

**Bob Hope Theatre Actors' Company**  
**DEALING WITH CLAIR by Martin Crimp**  
**Director: Barrie Smith**

**AUDITION NOTICE & PRODUCTION INFORMATION**

**All enquiries, to email;** [auditions@bobhopetheatre.org.uk](mailto:auditions@bobhopetheatre.org.uk)

**Performance Dates:** Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2026

**Read through:** Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February at 10.30 am – get to know the play before the auditions.

**Auditions:** Monday 9<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30 pm.

**Rehearsals:** Every Tuesday & Thursday evening at 7.30 pm, starting Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March  
Also Sundays at 10.30 am from Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May.

**Introduction**

*Dealing with Clair* is a chilling, psychological thriller. The play is based loosely on the case of estate agent Suzy Lamplugh, who disappeared in 1986 while showing a client round a property. Her body has never been found. Nor has the mysterious Mr Kipper, whose name appeared in her appointments diary, ever been traced. There is a horrible topicality to the theme of the belittlement and vulnerability of young women at the hands of predatory men. The play offers no solution to the Suzy Lamplugh mystery but presents a plausible explanation of the circumstances surrounding her disappearance. The play was first performed at the Orange Tree Theatre, Richmond, in 1988 and subsequently revived at the same theatre in 2018.

**Plot**

The property market lies at the heart of the play. A dog-eat-dog world, where money talks and traditional notions of morality and ethics don't apply. Mike and Liz are a yuppie couple anxious to secure the best price for their London house. Having accepted an offer from a young couple in Shropshire, they are then faced with the dilemma posed by a higher cash bid from the mysterious art-dealer James. Should they do the honourable thing and stick with the first offer or ditch the young couple and take the cash? Clair is the estate agent caught in the middle, who becomes party to the couple's double-dealing and the object of unhealthy curiosity from the creepy cash buyer James. The play ends with Clair's unexplained disappearance.

**Roles**

Clair – late 20s/early 30s, estate agent, cool, competent, accommodating, a people pleaser.

James – middle-aged, mysterious, menacing, creepy.

Mike – 30s, middle-class, patronising, smug, greedy, cynical.

Liz – 30s, Mike's wife, middle-class, bright, articulate, assertive.

Anna – Mike & Liz's live-in Italian nanny, young, taciturn. Speaks with an Italian accent.

Ashley – mid 20s, tradesman, sharp, cheerful, friendly.

Vittorio – Italian, mid 20s, Anna's boyfriend. Speaks only Italian.

Toby – mid 20s, another estate agent, smooth

Ashley, Vittorio & Toby may be played by the same actor

**Audition Pieces** – text used is the official play script published by Concord Theatricals

Pp 10-13 – Mike & Clair

Pp 17-19 – Mike & Anna

Pp 20-23 – Mike & Liz

Pp 23-27 – James & Clair

Pp 29-32 – Mike & Liz

Pp 40-42 – Anna & Ashley

Pp 43-45 – Ashley & Liz

Pp 58-60 – James & Clair

Pp 66-67 – Clair, James, Anna & Vittorio

Pp 79-83 – Toby, Mike, Liz & Anna

THE BOB HOPE THEATRE ACTORS' COMPANY PRESENTS...

# DEALING WITH CLAIR



By Martin Crimp  
Directed by Barrie Smith

**10th - 13th June 2026**

At 7.45pm. Tickets £14  
(Concessions £12 Not available Fri or Sat Eve.)

on-line at [www.bobhopetheatre.co.uk](http://www.bobhopetheatre.co.uk)  
or call/visit Box Office 0208 850 3702

Wythfield Rd, Eltham, SE9 5TG,  
from 10am to 1pm Tuesday to Saturday.

This amateur production of "Dealing With Clair"  
is presented by special arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd.  
[www.concordtheatricals.co.uk](http://www.concordtheatricals.co.uk)

**BOB HOPE THEATRE ELTHAM**

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