



Two's Company presents the final instalment of their acclaimed series, *Forgotten Voices from the Great War*

RED NIGHT

By James Lansdale Hodson

Directed by Tricia Thorns. Designed by Alex Marker. Lighting design by Alex Watson
Sound design by Gareth Fry

Cast includes: Leo Conville, John Gillespie, Sarah-Ann Isnard, Katherine Lehec, Simon McCoy, Stuart Nicoll, Phil Sealey, Simon Spencer-Hyde

The first revival for seventy years of the First World War drama that uniquely tells the story from the point of view of the men, not the officers.

The First World War inspired some of the most heartbreaking poetry of the last century, and still grips the imagination of successive generations of writers. But the plays of the period have almost all disappeared. Two's Company's *Forgotten Voices From The Great War* project brings back to life plays about the War written during of soon after the conflict, from first hand experience. The first two *Forgotten Voices* seasons were programmes of short plays – both won critical acclaim and played to packed houses. **RED NIGHT** is the final production in the series, a full length play, and the company's debut at the multi-award winning Finborough Theatre, which celebrates its Silver Jubilee this year.

RED NIGHT is a story of soldiers, not just officers, as in the classic *Journey's End*, but privates and other ranks. These men left their homes to face appalling hardship and the everyday danger of death on the Western Front, but were not able to deaden their pain with bottles of whisky. Yet under fire or snatching brief moments of relaxation, the phlegmatic humour of men getting on with it breaks through.

Playwright **James Lansdale Hodson** (1891-1956) was a Manchester born novelist and playwright. For a time he was the northern editor of The Daily Mail. He wrote many plays for radio through the 1930's to 1950's. His novel *Return to the Wood* was adapted for the stage by John Wilson as *Hamp*, and in turn filmed by Joseph Losey as *King And Country*. **RED NIGHT** has not been seen since Robert Donat's West End production with John Mills in 1936.

PRESS ACCLAIM FOR TWO'S COMPANY:

Forgotten Voices from the Great War at the Pleasance (2003) "a revelatory evening..these discoveries do credit to fringe theatre." Susannah Clapp, THE OBSERVER.

What the Women Did at Southwark Playhouse (2004)

"A deeply rewarding evening of theatrical revelation, beautifully directed by Tricia Thorns" Paul Taylor, THE INDEPENDENT.

PRESS NIGHT: FRIDAY, 4 NOVEMBER at 7.30 pm

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

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Wednesday, 2 November – Saturday, 26 November 2005

Tuesday to Saturday evenings at 7.30 pm. Sunday matinees at 3.30 pm. Saturday matinees at 3.30 pm from 12 November. Tickets: £12 (£9 concessions). Tuesday evenings all seats £8. Saturday evenings all seats £12. Previews (2, 3 November) all seats £8

Performance length approximately 2 hours.

Press Photocall Wednesday 2 November at 1 pm

For further information and press seats please contact:

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finboroughtheatre

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