

LOVE CHILD

The London premiere of a new play by by Joanna Murray-Smith, the author of *Honour*.

Directed by Nicolette Kay. Designed by Alex Marker. Presented by Muzikansky. Produced by Rachel Payant.

Cast includes: Charlotte Lucas. Kristin Milward.

"If you were really so concerned about the world women inherited, you would have held onto the one woman you brought into this world. You would have helped her inherit it."

The multi-award-winning Finborough Theatre's [new year, new plays season] continues with the **London premiere** of a new play by one of Australia's most successful playwrights **Joanna Murray-Smith**, the award-winning author of *Honour*, on 20 February (Press Night – 22 February) for a four week run.

Faced with being an unmarried teenage mother, Anna gave up her only child in an action she has since tried to erase from her memory. Now a successful, forty-something film editor, Anna lives a perfect life alone in a sterile apartment, until a young woman called Billie arrives at her door. Billie acts in soap operas and is searching for her birth mother... A compelling and poetic drama about the meeting between a mother and the daughter she gave up at birth.

Joanna Murray-Smith is a Melbourne based playwright, screenwriter and novelist. Her plays include *Honour*, *Rapture*, *Bombshells*, *Nightfall*, *Redemption* and *Flame* have been produced around the world. *Honour* has been produced in over two dozen countries including productions on Broadway, at the National Theatre with Eileen Atkins and the West End with Diana Rigg and Martin Jarvis. Both *Honour* and *Rapture* won the Victorian Premier's Literary Award for Best Play. Joanna is the author of three published novels, *Truce*, *Judgement Rock* and *Sunnyside*.

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.

The cast includes **Kristin Milward** whose extensive credits include the original production of *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* (Royal Shakespeare Company, West End and Broadway), *Vanity/Onegin* (Young Vic), *Plunder* (National Theatre), *The Illustrious Corpse* (Leicester Haymarket and Soho Theatre) and many productions with Howard Barker's The Wrestling School. **Charlotte Lucas** trained at RADA. Her theatre credits include *Darfur : How Long Is Never?* (Tricycle), *Fabulation* (Tricycle), *A Thought In Three Parts* (BAC) and *Fen* (Salisbury Playhouse). She is best known for her TV as Selena Geeson on TV's *Bad Girls*.

The Press on Previous Productions of *Love Child*

"An absorbing, emotionally powerful drama of confrontation." *The Australian*

"A powerful, richly textured modern drama that is gripping from start to finish." *Sunday Herald-Sun*

"This is a concentrated, intense, often poetic one-act play." *The Sunday Age*

PRESS NIGHT: THURSDAY, 22 FEBRUARY 2007 AT 7.30PM

PHOTOCALL: TUESDAY, 20 FEBRUARY 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, 20 February – Saturday, 17 March 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 (20 and 21 February) £8 all seats.

Performance Length: Approximately 90 minutes with no interval.

For more information, interviews and images, please contact

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

118 Finborough Road, London SW10 9ED Telephone +44 (0)20 7244 7439 Fax +44 (0)20 7835 1853

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