

RAO ON RED ON RED 文字新席播劇画



The cast of TREASURE ISLAND poses after performance, April 2013

Front I-r Sarah Brooks, Evelyn Philbrook, Sherry Li *Back I-r* Taili Huang, Manav Mehta, Hans Lachman, Paul

Jackson, Ruth Giordano, Marc Anthony, Murray Richardson

MISSION

A s part of the Red Room community "dedicated to listening", the mission at Red Room Radio Redux (R4) is to bring selections from the canon of Western literature to wide audience using simple techniques of readers' theater and radio drama. We seek to re-kindle an appreciation for Western literary tradition and to find common purpose through a shared, re-imagined experience of these great works.

Rextensively on the original language of the story or poem. Participants are auditioned and cast on the basis of their vocal abilities and willingness to contribute to an ensemble theatre production. Carefully chosen background music and live sound effects enhance the listening experience as we recreate the story in the minds of the audience.

In addition to live public performances, R4 also records voice dramas for broadcast in partnership with ICRT-FM100. We have also been in contact with educational institutions in Taipei and look forward to sharing our passion for the spoken word and Western literature with their students.

Our repertoire includes: *Macbeth*, Bram Stoker's *Dracula*, *The War of the Worlds*, *Treasure Island* and Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*.

A not-for-profit organization, R4 is always grateful for support in any form. We welcome fresh talent, technical assistance off & onstage online and off, gifts in kind and, of course, sponsorship. Our progress as art-makers would not be possible without the generous support of Red Room Volunteers, ICRT-FM100 and The Ripplemaker Foundation.

If you can help in any way, please email us at r4.radioredux@gmail.com

紅房新廣播劇團

為 "深度聆聽" 的紅坊社群一份子,紅房新廣播劇團的使命是藉由述說文字,透過極簡讀者聽衆和廣播現場方式,帶給廣大聽衆們更精采的文學體驗。身為地球村的一份子,紅坊新廣播劇團和東方朋友們擁有這樣特別機會,分享最美好的西方文化傳統,重新燃起偉大故事和詩 詞的火種,探索世上文學的共同使命。

一個非盈利組織,紅房新廣播劇團總是非常感謝來自我們社群 的熱情支持。我們一直在找尋熱血青年、技術助理 (線上和舞台部分),當然還特別感謝贊助商。

當然我們更希望可以跟台北教育單位聯繫,來分享我們透過戲劇表演述說文字的熱情,來做好我們投注在教育上的本分。如果您和您的教育機構願意支持與幫助我們這樣特別熱忱計劃,非常歡迎感謝來信給我們 r4.radioredux@gmail.com。

紅房新廣播劇團是用英文表演。由電台廣播舞台方式,透過角色的語氣和還有詼諧生動的手勢來演出每個角色獨特個性,並 透過現場音效及配樂帶給觀衆們身歷其境的體驗。

紅房新廣播劇團

身為 "深度聆聽" 的紅房社群一份子,紅房新廣播劇團的使命是藉由述說文字,透過極簡朗讀和現場演出方式,帶給廣大聽衆們更精采的文學體驗。身為地球村的一份子,紅房新廣播劇團的使命是要讓東方朋友們可以擁有這樣特別機會,一同欣賞最美好的西方文化傳統,重新燃起偉大故事和詩詞的火種,探索世上文學之美。







BELOW: R4 company members and friends pose at the Fringe Festival Parade, 2012. 下面: R4 夥伴成員們和朋友們在 2012 臺北藝穗節擺出的拍照姿勢。

BOTTOM RIGHT: Mark Caltonhill (left) as Macduff in confrontation with Manay Mehta as Macbeth

右下:Mark (左) 扮演著麥克德夫,正在對抗 Mavav 飾演馬克白





ON RADIO REDU

ORIGINS

R4 sprang directly from the Red Room "culture of listening and sharing"

In the spring of 2012, when performing artists all over Taipei were publicly invited to register for the Fifth Annual Taipei Fringe Festival, a few members of the Red Room Community started brainstorming: with all the energy displayed at the Stage Time & Wine events, was there enough interest in the Red Room community to participate in the Festival?

Ignatz Ratzkywatzy, R4's future head writer and dramaturge, had the initial inspiration to offer a program of dramatic readings, "Reader's Theatre or," he said, "maybe Radio Drama".

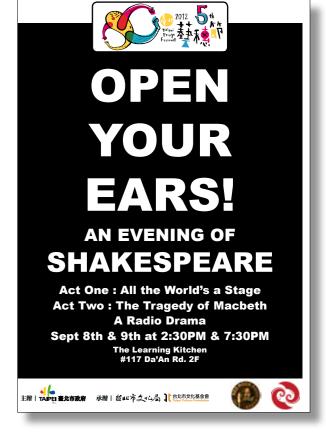
Later that same year, in collaboration with artistic director Ruth Giordano, Ratzkywatzy developed the concept: to relate a story using only voices, sound effects and selected background music. Modelling his writing after that of the Golden Age of Radio, he crafted two scripts based on the works of Shakespeare.

At the Taipei Fringe Festival in Fall 2012, Ratzkywatzky's adaptation of MACBETH shared the program with an original work, OPEN YOUR EARS! which illuminated Shakespeare's love of theater and actors.

Among the attendees of R4's OPEN YOUR EARS!/ MACBETH at the Fringe Festival was Tim Berge, GM at ICRT-FM100. Mr. Berge introduced himself to the company and suggested that R4 and ICRT might collaborate on recording scripts for broadcast and online release. By Christmas of 2012, R4 was on the air with Charles Dickens' A CHRISTMAS CAROL. Several other scripts soon followed.

At this writing, R4 has produced four (4) scripts, each in two formats: Live stage-shows with live sound effects and professionally recorded productions for broadcast and on-demand online listening.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL is becoming an annual tradition, both on radio and onstage, in various venues around Taipei. MACBETH has been revived for other festivals and broadcast on ICRT. TREASURE ISLAND was seen



live and heard broadcast in April 2013 and is currently being revived for special educational presentation at local libraries and schools. DRACULA, presented live in October 2013, will be broadcast on ICRT this year. Currently, R4 is expanding its repertoire to include notable novelists, poets, and short story writers in theatrical and radio presentations that stimulate the imagination and bring audiences closer to these great works.









 $extbf{TOP:}$ Reading from MACBETH: "When shall we three meet again?" The Witches. 正在分享馬克白,"我們三人何時再聚"。

I-r Taili Huang, Sherry Li, Sarah Brooks

ABOVE: At the Fringe Festival 2012 press conference, R4 readers share a Shakespeare sonnet. 在 2012 臺北藝穂節的主要活動現場,R4 朗讀著分享莎士比亞的十四行詩。

Front I - r Trista de Genova, Mark Caltonhill, Taili Huang

ORIGINS

大工房新廣播劇團(R4)是基於紅房社群「聆聽與分享」之理念孕育而生。

2012年春天,紅房公開受邀參與第五屆台北藝穗節,當時成員 們絞盡腦汁思索著同一個問題:「藉由Stage Time & Wine全 力演出的成果,能否讓紅房在規模更大的藝穗節吸引觀眾?」

R4 准主筆兼編劇 Ignatz Ratzkywatzy 想到讀劇本的點子, 他說:「像是讀者劇場,或是廣播劇也行。」

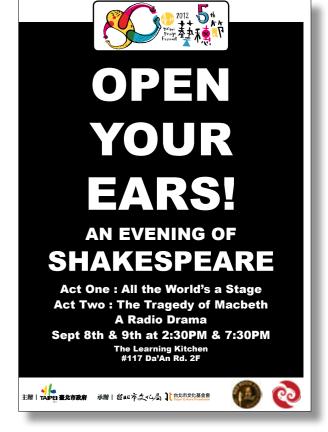
同年,與藝術總監 Ruth Giordano 合作不久之 後,Ratzkywatzy譜出的概念是:一、演出只透過人聲、 現場音效及特選背景音樂;二、腳本則模仿廣播黃金時代 (1920~1950)撰寫,目前他已完成改編兩齣莎士比亞劇本。

2012年秋天藝穗節正式開始,R4以「豎起耳朵!」(OPEN YOUR EARS!)為主題演出Ratzkywatzky 改編的馬克白,點亮莎士比亞對戲劇和演員的喜愛。

表演當天有位觀眾主動向演出團隊致意,他是 ICRT 總經理 Tim Berge。Berge 提議 R4 可和ICRT 合作錄製劇本於電台 及網站上播出。2012年聖誕,R4第一齣廣播劇一狄更斯的聖 誕頌歌(A Christmas Carol) 一正式於空中播放。R4其他作 品也隨之播出。

目前R4已完成四份劇本,每份劇本各分為兩種版本,一種適用 於現場演出並搭配現場音效;另一種適用於電台及網路播放之 專業錄製。

四份劇本分別為:聖誕頌歌(A Christmas Carol)為R4每年固定劇本,演出方式包括於大台北地區現場演出及電台廣播;馬克白(Macbeth)則於藝文節慶再現以及由ICRT播出;金銀島(Treasure Island)於2013年4月初演及電台播放,且在各圖書館及學校也有表演。德古拉(Dracula)首演於2013年10月,今年(2014)將透過ICRT放送。R4目前致力接觸更多著名小說家、詩人及戲劇/廣播劇作者,目的除拓展作品版圖之外,更希望激發聽眾想像力,拉近聽眾與文學的距離。









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Curtain call TREASURE ISLAND April 2013

 L - r Hans Lachman, Ruth Giordano, Sarah Brooks, Marc Anthony 金銀島謝幕(2013年4月)

由左而右:Hans Lachman, Ruth Giordano, Sarah Brooks, Marc Anthony





Ruth Giordano has been devoted to the performing arts for decades- deeply involved in dance, drama, opera, film, costumes & puppetry; she has worked at every level in almost every capacity: as an actor, dancer, a writer, director, designer and builder, but her current passion is for sharing a great story with the folks of the community. That's because for Ruth, community and communication are at the heart of the theatre experience.

While she has worked with professional companies including the Metropolitan Opera, the Tony Award-winning Williamstown Theater Festival, major motion pictures and a number of productions on-, off- and off-

off-Broadway, her most meaningful work has been with educational institutions including the Julliard School in New York, and colleges and schools around the United States. For Ruth, theater is a means to bring people together: "the act of making theater is a collaborative effort requiring tireless teamwork; and the act of experiencing a theatrical production brings together artists (playwrights, actors, musicians and designers), technicians and audience to demonstrate the power of the spoken word."

R4 PRODUCER & DIRECTOR

Now a resident of Taipei, Ruth has appeared in commercial videos for several products, most notably for Kingston *Memory Stick* in a YouTube video that went viral in December 2013 with over one million viewings, for which she played the leading role.

Through the R4 experience, Ruth is growing as a director and producer, taking strides in improving listening skills & sharing her passion for literature as well as theater with the immediate community.

入表演藝術已有數十年,作品遍及舞蹈、戲劇、歌劇、影片、服裝及偶戲,她的身份是演員、舞者、作者、導演、設計師還有建築師,無論在哪方面她都能發揮所長。近來Ruth積極向大衆分享好故事,對她來說,戲劇體驗的核心就是人群和溝通。

在美國時曾服務於許多專業藝文機構,例如美國紐約大都會歌劇院、獲東尼獎殊榮的威廉斯鎮戲劇節、各大電影以及在內外百老 匯劇場中都有她的作品,其中她覺得意義最深遠的是和教育單位合作,包括紐約茱莉亞音樂學院和國內院校。對於 Ruth 來說, 戲劇是人與人相聚的引力:「從事戲劇製作要求的是合作無間努力不懈的團隊精神。融入戲劇更要結合藝文工作者(劇作家、演 員、音樂家及設計師)、技術人員和觀衆,才能展現有聲文字的力量。」

Ruth現居台北,她也參加一些電視廣告演出,其中最知名的是金士頓隨身碟廣告,由Ruth擔任主角,廣告影片於2013年12月在 Youtube播出後吸引了超過一百萬人觀看。

藉由與R4的合作經驗,Ruth現在身兼導演及製作人二職,致力提升深度聆聽的能力,並和大衆分享她對文學及戲劇的熱愛。







A CHRISTMAS CAROL

 $\begin{array}{c} \hbox{ROOM RADIO REDUX re-kindles the spirit of } \\ \hbox{Christmas annually with our adaptation of Charles} \\ \hbox{Dickens' A CHRISTMAS CAROL.} \end{array}$

Re-discover the immortal classic, performed in the tradition of a dramatic radio production. Open your ears to the sounds of Dickens' cherished fable; the story of Ebenezer Scrooge and his encounter with three ghosts who reveal unto him a future as miserable as his spirit, urging him to embrace a change of heart. This holiday season, come share in our passion for radio drama with this masterwork of western literature.

We have entertained a variety of audiences from the crowd Stage Time & Wine to members of the TAS community as a fund raiser for their Orphanage Club. We were also honored guest-performers at the Taipei Municipal Zhong-Zheng High School.

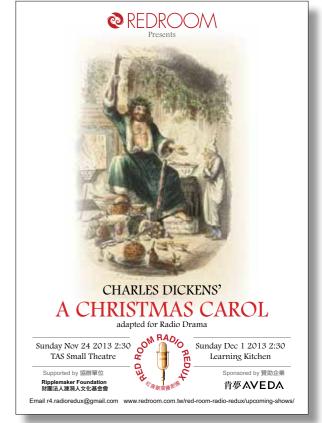
Our professional quality recording has been broadcast over Taiwan on ICRT-FM100 at Christmas-time for two years running. It is available on demand by going to http://www.redroom.com.tw/rrrr-gallery/

Suitable for all ages

房廣播劇團以自己改編迪金森的"聖誕頌歌",重新 展現了一年一度的聖誕精神。

我們重新探索這部不朽經典並以傳統的戲劇張力呈現這個廣播劇。專注聆聽迪金森這部令人珍藏的預言:主角史庫奇以及三位精靈的奇遇,向他預示了悲慘的未來並警醒他擁抱心靈的改變。在這個聖誕假期,歡迎前來參與我們對廣播劇的熱情,並欣賞這部西方文學巨著。 我們的廣播劇已經為廣大的帶來娛樂:從紅房Stage Time & Wine 活動的來賓,到 TAS 社群,同時也是孤兒院們的資助人。我們同時也是中正高中的榮譽表演者。

我們的專業水準廣播劇也在 ICRT-FM100 上全台播送著。歡迎前往下列網站索取: http://www.redroom.com.tw/rrrr-gallery/



Our live presentation requirements:

Performance time:	(1) hour
We provide:	(6-10) voice actors (2) Sound effects technicians Computer operator
Our live presentation requires:	(3) microphones (3) mic stands Amplifier (with capacity for mics + computer-run audio files Speakers (1) med/small table (1m x 2m) music stand Simple, general illumination (professional lighting not required)





BOTTOM: Sarah Brooks and Manav Mehta share the Narration

Background: Fiorentina Ho & Rebecca Christiensen

INSET: Kyle Hsieh as the Remarkable Boy: "Today? Why, it's Christmas Day!"
Backround I-r: Christa Hsieh, Jenny Green







九勒伯爵的原著小說為愛爾蘭作家布蘭姆史托克的作 1897年在英國首次問世。他的作品有大量的舞台 劇,電影以及電視詮釋

有趣的是,史托克以一系列的書信,新聞報導以及電報來呈現 這個故事,使得這本小說很適合大聲閱讀,書信體的特性也給

這個故事發生在1890年。一位名叫哈克的英國律師,前往外西

凡尼亞去見他的客戶,十分有領袖魅力以及神秘的卓九勒伯

爵。卓九勒伯爵很有興趣在倫敦置產。哈克以嘉賓的身份前往

卻馬上發現自己其實以成了卓九勒伯爵城堡内的囚犯。城堡四

卓九勒前往英國,找尋為了滿足他嗜血欲望的受害者。他引誘

了哈克的未婚妻,米娜莫瑞,以及米娜最好的朋友露西。露西

日漸惡化的健康狀況引起了她的未婚夫,舒華德醫生的注意,

她的未婚夫立刻向他的前任教授同時也是吸血鬼獵人,凡赫辛

教授求救。這些生存者必須團結抵抗卓九勒 在他們被變成不

死族之前。最終,正義戰勝了邪惡,這個世界也冤於了這個吸

我們所錄製的廣播節目目前在後製階段。我們十分期待這個作

我們的作品第一次表演的時間是2013年的萬聖節。

適合光賞年齡為12歲以上,内容涉及複雜及暴力議題。

品將在2014年於ICRT FM-100上線。

周被嗜血野狼環繞,哈克也被殭屍新娘糾纏。

了這個虛構故事真實性。

血怪獸的摧殘。

The original novel DRACULA was the creation of Irish author Bram Stoker and first published in England in 1897. His work has spawned numerous theatrical, film and television interpretations. Interestingly, Stoker tells his story using a series of letters, diary entries, news articles and telegrams, making it suitable for reading aloud and lending it an illusion of veracity. Our story takes place in the late 1890's. A British lawyer, Jonathan Harker, travels to Transylvania to meet a client, the charismatic and mysterious Count Dracula. The Count is interested in purchasing property in London. Harker is welcomed as a guest but soon finds himself prisoner in the Castle Dracula which is surrounded by bloodthirsty wolves and haunted by Undead Brides.

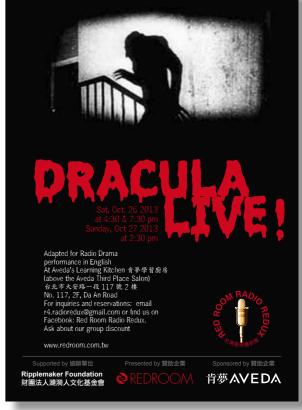
Dracula travels to England, seeking victims to support his thirst for blood. He seduces Harker's fiancée. Mina Murray, and Mina's best friend, Lucy Westenra. Lucy's ill health draws the attention of her fiancée, Dr. John Seward, who, in turn, calls for help from his former professor and vampire hunter Dr. Abraham van Helsing. Together, this small band of survivors must defeat Dracula...before they, too, become Undead. In the end, Good triumphs over evil and the world is safe from this specie of monster.

Our production first appeared in time for Halloween 2013.

We look forward to airing it over ICRT FM-100 in 2014.

Suitable for ages 12 + (complex and violent issues)

Our recorded version is currently in post-production.



Our live presentation requirements:

Performance time:	(1) hour
We provide:	(6-10) voice actors
	(2) Sound effects technicians
	Computer operator
Our live	(3) microphones
presentation	(3) mic stands
requires:	Amplifier (with capacity for
	mics + computer-run audio files
	Speakers
	(1) med/small table (1m x 2m)
	music stand
	Simple, general illumination
	(professional lighting not
	required)

TOP LEFT: Sherry Li, Sound Effects Design and Live Noisemaker, with sound props.

LEFT: Nate Murray, as assistant Noisemaker, poised to plunge a stake into the heart of a pumpkin



















Above: "Double, double, toil and trouble! Fire burn and cauldron bubble!"
Left to right: Nic Sando, Taili Huang, Nate Murray portray Three Weird Sisters.
note: background shadow of Sound Effects Designer Sherry Li as she provides the sound of bubbling.

Left: Sound Effects Design/Operators Evelyn Philbrook and Sherry Li celebrate their adept swordplay with curtain rods.

Below: Ted Pigott, (foreground), portrays Banquo agonized by stabbing as Director Ruth Giordano (background) adjusts a microphone for Sound-effects Assistant Nate Murray as he prepares to disembowel a watermelon.



MACBETH

"Eye of newt and toe of frog Wool of bat and tongue of dog"

The Tragedy of Macbeth, written by William Shakespeare in the early 1600's, is considered one of his darkest and most powerful tragedies. Set in Scotland, the play tells the story of a brave general who receives a prophecy from a trio of witches that one day he will become King. Consumed by greedy ambition and spurred to action by his wife, Macbeth kills the King, and takes the throne.

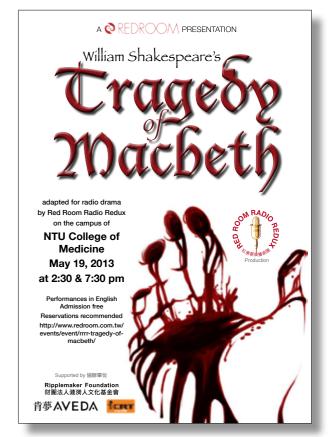
He becomes a tyrannical ruler, as he is compelled to commit more and more murders to protect himself. The bloodbath swiftly spirals into realms of greed, arrogance, murder, agonizing guilt, madness and, ultimately, death. This story is not for the feinthearted. Yet, as rendered by our readers, the action is nonthreatening. The story becomes accessible to those who listen.

Our recording of MACBETH was produced at ICRT FM-100 studios with the help of a professional recording engineer Liu Ping. It can be found online at http://www.redroom.com.tw/rrrr-gallery/

Suitable for ages 10+. (Complex and violent issues.)

白,由莎士比亞在 1600 年代所著,是一部其極為黑暗及 悲劇的作品。故事背景在蘇格蘭,内容講述一名 勇敢的將軍, 從三名女巫的預言中得知有朝一日他會成為國王。由於貪婪野心和妻子背地裡慫恿鼓吹,馬克白殺了國王奪得王位。 從此,馬克白成為一名暴君,並且不得不透過更多 殺戮保護自己。然而,無情地屠殺帶著馬克白和妻子走上囂張態勢、殘暴、

和死亡的之路。



Our live presentation requirements:

Performance time: (1) hour (6-10) voice actors We provide: (2) Sound effects technicians Computer operator Our live (4) microphones (4) mic stands presentation Amplifier (with capacity for requires: mics + computer-run audio files Speakers (1) med/small table (1m x 2m) music stand Simple, general illumination (professional lighting not





TREASURE ISLAND

TREASURE ISLAND, by Scottish novelist Robert Louis Stevenson, is the 18th century tale of young Jim Hawkins, who sets sail as a cabin boy on the Hispaniola, on a voyage in search of treasure hidden on a faraway island. In the course of his harrowing adventures, he encounters a motley assortment of devious seamen: He uncovers their plot of mutiny, comes face to face with their greedy and bloodthirsty tricks, and helps to rescue the ship as well as the stash

The story is told by Jim as an adult, looking back on his youthful, daring adventure. We begin by finding young Jim at home with his mother at the Admiral Benbow Inn, where the boy meets his first shadowy buccaneer, Bill Bones, and unknowingly comes into possession of an old treasure map...a map that everyone is after...

of buried gold.

TREASURE ISLAND, LIVE! is suitable for all ages.

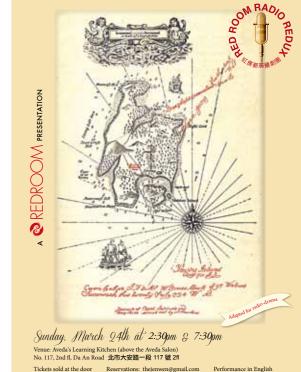
Our professional quality recording was broadcast over Taiwan on ICRT-FM100 in the spring of 2013. It is available on demand at http://www.redroom.com.

銀島,由蘇格蘭作家羅伯特·路易斯·史蒂文森所著,描述著一位 18 世紀年輕的吉姆·霍金斯男孩,從伊斯帕尼奧拉開始起航,前往搜索藏在遙遠的島嶼寶貝的航程。在他的悲慘的冒險過程中,他遇到狡猾的海員:比爾骨頭,黑狗,老皮尤盲,本葛恩和最臭名昭著的所有海盜,獨腿長的約翰銀與永遠存在在他的肩膀喋喋不休的鸚鵡。一路上,吉姆揭示叛變的船員的情節,來面對面與他們的貪婪和嗜血的技巧,並幫助營救船,以及埋藏黃金的藏匿處。

這故事是由吉姆成年後,回顧他的年輕過去冒險旅程。我們從年輕的吉姆與他的母親在家裡本葆海軍上將客棧,在那裡他遇到了一個神出鬼沒的海盜,比爾的骨頭,並在不知不覺中進入藏有一個古老的藏寶圖世界......一份大家追逐的地圖。

這是一個現場故事充滿著角色分明和適合所有年齡層。是 R4 最重要的劇目之一。

我們專業高品質的錄音有在涵蓋全台的 ICRT 於 2013 春天播放。也可以在這邊找得到。http://www.redroom.com



Our live presentation requirements:

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背意AVEDA

Performance time:	(1) hour
We provide:	(6-10) voice actors (2) Sound effects technicians Computer operator
Our live presentation requires:	(3) microphones (3) mic stands Amplifier (with capacity for mics + computer-run audio files Speakers (1) med/small table (1m x 2m) music stand Simple, general illumination
	(professional lighting not required)

TOP LEFT: TREASURE ISLAND 2013: Nate Murray simulates the sound of breaking down a door as fictional pirates barge in and loot the Admiral Benbow Inn. 上左:金銀島 2013。Nate Murray 模擬打破門在虛構的海盜船和掠奪本葆海軍上將客棧的聲音。

TOP RIGHT: Sherry Li invites audience members to provide sounds to enhance the scene. Sherry Li 邀請觀眾一起來為劇情加強更多音樂。

BOTTOM: Young audience members look on as the story of TREASURE ISLAND unfolds. 年輕的觀眾成員欣賞著金銀島故事 I-r Taili Huang, Manav Mehta, Hans Lachman, Marc Anthony, Sarah Brooks, Paul Jackson, Murray Richardson













COMMUNITY

The Red Room is an ever-expanding community, exploring and extending the boundaries between audience and performer; a not-for-profit platform for events developing a culture of learning to listen to each other, what is around us, and our selves.

R4 is a part of the larger Red Room community, which also sponsors Stage Time & Wine, Stage Time & Juice and ASIDE@The Red Room.

Our Sponsor

Ripplemaker Foundation has a simple mission: To enable people to realize their dreams by supporting entrepreneurial, social, cultural and environmental projects.

Ripples change lives.

紅房新廣播劇團是紅房大社群的一份子,亦為 Stage Time & Wine @ the Red Room 之贊助者。紅 房社群是一個延展性的社群,探索和發展聽衆和表演者的無限邊界。紅房為非營利組織,我們旨在藉由文化學習及聆聽彼此的方式,以更瞭解我們的生活周遭以及更深度地自我探索。

連漪人基金會的使命是藉由支持援助『創業、社會議題、文化 和環境發展』等計劃,協助人們邁向夢想之路。透過漣漪力量 改變生活。財團法人漣漪人文化基金會

Supported by 協辦單位

Presented by 主辦單位

Sponsored by 贊助企業

DRACULA, LIVE! 2013 (I-r) Nic Sando, Nate Murray, Colin Norman



Ripplemaker Foundation 財團法人漣漪人文化基金會





FRONT (I-r) Ted Pigott, Manav Mehta, Nic Sando,

Taili Huang, Nate Murray









TEXT: MARINA BURANA IMAGES: RAFAELA EUSEBIO VENTURA & RED ROOM RADIO REDUX

lisplay, the manifestation of the hidden, latent contents that form hell around the seeds of drama." — Arthur Adamov The New Hork Times.

ENTINETY Radio Listeners in Panic, ACTO AN INC.
EL WEITER Taking War Drama or Fact EFFER BRANC



n 1938, Orson Welles and his crew

masterfully convinced millions of people

that they were being attacked by aliens

from Mars when they broadcast The

War of the Worlds on the radio. At the

time Dorothy Thompson, a columnist

for the New York Tribune, wrote: "They

have proved that a few effective voices,

accompanied by sound effects, can

convince masses of people of a totally

unreasonable, completely fantastic

proposition as to create a nation-wide

Welles was part of what is known in

R4: OPEN YOUR EARS!

In 2012, a group of people dedicated to the wonders of the spoken word got together in Taipei city to, as they put it, "re-kindle an appreciation of the great stories and poems of Western literature and find common purpose with the literature of the world." Red Room Radio Redux (R4), a unique collaboration between members of the foreign and local communities, was born. So far, the ensemble represents a good mix of artists from around the world: Taiwan, New Zealand, Iceland, India, Argentina, Canada, the UK, and the US. As part of the Red Room organization, a non-profit platform that fosters communication between audiences and performers in open mic meetings every month. R4 decided to focus on radio drama to expand and explore the magic of sharing and performing in the listening world.

R4 produces radio shows: both readings of plays that are taped and then broadcast and live radio shows (where readings are performed in front of live audiences). Although relatively new, R4 has already brought a number of fascinating stories to their listeners. For the Taipei Fringe Festival in 2012, they presented a two-part evening. Part 1 consisted of Open Your Ears!, an original script written by R4's writer Ignatz Ratzkywatzky, of Iceland, especially for R4. The piece was designed to explore and introduce the concept of radio drama to the audience, and included a scene from Shakespeare's Midsummer Night's Dream. The second part featured a reading of Macbeth. adapted for radio drama by Mr. Ratzkywatzky. The group's Macbeth performance is now in its post-production phase; having recorded the actors' voices, the director is working with a recording engineer to add evocative sounds and music for radio broadcast.

America as "The Golden Age of Radio," a period that started in the 1920s when radio broadcast was the primary medium of entertainment in homes. During this time, radio programs often presented different genres and formats (romance, adventure, drama, comedy, musical concerts, etc.), and until television sets came along, radio personalities had millions of listeners under the spell of the spoken word.

The group has also performed Treasure Island, an adaptation of the famous novel by Scottish author Robert Louis Stevenson, as well as that very story that once terrified millions of Americans a day before Halloween, The War of the Worlds. Moreover, they stage stylized poetry readings of works by classic poets. Their material comes from the canon of Western literature.

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STEPPING STONES

Being of an eclectic nature, R4, with the great support of International Community Radio Taipei (ICRT) FM-100, seeks a diversity of people and talents to genuinely engage with their audience. Once a story is chosen, R4's writer gets to work creating an adaptation for radio. Before each show, the group puts the word out to see who wants to be part of the theatrical journey: experienced professionals, amateurs, emerging writers — all are welcome. Thus, the theater junkies are summoned and everything gets rolling.

In each table reading, actors are given the opportunity to try out different roles to see which one best suits them. In a relaxed and cheery atmosphere, the script comes to life and, little by little, transforms into an enthralling experience for performers and listeners alike. R4's live performances feature live Foley artists who reproduce everyday sounds, such as footsteps and peals of thunder, using a variety of props and techniques. Ruth Giordano, the producer and director of R4, says, "We like to call them our noisemakers. Actually, we use three ways of embellishing our storytelling with sound: Foley, some pre-recorded music, and the performers' voices (used in creative ways)," Every step is carefully orchestrated with the help of many people with different skills who get together to create a mesmerizing, spellbinding theatrical

RUTH GIORDANO

Ruth Giordano has been active in all aspects of theater and theater production since early childhood, participating in ballet, jazz, tap, and modern dance classes. She directed and wrote for her high school peers, attended intensive theater workshops, had master classes with professional performance artists, did improvisational dance, and explored the world of puppetry. She has worked at every level of theater and in almost every capacity, as an actor, dancer, writer, director, designer and builder, box office manager, and purveyor of premium popcorn. But her current favorite role is sharing a great story with the folks of the community. That's because, for Ruth, community and communication are at the heart of the theater experience.

While she has worked for professional companies including the

Metropolitan Opera, Williamstown Theater Festival, and a number of Broadway and off-Broadway productions. her most meaningful work has been with educational institutions including the Juilliard School in New York, Columbus College in Georgia, and the Williams College Theater and Buxton School in western Massachusetts. For Ruth, theater is a means to bring people together: "The act of making theater is a collaborative effort requiring tireless teamwork, and the act of experiencing a theatrical production brings the artists (playwrights, actors, musicians, designers) and the audience to demonstrate the power of the spoken word." Ruth is now thoroughly enjoying sharing her passion for theater with new friends in Taiwan.

WHAT LIES AHEAD

With no fear of crossing boundaries and a passionate drive to share stories. Red Room Radio Redux is getting ready to present two gripping stories from the 19th century: an adaptation by Mr. Ratzkywatzky of Bram Stoker's bloodcurdling tale Dracula in October and Charles Dickens's A Christmas Carol, also adapted by Mr. Ratzkywatzky, which will be broadcast in December. Plans are also in the works to present their adaptation of A Christmas Carol live in time for Christmas.

R4 has proven so far that "the manifestation of the hidden, of the latent contents that form the shell around the seeds of drama" can be revealed with an honest collaboration, with the belief that there are no boundaries to human expression, and with the knowledge that, as Ruth puts it, "language differences do not necessarily pose a barrier to communication."



une in to ICRT FM-100 to hear Red Ro Wednesday, October 16th, 9 pm | Saturday, October 19th, 11 am

Marina Burana is an Argentinean writer, writing in Spanish and in English. She has published two books of short stories in Spanish and written two plays in English which have traveled to New York and Alaska. She has also written articles, essays and fiction for magazines in Argentina, Spain, Taiwan, Venezuela, Cuba and Chile, She

plays the violin, speaks French, reads Ancient Greek, paints and studies Chinese in Talpei. Her website is www.marina-burana.com.

Born in the Dominican Republic in 1992. Rafaela Eusebio Ventura's interest in the media bloomed when she was just a teenager. Through writing, photography, and journalism she discovered her passion for the arts. Today she's focusing on Journalism and Mass Communications with plans to produce movies in the future.

www.communityounlev.org.tw OCTOBER 2013 15

Centered on Taipei October 2013







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