

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LAMDA Summer Season at the Lyric Hammersmith

Leading drama school, the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA), will present four productions at the Lyric Hammersmith this summer as part of *LAMDA at Large* – an initiative that sees the Academy performing in professional venues across London whilst it redevelops its Barons Court home. LAMDA's Summer Season at the Lyric opens on Tuesday 24 May and features premieres of new plays by April De Angelis and David Watson (2009/10 Pearson Playwright in Residence at the Lyric), as well as 20th century classics, *Arcadia* by Tom Stoppard and Denise Deegan's *Daisy Pulls It Off*. Tickets to all performances are free of charge.

LAMDA has been fuelling the global performing arts industry with new talent for 150 years. From established award-winners Jim Broadbent, Brian Cox CBE, John Lithgow and Dame Harriet Walter DBE to rising stars Sam Claflin, Chiwetel Ejiofor OBE and Anna Maxwell Martin, its graduates shine internationally in theatre, film, television and radio. This summer, audiences at the Lyric will be entertained by the next generation of LAMDA actors and technicians preparing to make their mark on the industry.

Through this collaboration, LAMDA is also strengthening ties with the Lyric Young Company (the venue's resident youth theatre) and helping to inspire future artists, practitioners and theatregoers. Commenting on the Academy's upcoming residency at the Lyric, LAMDA Principal Joanna Read said: *"We are delighted to be showcasing our students in a neighbouring professional theatre that is renowned for nurturing new talent. We look forward to sharing LAMDA's exceptional free theatre performances with thousands of people from the local borough and beyond, and to building new audiences for both LAMDA and the Lyric's work."*

Sean Holmes, Lyric Hammersmith Artistic Director said: *"We are thrilled to have LAMDA in residence for their summer season; it is a great opportunity for our two organisations to share experiences and facilities. We very much look forward to seeing the work of LAMDA's students and to be presenting these free shows to a wider audience."*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

On LAMDA, please contact Sarah Jane Chapman on 020 8834 0513 or sarah-jane.chapman@lamda.org.uk

On the Lyric Hammersmith, please contact Amy Belson on 020 8741 6870 or amy.belson@lyric.co.uk

Photographs available on request.

LISTINGS INFORMATION:

Redemption Over Hammersmith Broadway
 by **David Watson**
A World Premiere

Principal

Joanna Read

Patron

HRH Princess Alexandra,
 the Hon Lady Ogilvy KG GCVO

President

Timothy West CBE FRSA

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Michael Oliver

Simone Reynolds

Sir Donald Sinden CBE FRSA

David Suchet CBE

Brian Tilston LLAM Hons.

Dame Harriet Walter DBE

Matthew Warchus

Michael White

Director: **Max Key**
Designer: **Philip Engleheart**

Tuesday 24 May, Thursday 26 May, Saturday 28 May & Wednesday 1 June @ 7:30pm
Friday 27 May & Tuesday 31 May @ 2:00pm

Please note that this production contains strong language.

Daisy Pulls It Off
by **Denise Deegan**

An amateur production by arrangement with Samuel French Ltd

Director: **Stephen Jameson**
Designer: **Philip Engleheart**

Wednesday 25 May, Friday 27 May & Tuesday 31 May @ 7:30pm
Thursday 26 May, Saturday 28 May & Wednesday 1 June @ 2:00pm

A Gloriously Mucky Business
by **April De Angelis**
A World Premiere

Director: **Elizabeth Freestone**
Designer: **Dinah England**

Monday 4 July, Wednesday 6 July, Friday 8 July & Monday 11 July @ 7:30pm
Thursday 7 July, Saturday 9 July & Tuesday 12 July @ 2:00pm

Please note that this production is not suitable for those under 16. It contains scenes and language that may offend.

Arcadia
by **Tom Stoppard**

An amateur production by arrangement with Samuel French Ltd

Director: **Sarah Esdaile**
Designer: **Dinah England**

Tuesday 5 July, Thursday 7 July, Saturday 9 July & Tuesday 12 July @ 7:30pm
Wednesday 6 July, Friday 8 July & Monday 11 July @ 2:00pm

Booking Information

Tickets: Free of charge for groups of nine and under. Groups of 10 or more will be charged £10 per ticket, with the exception of schools and youth groups who will not be charged.

General Bookings: 0871 22 117 22 / www.lyric.co.uk

Group Bookings: 0844 847 0550 or email boxoffice@lamda.org.uk

NOTES TO EDITORS:

LAMDA

- Celebrating our 150th Anniversary in 2011, LAMDA is the oldest drama school in the United Kingdom. Our graduates shine internationally in theatre, film, television and radio.
- Alumni include: Samuel Barnett, Jim Broadbent, Sam Claflin, Brian Cox CBE, Benedict Cumberbatch, Dominic Cooper, Chiwetel Ejiofor OBE, Patricia Hodge, John Lithgow, Anna Maxwell Martin, David Oyelowo, David Suchet CBE, Donald Sutherland, Janet Suzman, Ruth Wilson and Dame Harriet Walter DBE.
- Recent alumni award-winners include Rory Kinnear and Nancy Carroll, who won Best Actor and Best Actress respectively at the 2010 *Evening Standard Awards* and David Suchet CBE, who was named Best Actor for *All My Sons* at the 2011 Critics' Circle Theatre Awards.
- LAMDA is an affiliate of the Conservatoire for Dance and Drama – a publicly-funded higher education institution comprising eight affiliate schools and established to strengthen access to vocational performing arts training for talented students, regardless of their financial circumstances.
- LAMDA provides a range of acting, stage management & technical theatre courses, as well as special programmes in directing, musical direction, movement instruction and scenic design.
- In recent years, almost 100% of our stage management & technical theatre graduates have found work in their chosen field within weeks of graduation.
- We have gained a reputation as a source of innovative new writing. Two of the original works devised and first performed at the Academy (Mark Ravenhill's *Mother Clap's Molly House* and Di Trevis' *Remembrance of Things Past*) have since transferred to the National Theatre. A further new work, Robin Soans' *Mixed Up North*, toured as an Out of Joint production in 2009.
- LAMDA Examinations remains a sector leader, examining in over 30 different countries and making the organisation truly international. The majority of our examinations are accredited by the UK regulator, Ofqual.
- We moved to the Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham in 2003 after purchasing our Talgarth Road premises from the Royal Ballet School. Having successfully bought the western portion of the land in 2006, we now own the full footprint of the site. We plan to redevelop the campus and build a fully accessible, 200-seat theatre on-site.
- Since moving to the Borough, we have enjoyed collaborating with the local community on a range of cultural and educational initiatives. Through a year-round programme of free theatre performances, we regularly invite residents to enjoy our work.

LYRIC HAMMERSMITH

The Lyric Hammersmith is one of the UK's leading producing theatres, we aim to create work that is provoking, entertaining, popular, eclectic, messy, contradictory and diverse. We celebrate the unique vision of the writer as well as the creative power of collaboration, working with the best theatre artists around as well as encouraging the next generation. For over a hundred years, we have welcomed some of the world's finest writers, directors, actors and theatre companies to our stages. From Harold Pinter to Simon Stephens, Sir John Gielgud to Robert Lepage, Complicite to Frantic Assembly. Alongside our work onstage, we have a national reputation for our work with and for young people including an extensive programme of theatre for children and families and creative participation projects for schools and young west Londoners.

Recent productions include the Olivier Award-winning revival of Sarah Kane's *Blasted*; *Ghost Stories* which, following a sell-out run at the Lyric, is now running in the West End at the Duke of York's and begins a UK tour in 2012; the multi Olivier Award-winning musical *Spring Awakening* and the groundbreaking adaptation of Kafka's *Metamorphosis* which has played in Korea, Sydney, Tasmania, Iceland, Hong Kong, Columbia, New York and Dublin.

Forthcoming productions include a celebration of the work of one of Europe's most renowned living dramatists, Edward Bond. With the first major London revival in over 25 years of Bond's seminal play *Saved* set for October 2011 and the presentation of three of his more recent one act plays *Chair*, *The Under Room* and *Have I None* in April 2012.