



Icarus Theatre Collective, Concordance and Wildcard Theatre Company present

Victor Spinetti Gerard Monaco

ALBERT'S BOY

The World Premiere of a new play by James Graham.
Directed by Max Lewendel. Designed by Alex Marker.

"Why do you think I've been locked in this room? I've been grieving for a wife, a sister, three hundred thousand Japanese civilians, the presence of a universe gone mad, and the absence of a theory to explain it."

Albert Einstein is not feeling too good. His house is empty, his cat is missing, he can't remember where he put his violin - and he is slowly driving himself insane as he struggles to solve the unanswerable question - "Did I do the right thing?" When a family friend, newly released from a Chinese POW camp, comes to visit, a warm reunion soon becomes an explosive collision of opposing beliefs on the subjects of evil, the winning of wars, and the construction of the world's first weapon of mass destruction - the atomic bomb.

Commemorating the World Year of Physics, the 60th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the centenary of Einstein's famous papers on relativity, and the 50th anniversary of Einstein's death, the Finborough Theatre's newest writer-in-residence James Graham has written a blackly humorous and achingly moving play shining light on one of history's most enduring figures and the unwilling father of a monster that the modern world is still struggling to cage.



Victor Spinetti plays Albert Einstein. His many credits include six years with Joan Littlewood's Theatre Workshop including his Tony award winning performance in *Oh, What A Lovely War!* in London, New York and Paris. His theatre credits are too extensive to list, but include *Expresso Bongo* with Paul Scofield, *Candide*, *The Hostage* by Brendan Behan, Shakespeare's *Henry IV Parts I & II*, Ben Jonson's *Every Man In His Humour*, Lord Foppington in *The Relapse* at the RSC and, most recently, starring in *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* at the London Palladium. He directed at the Royal National Theatre at Laurence Olivier's invitation, a play Victor co-authored with John Lennon entitled *In His Own Write*. He has played in his one man show *A Very Private Diary*, directed by Ned Sherrin, all over the world including the West End and at the Sydney Opera House. Some of Victor's many film appearances include *A Hard Day's Night*, *Help* and *The Magical Mystery Tour* all with The Beatles and *The Taming of the Shrew* directed by Franco Zeffirelli with Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor. Victor is partnered by

RADA graduate, **Gerard Monaco**, who was recently seen as Kenny Jones in Mike Leigh's *Vera Drake*.

22 year old playwright **James Graham** is the Finborough Theatre's newest writer-in-residence. The script will be published by Methuen. Young up-and-coming American director **Max Lewendel** returns to the Finborough Theatre after directing *Coyote Ugly* ("An intense and wittily uncivilised evenings entertainment" *Time Out*) and co-producing *Gates of Gold*, both *Time Out* Critics' Choices. The Finborough's resident designer **Alex Marker** recently won great acclaim for his designs for *Trelawny of the Wells* and *Hortensia and the Museum of Dreams* - "Designer Alex Marker has done a magnificent job" *Evening Standard*. "...Alex Marker's extraordinary set...it raises small house theatre design to a new level." *Rogues and Vagabonds*.

PRESS NIGHT: THURSDAY, JULY 21ST 2005 AT 7.30PM
PHOTOCALL: TUESDAY, JULY 19TH 2005 AT 1.00PM-1.30PM

Finborough Theatre, The Finborough, 118 Finborough Road, London SW10 9ED
Box Office 0870 4000 838 Book online at www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk

Tuesday, July 19th-Saturday, August 13th 2005

Tuesday to Saturday Evenings at 7.30pm. Sunday Matinees at 3.30pm.

Tickets £12, £9 concessions.

Tuesday Evenings & Previews (July 19th and 20th) £8 all seats. Saturday evenings £12 all seats.

For more information, interviews and images, please contact **Neil McPherson** on **020 7244 7439**
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