



*Smart Casual: A New Musical* by Sam Woof

The North Wall Arts Centre, 29-31 July 2021

CAST

Lily – Ellie Cooper  
 Mel – Darcy Dixon  
 Marc – William Foxtton  
 Jordan – Jamie Murphy  
 Willow – Grace de Souza  
 Ben – Henry Waddon

BAND

Keys – Livi van Warmelo  
 Violin – Marianne Sutton  
 Cello – Toby Anderson  
 Bass – Samuel Hopkins  
 Kit – Oscar Lopez Lopez

PRODUCTION TEAM

Writer/Director – Sam Woof  
 Musical Director – Livi van Warmelo  
 Producer – Mrinmoyee Roy  
 Associate Producer – Lowri Spear  
 Assistant Director – Imogen Albert  
 Assistant Musical Director – Caitlin Frank  
 Production Manager – Harvey Dovell  
 Stage Manager – Nicola Wright  
 Deputy Stage Manager – Violet Mermelstein  
 Set Design – Joe Emmens  
 Sound Design – Andrew Orr  
 Lighting Design – Sam Morley  
 Director of Photography – Dougie Chalmers  
 Trailer – Callum John  
 Marketing Manager – Natasha Mallett  
 Graphic Design – Phillip Olney, Avery Mitchell  
 Photography – Bartek Grzesnikowski, Michael-Akolade Ayodeji

## SOME WORDS FROM THE WRITER

This is not a conventional piece of musical theatre. In a genre so often dominated by sequins and stilettos, farce and melodrama, this is a piece that sits far closer to home. It is a story that, though small in scale, finds resonance in its examination of universal themes like youth, class, friendship, sexuality, and love. In addition, an intricately woven plot, comic dialogue and a powerful score all help to create a unique piece of ensemble theatre, one that I hope you will enjoy watching.



Sam Woof  
Writer/Director of *Smart Casual: A New Musical*  
Photo by Bartek Grzesnikowski

The North Wall have been particularly instrumental in encouraging the story's emphasis on multiple protagonists, which allows for a real sense of plurality when it comes to the storytelling. Extended group scenes have generated slightly stylised dialogue, with short lines mirroring the rhythmic nature of the piece's music, and building a theatrical tone that buries deep truths beneath the bubbly comedy of the first two acts. However, as time passes, the group fractures, and the fate of this mismatched group of friends and lovers end up as strangers. They wanted to be a family, but they become little more than polite acquaintances.

Of course, no discussion of the piece is complete without talking about the music, which is absolutely central not only to the piece's status as a musical, but also to the drama itself. The songs are an intrinsic part of the piece, moving the story forwards and allowing for glimpses of the inner workings of the characters and their psychologies. The score draws heavily on jazz and pop, which coupled with a classical approach have created a sound that is both accessible and ambitious.

I would like to thank the wonderful team at The North Wall, the production team of Theatre GOYA, and the phenomenal cast and band, for bringing *Smart Casual: A New Musical* to life this summer.



Rehearsals for *Smart Casual* in University Parks (above) and the Lake District (below).



Left to right: Livi van Warmelo (Musical Director), Mrinmoyee Roy (Producer), Sam Woof (Writer/Director)  
Photo by Bartek Grzesnikowski

Supported by The North Wall Arts Centre, the Cameron Mackintosh Fund for Contemporary Drama at the University of Oxford, and TORCH as part of the Humanities Cultural Programme.

Keep up to date with Theatre GOYA!

[www.theatregoya.com](http://www.theatregoya.com)

Facebook: GOYA Theatre | Instagram: @theatregoya | Twitter: @theatregoya