

FANNY AND FAGGOT

The London Premiere of a new play by Jack Thorne.

Directed by Stephen Keyworth. Designed by Georgia Lowe. Lighting by Tom Richmond. Sound by Dominic Thurgood.

Cast includes: Christopher Daley. Elicia Daly. Simon Darwen. Sophie Fletcher. Diana May.

Presented by lifeboat theatre in association with 5065 Lift and Weaver Hughes Ensemble.

Once upon a time two small girls killed two little boys...

The multi-award-winning Finborough Theatre presents the London premiere of Jack Thorne's *Fanny and Faggot*, opening on 30 January for a three week run as part of their [new year, new plays season]. A huge success in the 5065 Lift at the 2004 Edinburgh Festival, this expanded and updated new version includes members of the original Edinburgh cast.

Based on documentary material from the real life court case of children Mary and Norma Bell, who were tried in 1968 for the murder of two younger boys. *Fanny and Faggot* is a startling, darkly comic drama which plays games with the audience and pulls them into the fantasies of two dangerously bored pre-teens. What happens when children do terrible, irreversible wrong? Can we punish evil in those that don't understand it? And when punishment has been served, can we allow them to have a 'normal' life?

Playwright **Jack Thorne's** previous work includes *When You Cure Me* which was produced at the Bush Theatre, directed by Mike Bradwell, last year. He is currently under commission to the Birmingham Rep, The Bush, Company Pictures, Celador Films and Channel 4, including three episodes of the next two series of *Shameless*.

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Director **Stephen Keyworth** is Artistic Director of the 5065 Lift. On June 21 2005, Flight 5065 filled all 32 capsules of the London Eye with theatre, comedy and music including Damon Albarn, Jo Brand, and the National and Royal Court Theatres. He directed two of the 14 world premieres they commissioned and his own adaptation of Rory Kilelea's *Zimbabwe Boy* went on afterwards to be performed on the Olivier stage at the National Theatre. His plays include *Mad For It* (Royal Exchange Theatre), nominated Best New Play in *Manchester Evening News* Theatre Awards. He returns to the Finborough Theatre after the success of his play *Dog Well Done* in 2000, Winner of the Amnesty International Freedom of Expression Theatre Award and Sunday Telegraph Critics' Choice.

The Press on Fanny and Faggot in the 5065 Lift

"I'll be happy if I don't see performances better than these...for the rest of the Fringe. It switches from comedy to horror with alarming speed." Mark Fisher, *Scotland on Sunday*

"A real triumph of skill, imagination and dramatic accomplishment...entirely convincing" *The Stage*

"Thorne has an incredible ear for dialogue". Perfectly cast, utterly convincing performances." *The Metro*

The Press on Jack Thorne's When You Cure Me

"One of the year's finest pieces of new writing" *Evening Standard*

"Phenomenally" Ian Shuttleworth, *Financial Times* ***** Five Stars

"A really poignant, bittersweet comedy...this is a touching, intimate, brave and engrossing drama." Aleks Sierz, *The Stage*

PRESS NIGHT: THURSDAY, 1 FEBRUARY 2007 AT 7.30PM

PHOTOCALL: TUESDAY, 30 JANUARY 2007 AT 1.00PM-1.30PM

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

Box Office 0870 4000 838 www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk

Tuesday, 30 January – Saturday, 17 February 2007

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

Tickets £12, £9 concessions. Tuesday Evenings £8 all seats. Saturday evenings £12 all seats.

Previews (30 and 31 January) £8 all seats.

Performance Length: Approximately 2 hours.

For more information, interviews and images, please contact

Neil McPherson on e-mail admin@finboroughtheatre.co.uk or **07977 173135**

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