

Brawl in association with Neil McPherson for the **finborough**theatre present

Little Madam

by James Graham. Directed by Kate Wasserberg. Designed by Alex Marker. Lighting by Tom White.
Cast includes: James Allen. Ian Barritt. Hugo Cox. Leah Fells. William McGeough. Catherine Skinner. Simon Yadoo.

The world premiere of a new play from the Finborough Theatre's Playwright-in-Residence, commissioned for the Finborough Theatre by Artistic Director Neil McPherson.

"It isn't that I always insist on being right, father, it is that everyone else always seems to insist on being wrong!"

Margaret has been sent upstairs again. And she's not to come down from her room above the grocer's shop in Grantham until she says sorry. But that's all right. Because hidden in the toy chest is Teddy. And in the wardrobe is Jonathan. And under the bed is Cecil Parkinson. And so Margaret goes on a fantastical journey, transforming from the young Miss Roberts into the formidable Mrs Thatcher, in order to escape her past, reconcile her present, and prepare for her future. But will she be able to summon up the strength to apologise? And should she have to..?

An extraordinary flight of fancy through the political landscape of the late 20th Century, exploring the nature of sacrifice and the price of power as seen through the 12 year old eyes of Britain's most divisive Prime Minister...

James Graham is Playwright-in-Residence at the Finborough Theatre. *Little Madam* is James's third play commissioned by the Finborough Theatre, following *Albert's Boy* (2005), starring Victor Spinetti, which earned James a prestigious Pearson Award bursary, and *Eden's Empire* (2006) - "Gripping...a dramatic piece of living history" Michael Billington, *The Guardian* "Graham's nuanced, intelligent play" *Time Out*. Both plays were published by Methuen. James was the Finborough Theatre's nomination to the BBC and Royal Court's programme for young writers, 'The 50', celebrating the Royal Court's 50th anniversary. His original television comedy-drama, *Caught in a Trap* has been commissioned by producers Greenlit.

Kate Wasserberg is the Finborough Theatre's Associate Director. She has directed *The Representative* and *I Wish to Die Singing* (both at the Finborough Theatre) - "One of the Top Five Shows in London...Kate Wasserberg directs an admirably incisive and complex study in the ethics of politics." *The Independent* on *The Representative*; *Young Vic Schools Festival* (Young Vic), *Test Drive* (Soho Theatre Studio) and *Doing Lines* (The Pleasance). Assistant Directing includes work for Shakespeare's Globe, the Young Vic, Sphinx Theatre Company, Theatre Royal Bath) and *Gates of Gold* and *The Gigli Concert* (Finborough Theatre).

118 Finborough Road, London SW10 9ED Telephone 020 7244 7439 Fax 020 7835 1853
e-mail admin@finboroughtheatre.co.uk www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk Artistic Director Neil McPherson

Press Information [new work season 2007]

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The cast includes **Ian Barritt** whose many credits include *The Alchemist and The Life of Galileo* (National Theatre), *Separate Tables* and *Kes* (Royal Exchange, Manchester) and *The Madness of King George III* (West Yorkshire Playhouse and Birmingham Rep) Many TV credits include *Life On Mars*, *Doctor Who* and *Foyle's War*. **Catherine Skinner's** credits include

The Crucible (Royal Shakespeare Company), *The Witches* (National Tour), *Hay Fever* (Theatre Royal Haymarket) and *Forward* (Birmingham Rep). **James Allen's** credits include *Privates On Parade* (New Vic Theatre) *The Revenger's Tragedy* (Orange Tree), *Women Laughing* (Watford Palace Theatre), and *Julius Caesar* (Royal Exchange, Manchester). TV credits include *Dream Team*, *EastEnders* and *Heartbeat*. **William McGeough's** credits include *Marat Sade* (Punchdrunk) and *The Representative* (Finborough Theatre). **Leah Fells'** credit's include *The Picture of Dorian Grey* (National Tour), *Mirita* (Finborough Theatre). Her many TV credits include *EastEnders*, *Family Affairs* and *Casualty*. **Hugo Cox's** credits include *Saved or Destroyed* (BAC), *Silverland* (Arcola), *The Things Good Men Do* (Lyric Hammersmith) *Lark Rise To Candleford* and *Freedom of the City* (Finborough Theatre). **Simon Yadoo's** credits include *Dogfight* (Arcola) and the feature film *The Constant Gardener*.

PRESS NIGHT: THURSDAY, 4 OCTOBER 2007 AT 7.30PM

PHOTOCALL: TUESDAY, 2 OCTOBER 2007 AT 1.00PM-1.30PM

LISTINGS INFORMATION

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

Box Office 0870 4000 838 Book online at www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk

Tuesday, 2 October – Saturday, 27 October 2007

Tuesday to Saturday Evenings at 7.30pm.

Saturday matinees (from 13 October) at 3.00pm.

Sunday Matinees at 3.00pm.

Tickets £13, £9 concessions, except Tuesday Evenings £9 all seats. Saturday evenings £13 all seats.

Previews (2 and 3 October) £9 all seats. Performance Length: Approximately 2 hours.

For more information, interviews and images, please contact

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

You can now download press releases and images from our website at www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk

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e-mail admin@finboroughtheatre.co.uk www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk Artistic Director Neil McPherson

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