

7th January 2005

“I can have sex with anyone and make it look like I enjoy it. I’m a pro”

Timothy Hughes Productions in association with Weaver Hughes Ensemble presents

ETTA JENKS by Marlane Gomard Meyer

At the Finborough Theatre 2nd to 26th February 2005

Press Night: Friday 4th February 2005 at 7.30pm

Directed by Ché Walker. With Daniela Nardini as Etta Jenks.

Designed by Ana Jebens. Lighting by Alex Wardle. Sound Design. Matt Downing.

Costume Design by Annie Curtis-Jones. Assistant Director. Vanessa Mobiglia.

Cast: Jean-Paul van Cauweleart. Cristina Gavin. Mido Hamada. Siobhan Hewlett. Daniela Nardini. Chris O’Dowd. Indra Ove. Clarke Peters. Tom Sangster.

A young woman chases her dreams to sun-soaked LA to become a movie star, but soon the shadows of this city rear up to claim her. Etta aspires to succeed but is sucked down into the porn industry, a world which seduces and abuses, and can illuminate your name in dirty neon. A dark comic thriller about sex and survival.

Following his directorial debut earlier this year with Amy Evans’ *Achidi J’s Final Hours* at the Finborough Theatre, internationally acclaimed playwright **Ché Walker** (*Flesh Wound* and *Been So Long* (Royal Court), and George Devine Award winner) directs the modern American classic **ETTA JENKS**, with *This Life* star **Daniela Nardini** in the title role.

Daniela Nardini won a BAFTA for her role in *This Life* and plays Etta, and she is joined by Olivier Award Winner **Clarke Peters**, most recently seen in *Simply Heavenly* (West End),

Jean-Paul van Cauweleart (Jake Quinn in *Stones In Their Pockets* New Ambassadors), **Cristina Gavin** (Dr Rosen in *Days of Our Lives* NBC) **Mido Hamada** (*Guantanamo* West End), **Siobhan Hewlett** (BAFTA nomination for Best Single Drama 2004 *Fortysomething* Carlton TV), **Chris O’Dowd** (*Vera Drake*, directed by Mike Leigh), **Indra Ove** (Hermia in Robert Lepage’s

A Midsummer Night’s Dream, Royal National Theatre) and **Tom Sangster** (*The Vegemite Tales* Edinburgh 2004).

(CONT’D)

For more information, interviews and images and press night tickets, please contact

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Neil McPherson on 020 7244 7439 or e-mail admin@finboroughtheatre.co.uk or, for urgent enquiries only, please, mobile 07814 912964

Note to Editors

PRESS NIGHT: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH 2005 AT 7.30PM

PHOTOCALL: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND 2005 AT 1.00PM-1.30PM

Listings

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Finborough Theatre, The Finborough, 118 Finborough Road, London SW10 9ED

Box Office Information 020 7373 3842

www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk

Wednesday, February 2nd-Saturday, February 26th 2005

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

Tickets £10, £8 concessions. Tuesday evenings £8 all seats. Saturday evenings £10 all seats. Previews (February 2nd & 3rd) £8 all seats. Performance Length: Approximately 2 hours.

PRESS ACCLAIM FOR CHÉ WALKER'S PRODUCTION OF ACHIDI J'S FINAL HOURS:

"Fringe theatre is bristling with creativity and flair but is often overlooked. This seething mass of talent has risen to the surface at the Finborough with this transfixing production. Making his directorial debut, Ché Walker creates a wonderfully tragic journey...the atmosphere created by lighting designer Alex Wardle and the all encompassing sound beds from sound designer Jack C. Arnold are the most fluid, well executed and beautifully designed seen in any fringe production, complimenting the performances perfectly...this production is a triumph for all involved." *Rob Speight, The Stage*

"This sensitive and highly effective production... Ché Walker, directing a persuasive cast, creates a dark and compelling onstage world... The whole is arresting." *Sam Marlowe, The Times*

"Ché Walker's poised production.. Alex Wardle's exquisite lighting." *Dominic Maxwell, Time Out*

CAST

Jean-Paul van Cauweleart (Ben)

Theatre includes THE FLAME AND THE STONE (International Tour), STONES IN THEIR POCKETS (Jake Quinn, New Ambassadors and UK No.1 Tour). Television includes: FAIR CITY (Peter Moore, RTE), TALK TO ME (Danny, BBC), MYSTIC KNIGHTS OF TIR NA NOG (Skinny, Fox). Film: BRAVEHEART (Messenger, Icon Productions)

Cristina Gavin (Dolly)

Theatre includes: STILL MARILYN (Mia & Jane) dir. Kate Bramley (Bad Apple Theatre Company), THE GUYS, (Joan) dir. Martin Buxham (Vienna Theatre Project), A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM (Titania/Hipolyte) dir. Michael Bibb (The Clan Theatre Company). Film and Television includes THE MADNESS OF KING GEORGE (Lady in Waiting) dir. Nicholas Hytner, DAYS OF OUR LIVES (Dr Rosen) dir. Randy Robbins, BABYLON 5 (Sarah) dir. Tony Dow/Janet Greek (TNT).

Mido Hamada (Ben, Sherman, Max)

Theatre includes: GUANTANAMO (Bisher & Major Mori) dir. Nicholas Kent / Sasha Wares (West End /Sonia Friedman), HAMLET (Fortinbras) dir. Yukio Ninagawa (Thelma Holt / Theatre Royal Plymouth), AT THE TABLE (Mario) dir. Roxanna Silbert (The Royal Court). Film and Television includes: DIRTY BOMB (The Translator, Dirty Bomb Film Productions), SPOOKS (Butterfly) dir. Alrick Riley (BBC / Kudos), SKY CAPTAIN WORLD OF TOMORROW (Grieves) dir. Kerry Conran (WOT Productions)

Siobhan Hewlett (Kitty, Shelly)

Trained at Webber Douglas Academy. Films includes: PICCADILLY JIM (Rosalie) dir. John McKay (Mission Films); THE GATHERING (Janey) dir. Brian Gilbert (Samuelson Films); MONSIEUR 'N' (Betsy Balcombe) dir. Antoine de Caunes (Loma Nasha Prods.). Television includes: MIDSOMER MURDERS (Amanda) dir. Richard Holthouse (ITV); THE WIFE OF BATH'S TALE (Karen) dir. Andy de Emmony (BBC); BAFTA nomination for Best Single Drama 2004 FORTYSOMETHING (Lucy Proek) dir. Hugh Laurie and Nic Phillips (Carlton Television).

Daniela Nardini (Etta)

Won a BAFTA for her role in THIS LIFE. Her recent TV credits include QUITE UGLY ONE MORNING, GUNPOWDER, TREASON AND PLOT, SIRENS, OUTSIDE THE RULES and for Film FESTIVAL directed by Annie Griffin. Her recent Theatre credits include TOP GIRLS (Citizens Theatre, director Hettie MacDonald) and CAMILLE (Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, director David McVicar).

Chris O'Dowd (Clyde, Dwight, Alex)

Film includes: FESITIVAL (Tommy O'Dwyer, Film Four), VERA DRAKE (Malachy, Thin Man Films). Theatre: PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN WORLD (Jimmy Farrell, Druid), DISCO PIGS (Pig, Daylight Theatre). Television: THE CLINIC (Brenden Davenport, RTE) and RED CAP (Bernie Maddox, Stormy Pictures/BBC).

Indra Ove (Sherri)

Trained at the Central School of Speech and Drama. Film includes IT'S ALL ABOUT LOVE (Producer) dir. Thomas Vinterberg (Nimbus); RESIDENT EVIL (Black) dir. Paul Anderson (Constantin Films); CLUB LE MONDE (Elaine) dir. Simon Rumley (Screen Prod. Assc.); DREAMER (Clone Woman) dir. Miguel Sapochik (Sundance Films); CLEOPATRA Charmain) dir. Franc Roddam (ABC/ Hallmark); INTERVIEW WITH A VAMPIRE (2nd Whore) dir. Neil Jordan (Warner Bros/ Scala). Theatre includes BLINDED BY THE SUN dir. Ron Daniels (National Theatre) and A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM (Hermia) dir. Robert Lepage (National Theatre).

Clarke Peters (Spencer)

Clarke Peters extensive theatre work includes "Unforgettable: The Nat King Cole Story" at the Garrick in 1995; "Guys and Dolls" at the National in 1996; "Chicago" at the Adelphi in 1997; "The Witches of Eastwick" at the Prince of Wales Theatre in 2001; "Mourning Becomes Electra" at the Lyttelton, NT in 2003.

Tom Sangster (James)

Theatre includes: THE VEGEMITE TALES (Eddie, Itchy Feet), THE CRUCIBLE (John Proctor, Oxford Scholl of Drama) and Television: BASIL BRUSH (Trev Dunferline, BBC).

CREATIVE TEAM

Ché Walker (Director)

FLESH WOUND (Royal Court) which won The George Devine Award for Most Promising Playwright and an Arts Council Young Writer's Award, and BEEN SO LONG (Royal Court) which has been translated and performed throughout Europe and the US. He is currently translating CAR THIEVES by Akos Nemeth for the National Theatre Studio. Ché has taught acting at The Central School of Speech and Drama, Webber Douglas, East 15, Oxford School of Drama and was Head of Drama at The Weekend Arts College for over ten years.

Ana Jebens (Set Designer)

Opera includes: THE FLYING DUTCHMAN dir. Mike Ashman (Opera Zuid), GÖTTERDÄMERUNG, RING CYCLE, RHEINGOLD, DIE WALKÜRE, SIEGFRIED, GOTTERDAMERUNG dir. Tim Albery (Scottish Opera, Edinburgh Festival 2003), MANON (RSAMD) RHEINGOLD dir Tim Albery (Scottish Opera). Theatre includes: THE CHANGING ROOM dir James Macdonald (Royal Court).

Alex Wardle (Lighting Designer)

Alex studied German and Electronics at Keele University, and Theatre Arts at the Freie Universität Berlin and at Goldsmiths' College, University of London. Lighting designs include WAGSTAFFE, THE WOODEN FROCK, CRY WOLF, TRISTAN & YSEULT, THE RED SHOES and THE RIOT (Kneehigh Theatre, touring and site-specific), ACHIDI J'S FINAL HOURS, THE SMASHED BLUE HILLS, SOLACE and DUCK HUNTING (Weaver Hughes Ensemble), VOYAGERS (Croydon Warehouse), LONELY LIVES (Union Theatre and BAC), TEMPTING FATE and THE WIFE OF BATH (Trading Faces, tours); SEND FOR MR PLIM and SPRING AWAKENING (Greenwich Studio, BAC).

Annie Curtis-Jones (Costume Designer)

Annie graduated from Central School of Arts & Design in 1979 with a BA Hons in Theatre Design. Her 1st 5 years were spent working in Repertory Theatre and numerous touring companies. Her varied career includes work for film, television, theatre, dance, circus, commercials, corporate, carnival and music. In 2002 Annie travelled to China to organise costumes for the Shaolin Monks WHEEL OF LIFE in Peking Opera workshops (World Tour). She is currently designing a new circus cabaret show for P&Q Ocean Village to cruise the Caribbean in spring. Film includes: THE ICE PROJECT, REFLEXION, PARADISE OMEROS. Theatre includes: NOTHING dir Robert McDonald (Citizens' Theatre Glasgow), RAGGAMUFFIN dir Amani Naphtalli (UK Arts) and DAMN JOCOBITE BITCHES dir. Mary McClusky (Citizens' Theatre Glasgow).

Vanessa Mobiglia (Assistant Director)

Vanessa graduated from the University of Natal, South Africa, with a BA (Hons) Theatre Arts; during which she directed the OPEN COUPLE and UNDER CONSTRUCTION (Hexagon Theatre). Since moving to London, she has worked as a Stage Manager on JUDITH BLOOM (Southwark Playhouse), ACHIDI J'S FINAL HOURS (Finborough Theatre), THE FLATS (Chelsea Theatre) and was Assistant Producer/Press and Marketing for SCOTCH AND WATER and PONIES (Hen and Chickens). Most recently Vanessa worked as Assistant Director on the production SEED (Finborough Theatre).

Timothy Hughes (Producer / Press Officer)

Recently he co-produced in 2004 the Frontline debut season across London (THE FLATS, ACHIDI J'S FINAL HOURS and JUDITH BLOOM) and the double-bill of New Company's American SEASON SCOTCH & WATER / PONIES at The Hen & Chickens. For Press, Timothy handled the London campaign for GAFFER! at The Southwark Playhouse.

ENDS

22 June 2020