

# **FINBOROUGH | THEATRE**

VIBRANT NEW WRITING | UNIQUE REDISCOVERIES

The world premiere

# **BOOBY'S BAY**

by Henry Darke.

Directed by Chris White.

Presented by Alison Holder in association with Neil McPherson for the Finborough Theatre and supported by The Bristol Old Vic and The Ronald Duncan Foundation.

"I'm untameable. Like the wind. Or Heathcliff. Or Bruce Springsteen during his Nebraska period. As long as all these houses are empty I'll be a freewheeling holiday home breaking hobo, The Beast Of Booby's Bay"

First seen in Vibrant – A Festival of Finborough Playwrights, the world premiere of a first play by Cornish playwright Henry Darke, **Booby's Bay** opens at the Finborough Theatre for a four week limited season on Tuesday, 30 January 2018 (**Press Nights: Thursday, 1 February and Friday, 2 February 2018 at 7.30pm**).

Above a secluded cove in Cornwall, Huck, a former fisherman, is holed up in an empty second home. The holiday season is fast approaching, the sharks are coming, but he refuses to budge. As Booby's Bay fills up for the annual surfing competition, Huck wants to shake things up, even if no one is listening. He's got media connections and intends to make a political stand.

A passionate, comic fable about the housing crisis in Cornwall and beyond, and a maverick's mission to turn the tide.

**Booby's Bay** is Henry Darke's first full-length play. It is directed by Chris White and following its world premiere at the Finborough Theatre, it will be performed at the Wardrobe Theatre, Bristol and then a site-specific venue in Cornwall.

Playwright **Henry Darke** trained on the Royal Court Theatre Young Writers' Programme and his one-act play Highfliers was selected for The Royal Court Theatre Young Playwrights Season. He was selected for 'The Royal Court 50' Most Promising Playwrights in the UK by the Drum Theatre, Plymouth, and is currently writing his second and third full-length plays, Chippy, set in Padstow; and Service, set in London. Booby's Bay initially appeared in Vibrant – A Festival of Finborough Playwrights, and was subsequently developed by The Bristol Old Vic through their 'Open Sessions' scheme, supporting the most talented voices from the South West. His award winning short film Big Mouth won Encounters Film Festival and was shortlisted for a BAFTA. He also directed Channel 4 Coming Up episode Hooked. He is a member of the BBC Writersroom Dramaroom 2017.

Director **Chris White's** production of A Midsummer Night's Dream currently plays in repertoire at the National Centre for Performing Arts, Beijing, and his recent production of Scenes From 68 Years (Arcola Theatre) was nominated for three OffWestEnd Awards including Best Director. He was Assistant Director to David Lan at The Young Vic, Mike Alfreds and Simon Usher at the Royal Shakespeare Company. Chris returns to the Finborough Theatre where he directed 1984 by Satinder Chohan as part of Vibrant 2014 – A Festival of Finborough Playwrights. Further Direction includes The Visit, The Suicide, Le Foreste di Arden (Teatro Della Contraddizione, Milan), Hard Places (Prithvi Theatre, Mumbai, and Indian Ttour), The Truth (La Virgule, Lille), Fewer Emergencies (Teatro Litta, Milan), Trouble and Wonder (Royal Shakespeare Company), I Burn, I Pine, I Perish (Belgrade Theatre, Coventry), 40 Years Young (The Young Vic), Soho Young Playwrights (Soho Theatre), The Water When It Burns (Hampstead Theatre), The Sale (Chapter Arts Centre, Cardiff), Plan D which was nominated for the Meyer-Whitworth Award (Tristan Bates Theatre) and Cocoa (Theatre503). Chris co-leads the Young Writers Lab at Soho Theatre and works internationally as an Associate Practitioner for the Royal Shakespeare Company. He is a former JMK Award finalist and is currently developing a production of Pericles in Sri Lanka, in association with The British Council.

## **The press on playwright Henry Darke**

"This film is so good. Angry, scruffy, vital. Give it fifteen minutes of your time" Tim Robey, The Telegraph on Big Mouth  
"A really beautiful film, a real sense of authenticity", Don Boyd on The Lobster Trap

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[www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk](http://www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk) Artistic Director Neil McPherson

# Press Information

**FINBOROUGH | THEATRE**

"A genuinely affecting film... an excellent piece of film-making" Eye For Film on Hooked

## **The press on director Chris White**

"Chris White's direction is bold and wonderfully fluid...a remarkable piece of writing made outstanding by a dynamic production" ★★★★★ Five Stars, Dave Farnoli, Exeunt Magazine on Scenes From 68 Years

"This exceptional production" ★★★★★ Five Stars, David Ralf, The Stage on Scenes From 68 Years

"Chris White's elegantly economical direction" Jane Shilling, The Telegraph on Scenes From 68 Years

"Transformed for the Chinese stage by director Chris White, this performance transcends ages and cultures", The Beijinger on A Midsummer Night's Dream

"Khalil is served well by Chris White's spare production" Michael Billington, The Guardian on Plan D

"Tremendous", Michael Coveney, WhatsOnStage on 40 Years Young

"Cocoa suddenly becomes a play you want to gulp down in great draughts" Lyn Gardner, The Guardian on Cocoa

**PRESS NIGHTS: THURSDAY, 1 FEBRUARY 2018 AND FRIDAY, 2 FEBRUARY 2018 AT 7.30PM**

**PHOTOCALL: TUESDAY, 30 JANUARY 2018 AT 1.30PM-2PM**

Finborough Theatre, 118 Finborough Road, London SW10 9ED

Book online at [www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk](http://www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk)

## **Sunday, 28 January – Saturday, 24 February 2018**

Tuesday to Saturday Evenings at 7.30pm. Sunday Matinees at 3.00pm. Saturday matinees at 3.00pm (from 10 February 2018).

**Prices until 11 February 2018** – Tickets £16, £14 concessions, except Tuesday Evenings £14 all seats, and Friday and Saturday evenings £16 all seats. Previews (30 and 31 January) £12 all seats.

£10 tickets for Under 30's for performances from Tuesday to Sunday of the first week when booked online only.

£12 tickets for residents of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea on Saturday, 3 February 2018 when booked online only.

**Prices from 13 February 2018** – Tickets £18, £16 concessions, except Tuesday Evenings £16 all seats, and Friday and Saturday evenings £18 all seats.

Performance Length: Approximately 90 minutes with no interval.

For more information, interviews and images, please contact

**Antonella Petrancosta** on e-mail [press@finboroughtheatre.co.uk](mailto:press@finboroughtheatre.co.uk) or **07512 609614**

Download press releases and images at <http://www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk/press-resources.php>