

<https://www.gymnasium-salzhausen.de/portal/meldungen/-the-phoenix-theatre-zu-gast-am-gymnasium-salzhausen-1265-2107.html?rubrik=1008>

## **„The Phoenix Theatre“ zu Gast am Gymnasium Salzhausen**

Mit drei thematisch ganz unterschiedlichen Aufführungen waren Sophie Haas und Tom Halton vom „The Phoenix Theatre“ am 27. September zu Gast an unserer Schule. Das englische Schauspielduo begeisterte die Jahrgänge 6/7 mit "McVamp", 8 bis 10 mit „The Echoes of Lily“ sowie die Oberstufe mit „Performance of Pride and Prejudice“.



© Gymnasium Salzhausen Die beiden Darsteller beeindruckten besonders durch ihre schauspielerische Leistung, sehr viel Wandlungsfähigkeit, Gesang und Tanz. Tolle Unterstützung erhielten sie dabei auch durch zahlreiche Mitwirkende aus dem Publikum. Aus diesem Grund bedanken wir uns nochmals ganz herzlich bei den Schülerinnen und Schülern, die bei der Performance auf der Bühne überaus spontan einen aktiven Part übernommen haben.

Ebenfalls geht ein großes Dankeschön an den Schulförderkreis, der den Kostenbeitrag durch eine großzügige Spende senken konnte.

### **"McVamp" geschrieben by Elisa Kröger, Cosima Kukofka (Klasse 7L)**

Ein Vampir, der kein Blut mag? Das gibt es nur im englischen Theaterstück "McVamp", das von zwei sehr begabten muttersprachlichen Schauspielern, die vier Rollen gleichzeitig dargestellt haben, gespielt wurde.

Am Anfang des Stückes stellte sich uns die Mutter des jungen Vampires Cedric vor, die viel über die Talente ihres Sohnes, wie zum Beispiel Singen oder Tanzen, berichtete. „Da ist nur ein Haken“, erzählte sie uns auf Englisch: „Er hasst Blut!“. Natürlich hat es nicht mehr lange gedauert, bis ihr Sohn selbst auftauchte und uns singend von seiner Familie erzählte. Darunter war auch sein Kuschelbär „Teddy“, der bei uns definitiv am besten ankam. Gut gefallen hat auch die Interaktion mit dem Publikum, wie zum Beispiel, als die Figur "Rosemarie" durchs Publikum lief, um die Flasche voll „Blut“, die Cedric zuvor in die Ränge geworfen hatte, wiederzubekommen. Auch fanden wir lustig, dass einzelne von uns auf die Bühne gerufen wurden, um sich vorzustellen oder selbst kurz mitzuspielen. Was wir noch gut gefunden hätten, wäre ein etwas klareres Ende. Dabei geht es uns gar nicht um den Text, sondern darum, dass wir, erst als „tschüss“ gesagt wurde, bemerkt haben, dass das Theaterstück zu Ende ist. Uns persönlich hat das Stück aber insgesamt sehr gut gefallen und wir freuen uns schon darauf, uns nächstes Jahr ein weiteres Theaterstück angucken zu können.

### **„The Echoes of Lily“ by Jette Bestmann and Annika Möhrmann (10L)**

The play „The Echoes of Lily“ was presented to the students of grades 8-10 on September 27th. It was about cyberbullying and was played by two actors who portrayed multiple roles. The two stories about a boy and a girl whose private pictures were published on the Internet entertained the students, despite the topic already being familiar to most of the audience. Furthermore, the students found that the topic was dealt with sensitively. Having the stories of the girl and the boy end differently made the story complex and entertaining.

### **„Performance of Pride and Prejudice“ by Rumeysa Celebi (Jahrgang 13)**

Last Wednesday our school was blessed with a group of talented actors from the Phoenix Theatre which reinterpreted the famous novel “Pride and Prejudice”, written by Jane Austen in 1813 into a beautiful play.

Pride and Prejudice revolves around the lives of the Bennet family with the main action taking between Elizabeth Bennet and the proud Mr. Darcy. The novel focuses on topics like love, marriage, social class and societal expectations. Elizabeth and Mr. Darcy start off on a wrong note due to their pride and prejudices but eventually come to understand and love each other.

The atmosphere was nice due to the dimmed lightning and the music played in the background, which gave us an actual feeling of being in a theatre although we were in school. The stage however wasn't decorated much. A background panel which was supposed to be the wall of a house and a few empty seats were the main props next to the different pieces of clothing which were handed out to the audience members volunteering. As speaking of which, the play was solely played by two main actors from the Phoenix Theatre. Elizabeth Bennet was played by the actor Sophie Haas while Tom Halton took the role of Mr. Darcy. You can find out more about the actors and Phoenix Theatre on their website: <https://www.tpxt.de/>.

The most fun part was, when the remaining characters were chosen from the audience itself! Since the play was quite interactive, people from the audience had the chance to take part in it. After a few students had the honor and were called to the stage and given their props, the play finally started. I must say it was very funny seeing the audience scared that they might get picked! Not even the teachers were safe ... Mr. Dixel was lucky enough to be the one who played Mr. Bennet, father of Elizabeth Bennet and her sisters.

Considering the play could only be about 90 minutes long due to it being a school play, I think the core aspects and most significant scenes were demonstrated appropriately. Because of the small time frame not everything could be played out, so the actors had to explain what is happening or has happened before switching to the next scene. The whole style of the play was different from what I have known so far. Elizabeth Bennet, one of the main characters, played her role while also taking the role of a narrator which was very interesting to witness. It kind of felt like Elizabeth was writing in her diary telling what had happened while also adding her opinions and overall view on the events. Her expressions and lively way of acting really left an impression on us. Throughout the play, Elizabeth consistently engaged with the audience. Her direct eye contact and connection with the viewers created an engaging atmosphere making us feel like we were right there in Elizabeth's story.

Tom Halton, the actor of Mr. Darcy not only played Mr. Darcy but also Mr. Collins, Mrs. Bennet and Lady Catherine de Bourgh. I can't imagine how exhausting it must've been to keep changing costumes from scene to scene. But he did it and it was amazing how he displayed the different characters throughout the play. Seeing the same actor change from the proud and elegant Mr. Darcy into the ridiculous and humorous characters of Mr. Collins or Mrs. Bennet was a worthy sight!

I think we as the audience can all agree on that the acting skills were very enjoyable to watch. Even the clumsier performances of the actors from the audience brought joy and put us in a good mood. Hats off, because I wouldn't have the courage.

In conclusion, "Pride and Prejudice" was a delightful and exciting experience for all. The talented cast as well as dedication of everyone involved in the scenes were highly refreshing. Even the people who didn't know much about the novel or even nothing at all, got presented with a nice summary of all the events taking place. And I lastly want to thank the Phoenix Theatre for presenting "Pride and Prejudice" to us and the actors for their amazing performance.