

**The Finborough Theatre is now fully heated and air conditioned,  
and offers STAGETEXT captioned performances**

Rediscoveries2012 Season  
February to April 2012

Lucy Jackson for Volta Theatre in association with  
Neil McPherson for the Finborough Theatre and the National Theatre Studio presents  
The Leverhulme Bursary for Emerging Theatre Directors production  
**The world premiere of a new version**

## DON JUAN COMES BACK FROM THE WAR

by Ödön von Horváth in a new version by Duncan Macmillan  
Directed by Andrea Ferran. Designed by Ellan Parry. Lighting by Neill Brinkworth.  
Sound by Edward Lewis. Dramaturgy by Deirdre McLaughlin.  
Cast: Charlie Cameron. Laura Dos Santos. Eileen Nicholas. Sarah Sweeney. Rosie Thomson.  
Zubin Varla. Leah Whitaker.

The world premiere of Duncan Macmillan's new version of von Horváth's *Don Juan Comes Back From The War* opens at the Finborough Theatre from Tuesday, 28 February 2012 (**Press Night: Thursday, 1 March 2012 at 7.30pm**) for a limited four-week season, directed by Andrea Ferran, the third recipient of the Leverhulme Bursary for Emerging Theatre Directors.

Don Juan's back from the War and he's got some catching up to do. Berlin may be crumbling, but after years of abstinence, the Don is ready for more of the debauchery that once made his name. Yet despite his best efforts, the years of excess are beginning to catch up with him. Amidst political upheaval and economic ruin, Don Juan finds himself increasingly at odds with the man he used to be. Is this notorious lothario finally about to experience a sudden change of heart?

Ödön von Horváth's startling tale of displacement and isolation in the aftermath of the Great War is presented in a bold new adaptation by award-winning playwright Duncan Macmillan.

*Don Juan Comes Back From The War* is the third production at the Finborough Theatre as part of the Leverhulme Bursary for Emerging Theatre Directors, a partnership between the National Theatre Studio and the Finborough Theatre, supporting a six-month attachment at the internationally acclaimed National Theatre Studio, and a six month attachment at the Finborough Theatre, culminating in a production at the Finborough Theatre. The two previous productions were both critically acclaimed and sold out – Bulgakov's *Moliere or The League of Hypocrites*, directed by Blanche McIntyre, in 2009, and Caryl Churchill's *Fen*, directed by Ria Parry, in 2011.

Director **Andrea Ferran** is currently Director in Residence at the National Theatre Studio and the Finborough Theatre as the 2011-12 recipient of the Leverhulme Bursary for Emerging Directors. Theatre includes *Neighbors*, *The Language Archive*, *Another Man's Son*, *Horses in a Storm* (NT Studio), *Les Enfants Terribles* (Arcola Theatre), *Sleeping Rough* (HighTide Lab), *Fen* (Rose Theatre Studio), *Romeo and Juliet* (Bechstein Hall and Old Vic New York), *Far Away* (Kennedy Center, Washington DC), *The Woman*, *The Secret Life of the Office Worker* (Riverside Theatre, New York). Andrea trained on the MFA Directing program at Columbia University in New York, where she was awarded a Shubert Fellowship and a Leventis Scholarship. She is currently Associate Director on *The Kreutzer Sonata* (Gate Theatre), and has also assisted Robert Woodruff, Andrei Serban and Natalie Abrahami.

Playwright **Ödön von Horváth** (1901-1938) was born in Fiume, now Rijeka, near Trieste on 9 December 1901. His father being a diplomat, the family moved from country to country. "I am a melange of Old Austria; Hungarian, Croat, Czech, German; alas, nothing Semitic". His plays include *Tales From the Vienna Woods*, *Judgment Day*, *Faith Hope and Charity* and *Italian Night*. Choosing to stay in Germany and document the rise of National Socialism, his work was violently repressed by the Third Reich, and many of his masterpieces including *Don Juan Comes Back From The War* were never performed until after his death. In later years, he turned to writing novels, and his popular works *A Child of Our Time* and *Youth Without God* are considered modern classics. He was killed on 1 June 1938 at the age of 38, in a freak accident on the Champs-Élysées, when a branch of the chestnut tree under which he was sheltering from a

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[www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk](http://www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk) Artistic Director Neil McPherson

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thunderstorm fell on his head. He also appears as the lead character in Christopher Hampton's play *Tales from Hollywood*.

Playwright **Duncan Macmillan** is an award winning writer and director. Plays include *Lungs* (Paines Plough at Sheffield Theatres and Studio Theatre Washington D.C.), *Platform* (Old Vic Tunnels), *Monster* (Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester, as part of the Manchester International Festival), *The Most Humane Way to Kill A Lobster* (Theatre 503), *I Wish To Apologise For My Part In The Apocalypse*, *So Say All of Us* and *Family Tree* (BBC Radio 4). Formerly Writer-in-Residence at Paines Plough, the Royal Exchange and Studio Theatre Washington D.C., he has completed attachments at the National Theatre, the Royal Court and BBC, is a member of the Old Vic New Voices Company and a fellow of the TS Eliot UK/US Exchange. He is the winner of two Bruntwood Playwriting Awards, the Old Vic Big Ambition Award, a Pearson Residency Award, 'The 50' Bursary, and his work has been nominated in the Best New Play category of the TMA and *Manchester Evening News* Awards.

Designer **Ellan Parry** returns to the Finborough Theatre where she designed *After Haggerty* (2006). Trained at Motley and Wimbledon School of Art. Costume Designs includes *Electric Hotel* (Fuel, Sadlers Wells and National Tour), *Plucker* (Southwark Playhouse) and *Moonfleece* (Riverside Studios and National Tour). Ellan was Associate Set Designer for *Pippin* (Menier Chocolate Factory), and Set Designer for *Katy Brand's Big Ass Show Live* (Leicester Square Theatre and National Tour). Set And Costume Design for Opera includes *Carmen* (Blackheath Halls), *Les Dialogues Des Carmelites* and *Albert Herring* (Trinity-Laban College) and *Icarus* (Tete a Tete Opera Festival). She has also worked as an Art Director for stage projection visuals on Placebo's recent European tour, and a community production of *The Magic Flute* (Glyndebourne). Ellan is a previous winner of the Jocelyn Herbert Award, and a Linbury Prize Finalist.

The cast is:

## **Charlie Cameron**

Trained at Rambert School of Ballet and Contemporary Dance and Laine Theatre Arts.

Theatre includes *Salad Days* (Riverside Studios), *The Crucible* (Open Air Theatre, Regent's Park), *Peter Pan* (Theatre Royal Brighton), *Martha From Admin* (Tristan Bates Theatre), *Saturday Night* (Arts Theatre and Jermyn Street Theatre), *Grease* (Piccadilly Theatre) and *Eugene Onegin* (London Coliseum).

Television animation includes *Angelina Ballerina*, *Poppy Cat*, *Third and Bird* and *Lisa*.

## **Laura Dos Santos**

Trained at LAMDA.

Theatre includes *Educating Rita* for which she received a nomination for the *Evening Standard* Awards Outstanding Newcomer (Menier Chocolate Factory and Trafalgar Studios), *We Will Be Gone* (Camden People's Theatre), *Look Back In Anger* (Jermyn Street Theatre), *Stags and Hens - The Remix* (Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool), *On The Middle Day* (The Old Vic), *In Your Hands* (New End Theatre) and *The Morris* (Everyman Theatre, Liverpool).

Television includes *Wallander*, *Bad Girls*, *Fingersmith*, *Innocent Party* and *The Bill*.

Radio includes *The House of Mercy*, *Educating Rita*, *Lennon: A Week In The Life* and *Life On The Edges*.

## **Eileen Nicholas**

Theatre includes *All About My Mother* (The Old Vic), *Buried Child* (Upstairs at the Gatehouse), *Lobster/Vantastic* (Oval House Theatre), *Through the Leaves* (Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh, and Bush Theatre), *Elizabeth Gordon Quinn* (Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh), *Same Old Moon* (Gielgud Theatre), *Juno and the Paycock* (Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh), *American Bagpipes* (Royal Court Theatre and the Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester), *Endgame* (Donmar Warehouse), *Request Programme* for which she was awarded the *Time Out* Theatre Award (Donmar Warehouse), *The Revenger's Tragedy* (Theatre Royal Bath) and *Lady of Letters* (Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds).

Film includes *January*, *Wee Man*, *Late Bloomers*, *Trainspotting*, *Regeneration*, *Mr Corbett's Ghost*, *Widowmaker* and *Bomber* for which she won the Best Actress Award at the Oregon, Nashville and Kiev Film Festivals.

Television includes *Law and Order UK*, *Half Broken Things*, *Taggart*, *Between the Lines*, *The Bill*, *Casualty*, *Dr Finlay's Casebook*, *Doctors*, *The Final Run* and *Mitch*.

## **Sarah Sweeney**

Theatre includes *The Kitchen* (National Theatre), *The Crash of the Elysium*, *The Masque of the Red Death* and *Lord Bullingdon's Last Cigar* (Punchdrunk at BAC), *Limehouse Nights* (Kandinsky Theatre Company at Limehouse Town Hall), *The Bird* and *The Bee* (Kandinsky Theatre Company at Underbelly, Edinburgh) *6 Star* and *No Longer I* (Old Vic New Voices at the Public Theater, New York) *It's Oh So Quiet* (Theatre 503), *The Dog in the Manger* (Rogues' Gallery at

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# Press Information

Hoxton Hall), *The Astronaut Wives' Club* (National Youth Theatre at Soho Theatre) and *Antigone at Hell's Mouth* (Kneehigh Theatre and National Youth Theatre at Soho Theatre).  
Short Film includes *Automate*, *The Vase* and *Watch Over Me II*.

## Rosie Thomson

At the Finborough Theatre, Rosie appeared in *Fen* (2011).

Other theatre includes *The Kitchen* (National Theatre), *The Cherry Orchard* (National Theatre), *Yes, Prime Minister* (Gielgud Theatre), *Scrabble* (DryWrite at Latitude), *I Caught Crabs in Walberswick* (Eastern Angles, HighTide and National Tour), *The Hothouse* (National Theatre), *Sleeve Notes* (The Apathists at Theatre 503) and *The Most Humane Way To Kill A Lobster* (The Young Vic and Theatre 503).

Film includes *Enigma* and *Women and Children*.

Television includes *Doctors*, *The Bill*, *EastEnders*, *Dream Team*, *A Touch of Frost*, *Judge John Deed*, *Family Affairs* and *Second Sight*.

## Zubin Varla

Trained at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

Theatre includes *Into Thy Hands* (Wilton's Music Hall), *WarHorse* (National Theatre and New London Theatre), *Twelfth Night* (Donmar Warehouse and Wyndham's Theatre), *Paradise Regained* (Royal Court Theatre), *The Enchantment*, *Attempts on Her Life*, *The Life of Galileo* and *Cyrano de Bergerac* (National Theatre), *Julius Caesar* (Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith), *Julius Caesar*, *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, *Midnight's Children*, *The Tempest*, *Roberto Zucco*, *Bartholomew Fair*, *Faust*, *The Painter of Dishonour* and *Romeo and Juliet* (Royal Shakespeare Company), *Antigone* (Warehouse Productions and The Old Vic), *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Lyceum Theatre), *Amadeus* (City of London Sinfonia and UK Tour), *Hello and Goodbye* (Southwark Playhouse), *Teeth 'n' Smiles* (Crucible Theatre, Sheffield), *Chess* (Danish Tour) *In the Solitude of Cotton Fields* (Actors Touring Company), *A Day Like Today* (The Young Vic), *Beautiful Thing* (Duke of York's Theatre), *In the Heart of America* (Bush Theatre), *A Connecticut Yankee in the Court of King Arthur*, *Romeo and Juliet* and *Lady Be Good* (Open Air Theatre, Regent's Park).

Film includes *Mad, Sad and Bad* and *Jacob*.

Television includes *Holby City*, *Garrow's Law*, *Hustle*, *Little Dorrit*, *Saddam's Tribe*, *Silent Witness*, *Spooks*, *Twelfth Night*, *Dalziel and Pascoe*, *The Bill*, *Crocodile Shoes* and *Luv*.

Radio includes *The Wild Neighbour and the Willing Coward*, *I Claudius*, *The Changeling*, *The Threepenny Opera*, *The Prospect II*, *ID*, *The Inheritance of Loss*, *A Dish of Pomegranates*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Season of Migration to the North*, *Gandhi's Goat*, *The Night of the Mi'Rag*, and *The Mahabharata*.

Albums include Nitin Sawhney's *Human*, *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Chess*.

## Leah Whitaker

Trained at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art.

At the Finborough Theatre, Leah appeared in *Seven Pages Unsigned* as part of *Vibrant – An Anniversary Festival of Finborough Playwrights* (2010).

Theatre includes *Earthquakes in London* (Headlong and National Theatre), *The Heretic* and *Ignition 2* (Royal Court Theatre), *Counted* (Look Left Look Right and The Roundhouse), *Pride and Prejudice* (Theatre Royal Bath), *Harvest* (Oxford Playhouse and Royal Court Theatre), *Found in the Ground* (The Wrestling School and Riverside Studios) and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (The Milton Rooms, Malton).

Television includes *Eggbox*, *Holby City*, *EastEnders* and *Midsomer Murders*.

Radio includes *Mum's Over the Moon*.

Producer **Lucy Jackson** has produced all of the Finborough Theatre's *Vibrant – A Festival of Finborough Playwrights* festivals (2009, 2010 and 2011) and *Fanta Orange* (2011). Other theatre includes *Amphibians* (Bridewell Theatre).

**The Leverhulme Trust** was established in 1925 at the wish of William Hesketh Lever, the first Viscount Leverhulme, which makes awards for the support of research and education. The Trust emphasises individuals and encompasses all subject areas. With annual funding of some £40 million, the Trust is amongst the largest all subject providers of research funding in the UK.

## The Press on director Andrea Ferran

"A pure adrenalin rush." *The Times* on *Les Enfants Terribles*

"Impressively staged...inventive choreography and really committed performances catch that dream-like world exactly."

*The Guardian* on *Les Enfants Terribles*

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## The Press on playwright Duncan Macmillan

"Macmillan's play is at once harrowing and blisteringly funny, bleak and redemptive...The play elicited rapt attention, garrulous laughter, some tears and even audible gasps...bursts onto the stage with urgency and vitality." \*\*\*\*\* Five Stars, *WhatsOnStage* on *Lungs*

"Macmillan's play is a timely and gripping dissection of parenting and responsibility... this is a mature, intelligent and passionate play." \*\*\*\* Four Stars, *The Guardian* on *Monster*

"I loved this, I thought it was a really electrifying new voice coming into the theatre... Duncan Macmillan is absolutely a name to be looking out for in the future." Charlotte Keatley, *Front Row Radio 4* on *Monster*

"Duncan Macmillan's distinctive, off-kilter love story is brutally honest, funny, edgy and current. It gives voice to a generation." *The Guardian* on *Lungs*

"Macmillan...is capable of combining a complexity of characterisation with sharp twists in a plot that is propelled along on a stream of punchy dialogue... *Monster* is engrossing and menacing and merits a long run and wider airing." *The Independent* on *Monster*

"Macmillan's writing is beautifully off beat, wry and surprising." *Time Out* on *The Most Humane Way To Kill A Lobster*

**PRESS NIGHT: THURSDAY, 1 MARCH 2012 AT 7.30PM**

**PHOTOCALL: TUESDAY, 28 FEBRUARY 2012 AT 1.00PM-1.30PM**

Finborough Theatre, 118 Finborough Road, London SW10 9ED

Box Office 0844 847 1652 Book online at [www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk](http://www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk)

**Tuesday, 28 February – Saturday, 24 March 2012**

Tuesday to Saturday Evenings at 7.30pm. Sunday Matinees at 3.00pm. Saturday matinees at 3.00pm (from the second week of the run).

**Prices for Weeks One and Two (28 February–11 March 2012)** – Tickets £13, £9 concessions, except Tuesday Evenings £9 all seats, and Saturday evenings £13 all seats. Previews (28 29 February) £9 all seats.

£5 tickets for under 30's for performances from Tuesday to Sunday of the first week when booked online only.

£10 tickets for residents of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea on the first Saturday of the run only.

**Prices for Weeks Three and Four (13 March–24 March 2012)** – Tickets £15, £11 concessions, except Tuesday Evenings £11 all seats, and Saturday evenings £15 all seats.

STAGETEXT captioned performance – Saturday, 17 March 2012 at 3.00pm

Performance Length: Approximately two hours.

(Ticket prices may be subject to change)

For more information, interviews and images, please contact

**Neil McPherson** on e-mail [admin@finboroughtheatre.co.uk](mailto:admin@finboroughtheatre.co.uk) or **07977 173135**

Download press releases and images at <http://www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk/press-resources.php>