VIBRANT NEW WRITING | UNIQUE REDISCOVERIES
Spring 2014 | February–May 2014

HPZ Productions in association with Neil McPherson for the Finborough Theatre presents

The world’s first production in more than 50 years

VARIATION ON A THEME

By Terence Rattigan

Director Michael Oakley
Designer Fotini Dimou
Lighting Designer Matt Eagland
Sound Designer Max Pappenheim

With Emma Amos, Rebecca Birch, Phil Cheadle, Jamie Coleman, Martin McCreadie, Rachael Stirling, David Shelley and Susan Tracy

“Feelings can’t sometimes be helped, but the expression of them can.”

The first ever production in more than fifty years of Terence Rattigan’s Variation on a Theme opens at the multi-award-winning Finborough Theatre in a strictly limited four-week season from Tuesday, 25 February 2014. (Press Night: Thursday, 27 February 2014 at 7.30pm), starring twice Olivier Award nominated Rachael Stirling.

Inspired by La Dame aux Camelias, and set amidst the glamorous and exotic society of the 1950’s French Riviera, Variation on a Theme revolves around the tempestuous love affair between Rose, a beautiful and worldly socialite, and Ron, a young bisexual ballet dancer with a keen eye for social advancement.

In an emotionally charged story of desire and disillusionment, Rose is persuaded by Ron’s choreographer and mentor, Sam, to sacrifice her personal happiness for the sake of her young lover’s success and career. But as Rose’s health deteriorates, and Ron is faced with the loveless reality of their separation, they finally face up to their need to be needed...

A forgotten classic by “one of the supreme dramatists of the 20th century” (Michael Billington, The Guardian), this will be the first production of the play anywhere in the world since its original 1958 premiere when it was directed by John Gielgud, and starred Margaret Leighton and Jeremy Brett.

Emma Amos | Mona
Theatre includes 66 Books Writer Neil La Bute (Bush Theatre), Hay Fever (West Yorkshire Playhouse), Accidental Death of an Annarchist (Donmar Warehouse), The Servant (Lyric Hammersmith), Gracenote (The Old Vic), Sweet Bird of Youth and The Birthday Party (National Theatre). Television includes Silent Witness, Poirot, My Family, Heartbeat, The Last Detective, Midsomer Murders, Good Night Sweetheart and Moving Story.

Rebecca Birch | Fiona
Theatre includes Relative Values (Theatre Royal, Bath), Health Wealth (Old Vic New Voices), Pygmalion (Chichester Festival Theatre and Garrick Theatre) and The Master Builder (Chichester Festival Theatre). Films include Long Forgotten Fields, D-Effects, The Lost Boy and Welcome to Leathermill.

Phil Cheadle | Kurt
Theatre includes Blue Remembered Hills (Northern Stage), Events While Guarding The Bofors Gun (Finborough Theatre), Neighbourhood Watch, Dear Uncle (Stephen Joseph Theatre, Scarborough), Bedlam and Henry IV Parts I and II (Shakespeare's Globe).
Martin McCreadie | Ron
Martin is the winner of Best Actor at 2011 Edinburgh Fringe Festival for his portrayal of Alex DeLarge in A Clockwork Orange (Soho Theatre and Australia Tour). Theatre includes Romeo and Juliet (Camden People’s Theatre), Trainspotting, The Long and the Short and the Tall (Playhouse Theatre) and Frankenstein (Frantic Assembly).

Rachael Stirling | Rose
Rachael has been twice nominated for an Olivier Award. Theatre includes Medea (UK Tour), The Recruiting Officer (Donmar Warehouse), An Ideal Husband (Vaudeville Theatre), A Midsummer Night’s Dream (Rose Theatre, Kingston), The Priory (Royal Court Theatre), Pygmalion (Theatre Royal Bath and Japan), Uncle Vanya (Wilton's Music Hall), Look Back In Anger (Theatre Royal Bath), Tamburlaine (Bristol Old Vic). Television includes The Bletchley Circle, Doctor Who, Boy Meets Girl and Tipping the Velvet.

David Shelley | Sam
Theatre includes Happiness (King's Head Theatre), Betrayal (Gala Theatre, Durham), Antony and Cleopatra, As You Like It (English Shakespeare Company) and Julius Caesar and Romeo and Juliet (Royal Shakespeare Company).

Susan Tracy | Hettie
Theatre includes Rattigan's Nijinsky, The Deep Blue Sea, Playhouse Creatures (Chichester Festival Theatre), The Relapse, Three Sisters, Anna Christie, Merry Wives of Windsor, Othello (Royal Shakespeare Company), Much Ado About Nothing (Open Air Theatre, Regent's Park), Long Day's Journey into Night (Cambridge Theatre Company), Denial (Bristol Old Vic), Anything Goes (National Theatre and Theatre Royal Drury Lane), Richard II and Inherit the Wind (The Old Vic).


Director Michael Oakley is a recipient of the JMK Award for Young Directors for which he directed Edward II at BAC. In 2012 he was Co-Artistic Director of Chichester Festival Theatre's pop-up space Theatre on the Fly. Direction includes Playhouse Creatures (Chichester Festival Theatre), The Changeling (Southwark Playhouse), Shooting Truth (NT Connections) and Graceland (The 24 Hour Plays: Old Vic New Voices). Associate Direction includes Relative Values (Theatre Royal Bath and UK tour), Kiss Me Kate (The Old Vic), The King's Speech (West End and UK tour), Rosencrantz and Guildenstem Are Dead (Chichester Festival Theatre and West End). Assistant Direction includes Inherit The Wind (The Old Vic), A Month in the Country, The Critic and The Real Inspector Hound, Oklahoma!, Cyrano de Bergerac (Chichester Festival Theatre), tHe dYsFUnCKshOnalZ! (Bush Theatre) and Much Ado About Nothing (Globe Education). Michael was trainee director-in-residence at Chichester Festival Theatre and has also completed a training course with Cheek by Jowl.

The press on director Michael Oakley
"Marvellously entertaining and stylishly directed by Michael Oakley, in sum one of those evenings when theatre is more alive than life" ***** Five Stars, The Daily Telegraph on Playhouse Creatures
"A sure gift for racy, pacy storytelling that bodes well for the future and his classical career; a young director who already knows that it is telling the story that really counts" Lyn Gardner, The Guardian, on Edward II

PHOTOCALL: TUESDAY, 25 FEBRUARY 2014 AT 1.00PM-1.30PM
PRESS NIGHT: THURSDAY, 27 FEBRUARY 2014 AT 7.30PM

LISTINGS INFORMATION
Finborough Theatre, 118 Finborough Road, London, SW10 9ED
Box Office 0844 847 1652 Book online at www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk

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

The Finborough Theatre is managed by The Steam Industry. Registered in England and Wales as a company limited by guarantee, no. 3448268. Registered Charity no. 1071304. Registered address: 118 Finborough Road, London SW10 9ED. A member of the Independent Theatre Council.
Tuesday, 25 February – Saturday, 22 March 2014
Tuesday to Saturday Evenings at 7.30pm. Sunday Matinees at 3.00pm. Saturday Matinees at 3.00pm (from the second week of the run).

Ticket Prices for Weeks One and Two (25 February – 9 March 2014) – Tickets £16, £12 concessions, except Tuesday evenings £12 all seats and Saturday evenings £16 all seats.
£6 tickets for under 30s for performances from Tuesday to Sunday of the first week when booked online only.
£11 tickets for residents of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea on the first Saturday of the run only.

Ticket Prices for Weeks Three and Four (11 – 22 March 2014) – Tickets £18, £16 concessions, except Tuesday evenings £16 all seats and Saturday evenings £18 all seats.

For more information, interviews and images, please contact
Neil McPherson on e-mail admin@finboroughtheatre.co.uk or 07977 173135
Download press releases and images at http://www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk/press-resources.php
Variations on a Theme 2. The Second Awakening 3. The Girl From The Ramen Shop 4. Judas 5. Jack 6. A Sentimental Education 7. Six Simple Rules Of Sex Etiquette 8. Microcosms 9. Diary of a Dead Child 10. Tilting at Windmills 11. Project: Lacroix 12. Variations on a Theme. Act I. “I found myself both touched and irritated by the discovery that she was vulnerable.” Variations on a Theme is a level in the Dawning and Vanguard Elite Quest. Task: Complete The Shadow Thief Strike. Quote: “The Devil Splicers have utilized SIVA to bring Taniks back to life. He must have been more machine than Fallen.” Zavala. Objective: Go to Ocean of Storms, Moon. Rewards: Tips: ??? Task: Complete The Nexus Strike. Quote: “The world-eating machine beneath Venus has restarted, Guardian. The Ishtar Sink requires your Light once again.” Ikora Rey. Objective: Go to Ishtar Sink, Venus. The new restaurant offers a variation on the theme of the roadside diner, giving patrons haute-cuisine interpretations of greasy spoon staples. When asked why, his answer was a variation on the theme of “bigger is better.” The anthology series presents variations on the themes of classic genre tropes, such as westerns, Gothic thrillers, rom-coms, and even old cheesy B movies. See also: of, on, theme, variation. Farlex Dictionary of Idioms. © 2015 Farlex, Inc, all rights reserved. variations on the theme of something. different ways of doing or saying the same thing: Her new book of s The Variations on a Theme by Joseph Haydn, (German: Variationen über ein Thema von Jos. Haydn), now also called the Saint Anthony Variations, is a work in the form of a theme and variations, composed by Johannes Brahms in the summer of 1873 at Tutzing in Bavaria. It consists of a theme in B major based on a “Chorale St Antoni”, eight variations, and a finale. The work was published in two versions: for two pianos, written first but designated Op. 56b; and for orchestra, designated Op. 56a.
Variations on a Theme may refer to: Variations on a Theme of Frank Bridge. Carmen Variations (Horowitz), subtitled "Variations on a Theme from Carmen". Variations on a Theme of Chopin (Mompou). Variations on a Theme of Chopin (Rachmaninoff). Variations on a Theme of Corelli. Variations and Fugue on a Theme by Handel. Variations on a Theme by Haydn. Variations and Fugue on a Theme by Hiller. Variations and Fugue on a Theme by Mozart. Introduction and Variations on a Theme by Mozart (Sor). General Information. Work Title. Variations on a Theme by Haydn. Alternative. Title.Â Based on a theme from Divertimento in B-flat major, Hob.II:46 by Haydn*. External Links. Wikipedia article. Extra Information. "The theme, thought for many years to be by Haydn, is now thought to be by his pupil, Ignaz Pleyel. The second movement of which is based on an old Burgenland chant entitled "Chorale St. Anthony". The two settings are identical in length (despite some repeats being written out in the 2-piano score), but tempo indications have some interesting differences in places. Navigation etc. The Variations on a Theme by Joseph Haydn, (German: Variationen Â¼ber ein Thema von Jos. Haydn), now also called the Saint Anthony Variations, is a work in the form of a theme and variations, composed by Johannes Brahms in the summer of 1873 at Tutzing in Bavaria. It consists of a theme in B major based on a "Chorale St Antoni", eight variations, and a finale. The work was published in two versions: for two pianos, written first but designated Op. 56b; and for orchestra, designated Op. 56a. The new restaurant offers a variation on the theme of the roadside diner, giving patrons haute-cuisine interpretations of greasy spoon staples. When asked why, his answer was a variation on the theme of "bigger is better." The anthology series presents variations on the themes of classic genre tropes, such as westerns, Gothic thrillers, rom-coms, and even old cheesy B movies. See also: of, on, theme, variation. Farlex Dictionary of Idioms. © 2015 Farlex, Inc, all rights reserved. variations on the theme of something. different ways of doing or saying the same thing: Her new book of s