

# **FINBOROUGH | THEATRE**

VIBRANT **NEW WRITING** | UNIQUE **REDISCOVERIES**

August-October 2019 Season

The London premiere

## **GO BANG YOUR TAMBOURINE**

by Philip King.

Directed by Tricia Thorns.

Designed by Alex Marker. Costume Design by Eleanor Tipler. Sound Design by Dominic Bilkey.

Presented by Two's Company and Karl Sydow, in association with Tilly Films and Neil McPherson for the Finborough Theatre.

Cast: Mia Austen. Sebastian Calver. John Sackville. Patience Tomlinson.

"There's a devil inside you egging you on to put a stop to his happiness –  
and that's why you'd want me to come away with you, isn't it?"

The London premiere of Philip King's 1970 play **Go Bang Your Tambourine** opens at the Finborough Theatre for a four week limited season on Tuesday, 6 August 2019 (**Press Nights: Thursday, 8 August 2019 and Friday, 9 August 2019 at 7.30pm**).

Young David Armstrong misses his mother. Following her death, he now lives alone in their North Country house, a devoted member of the Salvation Army.

But tongues start to wag when David advertises for a lodger, and good-hearted, attractive Bess, a local barmaid, moves in.

But when David's estranged Casanova of a father decides to move back in, uninvited and unwanted, the impossible situation quickly comes to a head...

Seen in London for the first time, Philip King's touching domestic family drama is a new insight into the work of a classic British playwright.

Playwright **Philip King** (1904-1979) was born in Yorkshire. Known as both playwright and actor, he is best known as the author of the classic 1944 farce *See How They Run*. He continued to act throughout his writing career, often appearing in his own plays. His other works include *On Monday Next* (1949), later filmed as *Curtain Up* (1952) starring Robert Morley, Margaret Rutherford and Kay Kendall; and *Serious Charge* (1956), which was also filmed in 1959 starring Anthony Quayle and Cliff Richard in his film debut. He also collaborated with other writers, most notable with Falkland Cary on *Sailor Beware!* (1955), filmed in 1956, and *Big Bad Mouse* (1964) for Eric Sykes and Jimmy Edwards.

Director **Tricia Thorns** returns to the Finborough Theatre where she directed *Imaginationship*, *Red Night* and *London Wall* which subsequently transferred to the St James Theatre. She is Artistic Director of Two's Company. Tricia began her career as an actor in the West End as part of John Neville's company at the Fortune Theatre, after a Classics BA from Nottingham University. Direction includes *Bodies*, *A Day by the Sea*, *The Fifth Column*, *The Cutting of the Cloth* and *What the Women Did* (Southwark Playhouse), her own plays *Breakfast on the Beach* and *Creation* with casts of 40, (St Barnabas Church, Dulwich), *A Hard Rain* (Above the Stag Theatre), *My Real War 1914-?* (Trafalgar Studios and National Tour), *The Searcher* (Musical Futures at Greenwich Theatre), *Forgotten Voices from the Great War* (Pleasance London), *Ex and Black 'Ell* (Soho Theatre), *Twelfth Night* (Dulwich Picture Gallery), *Peer Gynt* (Alleyn's Theatre) and *Passion Play 2000*, a huge community play which she also wrote. As an actress, theatre includes *End of Story* (Chelsea Theatre), *Harry and Me* (Warehouse Theatre, Croydon), *Façade* (Dingley and Dulwich Festivals), *A Kind of Alaska* (Edinburgh, National Tour and USA Tour), *Time's Up* (Windsor Theatre Royal), *The Libertine* and *The Man of Mode* (Royal Court Theatre and Out of Joint Tour), *Betrayal* (Battersea Arts Centre and National Tour), *Run For Your Wife* (West End) and leading roles in theatres in Salisbury, Ipswich, Edinburgh, Liverpool, Guildford, Derby and many more. Television includes *Dangerfield*, *A*

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[www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk](http://www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk) Artistic Director Neil McPherson

# Press Information

Touch of Frost, Keeping Up Appearances, The Darling Buds of May, The Bill, London's Burning and Captives. Film includes The Turn of the Screw.

The cast is:

**Mia Austen** | Bess Jones

Productions for Two's Company include London Wall (St James Theatre), What The Women Did and Goodbye To All That (Southwark Playhouse).

Trained at Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts.

Theatre includes In the Jungle of Cities (Arcola Theatre), Pygmalion (The Old Vic and Hong Kong Arts Centre), Edmond (Theatre Royal Haymarket), Yours for the Asking, Mary Goes First and Once Bitten (Orange Tree Theatre, Richmond), Gaslight (English Theatre, Frankfurt), The New Inn (Shakespeare's Globe), The Pork Crunch and A Warwickshire Testimony (Pleasance London) and Lesbian Bathhouse (Edinburgh Festival).

Film includes Summer in February, Molly Moon: The Incredible Hypnotist and End of Love

Television includes Call the Midwife, Save Me, Doctors and Coconut.

**Sebastian Calver** | David Armstrong

Trained at East 15 Acting School.

This is Sebastian's professional stage debut.

Theatre while training includes Romeo and Juliet, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Immaculate, The Seagull, Cabaret and Summer Brave (East 15 Acting School).

Film includes Resting Love.

Radio includes Alice In Wonderland, The Moon That Night and Dolphin Therapy.

**John Sackville** | Thomas Armstrong

Productions for Two's Company at the Finborough Theatre include Imaginationship.

Other productions for Two's Company include A Day by the Sea and Goodbye To All That (Southwark Playhouse).

Trained at Webber Douglas Academy of Dramatic Art.

Theatre includes Richard III (Headlong and Bristol Old Vic), Absolute Hell (National Theatre), William Wordsworth (English Touring Theatre), An Inspector Calls (National Theatre), The Winslow Boy (Rose Theatre, Kingston), A Man For All Seasons (Theatre Royal Haymarket), Othello and Volpone (Royal Shakespeare Company), A Cloud in Trousers (Theatre Royal York and Southwark Playhouse),

Plunder (Watermill Theatre, Newbury), Our Country's Good and Cyrano de Bergerac (Nuffield Southampton Theatres, Southampton), Party (Arts Theatre) and Hamlet (Oxford Stage Company).

Film includes Misbehaviour, Into the Mirror, The Hoarder, Fossil, The Lost City Of Z, Hampstead, and The Wedding Date.

Television includes Genius: Einstein, The Crown, Royal Wives At War, Doctors, Casualty, House Of Anubis, The Secret of Crickley Hall, Dark Matters, Young John Paul II, The Sunday Night Project, Brief Encounter of an Ordinary

Woman, Rosemary and Thyme, Midsomer Murders, The Royal, Heartbeat and The Bill.

**Patience Tomlinson** | Major Webber

Productions For Two's Company at the Finborough Theatre include Imaginationship.

Other productions for Two's Company include Black 'Ell, part of Forgotten Voices of the Great War (Pleasance London) and Goodbye To All That (Southwark Playhouse).

Trained at Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

Theatre includes She Stoops to Conquer (National Theatre), The Comedy of Errors (The Young Vic), Once A Catholic (Wyndham's Theatre), The Norman Conquests (National Tour), Façade (National Portrait Gallery), The Heart of Things (Jermyn Street Theatre), A Tale That Is Told (Gatehouse Theatre and National Tour), Ring Round the Moon, You Never Can Tell, The Importance of Being Earnest and The Real Thing (Salisbury Playhouse).

Film includes The Wars and The Mannions.

Television includes Nanny, The Comic Strip, The Day Today, Friday and Saturday Night Armistice, In The Red and Shadowplay.

Radio includes The Cherry Orchard, The Winter's Tale, Othello, Proust: The Screenplay, Metamorphosis, A Dance to the Music of Time, Roots, Poetry Please, Austen, Sitwell Letters and This Scepter'd Isle. Books at Bedtime include Christmas with the Savages, Paula and Gal Audrey. Books of the Week include Giving Up the Ghost and Five Tales of Victorian Norfolk. She has twice been a member of The BBC Radio Drama Company.

Audio Books include over two hundred recordings including Charles Dickens: A Life, Wives and Daughters, A Glass of Blessings, Some Tame Gazelle, Robert Browning poetry, The Aeneid, A Train in Winter, Last Letters Home WW2, Waterslain Angels, Memory of Lies and The Carer.

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# Press Information

**FINBOROUGH | THEATRE**

## **The press on Philip King**

"Authentic suburban poetry" Kenneth Tynan in The Observer on Sailor Beware!

"The essence of theatre" Michael Billington in The Guardian on See How They Run

## **The press on director Tricia Thorns**

"Unearthing John Van Druten's forgotten London Wall would have been enough, but helmer Tricia Thorns' goes one better. Her beautifully judged, immaculately acted revival isn't just theatrical archaeology, it's a treat." David Benedict, Variety on London Wall

"Thorns's production manoeuvres a cast of 10 with great skill around the tiny Finborough stage." Michael Billington, The Guardian on Red Night

"Tightly and fluidly directed by Tricia Thorns." Daisy Bowie-Sell, Time Out on What The Women Did

"A production so exact you can smell it. The thrill is in the documentary detail, marvellously realised in Tricia Thorns' terrific production." Susannah Clapp, The Observer on The Cutting of the Cloth

"Tricia Thorns's sensitive production." Michael Arditti, Sunday Express on A Day By The Sea

"This production directed by Tricia Thorns could not be bettered" Reviewsgate on Bodies

**PRESS NIGHTS: THURSDAY, 8 AUGUST 2019 AND FRIDAY, 9 AUGUST 2019 AT 7.30PM**

**PHOTOCALL: TUESDAY, 6 AUGUST 2019 AT 1.00PM–1.30PM**

Finborough Theatre, 118 Finborough Road, London SW10 9ED

Book online at [www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk](http://www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk)

No booking fees on online, personal or postal bookings

Box Office 01223 357851. (Calls are free. There is a 5% booking fee.) Lines are open Monday-Saturday 10.00am-6.00pm.

## **Tuesday, 6 August – Saturday, 31 August 2019**

Tuesday to Saturday evenings at 7.30pm. Saturday and Sunday matinees at 3.00pm.

**Prices until 18 August 2019** – Tickets £18, £16 concessions, except Tuesday evenings £16 all seats, and Friday and Saturday evenings £18 all seats. Previews (6 and 7 August) £14 all seats.

£10 tickets for Under 30s for performances from Tuesday to Sunday of the first week when booked online only.

£14 tickets for residents of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea on Saturday, 10 August 2019 when booked online only.

**Prices from 20 August 2019** – Tickets £20, £18 concessions, except Tuesday evenings £18 all seats, and Friday and Saturday evenings £20 all seats.

Performance Length: Approximately two hours with one interval of fifteen minutes.

For more information, interviews and images, please contact

**Neil McPherson** on e-mail [press@finboroughtheatre.co.uk](mailto:press@finboroughtheatre.co.uk) or **07977 173135**

Download press releases and images at <http://www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk/press-resources.php>