

the CRUMPLE ZONE

by Buddy Thomas



waterloo
east
theatre

www.waterlooeast.co.uk

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LAMBCO is thrilled to be presenting this Christmas comedy at the Waterloo East Theatre. It's the first time LAMBCO has produced here and isn't it a lovely venue that's so centrally located.

Thank you for coming to see this play and for buying tickets to see live theatre. It's only due to people like you that small-scale theatre will survive. Please tell all your friends that we're here and if they also purchase tickets we might be able to continue into our 19th year.

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With thanks to David King, Gerald Armin, Michael Ward, Gini Lazzoni, Robert McWhir and Waterloo East Theatre.

Cast

Terry James Grimm
Sam Sinead Donnelly
Buck James Mackay
Alex Jonny Davidson
Roger Nivcholas Gauci

Creatives

Writer Buddy Thomas
Director Helen Bang
Costumes Janet Huckle
Technical Richard Lambert
Producer LAMBCO Productions
Graphic Design Steve Caplin
Photographer Peter Davies
Marketing Kaitlin Marino
Assistant to the director Peter Rae
Production Assistant Paulina Azimov
US dialogue consultant Nora Perone

LAMBCO Board

Patron Su Pollard
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"The Crumple Zone" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd. on behalf of Samuel French Ltd.
www.concordtheatricals.co.uk

A note from the Director

The Crumple Zone is a tragi-comedy about all the simple complexities of what it means to be human.

It is about the difficulties of navigating honest friendships, of heartbreak and eternal longing.

It is about the hard realisations we must face when we come to realise that the dreams of our youth may not be fulfilled.

It is about love, loss and failure, and eventually hope.

It is about how funny and sad life is.

Fundamentally, it is about how we all yearn to belong, to someone, to something.

How we are all searching for love and meaning.

And that, eventually, we will survive the challenges thrown in our path and we will be okay.

A messy modern play that stretches from despair to redemption.

It will make you laugh and cry and probably break your heart so it becomes a little wider with hope and joy.



Helen Bang



James Grimm

Training: Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama

Theatre Credits: Harry Houdini/Ensemble in *The Vanishing Elephant* (Grand Opera House, Belfast and Stage 42, New York), Robbie in *The Pitch* (The Space Theatre, London), Glutz in *Glutz* (The Prague Quadrennial), Jack Twigg in *Dr Scroggy's War*; Launce in *Two Gentlemen of Verona*; Paul in *Locked In Locked Out* (Lyric Theatre, Belfast).

Theatre Credits While Training

Include: Harry Dangle in *One Man Two Guvnors*; Serebyakov in *Uncle Vanya*; Jem in *The Toll*; Everybody in *Everybody*; Duke Orsino in *Twelfth Night Remembered*; Eddie's Dad in *Road* (The Richard Burton Company).

Instagram:
@James_Grimm_UK



Sinead Donnelly

Training: Waterfront Theatre School (RSA)

Theatre credits include:

Assistant Dance Captain/ Swing in *Matilda The Musical* (International Tour); Choreographer of *Go! The Musical* (Camden Fringe); Dance Captain/Onstage Swing in *Calling Us Home* (Artscape, SA); Hortensia in *Matilda The Musical* (International Tour); Nun Ensemble in *Sound Of Music* (Artscape, SA); Assistant Kids Dance Captain in *Annie The Musical* (Artscape, SA); The Person in *Gardening And Other Distractions* (National Arts Festival SA); Mrs Hars in *Fool* (National Arts Festival); *JUNK* (National Arts Festival SA).

Theatre credits while training

include: *Sister Act* (Waterfront Theatre School); *Legally Blonde* (WTS); *Pirates of Penzance* (WTS)

Instagram: @sineadkdonnelly



James Mackay

Training: Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance

Theatre Credits: Ensemble in *Camelot in Concert* (London Palladium) 2022; Ollie in *Bones* (Theatre Peckham) 2022; Prince Charming in *Cinderella* (M&M Theatrical Productions) 2022/23; Albert in *Fit for a King* (Tickled Pink Productions) 2023; Ollie in *Bones* (Park Theatre) 2023.

Film Credits: Trevor in *Sublime* (Silverwing Entertainment) 2023; Unnamed in *Daylight* (Time Piece Productions) 2024.

Credits During Training: Chuck in *Footloose* (The Albany Theatre); Frank in *Merrily We Roll Along* (Trinity Laban).



Jonny Davidson

Training: University of East Anglia & Drama Studio London

Theatre credits include:

Grace (Edinburgh Fringe); Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol* (Quantum Theatre); Agamemnon in *Agamemnon* (Brighton Fringe); Russell in *Sparkleshark* (Brighton Fringe).

Screen credits include: *The End of the F**king World* (Netflix), *A Serial Killer's Guide to Life* (Forward Motion Pictures/ Amazon).

Theatre Credits while training:

Sandy in *Hayfever* (Drama Studio London), Benedick in *Much Ado About Nothing* (Drama Studio London), Antony in *Antony & Cleopatra* (Drama Studio London), Platonov in *Wild Honey* (Drama Studio London).



Nicholas Gauci

Training: Drama Studio London 2009-2011

Theatre credits include: Daoud & U/S Sofiane in *Phaedra* (National Theatre), Kamal in *The Mother of Kamal* (Camden Fringe), Al Annuri in *Hampton Court Palace Live Shows* (Hampton Court Palace), Anwar in *How to be Lucky* (UK Tour), Ted in *Harbor* (Tabard Theatre)

Screen credits include:

Alexander in *Lockerbie* (BBC/ Netflix), Pierre in *The Count of Monte Cristo* (dir. Bille August), Nelson Raposo in *The Good Ship Murder* (Channel 5), Syrian Officer in *Liaison* (Apple TV), Dasha in *FBI: International* (CBS).



Our multinational cast and creatives



Helen



Buddy, Kaitlin



Paulina



Sinead



Nicholas



James M



James G



Jonny



Peter, Janet, Kevin, Steve, Richard

Helen Bang *Director*



Helen was most recently seen as Lady Susan Bloom in a pair of farces at the Drayton Arms: *An Absolute Farce of a Murder Mystery* and *Don't Take The Pith!* both of which she also directed. Other recent theatre includes Miss Twitterton in Brian Blessed's production of *Busman's Honeymoon* at The Mill at Sonning. She also notably played the title role in Edward Bond's *Dea*, a role created for her by the recently departed playwright.

During her long association with international theatre company TheatreLab she played Herodias in their interpretation of Wilde's *Salome* – a production which toured internationally over several years; Miss Havesham in *Great Expectations*; as well as roles in *Medea*, *Jamaica Inn*; *The Oresteia* and *Dancing with the Devil* at Sadler's Wells. For English Rep Theatre Company she played Gertrude in *Hamlet* and Madame Arcati in *Blithe Spirit*, and for Oxford Shakespeare Company – Titania in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Most recent screen appearances include *The Nevers* for HBO and *Belgravia* for ITV; various commercials, including Volkswagen, Pensionwise, and FibreOne. As co-founder of Canonbie Productions she co-created web series *The Self-Tapers*, 2018- and *Gentrification*; comedy-crime podcast *Margate Murder Mystery*; and she recently directed their debut feature film, *Quixotic*.

Janet Huckle *Costume Supervisor*

Janet is a graduate of Reading University and Goldsmith's College, University of London. She has designed and costumed for many years for shows including *Grease*, *The Beggars Opera*, *Bugsy Malone*, *Into the Woods*, *A Midsummer's Night's Dream*, *Die Fledermaus*, *Honk*, *High Society*, *Dad's Army*, *Jack the Ripper*, *Top Hat*, *Copacabana* and *Wizard of Oz*. *Living Together*, *Absent Friends* and *Taking Steps* at OSO Barnes; *Boeing Boeing*, *Handbagged* and *Wife Begins at Forty* at Theatre Royal Windsor. *But I'm a Cheerleader*, *Faking Bad* and *Nutcracker* at The Turbine Theatre; *Made in Dagenham* (staged concert) at The London Palladium; *Elf* and *Romeo & Juliet* (the Musical) at Cultural Hall Bahrain.

Directing credits include: *Crazy for You*, *Twelfth Night*, *Kiss me Kate*, *Our Country's Good* and *The Addams Family*. *Oliver*, *Me and My Girl*, *Guys and Dolls* and *Anything Goes* at Wimbledon Theatre. She has been responsible for costuming The Paul Taylor-Mills Sidmouth Summer Play Festival from 2018 to present.

Richard Lambert *Designer*

DM the play, *Roy's Story*, *The Tailor-Made Man*, *Marry Me A Little* (Stage Door Theatre); *Boys in the Buff* (Best lighting design OFFIE Nomination); *Twinkle, Tickle, Boys in the Buff*, *Love is Blue* (Drayton Arms Theatre and Ed Fringe 2023); *Soho Boy* (Drayton Arms Theatre and Ed Fest

2022); *Bette Midler & Me* (Garden Theatre, Ed Fest 2022, Town and Gown, Drayton Arms); *Frostbite*, *Next Thing You Know*, *Pippin*, *Fanny & Stella* (Garden Theatre); *Undetectable* (Best lighting design OFFIE Nomination); *The Crumple Zone* (King's Head); *Skin Deep* (Ed Fest 2018, UK Tour); *Marry Me A Little*, *Muscles the Musical*, *Alvaro's Balcony*, *Discotivity*, *Stand Tall*, *Vincent River*, *The Hot Mikado*, *Get Aladdin*, *A Class Act*, *Next Thing You Know*, *Nunsense*, *Bakewell Bakeoff*, *Meet Me in St. Louis*, *No Way to Treat a Lady*, *The Man Inside*, *Damn Yankees* (OFFIE award nomination), *She Loves Me*, *In the Dead of Night*, *The Clockmaker's Daughter*, *Sincerely Yours*, *Personals*, *Romance Romance*, *Devilish the musical* (Londor Theatre); *Margot, Dame, the Most Famous Ballerina in the World* and *Boys in the Buff*, at the King's Head.

Other credits: Luseil Stadium (FIFA World Cup 2022); Erasmus Bridge (Rotterdam); *Disney on Ice* (7 continents, Tokyo Budokan, New Orleans Super Dome, Toronto Sky Dome, NYC Radio City Music Hall), Royal Wedding Dress Exhibition (Kensington Palace), *#Hashtag Lightie* (Arcola Theatre), *Cirque Enchantment* (UK Tour) and Jazz Dance Company UK Tour (8th year). *Do you Have a Secret Crush (Sleeping with Straight Men)?* (LOST Theatre).

Website: lambcolighting.co.uk

Lambco Productions

LAMBCO is an independent live entertainment production company based in London.

LAMBCO has produced *Do You Have A Secret Crush?* (Lost Theatre); five Christmas skating events (Torquay); *Bluebirds* (Above The Stag); *Sincerely Yours* and associate producer for *Bewitchment on Black Ice* (Londor), *Boys in the Buff* and *Skin Deep*, both received 5 Star Reviews. *Skin Deep* then went on a National Tour and the Edinburgh Fringe Festival gaining another 5 Star Review and a Fringe Award from Scots Gay, *The Crumple Zone* and *Margot, Dame, the Most Famous Ballerina in the World* (King's Head Theatre).

At the Drayton Arms Theatre and Ed Fest, LAMBCO produced *Boys in the Buff*, *Tickle, Soho Boy*, *Bette Midler and Me*, *Twinkle and Love is Blue*. Playbill chose *Boys In The Buff* as their "pick of the fringe" and the Scotsman declared *Tickle* and *Boys In The Buff*, two of the Fringe's four sexiest musicals.

Emerging from the pandemic, LAMBCO created the Garden Theatre in Vauxhall opening a musical ahead of Broadway and the West End – *Fanny and Stella*, *Pippin*, *Next Thing You Know*, *Naked Boys Singing* and *Frostbite*.

This year, LAMBCO set up the award-winning Stage Door Theatre, the first pub theatre in the West End, and produced *Marry Me a Little*, *The Tailor-Made Man*, *Slices of Life* and this UK premiere of the Broadway musical *The Story Of My Life*.

Current productions: *Entertaining Murder* (Upstairs at the Gatehouse) and *The Crumple Zone* (Waterloo East Theatre).

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