

Yiffi!

a furry musical

a semi-staging of part one, with animations

supported by the Drama Dept, Goldsmiths, with armations of London

Cast list in order of first appearance

Russ Bacon	Glen Joseph
Primrose Bacon, Jeannie Malvina	Elena Rossi
Eric/Xanthinus, Vernon	Richard Wright
Cr1z/Azure Phoenix	Anthony Flaum
Aaron/Cyraneus, Robodog, Raccoonboy,	Ido Gonen
Isht, Qweek, Samba, Hotel Receptionist,	Jade Vixen
Marisa Boynton	Marisa Boynton
Rutins	Matt Winkworth

Marisa Leigh Boynton - originally from Chicago, now resides in London and is happy to be part of such a great project. Last Summer she portrayed Amy in *Company* to rave reviews at the Edinburgh Festival. Other London credits include *Stem*, *Vincent*, *Prisoner of a Dream*, *Sweet Charity* and various cabaret nights. US credits include *Little Red in Into the Woods*, *Shine in Schoolhouse Rock Live!* and *Kitty in Charley's Aunt*. Marisa earned her BFA in Musical Theatre from the Chicago College of Performing Arts, Roosevelt University.

Anthony Flaum graduated from the Royal Academy of Music in 2006. Whilst there, he played Guido in the production "Nine" and Ensemble in Jason Robert Brown Concert "New Player's Theatre) amongst others. Since graduation, Anthony played lead tenor in "The 3 Tenors, "Spirit of the Dance" (UK tour), *Beast in "Beauty and the Beast"* (Kirkcaldy). Featured Soloist in "A Little House Music" (Arts Theatre), Ned Travers in "A Boat-swain's Mate" (Finborough Theatre) and Featured Soloist in two other Mercury showcases. Most recently, he played the Tin Man in *The Wizard of Oz* (Aldershot).

Ido Gonen recently moved to London, having finished a two-year run in the ensemble of the Tel-Aviv production of Mel Brooks' *The Producers*. He was trained in Beit-Zvi, Israel's leading performing arts school, where he starred in productions of *A Chorus Line*, *Candide*, *Cabaret*, *Blood Brothers*, *Oleanna*, *Andorra*, *Trafalgar*, *Tanzl*, *Gypsy* and more. In London, he took part in the Goldsmiths College showcase performance in the musicals *Just William* and *London Stories*. He is currently in rehearsal for Steven Sondheim's *Assassins*.

Glen Joseph trained at The GSA Conservatoire, graduating with First Class Honours in Musical Theatre. Credits include John Wilkes Booth in *Sondheim's Assassins*, Jerry Lukowski in *The Full Monty: The Musical*, the World Premiere of *Time's Up!* (Yvonne Arnaud, Guildford), *Disney's The Jungle Book* (Mantow Theatre, Canterbury), *The Giant in Jack and the Beanstalk* (Mercury Theatre, Colchester), *Curly in Oklahoma!* (Yvonne Arnaud, Guildford) and MC, guitar, keys and drums on the British tour of *Buddy Holly and The Crickets*. In 2006, Glen was awarded the Sir John Gielgud Award for Musical Theatre.



Elena Rossi - After completing a degree in Theatre Studies at Warwick University, Elena trained at LSMT, where she created the role of Marlene in Charles Miller & Kevin Hammonds' *Hope* at the Cochrane Theatre. Subsequent theatre credits include *Tuesday* on the London Fringe, Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for MOPA Theatre's national tour, and the role of Production Singer aboard Costa Cruises' flagship *The Magical*. Most recently, Elena played the evil step mother in Pyramid Productions' *Chinders* over Christmas. e.c.rossi@gmail.com



Richard Wright trained at Mountview Academy of Performing Arts. His previous theatre performances include: *Cyrus Budge III* in Lloyd Webber's *By Jeeves* at the Courtyard Theatre, Lieutenant Barri in Sondheim's *Poison*, Uncle Alan in the national tour of *Tom's Midnight Garden* and Lord Corring in *An Ideal Husband*. His screen credits include: *Matt* in the St. George's *Internet Advert*, Dave Bennett in *Hertfordshire Police Pick-pocketing Video* appearances in *Grange Hill* and a sketch for *Comic Relief 2007*. To find out more about Richard visit: www.richardwright.co.uk



Tim Seward - Music, Plot, Words
Tim Seward originally trained in drama at OMM and Central School. He recently graduated with distinction from the MA in Musical Theatre (Writing) at Goldsmiths College. He has written the scores for two family musicals but Yiffi marks a departure into more adult territory. He is also the Programme Coordinator for Mercury Musical Developments and a regular presenter on the UK's independent musical theatre podcast, MusicalTalk. More at saward.eu

Darren Deeks - words
Darren has studied English Literature and Film & Television Studies, and more recently graduated with distinction from the Creative Writing MA at Brunel University. He is currently working on a children's novel. His work with Tim on the libretto and lyrics of Yiffi is his first experience of writing for musical theatre, but he is looking forward to working in this arena much more in the future.

Kyle Evans - Animator
A member of the furry community since 2005, Kyle Evans has been studying both film and animation since 2006 at Deakin University in Australia. Outside of Yiffi, his animation work includes the title animation for TV series *Theatre*



Games Live and a handful of short animated films. This includes *Your Pal Global Warming*, which won an award in the online climate change video competition. Scene Name: kyle@yiffi.org.uk

Albin Balint - Director
Albin Balint holds an MA degree in Aesthetics and Theatre Arts from the University of Budapest and is currently studying on the MA Musical Theatre Producing course at Goldsmiths College, University of London. Previous directing and producing credits include: *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Chess*, *A Chorus Line*, *Pippin*, *Just William*: *The Musical*.

Matt Winkworth - MD
Matt graduated from Goldsmiths College, London, with a BMus in classical music. While at college, his credit as music director includes *Chess*: *The Musical*, *Headrig* and *The Army Incht, Bart Boy: Dream* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Since graduating he has musically directed the workshoping of eight new musicals (of which Yiffi was one), as well as developing original compositions for a play by Moral Support theatre company, London. He is also a keen composer and songwriter.
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Also thanks to: Joe Brown, Clackwest.com, Clive Burton, Chris Faulkner, Fovak, Vahn Fox, Dave and Sue Gward, Gabriel Goldsmith, Angelos Kionaris, Peter Raagert, Ross Robbins, Stage Don, Syvras and Jennifer Toksvig

Ioanna Sourmeli - Stage Manager

Ioanna is in her second year of Drama & Theatre Arts studies at Goldsmiths. She was part of the stage management team for the college's production of William Shakespeare's *The Tempest* (December 2007) and was later was stage manager of the musical *Pippin*. Ioanna was also one of the two stage managers for the *Just William* production (September 2007), which was part of the Goldsmiths' musical showcase of Musical Theatre students' work.
sourmeli.clus@hotmail.com

Joe Evans - Sound Operator

A composer, Musical Director and Sound designer, Joe's theatre credits include, among many, many others, *Overdrive* (Orange Tree Theatre), *Playing For Re-*

LIKE OUR STUFF? As well as *Yiff!*, we have lots of innovative ideas for musical theatre that belongs absolutely to the twenty-first century, talks its language, deals with its issues and uses its technology. We are working up ideas for several other musicals on a similar scale to this show, but which go way beyond the furry ghetto!

We are very open-minded to approaches, so if you are a director, producer, or a producing company, and would like to be closely involved in the development or dramaturgy of new work with us, please get in touch with Tim on tim@toomuchinformation.org.uk or Darren on darren@toomuchinformation.org.uk

rfim n00b: a Yiff! glossary

blatch - bitch (rap/black slang)
brb - be right back (internet speak)
ert - a versatile interjection or acknowledgement of faux pas or mistake (internet speak)
grok - to entirely understand (coined by Robert A. Heinlein)
lol - laugh out loud (internet speak)
meh - 'whatever', term of apathy or indifference (popularised in The Simpsons)
murrring - canine purring, a sound often used to denote pleasure (furry speak)
n00b - newbie, uninitiated person (internet speak)
omfg - oh my god/oh my fucking god (internet speak)

ward (Edinburgh), *Reservoir Dogs* (Edinburgh), *International tour*, *The Usual Suspects* (Edinburgh, Riverside Studios, International Tour), *The Remarkable Rocket* (Yvonne Arnaud Theatre and National tour), *The Little Dressmaker* (Union Theatre and Tabard Theatre), *Popygunya* (Greenwich Playhouse), *Astya* (Edinburgh) and *Romeo And Juliet* (Greenwich Playhouse). He also recently composed the soundtrack for the Snow Dome exhibition at Kew Gardens.

Georgia Pavelkova

- Assistant Stage Manager
Georgia is a first year Drama and Theatre Arts student at Goldsmiths. She is helping alongside the stage management team in her first production, with many to come!

toomuchinformation presents



by Tim Seward and Darren Deeks
Director - Albin Balint
Musical Director - Matt Winkworth
Animations - Kyle Evans

Not many people have heard of 'furs' or 'furrries' but they are a real phenomenon which I (Tim) discovered back in 2002, when a friend mentioned that he was one. I've since met many other furs and discovered that it means many different things to different people. In this musical, however, it refers to people who like to imagine themselves as anthropomorphic animals - animals that walk and talk like humans - of the kind you see in cartoons or Japanese kemono. For some (including our hero, Russ), there's a sexual dimension to this fantasy, for which the word 'yiff' has been coined. Furry fantasies, sexual and otherwise, may be played out online or in 'real' life. It may seem exotic or even perverse, but this musical invites you to consider whether what we think of as 'normal' sex is not at least as ridiculous as 'yiff', and is driven just as much by an irrational striving after an impossible chimera.

Tim Seward, Simon Warren and William Morris are all associates of Mercury Musical Developments, the UK organisation for writers of new musical theatre. If you would like to find out more about how MMD supports the creation of new musicals through developmental workshops, readings and networking opportunities, check out their website at www.mercurymusicals.com. If you are a director, MD, choreographer or other backstage professional and would like to meet writers of new musicals join the Facebook group 'Mercury Writers, Directors and Other Musical Theatre Professionals'.

www.yiff.org.uk