



vienna theatre project  
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Vienna, 20 August 2004

Dear Teacher,

We hope you're enjoying your well-deserved summer holidays!

With this letter, we would like to inform you about our upcoming September 2004 production:  
***The Nina Variations*** by American playwright Steven Dietz at Theater Drachengasse Bar&Co.

***The Nina Variations*** production information at a glance:

Location: **Theater Drachengasse Bar&Co, Fleischmarkt 22, 1010 Vienna**  
Dates & Times: **September 13-25, 2004** (daily at 8:00 pm, Sunday – 4:00 pm)  
no performances on Thursday, September 16 & Monday, September 20  
**Premiere: Monday, September 13, 2004 – 8:00 pm**  
**Teachers' Previews: Saturday, September 11 & Sunday, September 12, 2004 – 8:00 pm**

With: **Jennifer Lee Mitchell & Greg Nelsen**

Directed by **Agnes Kitzler**

### **Performances in English**

Running time approx. 90 minutes (no intermission).

Content and language suitable for medium to advanced students.

Additional offers (please contact the vtp office if you're interested in any of the offers below):

**Rehearsal visits:** possible from September 6-10 (date flexible, at the theatre)  
**Student matinees & workshops:** possible on the following dates: September 21-25 (Tuesday-Saturday)  
late morning or early afternoon – exact start time flexible (10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)  
minimum of 30 students

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### ***About the play***

In this funny, fierce and heartbreaking homage to *The Seagull*, Chekhov's star-crossed lovers have been put in a room together and can't get out. In forty-three variations on their famous final scene, Nina (a young actress) and Treplev (a young writer) pit their vibrant wit and soaring passions against one another in a fast-paced tour de force of romantic entanglement. In scene after scene, they try to say all the things that were never said, but maybe thought, in Chekhov's original. Will they, by speaking their minds, be able to get together in the end after all?

“delightful ... an odd, haunting, moving theater piece of lingering beauty” (Seattle Eastside Journal)

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### ***About the author***

Since 1981, Steven Dietz's twenty-plus plays and adaptations have been widely produced at regional theatres across the United States, as well as Off-Broadway. International productions of his work have been seen in England, France, Germany, Japan, Russia, Sweden, Australia, Argentina, Peru, Singapore, Slovenia and South Africa. His recent work includes FICTION, OVER THE MOON, and LAST OF THE BOYS. He lives in Seattle.

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The production of *The Nina Variations* will open with **two free Teachers' Preview performances** on Saturday, September 11, and Sunday, September 12, 2004, at 8:00 p.m., to which you are cordially invited. Advance reservations for either of the two dates are required and will be handled on a first-come, first-serve basis (max. 2 tickets per teacher). This offer is for teachers only.

Regular **tickets** for *The Nina Variations* are 16€, student tickets are 10€ (free seating). For groups of 10 or more students, tickets cost only 8€ per person, and one teacher can see the performance for free. For adult groups of 10 or more, tickets cost only 14€ per person. In both cases, advance reservations are recommended.

For groups of at least 30 students, we offer **workshops and/or matinee performances** on the following days: September 21-25 in the late morning or early afternoon. Ticket prices for workshop or performance alone are the usual 9€ per student, both together cost 12€ per student. Teacher tickets are free. Start times are flexible (generally between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.) and can be arranged with the vtp office.

For those of you interested in **watching a rehearsal**, by themselves or with their students, we are offering an opportunity to sit in on a rehearsal, see how a particular scene develops and ask questions in between and afterwards: the date for such a rehearsal visit is flexible – any time between September 6-10. Advance reservations are necessary so that that day's rehearsal can be structured accordingly.

Rehearsal visits without ticket purchase are 5€ per student. Rehearsal & performance are 12€ per student. Rehearsal & workshop & performance are 15€ per student. The usual teacher regulations apply.

**To reserve tickets or make arrangements** for a school performance or rehearsal visit, please contact the *vienna theatre project* directly at +43 1 920 25 83 or via email at [office@viennatheatreproject.at](mailto:office@viennatheatreproject.at).

Upon request, **teacher materials** to read and discuss the play in class are available in pdf- and doc-formats. These materials include information about

- the author
- the play
- characters
- themes
- Chekhov's original play
- excerpts & assignments
- suggestions for teachers
- vocabulary (English-German)

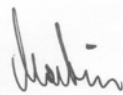
To receive these materials (available at the end of August), please send an email message to our office and specify the format in which you would like them to be sent to you (pdf or doc).

The **playtext** of *The Nina Variations* by Steven Dietz is in print and can be ordered from Dramatists Playservice ([www.dramatists.com](http://www.dramatists.com)) or Amazon ([www.amazon.de](http://www.amazon.de)). The ISBN code is 0-8222-1891-7.

To find out more about the *vienna theatre project*, please visit our website at [www.viennatheatreproject.at](http://www.viennatheatreproject.at), where you can also subscribe to our newsletter (please indicate that you are a teacher and give the name of your school in the comments box).

We hope our offers are of interest to you, and we look forward to hearing from you and meeting/seeing you at one of our performances.

Best regards,



Martin Buxbaum  
Artistic & Executive Director

PS In September, we are starting regular **English-language theatre workshops** for pupils/students at (and in cooperation with) a number of schools in Vienna and Lower Austria. If such a weekly project is of interest to you/your school, for a semester or a whole school-year, please contact the vtp office.

A more detailed information letter about these workshops will follow shortly, and relevant information will also be posted on our website once its redesign is complete.

PPS Please note that we have moved. Our **new address** is Hörlgasse 16/Top 4, 1090 Vienna.