

Hotbed

2012

Supported by



TTP GROUP

The Cambridge New Writing Theatre Festival

The Junction 26-29 January



www.menagerietheatre.co.uk

Tickets: 01223 511511

(Box Office open: Mon-Sat, 1pm-6pm)

Book online at: www.junction.co.uk

 menagerie



The Junction



BBC East

SOHO
THEATRE

Hotbed

2012

We think. We Write. We Right?

Welcome to Hotbed 2012... our tenth anniversary festival!

Ten years on from the first Hotbed, Menagerie teams up with The Junction once again to present a festival packed with new writing, new ideas and new faces.

This year, as well as performing in Cambridge (26th-29th Jan), we will be heading to Soho theatre (30th Jan) to present the **'best of the fest'**.

Looking at the programme, it seems impossible to see what will indeed be the best of the fest (it all looks so good!), but what is certain is the potential for a weekend of amazing discoveries, unique experiences and wonderful stories...

The main commissions this year are typical of the enduring Hotbed ethos: new voices alongside established ones. We have three **One Act Plays**: *Necessary Evil* from emerging young writer Benjamin Askew; *Piglet* from Writers' Guild Award Winner, Ed Harris and *Forgive Our Paranoia* from the multiple Fringe First winner, Chris O'Connell.

Complementing the main plays are **nine new ten-minute monologues** which will be produced in various locations and at various times throughout the festival (including over breakfast, lunch and tea!).

Pieces feature work from Menagerie Associates Janice Okoh, Steve Waters and Danusia Iswaszko as well as a plethora of new and established regional and national voices. For everything from road traffic accidents to phantom pregnancies, dodgy career advice and plenty in between, there really is something for everyone in these **Roaring Voices!**

Education and debate have always been at the heart of Hotbed and this year is no different. Join our panel of experts in a state of the new writing nation debate chaired by **Guardian Critic Lyn Gardner**, or a masterclass from award-winning playwright Mike Bartlett, Soho writer-in-residence Thomas Eccleshare or Hotbed writer Chris O'Connell.

The Guest Production this year is going to be our best ever. *Silent*, from Ireland's amazing Fishamble company, is a moving yet hilarious portrayal of life on the streets of Ireland. Winning a plethora of awards, including a Fringe First, The Guardian described this show as "simply stunning".

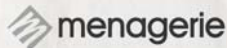
Other events include **storytelling** (featuring *The Devil*, *The Tsar* and *The Three Dry Biscuits* with Ben Haggarty), commissioned **BBC short radio plays** in listening stations, **short films** and free foyer events featuring music and poetry. And to top it all, we have our legendary charity **One-Page-Play-Competition** and the **Hotbed Marathon**, where you can see all the commissioned plays and monologues in one sitting!

Bringing all this to life will be the nine-strong **Hotbed Acting Ensemble** featuring actors who have performed with The RSC, National Theatre and The Royal Court.

Ticket packages are available throughout the festival so you can get real quality plays and events for real value for money. **Call the box office on 01223 511511 for details.**

So... why not take a risk (but not a gamble) and join us for Hotbed 2012!

The Producers



Menagerie creates, supports and inspires new writing in the East of England. We work with artists at all levels, from first-time writers to nationally recognised playwrights, as well as an outstanding ensemble of designers, actors and producers.
www.menagierietheatre.co.uk

Special Thanks

To our partners: The Junction and Soho Theatre; our funders: Arts Council England and our sponsors: TTP and Headline.

Headline: 'a specialist Education Recruitment Company operating in Cambridgeshire, Huntingdon, Norfolk and Suffolk'.

One Act Plays

Three commissions from three exceptional voices. One act plays to inspire, engage and entertain.

Necessary Evil

By Benjamin Askew

*'We both believe in good and evil, sir.
The difference is that I know which is which.'*

Imprisoned and tortured young Lizzy Malkin can feel her faith in her powers begin to falter. Condemned by his own methods, witchfinder Matthew Hopkins is faced with an impossible truth; either he is guilty or everyone he sent to their death was innocent. As the Civil War rages outside, both must pick a side and both must have their belief restored.

Young Royal Court writer Benjamin Askew uses visceral and lyrical contemporary verse to explosive effect in this powerful two hander.

Thurs 26 – 8.15pm

Sat 28 – 7.00pm

Sun 29 – 3.00pm

£8/£6 / 50 mins



Forgive Our Paranoia

By Chris O'Connell

Fleeing from London to escape an act of violence that has overtaken their lives, Beth, Joy and Ash stumble onto the coast. Here, at the edge of England, they are forced to reckon with the past and with each other.

Chris O'Connell, founder of Theatre Absolute and multiple award winner for his *Street Trilogy*, serves up a storm of dreamers, chancers and prophets mixed with a healthy dose of revenge.

Thurs 26 – 7.00pm

Sat 28 – 4.00pm

Sun 29 – 4.30pm

£8/£6 / 50 mins



Piglet

By Ed Harris

As the saying goes 'you don't know what you've got till it's gone', right?

So why not buy a painting by one of the British Masters, and destroy it? Then we'll see what its true value is...

Thoughtful, tricky and amusing, life challenges art in this new Masterpiece (or is it a fake!??) from Ed Harris.

A regular writer for Radio Four, Ed Harris' play *Mongrel Island* was commissioned by Soho Theatre, and in 2011, he won the Writers' Guild Award for his radio play *Troll*.

Fri 27 – 7.00pm

Sat 28 – 5.00pm

Sun 29 – 6.00pm

£8/£6 / 50 mins



Roaring Voices

Nine 10 minute monologues...

A. Death of a Cyclist

By Steve Waters

A poignant, bleakly comic piece imagining the moments after death as a woman struggles to come to terms with the biggest shock of all.

Steve has had recent hits at The Bush and Donmar Warehouse and is now under commission to Channel Four Films, Out of Joint and The West Yorkshire Playhouse.

B. The Talented Mister...

By Janice Okoh

Inspired by the difficulties in today's job market, a young graduate takes desperate measures and seeks advice on how to cheat an interview from a larger than life Mr Fix-it.

Janice is an award-winning playwright. She is a Menagerie Associate writer, and in 2011, her play *Little Birds* won the Bruntwood Prize.

C. The Odyssey of Dimitri Amiras

By Kit Lambert

Using an imaginative combination of poetry, mythical imagery and the broken English of a broken man, Dimitri sits in his holiday trailer on the edge of an eroding cliff, dreaming of floating home to his native Greece.

Kit Lambert is under option for a new ITV drama series and a new sitcom with Hat Trick. His first play, *The Custom House* was shortlisted for the Kings Cross New Writing Award.

D. Andromache

By Katy Walker

A poetic journey into the conflicting emotions of Andromache, wife of Hector - the tragic hero of the Trojan War - offering insight into the world of those on the side-lines, left behind to wait and hope.

Katy is an exciting debut writer.

E. The Surprising Germination of Andrea Fitzgerald

By Alison Carr

'We all know that if you swallow the apple pips, a tree will grow inside your belly. And if we all know it, then it must be true.'

And it certainly is true for Andrea Fitzgerald in this tale of desperation and hope found in the most unlikely of places.

Alison has written for The National Theatre, The Old Vic and Paines Plough. Her play *Monkey and Me* was a Finalist for The Journal of Culture Newcomer of the Year Award 2006.

F. Mind Detox

By Esther Shanson

'My body is a bit... bollocks. Would you call that a negative belief?'

In an exhilarating journey into the depths of psychology, Nicola sees a mind detox therapist to discuss her relationship with her body and her cataclysmic descent into negativity.

Esther is a scientist as well as a writer. She completed the MPhil(B) in Playwriting at the University of Birmingham and has belonged to the Royal Court and Paines Plough writing groups.

G. Toilet

By Gari Jones

With a fascination for the simplicity of the every day and the banal snapshots of life under a microscope, *Toilet* shows a man at his most vulnerable. The body is compromised and he is at its whim. In this state, he attempts to find some control on life in all its guises as outside the party rages.

Gari has worked with the National Theatre, The Gate Theatre, The Old Vic and the Mercury Theatre, Colchester.

H. Kitchen Sink

By Tamsin Astbury

Through Katie - a housewife, a Conservative Councillor and the great granddaughter of a Suffragette - come four generations of women's voices in a compelling exploration of the qualities and inequalities of female experience.

Tamsin has been a member of the Royal Court and Soho Theatre Young Writers' Programmes.

I. Ascension

By Danusia Iswaszko

What can help Henry Denton as he pushes a bolder up Primrose Hill only to see it roll down again when he reaches the top? Obligated to start his journey from the beginning, how will this modern day Sisyphus cope?

Danusia is a Menagerie associate writer, actor and director. She has worked for the National Theatre, and her play *One Glass Wall* was short-listed for the Pearson Prize in 2004.

Set 1 (F,G,H,I)

Fri 27 - 1.00pm
£8/£6 / 50mins

Set 2 (A,B,C,D,E)

Fri 27 - 8.15pm
£8/£6 / 1hr

Food for Thought: Monologues

This series of events enables you to enjoy some food, whilst listening to three Hotbed monologues from actors sitting around the table with you!

Food for Thought: Breakfast

Enjoy coffee, juice, breakfast and three Hotbed monologues.

Sat 28 – 10.00am – **A,C,F**

Sun 29 – 10.00am – **H,D,E**

£10/£8 / 1hr



Food for Thought: Lunch

Enjoy a drink, some lunchtime snacks and three Hotbed monologues.

Sat 28 – 12.30pm – **H,G,I**

Sun 29 – 1.00pm – **A,B,F**

£10/£8 / 1hr



Food for Thought: Tea

Enjoy a drink, some tea-time snacks and three Hotbed monologues.

Sat 28 – 6.00pm – **B,D,E**

£10/£8 / 1hr

Young Hotbed...

The Devil, The Tsar & The Three Dry Biscuits

Performance storytelling by Ben Haggarty

Ben Haggarty embarks on a rumbustious tale of outwitting and trickery. In this Russian fairy-tale, a magical sack can solve all your hunger problems, doctors wield drinking glasses in place of stethoscopes, and a soldier determined to outwit death learns that a good game of cards can get you both into and out of a whole lot of trouble.



Ben's romper-stomper performances have earned him an international reputation. His shows are energetic, always playful, sometimes dark, and unashamedly magical.

For everyone aged 8 and over

Sat 28 – 11.30am

£8/£6 / 1hr

Hot News Performance

A play-in-a-day performance response to the week's news from young performers, directors and writers aged 16-19. More imaginative, energetic and engaging than Newsnight!

Sun 29 – 7.30pm

PWYW / 40 mins

www.menagerietheatre.co.uk

Guest Production

THE SCOTSMAN
**FRINGE
FIRST
AWARD**

★★★★★
HERALD ANGEL WINNER

★★★★★
"A MUST-SEE IF EVER THERE
WAS ONE" THE LIST

★★★★★
THE SHIMMY SKINNY

"A STRIKING PERFORMANCE"
THE IRISH TIMES

Fishamble: The New Play Company presents

Silent

Written and performed by **Pat Kinevane**

Directed by **Jim Culleton**

Produced by **Marketa Dowling**

Composed by **Denis Clohessy**

Homeless McGoldrig once had splendid things. But he has lost it all – including his mind. He now dives into the wonderful wounds of his past through the romantic world of Rudolph Valentino, in this brave, bleak, beautiful new production. *SILENT* is currently wowing audiences on its extensive touring.

Sat 28 – 8.15pm

Sun 29 – 8.15pm

£14/£10 / 1hr 15 mins

Supported by Culture Ireland.

 **fishamble**
THE NEW PLAY COMPANY

photo by mariafalconer.co.uk



Culture Ireland
Cultúr Éireann

Hotbed Diary

2012

Thu 26 January

- F** 5.30pm: Hotbed Short Films
OA 7.00pm: Forgive Our Paranoia
OA 8.15pm: Necessary Evil
OPP 9.15pm: One-Page-Play-Comp-Athon

Fri 27 January

- WD** 10.30am: Page to Stage: Workshop 1
M 1.00pm: Roaring Voices (F,G,H,I)
WD 2.00pm: Writers' Workshop
F 2.30pm: Hotbed Short Films
WD 6.00pm: Hotbed Writers' Conversation
OA 7.00pm: Piglet
M 8.15pm: Roaring Voices (A,B,C,D,E)
OPP 9.15pm: One-Page-Play-Comp-Athon

Sat 28 January

- WD** 10.00am: Page to Stage: Workshop 2
M 10.00am: Food For Thought: Breakfast
S 11.30am: Family Storytelling
M 12.30pm: Food for Thought: Lunch
R 1.00pm: Ellen
WD 2.00pm: State of the Nation
S 3.00pm: Storytelling
WD 3.15pm: Getting to Where You Want To Be
S 4.00pm: Storytelling
OA 4.00pm: Forgive Our Paranoia
OA 5.00pm: Piglet
OPP 5.30pm: One-page-plays: Young Writers
M 6.00pm: Food for Thought: Tea
S 6.00pm: Storytelling
S 7.00pm: Storytelling
OA 7.00pm: Necessary Evil
GU 8.15pm: Silent
OPP 9.45pm: One-Page-Play-Comp-Athon

Sun 29 January

- M** 10.00am: Food For Thought: Breakfast
WD 11.00am: Masterclass
M 1.00pm: Food for Thought: Lunch
R 1.00pm: Marvel
F 2.00pm: Hotbed Short Films
WD 2.00pm: Homelessness: a discussion
 3.00pm: Marathon Part 1:
 Necessary Evil and
 Roaring Voices Monologues E, G, H
OA
M 4.30pm: Marathon Part 2:
 Forgive our Paranoia and
 Roaring Voices Monologues I, F, B
OA
M 6.00pm: Marathon Part 3:
 Piglet and
 Roaring Voices Monologues A, D, C
OA 7.30pm: Hot News
OA 8.15pm: Silent
GU
OPP 9.45pm: One-Page-Play-Comp-Athon
 The Final

- OA** One Act Plays
M Monologues
R Readings
WD Workshops / Discussions
OPP One Page Plays
F Films
S Storytelling
GU Guest Production



All events take place at
The Junction

For tickets call: **01223 511511**

or online at: www.junction.co.uk

www.menagerietheatre.co.uk

Other Events

One-Page-Play-Comp-Athon

The One-Page-Play-Comp-Athon is a firmly established and much loved part of Hotbed. The winner, decided by the audience, receives £250 to donate to a charity of their choice. Each play must be on just one piece of paper. Eight mini-plays each night, all performed by our Ensemble Company.

This year, the competition also has a special category for Young Writers, (aged 14-18), where the winner receives £50 to donate.

Thurs 26 – 9.15pm

Fri 27 – 9.15pm

Sat 28 – 5.30pm (Young Writers)

Sat 28 – 9.45pm

Sun 29 – 9.45 (The Final)

PWYW / 45mins

Storytelling for Grown-ups

Four different, exciting stories from Storyteller Ben Haggarty, especially for grown-ups (12+)

Just ten tickets per performance!

Sat 28 – 3.00pm, 4.00pm, 6.00pm, 7.00pm

£5/£4 / 30 mins

Hotbed Short Films

A series of short films by new and acclaimed, local, regional and international film-makers. Films include Tom Bidwell's Oscar nominated *Wish 143*. Check website for an up-to-date programme.

www.menagerietheatre.co.uk

Thurs 26 – 5.30pm (1.5hr)

Fri 27 – 2.30pm (1hr)

Sun 29 – 2.00pm (1hr)

PWYW



Readings

Ellen

By Ros Connelly

Featuring Helen Cartwright

A staged reading of extracts from this new play that explores Ellen Terry's remarkable life, relationships and views on acting through her interpretations of Shakespeare's heroines.

Sat 28 – 1.00pm

PWYW / 1hr

Marvel

By Elizabeth Moynihan

Produced in association with the Abbey Theatre Dublin

A reading of this new play which explores the themes of greed, neo-slavery and power, both sexual and economic, through the intriguing relationship between Marvel, a young girl from Liberia working as an escort, and Dion, a married Futures and Hedge fund investor.

Sun 29 – 1.00pm

PWYW / 1hr

Marathon

Are you brave enough to come and see all the One Act Plays and all the Monologues in just one sitting? If not, then join us for Part 1, Part 2 or Part 3 of our Marathon as we close the festival in spectacular fashion!

Sun 29

3.00pm: Marathon Part 1: **Necessary Evil** and **Roaring Voices Monologues E, G, H**

£8/£6 / 1hr 15mins

4.30pm: Marathon Part 2: **Forgive our Paranoia** and **Roaring Voices Monologues I, F, B**

£8/£6 / 1hr 15mins

6.00pm: Marathon Part 3: **Piglet** and **Roaring Voices Monologues A, D, C**

£8/£6 / 1hr 15mins

For Parts 1, 2 & 3 of Marathon

£20/£16

Workshops & Discussions

State of the Nation

A discussion on new writing chaired by Guardian theatre critic Lyn Gardner with a panel of distinguished new writing artists and producers.

Sat 28 - 2.00pm
PWYW / 1hr

Page to Stage: Workshop 1

Presented in association with Soho Theatre.

An interactive workshop with Verity Bargate winning writer Thomas Eccleshare. The workshop will focus on the generation of writing and getting new work to breathe on stage. Suitable for all professional and amateur theatre practitioners: actors, writers and directors.

Fri 27 - 10.30am
£15/£12 / 2hrs

Writers' Workshop

Presented in association with Soho Theatre.

Verity Bargate winning writer Thomas Eccleshare and Hotbed writer Danusia Iswaszko.

The workshop will focus on the generation of ideas and the creation of structure for your written work. Suitable for professional and amateur writers.

Fri 27 - 2.00pm
£15/£12 / 2hrs

Thomas Eccleshare won the 2011 Verity Bargate Award, for his script *Pastoral*, which will be performed at Soho Theatre. He currently has a TV sitcom in development for the BBC and is the Pearson Writer in Residence at Soho Theatre.

Hotbed Writers' Conversation

Come and talk to the Hotbed writers! A discussion chaired by Menagerie Literary Associate, Jacqui Honess-Martin.

Fri 27 - 6.00pm
PWYW / 1hr

Page to Stage: Workshop 2

Led by Fringe First Award-winning playwright, Chris O'Connell, this workshop interrogates the idea of an imaginative framework as a beginning point for writing. Before plot and character, there is something else. You. Your voice. Ideal for writers, but equally suitable for all professional and amateur theatre practitioners.

Sat 28 - 10.00am
£15/£12 / 2hrs

Getting To Where You Want To Be

In association with The Writer's Compass (NAWE).

Are you heading in the direction you want with your career? Using exercises from *The Writer's Compass DIY Guide to Professional Development Planning*, this inspirational workshop with writer and experienced workshop leader, Andrew Burton, will enable you to clarify your current situation, identify specific goals and decipher where you would like to be in the future.

Sat 28 - 3.15pm
£20/£15 / 2.5hrs

Andrew Burton is a freelance Arts Consultant, Project Manager and Accredited Coach, specialising in

literature projects, freelance writing, and coaching. He is literary consultant at the University of Essex's Lakeside Theatre.

Hotbed Masterclass 'Craft and Instinct'

An amazing opportunity to work with award-winning playwright, Mike Bartlett. Hone your skills whilst nurturing and channelling an instinctive approach to your work. Suitable for all theatre practitioners not just writers!

Sun 29 - 11.00am
£30/£20 / 2hrs

Mike Bartlett is a multi-award winning writer. In 2007, he was "writer in residence" at the Royal Court Theatre. In 2010 his play *Cock* (Royal Court Theatre) won the 2010 Laurence Olivier Award for Outstanding Achievement In An Affiliate Theatre. Recent work includes: *Love Love Love*; *Earthquakes in London and 13* (The National Theatre 2011-12).

Homelessness: a discussion

In association with the homeless charity FLACK, a discussion following on from Saturday night's performance of *Silent* by Fishamble, reflecting on the issues confronting people living on the streets.

Sun 29 - 2.00pm
PWYW / 1hr (all proceeds go to FLACK)

Tickets & Information

All events take place at The Junction

Ticket prices:

from £6 to £30 – please see individual shows for prices.

PWYW = Pay What You Want

Packages:

Any two core shows purchased in one transaction:
£14/£12

Any 3 core shows purchased in one transaction:
£16/£14

Parts 1, 2, 3 of Marathon:
£20/£16

Core shows: One Act Plays (*Necessary Evil*, *Piglet*, *Forgive Our Paranoia*) and monologues (excluding Food For Thought series)

You can buy tickets for any Hotbed performances in person at:

The Junction, Clifton Way, Cambridge CB1 7GX

By telephone: **01223 511511**

Or online: **www.junction.co.uk**



For more information about Hotbed events, the writers, the ensemble, latest news and offers, visit our website at

www.menagerietheatre.co.uk

Coming Soon

Hotbed at SOHO THEATRE

Monday 30th January – Best of the Fest at Soho Theatre

1pm – 4pm

Tel: 020 7478 0100

www.sohotheatre.com

Egusi Soup

A comedy about life, death and... soup.

By **Janice Okoh**

Directed by **Paul Bourne**

As a British-Nigerian family pack their suitcases and prepare to head home for a funeral they realise they will need to get rid of some excess baggage first! A fast, furious and funny new family drama about life in London, death in Lagos and soup on the kitchen table.

A brand new comedy with plenty of spicy bits...

18 – 19 May, The Mumford Theatre Cambridge
23 May – 9 June, Soho Theatre, London
14 – 16 June, The Mercury Theatre, Colchester.



www.menagerietheatre.co.uk