

For immediate use

EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL 08

Media information

The Edinburgh International Festival Award 2008

As the winner of the inaugural Edinburgh International Festival Award makes final preparations to appear at Festival 08, this year's winner is preparing to appear in the Fringe.

The **Edinburgh International Festival Award** takes the form of an invitation to a company appearing at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe this summer to present a work in progress as part of the Edinburgh International Festival *Behind the Scenes* programme in 2009.

Jonathan Mills, Festival Director will select the winner following recommendations made by a panel and independent arts reviewers charged with scouring the 2008 Fringe.

The award also provides £5,000 towards developing the new project which will be presented as part of the *Behind the Scenes* Festival strand.

The first winner of the Edinburgh International Festival Award was New York-based **John Clancy Productions**.

For *Behind the Scenes* 2008, John Clancy Productions NYC presents a workshop performance of a work in progress created especially for the Festival at **The Hub** on **Tuesday 19** and **Wednesday 20 August** at **2.30pm**.

Captain Overlord's Folly or the Fool's Revenge sees a well-made 19th century play hijacked by a gang of evil clowns who are subsequently driven from the stage by a trio of theatre critics and academics.

- ENDS -

Editor's Notes:

The Edinburgh International Festival Award is open to all and there is no application process. Selected independent arts reviewers see a large number of fringe shows and submit a short list to a panel of judges drawn from the arts world. The award is chosen from this short list.

The winner of the Edinburgh International Festival Award 2008 will be announced in August.

Captain Overlord's Folly or the Fool's Revenge

Tuesday 19 & Wednesday 20 August 2.30pm

The Hub

Tickets £6

eif.co.uk

Hub Tickets: 00 44 (0)131 473 2000

For further media information please contact Susie Burnet or Brian Maycock, Edinburgh International Festival press office + 44 (0)131 473 2020, press@eif.co.uk

Behind the Scenes provides a platform for companies developing new work with an opportunity for feedback from an audience and support in development as well as offering insights into the creative processes behind Festival events.

BEHIND THE SCENES 2008

COMBINING MUSIC, DRAMA AND DESIGN

Tobias Hoheisel, director and designer of Scottish Opera's production of Smetana's *The Two Widows*, and his co-director Imogen Kogge reveal how they reach creative decisions.

Sunday 10 August 2.30pm

TRANSFORMING TEXTS FOR CONTEMPORARY DRAMA

Director Krzysztof Warlikowski of TR Warszawa and his creative team share the vision behind their fascinating production combining Hannah Krall's 1996 short story and Szymon Anski's play *Dybbuk*.

Monday 11 August 2.30pm

MAHMOUD DARWISH

Readings of his poetry

Professor Sabry Hafez explores the work of Palestinian writer Mahmoud Darwish to gain a deeper understanding of the Palestinian National Theatre's staging of his poem *Jidariyya*.

Thursday 14 August 11.00am

GET DANCING WITH BAL MODERNE

Everyone can take part in this active workshop – even those with two left feet! All over Europe dance education specialists Bal Moderne bring together ordinary people to dance. Discover your hidden talent through the choreography of Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker.

Suitable for ages 12 and upwards.

Monday 18 August 2.30pm

CAPTAIN OVERLORD'S FOLLY OR THE FOOL'S REVENGE

Edinburgh International Festival Award Winner: Clancy Productions NYC

A well-made 19th century play is hijacked by a gang of buffoons (evil clowns) who are subsequently driven from the stage by a trio of theatre critics and academics. Winner of the inaugural EIF Award in 2007, Clancy Productions of New York presents *Captain Overlord's Folly Or The Fool's Revenge*, a workshop presentation created specially for Behind the Scenes.

Tuesday 19 & Wednesday 20 August 2.30pm

OPENING UP RUMI'S MASNAVI

Readings of sufi poetry in English and Persian

Dr Alan Williams presents the poetry of Muslim mystic Rumi in this reading, illuminating some of the influences behind the spellbinding performances by the Whirling Dervishes of Turkey.

Thursday 28 August 11.00am

EAST WEST THEATRE COMPANY

What is happiness? How can we create it? Haris Pašović of the East West Theatre Company explores Bertrand Russell's work *The Conquest of Happiness*, as a possible basis for a future production.

Thursday 28 August 2.30pm

HEINER GOEBBELS

Heiner Goebbels works with texts by Samuel Beckett, T.S. Eliot and Maurice Blanchot and with early music specialists The Hilliard Ensemble for his new Festival event. He takes us on a journey through the complexity and invention that goes into the making of such a unique production.

Saturday 30 August 2.30pm

The Hub
Tickets £6