

COMING NEXT FROM PITCHY BREATH

No Place Like Home

A series of short plays about finding a place to call 'home'. Everybody needs somewhere to lay their hat or pitch their tent. How we get there and who we meet on the way ... there's always a story to tell. These plays explore the theme of journeys to find security and peace of mind.

Would you like your script brought to life?

Community theatre company, Pitchy Breath is looking for new plays to produce as part of 'No Place Like Home'. The plays should have a minimal set, be no longer than 25 minutes and fit the above remit.

Pitchy Breath produces an amazingly diverse range of work featuring local actors written by local writers which always play to sell out audiences.

If you have an idea for a script you have nothing to lose and everything to gain by sending your work to jo.joseph@crowley.gov.uk or c/o The Hawth, Hawth Avenue, Crawley RH10 6YZ by Friday 23 January.



PITCHY BREATH THEATRE PRESENTS
A NEW PLAY BY BRADLEY BARLOW

DEAD LEAVES

Nothing stays buried forever

Dead Leaves

Written and Directed by **Bradley Barlow**

Synopsis

Melissa French is dead. After her body is discovered in the dark of the woods, and the police delve deep into her past, Melissa's family and friends begin to realise how little they knew her. As secrets are discovered and lies are revealed, Melissa's life begins to be unravelled. How much do you really know about the ones you love?

Cast

Harrison Calnan
Rachel Duke
Tim Fifield
Charlie Joseph
Jeremy Joseph
Sonia Moir
Tahrif Naqvi
Tom Paul
Alex Taylor
Amy Taylor
Sophie Waddington

Stage Manager

Jo Joseph

Crew

Mandy Masters
Annette Payne

With thanks to

Tracy Alexander

(Director of Forensic Services, City of London Police)

Credit

Contains extracts of true accounts from the-invisible-men.tumblr.com

Note from the Writer/Director

My starting point for Dead Leaves was that I wanted to centre the play on a character that the audience never meets, forcing them to imagine her based solely on the thoughts, opinions and information provided by the people that knew her.

As the investigation into the death of Melissa French progresses, we meet a total of about 60 different characters with most of the actors playing multiple parts. I'd like to thank the cast for their time and creativity in developing some hopefully memorable characters.

Melissa's life is intricate and multi-layered and so too is the investigation into her death. There are twists, cliffhangers and red herrings at every turn and I encourage you to play close attention to the words of every character – not everything is as it seems. Feel free to share theories with other members of the audience in the interval and the conclusion and to put any burning questions to myself or the cast at the end.

I'd like to thank Jo Joseph and Pitchy Breath for giving me the opportunity to write and direct for them for a second time. I'd also like to thank the cast for having faith in the play from the outset – in order to avoid 'leaking' the plot, they read excerpts in the audition and were only allowed to read the whole play once they'd committed to being in it. I hope that initial trust has been worth it; I've enjoyed working with you all immensely and feel lucky that you have all been so dedicated to the production.

Playlist

Dead Leaves and the Dirty Ground – *The White Stripes*
I Am a Man Who Will Fight for Your Honor – *Chris Zabriskie*
Boom Clap (Marcus Schossow Remix) – *Charli XCX*
Land on the Golden Gate – *Chris Zabriskie*
Turn Down for What (Club Stars Remix) – *DJ Snake vs Lil Jon*
Wasting My Young Years – *London Grammar*
Hunger of the Pine – *Alt-J*
Heliograph – *Chris Zabriskie*
Cylinder Three – *Chris Zabriskie*
Where the Boats Go – *M83*
Midnight – *Coldplay*
Sad Girl – *Lana Del Rey*