



IDLE DISCOURSE

Idle Discourse is a London-based theatre company, founded in 2016.

The company is inspired by Beckett's call to action in his seminal play *Waiting for Godot*: the plea from Vladimir that they must make the most of life through doing things, to change the world.

**“Let us not waste our time in idle discourse! Let us do something,
while we have the chance!”**

It's debatable whether they ever actually manage to do anything – and Beckett knew this.

All we can do whilst we are on this planet is engage in some idle discourse, and the art of storytelling has its provenance in this. The nights we idly discourse away are the ones where true progression is made; the chats in the pub when we put the world to rights; anecdotes from friends and family; ghost stories by the fireside; an evening at the theatre.

We revel in the chance to waste our time in idle discourse –we hope you'll join

us.

Who we are



Dan Dawes is the artistic director of Idle Discourse. Writing credits for Idle Discourse include: *Tales from Star City* (Tabard Theatre, 2018) and *Steel Tumbleweed* (Courtyard Theatre, 2016). Directing credits include: *Macbeth* (for the RSC's Open Stages project); *Pericles* (Titchfield Festival Theatre); *Richard II* (Bears & Vagabonds); and *The Chainsaw Manicure* (Idle Discourse). Acting credits include *The Revenger's Tragedy*, *Vindici* (Off West End nominated for Best Male); *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Jack; *The Taming of the Shrew*, Petruchio; *Much Ado About Nothing*, Benedick; *Journey's End*, Captain Hardy/Sergeant Major. Dan read Education with English & Drama at the University of Cambridge.

Nina Flitman is an assistant producer at Idle Discourse. A professional writer, she spends much of her free time involved in the theatre world. She is a board-member at The Questors Theatre, the largest community theatre in Europe, and also acts and directs. Nina has an undergraduate degree in English & Classics from the University of Durham, and completed a Masters in Medieval Literature at the University of Cambridge.



Idle Discourse also works with a host of designers, writers, actors, creatives, illustrators, animators, technical specialists, photographers, and videographers to create a team of talented and able individuals for every project we embark upon.

What we do

Steel Tumbleweed, by Dan Dawes

A contemporary tragedy following four teenagers as they lose hope in their future, and in themselves. Produced at The Courtyard Theatre, July 2016, under Idle Discourse's previous name -Uncanny Arts. The piece has since been adapted for radio and distributed by Political Art. "A startlingly original piece of new writing and a thumping debut" (Londontheatre1) "Gifted performers working with promising writing" (Theatre Reviews Hub)

Pericles, by William Shakespeare

Produced in association with the Titchfield Festival Theatre, this fresh rendering of one of Shakespeare's most epic and exotic plays transformed a 15th century venue into an Ancient Mediterranean playground. Produced at the Great Barn, Titchfield, August 2016.

Chainsaw Manicure, by Thomas Kett

A madcap modern farce set in a house share in 1990s London. Produced at the Tabard Theatre, Chiswick, May 2017, directed by Dan Dawes, and scheduled for transfer to the Churchill Theatre, Bromley, in April 2018. "A wonderful mix of deathly humour and tension...Great cast, great script, great pace" (Chiswick Herald). "A smashing piece of farcical fluffiness...it's young, it's funny, it's noisy" (ChiswickW4.com).

The Signalman, by Dan Dawes

A modern reimagining of one of Charles Dickens's most evocative short stories, updated to portray a haunting encounter on the London Underground. A rehearsed reading was performed at The Courtyard Theatre in July 2017, and is preliminarily scheduled for production at The Vaults, Waterloo, in Autumn 2018.

Tales from Star City, by Dan Dawes

A stunningly original one woman play charting the brightest and darkest moments of the Soviet space race. Produced at the Tabard Theatre, Chiswick February-March 2018. "Bold ambitions...simple yet stylish" (The Stage). "A heart-felt performance as the communications prodigy who becomes the conscience of the Soviet space program... Five stars" (Breaking the Fourth Wall).

The Comedy of Errors, by William Shakespeare

Idle Discourse will be taking Shakespeare's most fun and farcical comedies to the Czech Republic in Summer 2018. Directed by Dan Dawes, the bold new production will be the first predominantly English-language play performed at the Baroque castle theatre in Valtice since the venue was restored in 2015. An energetic and accessible interpretation of the play, the production will take a modern approach to the text to bring out the best of Shakespeare's vivacious humour while embracing the historical location of the setting of the magnificently renovated theatre.

Idle Discourse is dedicated to bringing high-quality storytelling to a wide range of audiences both nationally and internationally.



Find out more

Follow us on **Facebook** ([@idlediscoursetheatre](#)) or on **Twitter** ([@idle_discourse](#)). Explore our website [idlediscourse.com](#), or get in touch at chat@idlediscourse.com

