

2011 saw **Heartbreak Productions** celebrate their 20th Anniversary with a party that brought together casts, creative teams, staff and friends from across the years, tour three more successful open air productions nationally and internationally, produce a fantastically well-received film about Bishops Tachbrook, launch further inspiring education workshops and offer additional places at their Saturday morning film and theatre workshops for young people, **The Heartbreak Hub**.

... And, as a finale to the year, achieved Key Client Status in recognition of the company's commitment to locally-based, innovative and quality projects that develop and increase access to theatre, arts and heritage.

Executive Director, Maddy Kerr explains,

"To say that we are delighted with the way 2011 played out is an understatement but it reflects all the hard work and support that we receive from staff, casts, creative teams and audience members alike. We're very excited about 2012 which will continue our work from last year and include some new, inspiring projects that we can't wait to get our creative teams working on. And, look out too for a touch of nostalgia..."

Heartbreak Productions' open air shows for summer 2012 will once again embark on nationwide tours and promise to transport audiences back to a time when life was sweet, but maybe not all was quite so mellow...

An idyllic Edwardian childhood gets turned upside-down for Bobby, Peter and Phyllis in the company's award-winning adaptation of **The Railway Children**, the cocktails are flowing in **Private Lives**, set in the 1930s but will it be a Smooth Move or Whiskey Sour for the squabbling characters and, in **Much Ado About Nothing**, the war may be over but a battle of wits is just beginning as Benedick and Beatrice, Shakespeare's most entertaining and charming couple, take to the stage to engage in their "merry war" with both proclaiming that they'll never fall in love.

But Heartbreak is not just about successful open air productions; added to their film and education work, 2012 will see the company undertake involvement with a cabaret evening in February helping to raise money for **The Mayor's Charities** and participation in the **Leamington Looks Back – Heritage Matters** project. This is Leamington's inaugural history festival which aims to showcase various local projects to make history more relevant and accessible to the community.

"These are just some of the plans and schemes we have for 2012," says Peter Mimmack, Artistic Director, "and it's taken us 20 years to reach this point but we are hoping now that we can continue to develop and expand our repertoire encouraging audiences and communities everywhere to get involved in theatre, film, arts and heritage."

If you would like to read more or get involved with any of Heartbreak's future projects, information and details can be found on their website - www.heartbreakproductions.co.uk - or by telephoning 01926 430307.

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Photograph caption: Audience members watching *The Railway Children* at Kenilworth Castle (2006)

For more information: Nicci Selby (Marketing & Communications)

Telephone 01926 430307 or 07751 172958 or email nicci@heartbreakproductions.co.uk