

# It's Hooray for Hollywood at the 8th annual 50-Hour Improvathon!

Extempore Theatre in association with Die Nasty and KPS Productions present

## The 2015 London 50-Hour Improvathon

An improvised comedy soap-opera in 25 episodes  
Back for an 8th extraordinary year!

“Hilarious! Like nothing you’ve ever seen before. Late night clubbers and early morning joggers unite!”  
Time Out Critics’ Choice



“Fearsomely able improvisers.... Extempore Theatre is the hothouse for British longform improv”  
Financial Times



“Absolutely incredible. This isn’t theatre – its blood sports!”  
Whatsonstage



Welcome to Tinseltown! Where Sleepless Studios are celebrating 100 years in the movie business...

This year, the eighth annual **50-Hour Improvathon**, being staged at the LOST Theatre from 7.00pm on Friday 29 May and finishing 9.00pm on Sunday 31 May, is an hilarious homage to all things Hollywood, featuring leading improvisers from the UK and overseas, playing a range of lovable and eccentric characters in modern-day Los Angeles. Screen sirens, budding starlets, struggling writers, crazed directors, big-shot producers... it takes all sorts to make the most successful movie studio in the world!

‘This year’s setting is a celebration of all the movies we know and love - with a dose of red-carpet Hollywood glamour,’ promises the event’s director, Adam Meggido.

A core group of around 20 actors will play the whole 50 hours, going without sleep, with guest performers dropping in from time to time. There will be a band throughout and all night bar! Come for an episode, or a few, or stay for the whole thing! As the performers become increasingly sleep-deprived they lose the ability to censor themselves and an extraordinary new playing style emerges. Wild, unpredictable, funny and engaging, this is live theatre at its most exciting. It’s like watching an entire DVD box-set of your favourite drama in one viewing. There is also a special ‘Family Episode’ (Sunday 11.00am-1.00pm) where the action is suitable for children.

The cast will feature: **Mike McShane** (star of *Whose Line Is It Anyway?*, *Paul Merton’s Impro Chums* and known internationally as Friar Tuck in the Kevin Costner film *Robin Hood Prince Of Thieves*. Mike most recently appeared in the Menier Chocolate Factory production of *Assassins*); **Cariad Lloyd** (Foster’s Edinburgh Comedy Newcomer nominee and star of her own show for BBC3 - *The Cariad Show*); **Ruth Bratt** (seen in Ricky Gervais’ *Derek* (Channel 4); BBC’s *Mongrels: Vic Reeves’ Ministry Of Curious Stuff* and BBC3’s *People Just Do Nothing*); **Mark Meer** (Canadian Screen Award nominee and Canadian Comedy Award winner, known worldwide as the voice of Commander Shepard in the *Mass Effect* trilogy. A veteran of over 25 improvathons!); **Gemma Whelan** (long running character Yara Greyjoy in *Game Of Thrones*); **Dan Starkey** (plays long-running character Strax in BBC1s *Doctor Who* and recently made an appearance on *University Challenge*); **Rachel Parris** (*The IT Crowd* on CH4, finalist Hackney Empire New Act Of The Year and named as ‘One To Watch’ by the Independent in 2014 ); **Sean McCann**, **Alan Cox** (played young John Mortimer *A Voyage Round My Father*, starring opposite Laurence Olivier. He is probably most widely known for his role in *Young Sherlock Holmes*, where he played a teenage version of Dr. Watson); **Sarah-Louise Young** (‘Best Musical Variety Act’ London Cabaret Awards, her critically acclaimed *Cabaret Whore* and *Julie Madly Deeply* shows have toured around the world and she has guested with *Fascinating Aida* and is a regular member of *The Showstoppers*). Also starring members of **Mischief Theatre**, creators of West End hit *The Play That Goes Wrong*, winners of the Best New Comedy Whatsonstage Award, who have just been nominated for an Olivier Award for Best New Comedy.

Director **Adam Meggido**: Co-creator of *Showstopper! The Improvised Musical* (BBC R4, three West End runs, seven sell-out Edinburgh Festivals, UK and international tours, West End Live, The Olivier Awards); *The School Of Night* (with Ken Campbell – Royal National Theatre, Shakespeare’s Globe Theatre, Royal Court Theatre and BBC Radio 3); currently world record holder for longest continuous direction of improvisation (55 hours, Toronto December 2013); also a writer, composer and director, his musical *Burlesque* won four Off West End Theatre Awards in 2012 including Best New Musical.

Originally created by award-winning Canadian troupe ‘Die Nasty’, the event was brought to London by maverick theatre genius Ken Campbell and since then has been produced by Adam Meggido and Extempore Theatre as an annual event at both Hoxton Hall and The Park Theatre.

kevinwilson  
public relations

Press contact: Kevin Wilson at KWPR 07884 368697 kevinwilsonpr@gmail.com

## The 50-Hour Improvathon

### How does it work?

Each episode lasts 1 hour and 45 minutes followed by a 15-minute break.  
Episodes start at 7.00pm, 9.00pm, 11.00pm, 1.00am, 3.00am etc – right the way through the night.  
Audiences can buy tickets for any stand-alone episode or watch as many hours as they like. Many brave the whole extravaganza with a 50-hour pass!

### Tickets:

£10.00 for a two-hour episode (£7 concessions).  
£5.00 to stay on for any subsequent episodes. These can only be bought at the venue on the day.  
£55.00 for a full event pass (£45 if bought by April 1st)  
There will be a special 'Family Episode' (Sunday 11am-1pm) where we redesign the action for kids and families.

### Where is it?

Venue: LOST Theatre, Stockwell  
There is a bar and cafe open throughout the night

### When is it?

Starts 7.00pm Friday 29th May and finishes 9.00pm Sun 31st May. Episodes start on odd numbered hours: 7.00pm, 9.00pm, 11.00pm, 1.00am, etc (yes, all through the night!)

### How much is it?

Get a 50-hour Pass giving you access to the entire event for £55.00, that's just over £1 for each hour of comedy! There are only a limited number of these passes, so book early!! An Episode Pass costs £10.00 (£7.00 concession). And if you feel like seeing more after that you can upgrade your pass to see another episode for only £5.00.

## LISTINGS INFORMATION

LOST Theatre  
208 Wandsworth Road  
London  
SW8 2JU

Box office 020 7622 9208  
[www.losttheatre.co.uk](http://www.losttheatre.co.uk)

### How to get to LOST Theatre

#### By tube/train:

Northern Line or Victoria Line to Stockwell Station then a 7-minute walk  
Victoria line or Rail services from Waterloo or Clapham Junction to Vauxhall Station then a 12-minute walk

#### By bus:

88 Camden Town to Clapham Common (via Stockwell tube Station - then a 7-minute walk)  
2 Marylebone to Norwood (via Stockwell tube Station - then a 7-minute walk)  
77 Waterloo to Tooting (via Wandsworth Road)  
87 Aldwych to Wandsworth (via Wandsworth Road)  
196 Elephant & Castle to Norwood (via Wandsworth Road)  
P5 Elephant & Castle to Nine Elms (via Wandsworth Road)  
N87 Night bus – Aldwych to Kingston (via Wandsworth Road)