

BETWEEN THE BARS PRESENTS

# AFTER LIFE

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13 to 17 December 2022, Corpus Playroom, Cambridge

Written by Jack Thorne

Adapted from the film by Hirokazu Kore-eda

Concept by Bunny Christie, Jeremy Herrin, and Jack Thorne

*An amateur production by arrangement with Nick Hern Books*

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## Cast

### Guides

One

Emily Starr

Two

Matthew Bairstow

Three

David John

Four

Alicia Hussey

Five

Warren Clark

### Guided

Beatrice Killick

Sandra Birnie

Hirokazu Mochizuki

Michael Broom

Obafemi Taylor

Sam Shepherd

Henry Thompson / Graham Jenkins / Actor Harold

Chris Jeffery

Katie Mochizuki / Actress

Danielle Phillips

Jill Smart / Actress Young Beatrice

Mia Plant

Voiceovers

Catriona Clarke, Jack Vincent



### Emily Starr

Emily trained in Performance at Northumbria University back in 2010 and has since been involved in the Cambridge theatre scene. Emily can usually be found directing musicals including *Little Women* (2019), *Rent* (2019), *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* (2017), *Spamalot* (2016) and *The Addams Family* (2016), all with CTC, and most recently *Kinky Boots* (2022) for Festival Players at the ADC. Emily is very excited to be returning to the stage after years of working behind the scenes.

### Matt Bairstow

Matt trained on the Oxford School of Drama's acting foundation course and Royal Central School of Speech and Drama's Writing for Performance course. His most recent roles include Hamlet in *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead* (BAWDS and Corkscrew Theatre), Lysander in *Supernatural Shakespeare* (BAWDS) and James Watson in *Photograph 51* (Combined Actors). He is also a composer, writing and performing the music for *Titus &* (RCSSD) and *Edward Gants Amazing Feats of Loneliness*, and a playwright, having seen his debut short play 'Dipuc' performed earlier this year.



### David John

David trained as an actor in Vancouver, Canada, in the 90s. Since then, he has worked as an actor, director, stage technician, semiconductor physicist and applied mathematician all at different points in his life and in several different countries. Since relocating to Cambridge in 2015, he has had the opportunity to attempt taking on all these jobs simultaneously.

### Alicia Hussey

Alicia currently teaches Classics at a local secondary school and loves the opportunity to combine her love of Classics and theatre, having acted in Euripides' *Bacchae* (2019) at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and Sophocles' *Oedipus at Colonus* (2019) in the triennial Cambridge Greek play. She has performed in a number of shows around Cambridge and Watford, including *Grease* (2021), *Escaped Alone* (2019), *The Duchess of Malfi* (2016), *A Bunch of Amateurs* (2018) and *By Way of Murder* (2018). She has undertaken training courses with Sylvia Young Theatre School and the RSC and has volunteered with Herts Inclusive Theatre.



### Warren Clark



Warren has been part of the amateur theatre scene in Cambridge for more than 20 years, mostly in musical theatre for Festival Players (for whom he is also the current chair). Significant roles in that time include leads in *Sweeney Todd* (2009) and *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* (2017), while for Between the Bars, he has performed in *Dogfight* (2017) and most recently *Once* (2022), the latter leading to the formation of folk band *Once Again*. For Between the Bars, he also directed *I'll Be Seeing You* by local playwright Rachel Jarmy, which ran here at the Corpus Playroom and at the Edinburgh Festival in 2013.

### **Sandra Birnie**

Since training at Drama Studio, London Sandra has enjoyed a range of roles including Ethel Banks in *Barefoot in the Park* for Bawds; Danforth in *The Crucible* for Huntingdon Drama Club and most recently Hector in *The History Boys* for Lamphouse Theatre, Peterborough. She has trained in clowning and fooling with Holly Stoppit in Bristol.



### **Michael Broom**

Michael trained as a physicist at Cambridge, and naturally became involved in the Cambridge musical theatre scene as soon as the horror of academia was over. Respite began with the Festival Players' touring show *Someone in the Crowd* (2018) and went on to perform in *Spring Awakening* (2019), *Rent* (2019), *Let the Sunshine in* (2021), and *Dogfight* (2022). *After Life* will be the first play he has undertaken, and he is thrilled and slightly terrified to have the opportunity to portray such a complex (and old) character.

### **Sam Shepherd**

Sam trained at Stagemworks College back in 2009. Whilst currently working full-time in care, Sam keeps his foot in the door doing professional and amateur shows. In 2018, Sam performed with the Magic Motown Tour show and made his first debut at the ADC Theatre with Festival Players, playing Lead role, 'Lola' in *Kinky Boots* (2022). This is Sam's first show with *Between the Bars*.



### **Chris Jeffery**

Chris trained at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance on their BA in Musical Theatre. This is his second show with *Between the Bars*, having made his debut at the Playroom in *Blue Stockings* 4 years prior. He currently works for the ADC, covering the box office and duty managing at the Playroom.

### **Mia Plant**

Mia has been a member of the Young Actor's Company (YAC) for five years. Before then, she was part of the amateur drama club, Dramawise, where she performed at the Cambridge Junction and was part of an award-winning cast at the Cambridge Drama Festival. This year she played Becky in the Easts, an eight-part radio drama that won silver at the Community Radio Awards.



### **Danielle Padley**

Danielle trained in Musical Theatre Performance at Associated Studios, London. Her most recent roles include Girl in *Once* (*Between the Bars*), Ophelia in *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead* (BAWDS and Corkscrew Theatre), and Helena in *Supernatural Shakespeare* (BAWDS). Danielle is also a musician and music historian, currently working at the Woolf Institute, Cambridge, on a postdoctoral project about Jewish music-making in Victorian England. She is Musical Director of Cambridge's Hebrew choir, *Kol Echad*, and a member of the newly founded folk band *Once Again*.

# Creative Team

Director	Cat Nicol
Lighting, Sound, & Projection Design / DSM	Serena Povia
Music Composition & Orchestration	Ana Sanderson
Set Design & Construction, Projection	Katerina Tsorbatzoglou
Props Design & Stage Manager	Alison Hall
Lighting Assistant	Ian Bruno
Special Effects	Mike Rudin
Set Construction	George Bateman
Social media / Publicity	Catriona Clarke
Poster Design & Rehearsal Photographs	Olivia Clark
Production Photographs	Peter Buncombe Photography
Produced by	Between the Bars Theatre

## Thanks to

ADC Theatre, Andy Waller, Cherry Hinton Baptist Church, Woolf Institute, Romsey Mill, Liz Milway

## Cat Nicol (Director)

Cat, originally from Wales, studied Musical Theatre at the Arts Educational Schools, London. Whilst her day job is now in HR, she has been an active member of the Cambridge theatre scene for many years initially as performer but most recently as director. Cat was one of the founding members of Between the Bars Theatre and has been involved in some capacity in all of their productions to date. Her most recent challenge was directing the musical *Once* at the ADC Theatre which involved a cast of 14 actor / musicians playing live on stage each night!



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The Corpus Playroom is managed by the University of Cambridge through the ADC Theatre.

Box Office: 01223 300085

Free online booking: [adctheatre.com](http://adctheatre.com)

The Corpus Playroom is a non-smoking venue. Audience members must comply with the ADC's Code of Conduct, which can be found at [adctheatre.com/conduct](http://adctheatre.com/conduct)