

“A blazing beacon of intelligent endeavour, nurturing new writers while finding and reviving neglected curiosities from home and abroad” *The Telegraph*

Our [**spring** season 2008] includes new writing from theatre critic Nicholas de Jongh and local author Joan Wyndham, and rediscoveries from Charles Wood, N.C. Hunter and Joanna Baillie – each in their first revival since the original production.

We are very happy to announce that the Finborough bar has new owners, and a new name, and will reopen as The Finborough Road Brasserie, a stylish neighbourhood restaurant – open for lunch and dinner and weekend brunches.

Do visit us at www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk to find out more...

Neil McPherson, Artistic Director

And on Sundays and Mondays...

finboroughforum

The finboroughforum returns for two nights only during the run of *Plague Over England*.

Sunday, 2 March – Are Gay Plays Necessary Any More?
Sunday, 16 March – Should Critics Write Plays?

Nicholas de Jongh will appear at both forums.
Visit www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk for more information.

31 March, 6, 7, 13 and 14 April 2008

A DAY BY THE SEA

by N.C. Hunter
Directed by Tom Cooper

The first ever revival of this play by ‘the English Chekhov’, first performed by John Gielgud, Ralph Richardson, Sybil Thorndike and Lewis Casson. Presented as a companion piece to *Plague Over England*, *A Day by the Sea* is the play Gielgud was performing in when he was arrested.

N.C. Hunter (1908-1971) was one of the 1950’s most successful West End playwrights. This production celebrates the centenary of his birth.

28 April, 4 and 5 May 2008

LOVE LESSONS – THE DIARY OF JOAN WYNDHAM

The UK premiere of a new play
Adapted and Performed by Maggie Contreras
Based on the diaries and memoirs of local author Joan Wyndham.

Performance Times

Plague Over England, Jingo, Witchcraft
Tuesday to Saturday evenings at 7.30pm
Saturday and Sunday matinees at 3.00pm

finboroughforum, *A Day By The Sea, Love Lessons*
Sunday and Monday evenings at 7.30pm

Ticket Prices

Plague Over England
Tickets £15, £11 concessions, except
Tuesday evenings £11 all seats, Saturday evenings £15 all seats.

Jingo, Witchcraft, A Day By The Sea, Love Lessons
Tickets £13, £9 concessions, except
Tuesday evenings £9 all seats, Saturday evenings £13 all seats.

finboroughforum - £9 all seats

Book Online (No booking fees)

www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk

REDUCTIONS ON ALL FULL PRICE ONLINE BOOKINGS

24 Hour Box Office (No booking fees)

0844 847 1652

GROUP BOOKINGS - Substantial discounts for groups. Please call the Box Office for details.

IN PERSON - The Box Office opens 30 minutes before each performance. We accept cash, cheques and Theatre Tokens.

BY POST - Please enclose a cheque made payable to the ‘Finborough Theatre’ with an SAE if you would like your tickets posted to you.

ACCESS - Visit www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk or call **020 7373 3842** for full details.

We regret that tickets may not be exchanged or refunded, and latecomers cannot be admitted.



Travel Information

We are located above The Finborough Road Brasserie at 118 Finborough Road, London, SW10 9ED

TUBE - Earls Court (District and Piccadilly Lines). Turn left from the Warwick Road exit, the theatre is five minutes walk straight along the road; or West Brompton (District Line and National Rail).

BUS - 11, 14, 22, 74, 190, 328, C1, C3

PARKING - Limited on-street parking in surrounding streets.

finboroughtheatre

February – May 2008

[**spring** season 2008]

New plays and
rediscoveries from

Nicholas de Jongh
Charles Wood
Joanna Baillie
N.C. Hunter
Joan Wyndham

BOOK ONLINE

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24 HOUR BOX OFFICE

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NO BOOKING FEES

27 February –
22 March 2008



PLAGUE OVER ENGLAND

by **Nicholas de Jongh**

Directed by Tamara Harvey

Presented by Chantelle Staynings and Neil McPherson

The world premiere of a new play, starring Jasper Britton, David Burt and Nichola McAuliffe.

In Autumn 1953, Sir John Gielgud, then at the height of his fame as an actor, was arrested in a Chelsea public lavatory. He pleaded guilty the following morning to the charge of “persistently importuning men for immoral purposes”. His conviction caused a national sensation – breaking the great taboo of public discussion of homosexuality.

This controversial new play shows how Gielgud’s arrest played a part in the battle to make homosexuality legal, capturing the spirit of Britain in the early 1950s when the establishment were describing homosexuality as a threat to national life.

“Both moving and at times very funny...a powerful study in intolerance” *The Financial Times* from the Royal Court reading.

Nicholas de Jongh has been theatre critic of the *Evening Standard* since 1991.

Director **Tamara Harvey** returns to the Finborough Theatre following her *Time Out Critics’ Choice* productions of *Young Emma* and *Something Cloudy, Something Clear*. Her recent credits include *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest* (West End and UK Tour), *Whipping It Up* (West End), *Bash* (Trafalgar Studios) and *tHe dYsFuNCKshOnalZ!* (Bush Theatre).

26 March –
19 April 2008



JINGO – A Farce of War

by **Charles Wood**

Directed by Tom Littler

Presented by Primavera

A biting funny comedy about love and war in its first revival since its 1975 RSC premiere.

Singapore 1942. Glamorous society girl Gwendoline finds herself at the Raffles Hotel with her latest husband – whom she married in a hurry after running up a large hotel bill in Bombay. But when she bumps into her former lover, a dashing major with the Royal Engineers, she begins to wonder if she was a little hasty in divorcing him. Meanwhile, Brigadier Percy is also pursuing her – now his wife has been evacuated. And to top it all off, room service keeps running out of champagne and Japanese troops are approaching...

Charles Wood is one of the UK’s most successful post-war playwrights. His plays include work for the RSC and the National Theatre including *Dingo*, *Fill the Stage with Happy Hours*, and *Veterans*. His work for TV and film includes *Tumbledown*, *The Charge of the Light Brigade*, *An Awfully Big Adventure*, and the Oscar® winning *Iris*.

Director **Tom Littler** returns to the Finborough Theatre following Primavera’s sell-out productions of *The Boatswain’s Mate*, *The Mollusc*, and *The Confidential Clerk*.

www.primaveraproductions.com

23 April –
10 May 2008



WITCHCRAFT

by **Joanna Baillie**

Directed by Bronwen Carr

A rediscovery from the groundbreaking female playwright, Joanna Baillie, in its first production in over a century.

17th century Scotland. As the sister of the Laird of Dunganren lies mysteriously stricken with illness, the whispers of witchcraft start to grow. In the rising tide of hysteria, the women of the estate seize the chance to turn this paranoia into the power that they desperately crave – only to discover dealing with the devil has its price...

In this extraordinary play, Joanna Baillie returned to the murky history of her Scottish homeland, writing in both the poetic language of the aristocracy and the savage beauty of the Scots language.

Joanna Baillie (1762-1851) was one of the first truly popular female dramatists. Sir Walter Scott called her “the greatest dramatist in English since Shakespeare”, while Lord Byron believed that “women, except Joanna Baillie, cannot write tragedy”.

Director **Bronwen Carr** directed the *Time Out Critics’ Choice* production of *A Patch of Blue* (King’s Head).