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SEED

by Souad Faress. Directed by Nicolette Kay. Designed by Jane Linz Roberts. Sound Design by Scott Myers.
Cast includes: William Maxwell. Charlotte Pyke.

THE WORLD PREMIERE PRODUCTION OF A HAUNTING FIRST PLAY BY SOUAD FARESS, PRODUCED AS PART OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH.

A young woman sets sail for India and never returns – what legacy does she leave behind? Andrea is a young woman locked in emotional battles with her grandfather, Edmond. She is hurled into unknown territory when her grandmother dies. A haunting tale of intrigue, ghosts, lies and family secrets. Delving deeply into the British psyche and her imperial past, *Seed* unearths the torment and inherited damage when a family tries to hide their ancestors...

Seed has been specially commissioned by Muzikansky and based on the author's research into the history of the East India Company. "*Seed* was inspired by the notion of young women in 1835 risking all and setting off on the high seas to far away continents"

Playwright **Souad Faress** is an actress and writer. This is her first full-length play. As an actress, she has recently been seen in *The Permanent Way* (Out of Joint and the National Theatre), *Homebody/Kabul* (Young Vic) and *Celestina* (Birmingham Rep). She is popularly known for her role as Usha in *The Archers*.

The two-hander is played by **William Maxwell** (RSC – original cast of *Nicholas Nickleby*, West End, Royal Exchange, Manchester, *Brookside*) and **Charlotte Pyke** who won rave reviews for *Lullabies of Broadmoor* and *Masks and Faces* at the Finborough Theatre this year: "Charlotte Pyke is outstanding" Lyn Gardner, *The Guardian*. "A fantastic performance by Charlotte Pyke". *The Irish World*. "Charlotte Pyke's performance...is nigh on perfect" *The Stage*. "The part would test the talent of our greatest actresses . . . But...Charlotte Pyke [is] a young actress...who brings to her performance a fair face, bright shining eyes and a starry charisma that makes this production a must for all talent spotters" *What's On*

Directed by **Nicolette Kay**, Artistic Director of Muzikansky, whose previous credits include *Mary Stuart* (Time Out Critics' Choice) - "Excellent performances and some stunning moments of violence..." *The Independent*; "Fascinating" *Time Out*; "Nicolette Kay directs the often exhilarating proceedings...a production of character." *The Guardian*; *The Dreams of Clytemnestra* and *Mela* (BAC) and *The B3 Team* (Lyric Studio, Hammersmith). She also co-translated *Mary Stuart* which was subsequently published and has been continuously performed in the English speaking world. *Seed* previews in Tunbridge Wells and opens in Margate as part of the Canterbury Festival, then plays in Oxford before its London run at the Finborough Theatre.

PRESS NIGHT: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29TH 2004 AT 7.30PM
PHOTOCALL: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27TH AT 1.00PM.

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 020 7373 3842 www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk

Tuesday, October 26th 2004 - Saturday, November 20th 2004

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

Tickets £10, £8 concessions. Tuesday Evenings £8 all seats. Saturday evenings £10 all seats. Previews (September 7th and 8th) £8 all seats. Performance Length: Approximately 90 minutes.

For more information, interviews and images, please contact

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

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