

Nicodemus Productions was established as a group in September 1989 with the debut production of "On The Surface", a multi-media show, performed at the Old Museum Building in December 1989.

The new approach was to combine diverse media — traditional and contemporary dance, organic and electronic music, overlaid with a narration of a Plato text. The work moved thematically, in three parts from chaos, to harmony, to chaos.

In **A Symphony On Luther** our intention is less to dramatise Luther's life and career, but to demonstrate what we call "the Grammar of Poetics".

This grammar becomes manifest in change. Because of a shared grammar a change in a single element produces a change in every other element as the whole poetic alters. This principle applies equally to cultural and natural structures.

The "characters" depart from traditional theatrical convention. They respond to each other through their chosen artistic medium rather than by spoken word. Only the character of Luther himself retains the conventions of acting.

So we are able to show with immediacy the reaction of Art to Luther.

On another level the relationship between content and form reflects the Grammar of Poetics: Luther provides the subject matter but it is through the form of the piece that the other characters react directly both to the character of Luther and to the historical Luther.



NICODEMUS PRODUCTIONS
ARTS THEATRE, BELFAST
22nd — 30th JUNE 1990

BOOKING: ARTS THEATRE BOX OFFICE. TEL: 324936



Standing (left to right): Nico Andreas Heller, Phil Nalty, Martin Wedge, Clifford Killen, David Worden, Keith McVeigh. Sitting (left to right): Margaret Byrne, Anthea McWilliams.

Director/Producer NICO ANDREAS HELLER (Stuttgart) has produced and directed plays and videos in West Germany, Berlin and Belfast. His last two productions in Belfast were, "A Respectable Wedding" (Brecht), and "On The Surface" (A dance piece in three parts). Nico is the director of Nicodemus Productions.

PHIL NALTY (Galway) is a graduate in Fine Arts. She has exhibited in group shows, including E.V.A., and presented a solo show in the Belltable Arts Centre, Limerick. Whilst resident in Limerick, Phil collaborated with theatre and dance companies in the production and design of sets. She has designed and produced the costumes for this production.

MARTIN WEDGE (Belfast), graduate in Fine Arts, is presently exhibiting in "New North" Tate Gallery, Liverpool. Touring, he has had various solo and group exhibitions of drawings, paintings, and performances-installations in Ireland and Europe.

CLIFFORD KILLEN (Belfast) spent 13 years with B.B.C. Symphony Orchestra before graduating from Queen's in Music and Ethnomusicology. He is a founder member of the Baroque Orchestra of Ireland. Clifford has played in several Baroque ensembles in Cork, Belfast and Dublin.

DAVID WORDEN (Manchester) spent two years in Paris with Mother Teresa's Brothers before beginning studies in Belfast for an English Degree. He has been involved with local theatre through his capacity as bill-poster.

KEITH McVEIGH (Belfast) has played in various bands in Belfast making records and a video, he has been involved in several collaborations in experimental and computer music. Keith recently graduated in Philosophy at Queen's.

MARGARET BYRNE (Designer & Choreographer), since leaving college in Cardiff, has worked throughout Ireland Britain as dancer, choreographer and teacher. Mags was one of two dancers engaged by the Arts Council to form "Footwork" (N.I.), but more recently she has worked with Daghdha Dance Company and Dance Theatre Ireland.

ANTHEA McWILLIAMS BA (Hons), Performance Arts (Belfast). Choreographer, studied contemporary dance. She performed in Tinderbox's productions of Edward Bond's "Stone" and appeared at N.O.W.'s Millenium Festival in "Undertow". Anthea co-founded Photomotive, and is currently the Youth Dance tutor in Downpatrick.

Stage manager, RORY McALISTER (Coleraine), graduated from the Theatre Studies programme at Coleraine. Since then he has trained in mime, worked on Theatre and Drama projects in London, Edinburgh and Wales, and worked for N.O.W. in Belfast. Rory is a member of Quantum Theatre Company.

Public Relations Officer PAULA WYNBURNE (Belfast) has travelled extensively in Africa and Asia. She is currently working at the Belfast Rape Crisis Centre for which she organised a contemporary art auction.

Dramaturg Dr. PAUL WHITELY (Manchester) is a graduate of Manchester University and a lecturer in English Literature at Queen's. He has a particular interest in dramatic theory and drama teaching. This is Paul's first work as a dramaturg and writer.

PROGRAMME

ACT I 1507
 The Young Luther
 His first Mass
 Conflicts with his Father

David Worden
 Anthea McWilliams
 Margaret Byrne
 Keith McVeigh
 Clifford Killen
 Martin Wedge
 Phil Nalty

ACT II 1517
 Luther and the Church
 The scandal of Indulgences
 The 95 Thesis

David Worden
 Chorus
 Anthea McWilliams
 Margaret Byrne
 Keith McVeigh
 Martin Wedge
 Phil Nalty

ACT III 1521
 Luther and the State
 The Diet of Worms
 Exile

David Worden
 Chorus
 Belfast Circus School
 Anthea McWilliams
 Margaret Byrne
 Keith McVeigh
 Clifford Killen
 Martin Wedge

ACT IV 1525
 The Bundschuh Movement
 Marriage
 The Mature Luther

David Worden
 Chorus
 Anthea McWilliams
 Keith McVeigh
 Clifford Killen
 Martin Wedge
 Phil Nalty

PROGRAMME

Luther
 Nun
 Anton
 "Luther's God"
 Hans (Luther's father)
 Father Staupitz
 Brother Weiland

Luther
 Tetzl & the Masses
 Nun
 Worker
 "Luther's God"
 Father Staupitz
 Emperor

Luther
 The Masses
 Tetzl's congregation
 Nun
 Catjen
 "Luther's God"
 Hans
 Father Staupitz

Luther
 Masses
 Luther's wife
 "Luther's God"
 Hans (father)
 Father Staupitz
 The Church & and the State

Verse Writer PHILIP McCANN (Belfast) has written verses for the chorus for Act I and II, Philip graduated from Trinity College and is at present a student of Malcolm Bradbury on the M.A. course in creative writing in Norwich.

Stage Designer STEWART LECKY (Belfast) has been an architectural student at Queen's since 1985. Commissions and work in progress include: weekend residences in Carlingford, Co. Louth, private dwelling in New England, U.S.A. Stewart has designed for several Architectural Practices in Belfast.

Lighting Designer MICHAEL POYNOR (Falkland Islands) has illuminated Dame Peggy Ashcroft, Sir Michael Redgrave, Edward Woodward, Jeremy Brett, Patricia Hodge, Cheryl Campbell, Lewis Collins, Ballet Rambert, Humphrey Littleton's Band, "Jesus Christ Superstar" and 86 different theatres.

Sound Designer PATRICK DALGETY (Inverness) has worked in a technical capacity for various theatre companies throughout the British Isles. Together with Debra Salem he recently established Green Dolphin Studios — 1990 "Livewire" awards finalist.



Chorus members: Linda Artherton, Keith Butler, Kirsty Campbell, Jacque Crane, Carole Finney, Emma-Louise Johnston, Thomas Lowe, Carla McCadden, Victoria Miller, Charlene Murphy, Joanne Shaw. Also members of Belfast Circus School under the direction of Jennifer Dempsey.

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NORTHERN IRELAND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL

NORTHERN IRELAND VOLUNTARY TRUST

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