

Thanking you in advance...

GIANT OLIVE THEATRE COMPANY is almost two years old with over 40 productions under our belt. This evening's production of **ZIP: A Streetdance Musical**, conceived by myself and members of the ZIP:Gun Workshops, is another example of our desire to push the level of expectation of what a new small company can achieve. Our dedicated band of directors, actors, writers, designers and crew have given their time and talent because they believe, as we do, that **GIANT OLIVE** is a company on the verge of becoming an iconic, international theatre, but we cannot grow without **HELP!** So, we are turning to you, our audience, for help to continue to bring you the best, the most groundbreaking, the most thought-provoking and exciting theatre, dance, music and film productions we can conceive. We have big ideas but these ideas cannot be realised without support. So please become a patron of the **GIANT OLIVE SUPPORT SCHEME**. You don't have to be a millionaire to support us; you can become a patron for as little as **£3.50** a month! If we can produce over 40 outstanding pieces of drama with just the goodwill of our artists, just think what we can achieve if we combine that goodwill with your financial support.

We GUARANTEE your money will be well spent.

Thank You.

Ray Shell

Artistic Director

Giant Olive Theatre Company

www.giantolive.com/support-us

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Giant Olive Theatre Company presents

ZIP

A Streetdance Musical



It comes down to territory.
Two crews
One squat
A fight to the death for supremacy
But

The ghosts who haunt the squat were there first
and they are looking for new blood.
Who will win?

Writers.....**Ray Shell, Sarah Bennet and James Kenwood**
Director.....**Ray Shell**
Choreographer.....**Gary Lloyd**
Lighting Designer / Technical Manager.....**Ciaran Cunningham**
Music.....**Anthony Warnes, Warren Wilson, Shell, Bennet and Kenwood**
Stage Manager.....**Sarah Kelly**
Assistant Choreographer.....**Rachel Kay**
Programme Director.....**Tamzin Paskins**
Producer.....**George Sallis**

CAST The Friends

Chloe.....**Alma Eno**
Lexus.....**Brandon Lee Henry**
Muse.....**Jack Guttman**
Queesha.....**Jennifer Oliver**

The Merked Chorus*

Selky.....**James Kenward**
Debra.....**Catia Boa Esperanca**
Mikel.....**Victor Henry Muir**
Shauna.....**Tashana Peterkin**
Desiree.....**Lisa Damane**
Jealou.....**Lisa Li Gilby**
Lovenia.....**Tori Allen-Martin**
Greedah.....**Todd Holdsworth**

The Kalipha Krew

Reffessi.....**Beau Baptist**
Kid ILL.....**Ololade Adewusi**
Tru Blond.....**Mark Gillham**

* The Merked Chorus are the souls of the dead young ones murdered ('merked') in their neighbourhoods

Searching for the Giant Olive...

"I can still vividly remember the chaotic Sunday lunches we used to have with my huge Greek family over thirty years ago. As my grandmother brought out plate after plate of wonderful food, I'd be waiting to pounce on the giant green olives - which I would then proceed to devour, hidden under the dinner table.

My uncle John, to whom I looked up with immense awe, would then pull me aside and announce (so all could hear): "*Georgie, if you are a very good boy, next summer I will take you to our family home in Cyprus - and to a very special place, where the Giant Olive grows!*"

I remember being so excited I could barely contain myself. Every week I would wonder whether uncle John had decided if I had been a good boy, and if I could indeed get my very own giant olive.

Alas, every week it was the same story: "*Sorry son; your mother tells me you have been a naughty boy - and naughty boys are not worthy to walk upon the sacred ground and see the Giant Olive.*" I felt gutted, but kept asking, week after disappointing week.

I am ashamed to admit that it was only many years later that I finally discovered he had been lying to me: there was no Giant Olive. Uncle John had lied to me.

But I bear no ill-will to Uncle John, not really. For none of us should be denied to long for the impossible.

So when I had to find a name for our fledgling theatre company, I named it Giant Olive - in honour of the little boy that I was and my Uncle John, who taught me the importance of myth, imagination and the capacity to keep dreams alive."

George Sallis

reprebate.com
online urbanwear store for the mischievous



sponsors of **ZIP** Streetdance Musical

A Note from the Director

The inspiration for ZIP came from all those young lives who have been needlessly cut short for all sorts of useless reasons; one of those young people wanted to be an actor but he was killed at the age when I started my acting career; ZIP is for him and the too many others like him whose lives ended too abruptly.

ZIP is also inspired by the talented young people you see onstage tonight.

Every show has its own personality and ZIP definitely has the personality of a 17 year old, random, sullen, teenager. I know, I have 3 children and rehearsing ZIP definitely took me back to their teenage years. From rehearsal to rehearsal I never knew who would turn up or at what time and right at the moment when I thought I should call it day this company would jump up and surprise me like they're going to surprise you.

I want to thank Sarah Kelly and the GIANT OLIVE family for their support, and Sarah Henley, James Kenward, Gary Lloyd, Rachel Kay, Anthony Warnes and Warren Wilson for adding to my ZIP story their own personal creative magic.

Ray Shell

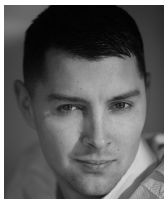
ZIP'S MUSICAL NUMBERS

THE RESURRECTION OF SELKY - The Merked Chorus
MY KILLERS FACE - Selky & The Merked Chorus
POST CODE WARS/RESPECT - Selky & Pikey
WHAT YOU LOVE - The Merked Chorus
INSTANT MONEY LIFESTYLE - The Merked Chorus
KID ILL'S CONFESSION - Kid Ill, Desiree, Jealou
MY KILLERS FACE (REPRISE) - Tru Blond & Selky
ITS NOT MY FAULT - The Merked Chorus

With very special thanks to *Shooting Flowers Costume and Styling* and *Reprebate* for providing costumes.



Camden

**Beau Baptist - Reffessi**

Beau is co-directing his third youth led and issue based play 'Estate of Mind' at the Albany Theatre, Deptford, where he is also a youth worker. Later this year he will also be acting in a feature film 'St. George's Day'. He is in the process of constructing his first album (working title, 'Rain of Truth') which combines hip hop with elements of indie and electro. Beau has found ZIP to be a great experience.

**Catia Boa Esperanca - Debra**

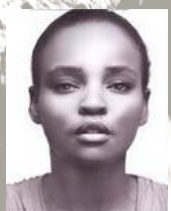
Catia is 19 years old and studying Science at college with the a hope of becoming a paediatrician. She has been performing in school plays since the age of 5 but has never starred in a professional production before. She is delighted to be a part of ZIP as she believes it is important to raise awareness of gun and knife crime in order to put an end to it.

**Tori Allen-Martin- Lovenia**

Tori has acted on stage and in television since the age of eight. Now more focused on music, she gigs across London, has been backing vocalist for West End star, Julie Atherton, and is a member of the West End Gospel Choir. She is delighted to be part of such an incredible and important production.

**Lisa Dahmane - Desiree**

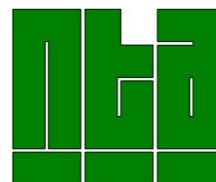
Lisa Dahmane trained in Musical Theatre at Phil Winston's Theatre-works College, Blackpool. Since graduating, Lisa has performed in several pantomimes throughout the country and, most recently, as Swing in 'Starlight Express' in Bochum, Germany. Lisa is delighted to have had the opportunity to be involved in ZIP.

**Alma Eno - Chloe**

Alma graduated from Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts. Alma was in the ITV drama 'Collision'. She has appeared in numerous short films and the independent British art film 'Boogie Woogie'. She is excited to be appearing in ZIP and The Camden Fringe Festival with Ray Shell.

**Lisa Li Gilby - Jealou**

Lisa Li Gilby aged 21 is a graduate of London Studio Centre, gaining a BAHons Degree in Theatre Dance. Lisa was a member of Dance 2XS and has appeared on SKY TV, performed at West End Live and The Brit Awards, dancing for The Pet Shop Boys, Lady GaGa and Brandon Flowers and in music videos with N-Dubz. Lisa is thrilled to be involved in ZIP and honoured to be working with such inspirational people.

**Giant Olive NTA Programme****Building a future for young talent**

The Giant Olive 'New Talent Academy', in association with the National Theatre Archive, is designed to support new artists by offering the opportunity to step into the professional world of theatre after graduation, under guidance of the Giant Olive professional team and the NTA.

For more information or to see how you could get involved in the NTA programme, please email the programme director tamzin@giantolive.com

Outreach Programmes in association with NTA**T.A.I.P. (Total Artists in Production)**

Led by Giant Olive's Artistic Director, Ray Shell

If you are a professional Singer/Actor/Writer and want to strengthen your skills, or a Director looking for artists to work with then T.A.I.P. is for you! T.A.I.P. is a performance workshop directed by RAY SHELL.

T.A.I.P. meets from 7:30pm to 10:30pm Mondays & Wednesdays upstairs at O'Reilly's Pub.

Monday - Singing workshop

Wednesday - Acting/Directing/Writing workshop

To participate, please contact info@giantolive.com

Little Olives

Giant Olive Theatre's Young Theatre Company, dedicated to children and young people.

Saturday Morning Classes for Children aged 6-11

Every Saturday morning until September 4th, we are running classes for children aged 6-11, including Streetdance, Drama, and Skills Development.

Every week the Skills Development class will bring in specialists to focus on different skills needed in Theatre; including Voice, Singing, Puppetry, Writing, Mask Work and Physical Theatre.

To register your child please email littleolives@giantolive.com



Ciaran Cunningham - Technical Manager/Lighting Designer

Ciaran is Giant Olive's Head of Technical. He graduated from East 15, where he specialised in lighting design, and went on to work with Terry Trew Sound and Light. Ciaran has a passion for lighting dance and music pieces and is regularly involved in lighting new and upcoming dance companies. He is currently working with Finley Quay on his UK tour.



Sarah Kelly - Stage Manager

Sarah has been working as a Stage Manager since 2008, and this is her second production with Giant Olive. She has found working on ZIP to be a very enlightening and exciting experience. Sarah hopes to go to drama school and train to become a professional actress in the near future.



Rachel Kay - Assistant Choreographer

Rachel trained at The Dance School of Scotland and went on to gain a 1st class degree at Bird College. She has also trained at Broadway Dance Centre, working in all areas of dance. Credits include- X Factor 09, Cheryl Cole for ITV and BBC Sports Relief, Thriller European tour and Flamenka (West End) to name a few. Rachel has been working as the assistant choreographer for the Leona Lewis Tour 2010, is Jermaine Brown's assistant for Nike fashion and was part of the creative team for Sky 1's 'Got To Dance'. Rachel also co-directs her own company 'Inko dancers', who are performing at Glastonbury this year for their 40th anniversary.



Tamzin Paskins - Programme Director

Tamzin trained at the London International School of Performing Arts (LISPA) and Cambridge University. Tamzin's first production with Giant Olive was Oliver Twist and she went on to perform in 'The Tulip Wars'. Tamzin is currently working as Literary Manager and NTA Programme Director for Giant Olive. She is very excited about developing and encouraging new writing and emerging talent. Performance credits include Witch in the Birmingham Rep/Ambassador Theatre Group 'The Witches', Wyndhams Theatre; Helena in the Engren tour of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'; Jill in 'Equus', BATS theatre; devised projects with Tale on Fire.

Ololade Adewusi - Kid ILL

Ollie is 17 years old and studying for his A-Levels. He has been involved in many school plays and has also started writing small pieces. ZIP will be his first professional work, which he hopes will be followed by many more. He plans to go to university but continue acting, writing and eventually directing. Ollie believes gun and knife crime is an extremely important topic because it is a plague killing off the youth today.



Mark Gillham - Tru Blond

Mark has been involved in professional fringe theatre since 2008. ZIP will be his fourth show working alongside Giant Olive Theatre Company. Other shows with the company have included 'A Christmas Carol', 'Oliver Twist' and 'Woyzeck'. He is grateful to be working once again with such a great director and production team.



Jack Guttman - Muse

Jack Guttman is a 25 year old actor who trained at the Poor School. Since graduating, Jack has appeared on numerous TV Programmes, he toured a play in Austria and recently starred in a feature film, 'Sea Monsters' (currently in post production). Jack is very excited to be working on ZIP with Giant Olive.



Brandon Lee Henry - Lexus

Brandon is currently performing in several showcases in Albany Theatre, Deptford, including 'Hoods and Halos' and 'The Resolution'. Earlier this year he starred in a short film with Destiny Ekaragha called 'The Park' for the 2010 London Film Festival. Brandon has enjoyed working with the cast and crew on this project and feels he has gained a lot from Ray's direction.



Victor Henry Muir - Mikel

Victor is currently producing/presenting his own radio/online TV shows. He also runs a recording studio and will start to record his own material in September 2010. During the process of the ZIP workshops he discovered a talent for acting, which he is now pursuing by auditioning for drama school. His love of drama has flourished through to ZIP it has given him the confidence to take his career further.



**Todd Holdsworth - Greedah**

Todd is very excited about being in ZIP. He just graduated from London Studio Centre, so he is a show business virgin. Todd is thrilled that he doesn't have to worry about money for the next year as he has just been hired as a dancer in the international touring company of the West End hit, 'Thriller'. Mum...Money will soon come. Cheers dad.

**Tom Swarman - Pikey the Beatboxer**

Pikey Esquire has been beatboxing since 2002 and currently performs with the south London hip hop crew 'Queens English'. He has worked with many recognised British hip hop artists, such as Dubledge and Skuff and Inja. In 2006 Pikey came 2nd in the UK Beatbox Championships. Previous theatre projects include Wireless Theatre Company's live recording of 'Space Commander 2010'.

**James Kenward - Selky**

James MC'd Jungle Drum and Bass club nights around the world before shifting focus to acting, script-writing, and building lyrics in fresh formats. He created and performed sketches in verse for the Sony Comedy Award nominated BBC show 'A Series of Psychotic Episodes' and he enjoys telling stories through poetry.

**Jennifer Oliver - Quesha**

Jennifer Oliver is a graduate of Drama Centre London. Jennifer's most recent credits include: Emma in The Long Road, Una in Blackbird, Amy in 74a Station Road, Lady Macbeth in Macbeth with CSSD third-year directors, Bet/Rose in Oliver and Marie in Woyzeck. Jennifer is also an accomplished singer and a trained journalist. She feels ZIP raises important issues that are often brushed under the carpet. Jennifer is proud to be in a production that gives these issues a voice.

**Tashana Peterkin - Shauna**

Tashana is 18 years old and is about to embark on a psychology degree although she does have a deep passion for acting and theatre. She feels that it is important to take part in Zip because, as a young person in London today, knife and gun crime has affected her life.

Ray Shell - Director and Writer

Ray has directed 'The Black Fashion Designers' Show' at the Royal Albert Hall, Mannafest's 'Poetry Slam' at the Royal Festival Hall, 'The God EXU' at the Baron's Court Theatre and 'White Folks' at the Pleasance Theatre. Ray Shell is CEO of www.angel22.tv, an internet television company, and the Artistic Director of Giant Olive Productions, London. ZIP is Ray Shell's fourth production for Giant Olive; he has also directed 'Tulip Wars', 'A Christmas Carol' and 'Oliver Twist'. Mr Shell has for the last 20 years been a permanent fixture in the West End, starring in productions such as 'Starlight Express', 'Ain't Misbehavin', 'Jesus Christ Superstar' and 'The Musical of Andrew Lloyd-Webber'. Mr Shell's novel 'Iced' has been published and toured internationally. It is soon to be a major motion picture produced by Lee Daniels Entertainment. Ray Shell has completed his latest novel 'An Eye...A Tooth', which is being published in 2010 and has a biography of Spike Lee to be published by Amber Books also in 2011.

**Sarah Henley - Co-Writer**

Sarah's first play, 'Getting Out', was performed at the Lion and Unicorn in May 2009 and her second, 'Getting Away', received 4 and 5 star reviews for its performance. Last year Sarah co-wrote and directed 'Cinderella', a street pantomime, for Primrose Theatre. Sarah co-founded www.comcomedy.com is a member of the London Comedy Writers. Having trained in musical theatre, Sarah is very excited to be working on this project.

**Gary Lloyd - Choreographer**

Award winning Director/Choreographer Gary Lloyd has worked with many established artists which, amongst others, include: Dame Shirley Bassey, Leona Lewis, Robbie Williams and Girls Aloud. Theatre credits include "FAME The Musical", "Thriller Live!", "My Fair Lady", "Jesus Christ Superstar", to name a few. Television credits include; Ant and Dec's Saturday Night Take Away; The Royal Variety Performance; I DREAM; Eurovision Song Contest; Bump N Grind (TroubleTV); Comic Relief. Arena tours as Director/Choreographer include The Ray Quinn Tour, X-Factor Live 2007; American Idols Live!; G4 UK Tour, amongst others. Future projects include "20th Century Boy – "The Story of Marc Bolan" and "HAIR" as both Director and Choreographer.

