



The Jewish Deaf Drama Group

proudly presents

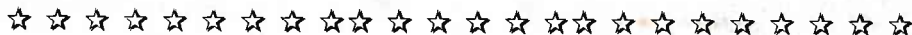
THE GREATEST STORY EVER SIGNED



Written & Directed

by

David Jackson



At the Rudolf Steiner House

Tuesday 26th May 1992 at 7.30 p.m.

Price 50p

THE GREATEST STORY EVER SIGNED

an original play performed in sign language

written by David Jackson

The Jewish Deaf Drama Group -

It is a new group formed only this year after starting as the JDA Drama Group last year when it gave its first performance "Mistaken Identity" at the very same theatre. The new group has a large number of experienced actors and actresses as well as new ones.

Its aim is to perform plays from original stories written by deaf people which embrace everything that is part of the deaf culture - ranging from folklore to fantasy - and using British Sign Language as the main means of communication on the stage.



THE GREATEST STORY EVER SIGNED

This play is a biblical fantasy with a "moral issue" - the validity of our sign language through the Commandments. It takes place sometime in the future (Prologue) when two archaeologists search for evidence in the Sinai Desert to prove their theory that sign language was used by Adam and Eve. The play is then transported to the past, to the Creation and the first people, Adam and Eve (Act One). The next part of the play (Act Two) has Moses running away from Egypt for a murder he committed, finding true love, meeting the Pharaoh and taking out the Israelites to the Promised Land. He carries the tablets from Mount Sinai where he met the Creator and becomes angry when he sees his people worshipping a golden idol. The play then ends with the archaeologists (Epilogue) finding the evidence and discovering the startling revelations.

Prologue/Epilogue - Frank Green - **Martin Bogard**
Dinah Black - **Fiona Garfield**

Acts One & Two - Yadkol - **Tyron Woolfe**

Act One - Bear - **Ralph Bogard**
Lamb - **Gillian Bogard**
Tipard (half tiger, half leopard) - **Michael Jackson**
Adam - **Ramon Woolfe**
Eve - **Golda Dahan**
The Serpent - **Tina Kelberman**
Cain - **Leo Mansell**
Abel - **Richard Weinbaum**

Act Two - Zipporah - **Tina Kelberman**
Sister 1 - **Eva Fielding**
Sister 2 - **Fiona Garfield**
Moses - **Richard Weinbaum**
Shepherd 1 - **Martin Bogard**
Shepherd 2 - **Leo Mansell**
Jethro - **David Jackson**
Aaron - **Leo Mansell**
Pharaoh - **Ramon Woolfe**
Fanman - **Martin Bogard**
Miriam - **Golda Dahan**
Israelite 1 - **Malka Bogard**
Israelite 2 - **Eva Fielding**

Prologue — somewhere in the Sinai Desert

Act One

- Scene 1 - The Void - creation
- Scene 2 - The Garden of Eden - temptation
- Scene 3 - The Banished Land - conflict
- Scene 4 - The Banished Farm - murder

INTERVAL - 20 minutes - refreshments will be available

(Please return to your seats promptly)

Act Two

- Scene 1 - The Land of Midian - rescue
- Scene 2 - The Midian Desert - mission
- Scene 3 - The Pharoah's Court - confrontation
- Scene 4 - At the foot of Mount Sinai - disloyalty

Epilogue - near Mount Sinai

* No flash photography during performance please as it can distract the actors.

* No smoking in the auditorium please.

All money raised will go to the J.D.D.G. for their performances in Paris and Blackpool.

Thank you for all your support.

WE HOPE YOU ENJOY THE SHOW

Backstage Crew

Voice-Overs : -

Frank Green/Adam/Cain/Jethro/Aaron -	Mark Northcote
Dinah Black -	Sue Northcote
Yadkol/Abel/Moses/Pharoah -	Roger Beeson
Eve/Miriam -	Donna Martin
The Serpent/Zipporah -	Sonia White

Prompters - **Martin Bogard and David Jackson**

Make-up - **Malka Bogard and Eva Fielding**

Costumes - **Eva Fielding, Ruth Fuller and Sara Lansman**

Scenery Work - **Martin Bogard, David Jackson and Ramon Woolfe**

Scenery Framework - **Martin Bogard and Steve Fireman**

Curtain - **Malka Bogard and David Jackson**

Lighting - **Jonathan Sterne (26th May) & Douglas Silas (31st May)**

Spotlight - **Madeline Sharp**

Programme - **David Jackson**

Photography - **Fiona Garfield**

Advertising & Publicity arranged by **Martin Bogard and David Jackson**

Directed by **David Jackson**

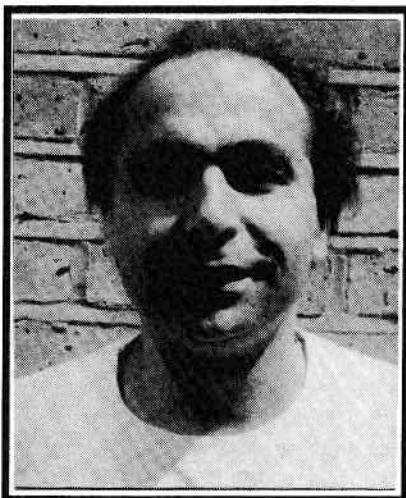


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- Insurance?

Why not contact Mark Northcote at 071 240 5286 (minicom); 071 240 0428 (fax) or
071 379 9717 (voice) to arrange a free meeting (we communicate by either sign
language or voice -= we also have a loop system)

The Players

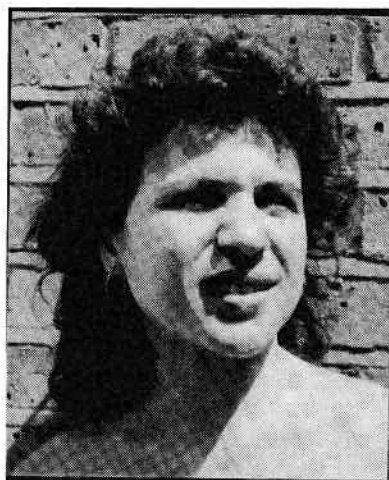


Martin Bogard –

Frank Green/Shepherd 1/Fanman

Martin works as a field engineer for Océ copiers. He appeared in "Mistaken Identity" last year with the JDA Drama Group. He has been chairman of the J.D.A. for 4 years & has also represented Great Britain at Badminton in the World Games for the Deaf in Los Angeles, USA in 1985 & Christchurch, New Zealand in 1989, winning gold & silver medals. He is also a member of the British Maccabi badminton team representing them in Israel in 1981 & 1989. Also represented the BJDSO (British Jewish Deaf Sports Organisation) at football and table tennis – toured with the teams in Israel last year. He spends his free time with DIY, sports coaching & computers.

Golda is one of the three Israelis in the group (the others being Eva and Malka). She has extensive dancing experience, having been with the Moshe Efrati Dance Company (four plays); Common Ground Theatre (five plays – performed in the United States during the Deaf Way seminar) – and also acting experience with the Ten Fingers Deaf Drama Group in Israel ("Stories of Margin"). This play is her first with the JDDG. Her hobbies range from choreography to learning new languages.



Golda Dahan –

Eve/Miriam

Fiona is a photographer by profession but also enjoys it as a hobby, having photographed several theatre productions. She first acted with the National Deaf Club Drama section in 1986 after which she joined "The London Deaf Drama Group" taking major roles in many productions which have been performed in countries such as Finland, Israel & Czechoslovakia. She also appeared in "Mistaken Identity" with the JDA Drama Group. Her ambition is to have her own troupe of male models which she can photograph whenever she wants!|



Fiona Garfield –

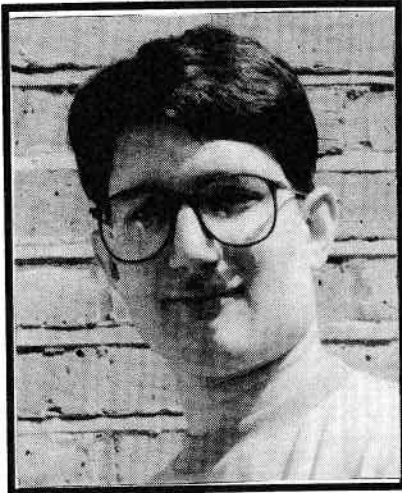
Dinah Black/Sister 2



Tina Kelberman –

The Serpent/Zipporah

Tina is currently studying at the Mary Hare Grammar School. It is her first acting experience with an independent drama group. She hopes to be involved with animals as she is very much at home with her furry friends.

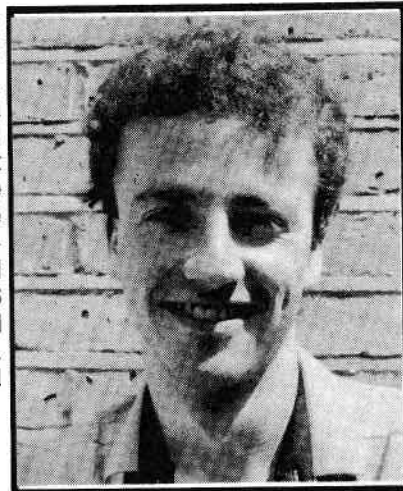


Leo Mansell -

Cain/Aaron

Leo attended the Mary Hare Grammar School. He is currently doing a part-time job while he is looking for a more suitable one to match his skills. He represented the BJDSO team at football and toured with the team in Israel last year. It is his first acting experience with the group and his humour has often made the other actors relax during difficult times of rehearsals. His hobbies range from playing football to letting his hair down at discos!

Richard has extensive acting experience, first having a TV part as the deaf son of the Fox family in the "Fox" series on ITV back in 1980. He is a member of the London Deaf Drama Group, having appeared in "When Time Stood Still" and as the stage manager for the recent production of "Oh, what a lovely holiday!" He also appeared in "Mistaken Identity" for the JDA Drama Group last year. Currently involved with Deaf Sports as chairman of Old Heathlandians and Sports Leader for the '66 club and Sports Secretary for the Central Committee of the Jewish Deaf Association. Played for the BJDSO football team and toured with the team in Israel last year.



Richard Weinbaum -

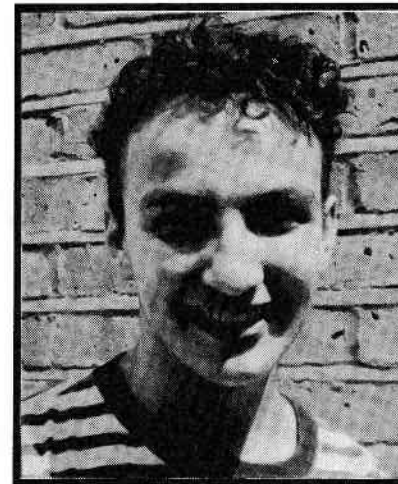
Abel/Moses

Ramon attends Norfolk/Brooklands College next to Burwood Park for his A-levels. He was responsible for reviving the Boar Weekly magazine at Burwood Park after many years of absence. He passed on responsibility as editor to his brother Tyron due to time needed for studying for his exams. Ramon has appeared on TV as a presenter for an edition of BBC1's Sign Extra on youth and also on Ch4's Sign On. Appeared in "Mistaken Identity" last year. His interests are Film & media video shooting and editing and computer programming. Hobbies include football and ten-pin bowling. He represented the BJDSO in both sports when the team toured Israel last summer.



Ramon Woolfe -

Adam/Pharoah



Tyron Woolfe -

Yadkol

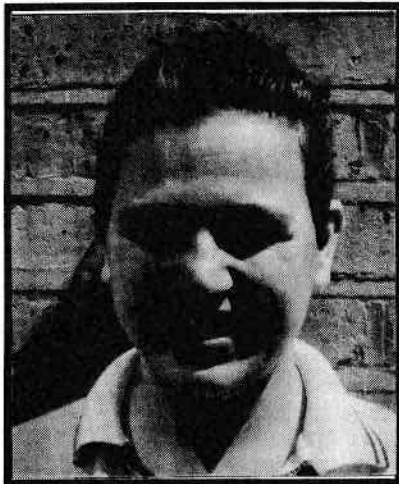
Tyron, Ramon's younger brother by two years, attends Burwood Park School where he spends a lot of his time as editor of the Boar Weekly magazine and doing the Duke of Edinburgh award expeditions. He is studying hard for his exams and wants to continue his studies after leaving school. He appeared in BBC2's Screen Two film "The Count of Solar" in which he played the starring part opposite David Calder's Abbe de l'Epee. He flew to Gallaudet College to attend the United States premiere of the film last month. Has also appeared in productions of "Oliver" at school and "The Iron Man" at the Unicorn Theatre. Also appeared in "Mistaken Identity". Hobbies include swimming and organising many events.

and meet the extras...

Gillian Bogard, who plays the lamb, is the daughter of Malka and Martin. It is her first appearance on stage with deaf actors. She was chosen for this part perhaps because of her love for animals – she wants to be a vet like James Herriot! Her hobbies range from looking after her dog, Prince, and cat, Sam, to making dolls. She loves dressing up.



Malka Bogard (Israelite 1) is busy training to become a qualified youth worker hence her small part in the play. She is currently running a youth club for Jewish Deaf children in Whetstone. She was born and educated in Haifa, Israel, where she performed with the Demama Group, a Deaf & Hearing integrated dance & mime group. She appeared in last year's play "Mistaken Identity". Actually it was her who started the JDA Drama Group. She met Martin at the first World Organisation of Jewish Deaf Congress in Tel Aviv and moved to England in 1977. She has represented Britain twice at Badminton in two Summer Games for the Deaf, winning a bronze medal. Last year she ran in the London marathon, raising £2000 for the British Jewish Deaf Sports Organisation.



Ralph Bogard, who plays the bear, is the older brother of Gillian. Also his first experience on the stage with a deaf group. He attends the Beis Shammai Grammar School. His hobbies are music and acting.



Eva Fielding (Sister 1/Israelite 2) works for the BBC's See Hear as a researcher. She has been doing this work for the past two years. She was involved with "Mistaken Identity" taking responsibility with make up. She is doing that again with today's play. In addition she made all those beautiful costumes with the help of Ruth Fuller. She played for the BJDSO table tennis team which toured Israel last year. Eva's hobbies range from craftwork to visiting countries.

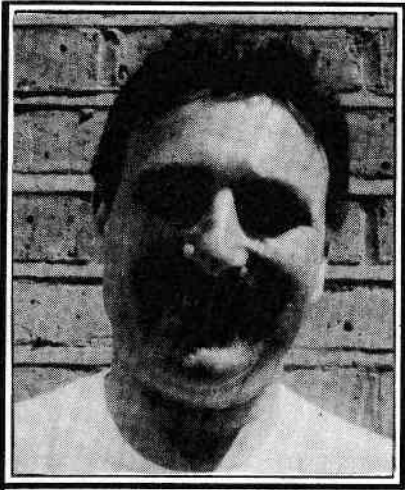


Michael Jackson (Tipard) is the son of the writer/director of the play. Michael attends a drama group regularly in Reading and will be playing in the major school play in July (his first year with the school). He would like to be a journalist after at first wanting to be a vet as he also loves animals – he has four cats (Bilbo, Buffy, Bingo and Bambi) and a hamster named Cleo!

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David Jackson – Jethro

(also Writer/Director)

David's first attempt at playwriting and directing – fulfilling his dream of doing just exactly that! Last year he helped with the lighting for the play "Mistaken Identity". He worked for over twenty years with an international computer company and the experience he gained from there gave him the confidence to start his own Information Technology Consultancy business. Has appeared on TV – BBC1's See Hear, CH4's Checkout, TVS's News. As for the future, he is aiming to broaden his horizon by getting more involved in theatre work and writing books – he has already planned three plays for the future.

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Special thanks to :-

- ☆ All our families for putting up with us through our preparations
- ☆ Pat & Kathy at the J.D.A.
- ☆ Harry Newman for those jacket potatoes.
- ☆ Sharon Graham for her great support
- ☆ Terry Goodfellow & the staff at the Rudolf Steiner House
- ☆ Ruth Fuller for her wonderful help with costumes
- ☆ Earshot/No Need to Shout/Jewish Chronicle
- ☆ All those other people who gave their time and services in helping sell tickets and stage today's show

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Programme layout designed and printed by David Jackson

(Deaf I.T. Solutions - ☎ [Minicom] 0734-419905; ☎ [Fax] 0734-452853)