

FEATS NEWSLETTER

March 2011



Just when you all thought that we had forgotten about writing a Newsletter here it is! The thing is, there have been some problems as several groups decided they would not perform this year and others have had to pull out, leaving our hardworking organisers the job of finding replacements. Unfortunately, not all the reserves were able to fill the gaps. However, I am pleased to say that we now have a full complement to regale us during our FEATS 2011 Festival to be held in Geneva at the Forum in Meyrin from 10th – 13th June. We look forward to welcoming back Tony Rushforth as our festival adjudicator.

The participating groups are:

American Theatre Company (ATC), Brussels, Belgium
Anglophone Collaborative Theatre of Stuttgart (ACTS), Germany
ESOC, Darmstadt, Germany
Frankfurt English Speaking Theatre (FEST), Germany
Hamburg Players, Germany
Het Homerstheater, The Hague, Netherlands
NWTC Luxembourg
Semi-Circle, Basel, Switzerland
Tagora, Strasbourg, France
The Bonn Players, Germany
The Stockholm Players, Sweden
The Village Players, Lausanne, Switzerland

Accommodation

It is important to reserve your accommodation quickly if you would like to stay in the "FEATS Hotel" which is a 5 minute walk from the theatre. A block of rooms at a special FEATS rate has been reserved for those FEATS guests reserving their room by April 10th at the latest. Beyond this date the same rate or availability of a room cannot be guaranteed. Geneva is hosting a very large International Labour Organization (ILO) conference during the same period so beware!

Reservations are to be made directly to the hotel via the FEATS FAX FORM available further on in this newsletter and from the GEDS web site: <http://geds.ch/feats>. A credit card guarantee is essential which is why you are requested to fax the completed form to the hotel.

NH-Geneva Airport
21, av. de Mategnin
1217 Meyrin

Tel. +41 22 989 95 00
Fax. +41 22 989 99 99
www.nh-hotels.com

GPS coordinates – Latitude: 46.2273 / Longitude: 6.08653

Single CHF 145 standard room with shower or bath - including breakfast
Double CHF 165 standard room with shower or bath - including breakfast.
Prices quoted include VAT but do not include city tax of CHF 3.60 pp p/day.

The hotel provides a free shuttle service to and from Geneva Airport for all guests (pick-up outside arrival hall entrance). It runs every 20 minutes from 05:50 to 23:40 daily.

The **Forum Theatre Meyrin** is a contemporary styled theatre and is located in the middle of Meyrin, 25 minutes by tram from the centre of Geneva. The theatre is near the town hall and community facilities as well as a shopping mall. And all are within easy walking distance of the NH-Geneva Airport hotel.

During FEATS weekend you will find the following facilities at the theatre:

- Bar – drinks & sandwiches
- Box Office
- Hospitality Desk
- The Fringe

Parking

Parking at the NH-Geneva Airport Hotel is CHF 15 per 24 hours in their underground parking. If you plan to drive to the theatre, there is a large open air parking area in front of the Forum Theatre. On Friday and Saturday parking is free for two hours until 19:00 using a “blue disk”. After 19:00 it is free, as it is all day Sunday and on Monday, this being a holiday.

Please note that for Swiss motorways you will need to buy a motorway sticker as you enter Switzerland: cost CHF 40.

FEATS 2011 Timing

<i>Box Office</i> Opening Hours	18:00 – 19:30	Fri
	18:30 – 19:30	Sat-Mon
<i>Forum Bar</i>	During The Fringe	Sat-Mon
	18:00	Fri-Mon
	During the Forum	Mon
<i>Curtain Up</i>	19:30	Fri-Mon
<i>The Fringe</i>	12:30 – 17:30	Sat-Sun
	13:30 – 17:30	Mon
<i>Party</i>	23:00 – 02:00	Sat
<i>FEATS Forum</i>	11:30 – 13:00	Mon
<i>Hospitality Desk - Hotel</i>	14:00 – 17:30	Fri
	10:00 – 12:00	Sat-Mon
<i>Hospitality Desk - Theatre</i>	18:00 – 19:30	Fri & intervals
	12:00 – 19:30	Sat & Sun & intervals
	11:00 – 19:30	Mon & intervals

Find out more about FEATS 2011 at the FEATS Hospitality Desk. This is the place to buy a programme, pick up The Fringe programme, purchase drink tokens, find information concerning Geneva tourism possibilities, get a Geneva map and generally discover all you needed to know but did not have time to ask before you left home.

The Fringe

The FEATS 2011 Fringe will be held in the Foyer du Levant of the Forum Theatre Meyrin complex on Saturday, Sunday and Monday afternoons. The complete programme will be available at the Hospitality Desk.

If you have a 'turn' which you think really ought to be presented at the Fringe, contact fringe-feats@geds.ch and they will probably be able to squeeze you in!

Tickets & Tokens

We encourage you to order in advance both **theatre and party tickets**, which can be purchased online as of 1st May by credit card via Theatre In English website: www.theatreinenglish.ch and will be available for pick-up at the theatre box office as of 18:00 on Friday.

Note: For those staying at the NH-Geneva Hotel – your theatre and party tickets can be collected at the Hospitality Desk in the hotel lobby up to 17:30 on Friday. All uncollected tickets will be transferred to the theatre Box Office.

Tokens for drinks and snacks will be sold at the Hospitality Desks. Unused tokens will be reimbursed. We regret we cannot accept credit cards, cash only please (Swiss francs) when buying tokens.

Note exception: Drinks at the party must be paid in cash – no tokens will be accepted at the restaurant.

Food & Beverages

The Forum Theatre bar will open at 18:00 each day and during the Fringe on Saturday, Sunday and Monday afternoons. Here you can socialize with friends and sample delicious sandwiches, freshly prepared by the dedicated GEDS members. At the bar you can try the local red and white wines – and very good they are too, - have a beer, a coffee or a "cuppa". Apart from the food and drink available at the Forum Theatre Bar there are restaurants with various price categories within walking distance of the theatre. Evening meal service is from 18:30 to 23:00. The Hospitality Desk will provide you with a list of restaurants in the area. If you plan to be out and about during the day, Geneva offers a wide variety of lunch possibilities ranging from fast food to up-market gourmet and lakeside restaurants.

The Party

FEATS would not be complete without the opportunity to celebrate and have fun. The Saturday night party will be held in the restaurant adjacent to the theatre immediately after the last performance and adjudication on Saturday night. The cost is CHF 50, for a sit-down 3-course meal, with disco until the early hours of the morning. A cash bar will be open for drinks – no tokens will be accepted in the restaurant.

Tickets will go on sale online as of 1st May via the Theatre In English website: www.theatreinenglish.ch It would be advisable to purchase your party tickets before coming to Geneva as numbers are limited.

FEATS Forum

The FEATS Forum will take place at the Forum Theatre Meyrin, upstairs room, at 11:30 on Monday 13 June. Join the discussion and bring your ideas for the future of FEATS!

Public Transport

Public transport from Meyrin, either by bus, tram or shuttle boats, (Les Mouettes) provides an easy and inexpensive way to visit Geneva. All hotels in Geneva and Meyrin provide a free travel card to guests, covering their entire stay. Ask at the hotel reception.

Trams 14 and 16 from tram stop 'Forumeyrin' will take you to Geneva – ask for directions to the tram stop at the Hospitality Desk.

A fun way to 'cruise' on Lake Geneva, using your free travel card, is to take one of the six yellow Mouettes.

Leisure Activities

Geneva, situated on Lake Geneva (Lac Léman) and the Rhone River, is Switzerland's second largest city after Zurich. The canton of Geneva has 126 km of borders with France and only 5 km with the rest of Switzerland. Geneva centre is about 25 minutes by tram from Meyrin. There are lots of interesting places to visit both in and around the city, including beautiful parks and gardens, museums and art galleries. The city is home to many international organizations, nationalities and cultures. You may want to visit the United Nations, the International Red Cross Museum, the Old Town and Cathedral with its fascinating Archaeological Museum, or just ramble along the lake and enjoy the views.

Much more information is available on the various Geneva websites, e.g.:

Geneva Tourist Office: www.geneve-tourisme.ch/

Lake Léman Navigation Company (large boats): www.cgn.ch/eng

Shuttle boats (Les Mouettes): www.swissboat.com/en/shuttles.php

Geneva Public Transport (in French): www.tpg.ch/fr/index.php

Shopping / Markets

There is a *shopping centre* a two-minute walk away from the theatre where you can buy the toothpaste, etc. which you forgot to pack in your suitcase. Open Friday and Saturday only.

Plainpalais Flea Market – Mingle with the locals at Geneva's largest outdoor flea market. Saturdays from 09:00 to 17:00 come rain or shine. Antiques, records, vintage clothing and other curios await the savvy bargain hunter.

Ferney Voltaire market, France. This large market, which offers everything from carrots to carpets every Saturday morning in the centre of Ferney, attracts visitors from all over the region. The writer and philosopher Voltaire spent the last 20 years of his life in Ferney and his chateau and pretty grounds are open to the public every day but Monday. You may need your passport and your Euro currency. Buses leave from the airport for the 15 minute journey.

Divonne-les-Bains, France, Sunday morning market is a 15 minute drive via the autoroute towards *Lausanne*. First exit *Divonne / Coppet*. Vendors offer fresh fruits, vegetables, meats,

HOTEL RESERVATION FORM

FEATS 2011 – 10-13 June 2011

Reservation Deadline 10 April 2011 - please FAX this form to the hotel –

ARRIVAL DATE: _____ ARRIVAL TIME: _____

DEPARTURE DATE: _____

NAME (block letters) EMAIL THEATRE GROUP / COUNTRY

CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

ROOM TYPE: SINGLE / DOUBLE / TWIN

Single standard for one person = CHF 145

Double/Twin for two persons = CHF 165

Breakfast is included / City tax is not included (CHF 3.60 per person per day)

METHOD OF PAYMENT (We regret we cannot guarantee your reservation without credit card information.)

Credit Card type – room reservation guarantee

Credit Card number _____

Expiry Date _____

Card Holder's Name _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____

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