

Perspective Productions in association with Concordance presents  
**Lucky Nurse and Other Short Musical Plays**  
Words and Music by Michael John LaChiusa.  
Presented by arrangement with JOSEF WEINBERGER LIMITED  
Directed by David Dorrian.

## THE UK PREMIERE OF FOUR SHORT MUSICALS BY MICHAEL JOHN LACHIUSA

Following the sell-out success of *Florodora*, the multi-award-winning Finborough Theatre now explores modern music theatre with a limited run of Sunday evening performances of *Lucky Nurse And Other Short Musical Plays* by the hottest composer on Broadway, Michael John LaChiusa.

*Lucky Nurse and Other Short Musical Plays* were first performed together in 1991 at Playwrights Horizons with a cast of Broadway stars including Tony Award winner Chuck Cooper. Since then, performers including Toni Collette, Idina Menzel, Mandy Patinkin and Audra MacDonald have appeared in Michael John LaChiusa's productions – drawn by his ability to explore quirky and engaging situations through incisive lyrics and beautiful music.

The four plays in the collection find outlet for song in the darker corners of modern American life. LaChiusa's disenfranchised characters are all in dire need of a miracle. In each of the four separate scenarios he explores what might happen if they got one.

In *Break* two construction workers achieve new insight into their lunch hour woes when the Virgin Mary appears to them in an accidental visitation. Deserted in her wheelchair while her nurse goes shopping, *Agnes* tells a stranger how she longs for paradise – and asks him to send her there. In *Eulogy For Mister Hamm*, various residents of a hostel are queuing to use the one available bathroom when they discover that their superintendent may be dead. Finally, *Lucky Nurse* takes us on a journey through the events that link the lives of four strangers on a single night in the city.

Directed by exciting young talent **David Dorrian** whose previous credits include Assistant Director to Daniel Kramer for The Gate Theatre's sell-out revival of *Hair*, and, most recently, Assistant Director to Fiona Laird for The Greenwich Theatre's *10 Minute Musical Challenge*.

Composer **Michael John LaChiusa** is a five time Tony nominee. Critically acclaimed productions include *The Wild Party* (starring Toni Collette, directed by *Caroline, Or Change* director George C. Wolfe), *Marie Christine*, *Hello Again* (with Jenna Russell in the UK Premiere), *Little Fish* and *First Lady Suite*. Last year's *See What I Wanna See* (starring Idina Menzel) had an extended sell-out run at New York's Public Theater. LaChiusa's musical adaptation of *The House of Bernarda Alba* has just opened at the Lincoln Center Theater.

The cast includes **Valerie Cutko**, seen in *My Fair Lady* (RNT/Theatre Royal Drury Lane) and *Grand Hotel* (Broadway); **Nigel Francis**, currently appearing in Arthur Miller's *Resurrection Blues* at the Old Vic and has been seen in the West End in *Grand Hotel* (Dominion Theatre), *Grease* (Cambridge Theatre) and *Joey & Gina's Wedding* (Café Royal); **Cassidy Janson** who recently won rave reviews in the lead role of Susan in the London premiere production of *Tick Tick....Boom!* (Menier Chocolate Factory); **Kira Lauren**, recently graduated from NYU's Tisch School; **Simon Masterton**, seen in *Passion* (Bridewell Theatre) and two Finalists from the BBC Radio 2 Voice of Musical Theatre 2005 - **Verity Quade**, recently seen in *Jerry Springer - The Opera* (Cambridge Theatre) – and **Russell Whitehead**.

**PRESS NIGHT: SUNDAY, 2 APRIL 2006 AT 8.00PM**  
**PHOTOCALL: by arrangement. Please email [admin@finboroughtheatre.co.uk](mailto:admin@finboroughtheatre.co.uk)**

Finborough Theatre, The Finborough, 118 Finborough Road, London SW10 9ED  
(Five minutes from Earl's Court Underground and West Brompton Underground and National Rail)  
Box Office 0870 4000 838 Book online at [www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk](http://www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk)  
**Sunday, April 2nd; Sunday, April 9th and Sunday, April 16th 2006**

All performances at 8.00pm

Tickets £12, £9 concessions. Performance Length: Approximately 1 hour 15 minutes with no interval.

For more information, interviews and images, please contact  
**Neil McPherson** on **07977 173135** or e-mail [admin@finboroughtheatre.co.uk](mailto:admin@finboroughtheatre.co.uk)

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