immediately knew that it could be the perfect show for Escapade Theatre.

The 1963 sketch has the 90 year old Miss Sophie hosting an annual dinner for the friends she has outlived as her equally aged manservant tries to keep up the bravado, whilst toasting each and every course and guest.

Escapade wanted to transform the sketch into a full length theatre piece and take it from a music hall museum piece into a live, vibrant and full length comedy show. Over a period of 3 months, in 2002, the company set about developing the story.

The first thing that struck them was that Mr. Pommeroy, Mr. Winterbottom and Sir Toby were all very similar and perhaps not very interesting enough to bring alive. They asked themselves the question «What happens if we change the guests?

If they become real characters whom James reincarnates for Miss Sophie like never before?»

With that premise Escapade created a series of excruciatingly funny characters to accompany Miss Sophie on her birthday. Monsieur LeBoeuff, the French chef, Signori Tagliatelli, the Italian opera singer, Don Juan de la Muerte, the Spanish bullfighter and the old stalwart Admiral Von Schneider all contribute to make an hilarious new comedy.

Escapade has succeeded in creating their own «original» Dinner for One, full of magical interpretation, skillful physicality, witty dialogue and awe inspiring mime, whilst at the same time keeping true to faith with the favourite classic comedy moments like the ever present tiger-skin rug, the classic toasts with the crucial exchange «The same procedure as last year, Miss Sophie? -The same procedure as every year, James! « and the ever increasing difficulty James has in pouring the drinks.

The result: an overwhelmingly entertaining evening had by all, including the tiger skin rug!





the company

ESCAPADE THEATRE COMPANY

Was founded by Sue Flack and Caspar in 1997. When performing plays, whether in English, Spanish, Catalan or in German Gibberish, Escapade creates top-quality visual theatre, making full use of expression and the body, so that the text is more accessible to non-English speaking members of the audience. To date they have presented four very physical plays, *Decadence*, *Metamorphosis*, *The Government Inspector* and *Dinner for One* all productions have been performed in Spain to international audiences and have received critical acclaim. The company is based in Catalonia.



the actors



Sue Flack trained at Drama Centre London and has worked as an actress, director and writer on many stage and screen projects in the UK and in Spain, including repertory at Greenwich and Edinburgh and with directors such as Ventura Pons, Paco Plaza and Benito Zambrano. Sue is co-founder and director of Escapade and performed in and directed *Decadence*, *Metamorphosis* and a bold Catalan production of Gogol's *The Government Inspector* in Barcelona. She directed and co-created *Dinner for One* in 2002.

Caspar trained at The Actor's Institute in London and with Teatre de Complicité and with members of Peter Brook's company in Paris. He completed his studies of circus arts and mime at The Mime Centre and Fooltime Circus School in England. He worked extensively in England as both actor and writer for stage and screen before moving to Barcelona in 1991. Caspar has worked all around Spain with his *One Man* shows and with the company *La Tal*. He has twice directed for the Merida classic theatre festival. He is co-founder and resident writer of Escapade and has performed in all but one of their shows.





Escapade Theatre Company

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ARTWORK: Helle Thomassen
MUSIC: Jaume Carreras
PROPS: Mariajo Labrador
SCENERY & COSTUME: Fiona Capdevila
LIGHTS: Chris Mitchem
DIRECTION: Sue Flack
CREATION: Caspar and Sue Flack
ACTORS: Caspar and Sue Flack

DINNER FOR ONE

Technical Rider

MINIMUM SPACE 6X5M

The theatre should have a complete curtain set up in Italian style (3 legs on each wing is preferred)

FIT UP 4 HOURS

GET OUT 1 HOUR

1 technician

1 stage manager

The stage gets very messy with spilt wine and broken plates at the end of the show. 1 stage hand required to help clean up.

All questions or doubts should be addressed to technician, Chris Mitchem. (0034) 693925062
chrismitchem@hotmail.com

Light Fixtures

13 PC 1KW.

6 PAR (CP61)

3 PROFILES (14-35°)

4 ASSIMETRIC FLOODS 1KW

DIMMER CHANNELS 18

PROGRAMMABLE LIGHTING
DESK, WITH SUBMASTERS

4 FLOOR STANDS (FOR PARS)

SOUND

CD PLAYER

MIXING DESK (2 STEREO INPUTS
MINIMUM)

P.A. ADEQUATE FOR THE SPACE
(250W RMS MINIMUM)

Other technical requirements:

4 wooden chairs

1 large wooden chair

1 wooden dining table 1m x 2m

1 sideboards with drawer / wine rack

All this furniture should be period C1920 or similar

6 x 1 litre bottles water

1 bottle red coloured juice-to simulate red wine

2 x 1 litre bottles sparkling water-to simulate champagne

Optional

5 white plates

1 soup tureen white

1 small white coffee cup and saucer

1 white soup bowl

1 clean empty champagne bottle (no label)

1 clean sherry bottle (no label)

2 clean empty clear glass wine bottles (no label)

DINNER FOR ONE - LIGHTING PLAN - 15 CHANNELS, 26 FIXTURES

