

Theatre Royal Bury St. Edmunds

Listings: June, 2009

Box Office details:

Tel: 01284 769505

Book tickets online at www.theatreroyal.org

All performance times are 7.30pm unless stated otherwise.

The venue is the Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds unless stated otherwise.

Theatre Royal Promotions

Tuesday 2 – Sunday 7 June

Shakespeare's Globe

The Comedy of Errors

by William Shakespeare

Take one pair of estranged twins (both called Antipholous) and one pair of twin servants (both called Dromio), keep them in ignorance of each other and throw them into a city with a reputation for sorcery, and you have the chief ingredients for theatrical chaos. In this hectic tale of hilarious cross-purposes, manic slapstick and social nightmare, the young William Shakespeare explores themes that recur again and again in his later work: mistaken identity, coincidence and the importance of family.

Times: 7.30pm. 2pm matinees on Wed 03 and Sat 06, 3pm matinee on Sun 07

£8 - £24

TalkOut Thursday 4 June

Captioned performance 2pm Saturday 6 June

Tuesday 9 June

Lunchtime Reading

More food for thought over lunch this season as we continue our series of lunchtime short stories. Expect James Joyce, GK Chesterton or Dylan Thomas to join you over soup and a roll. Soup will be served in the Greene Room from 1pm, with short stories on offer from 1.10pm

Time: 1pm

£9

Thursday 11 June

ReVisit Lunchtime Lecture

The Guildhall, Bury St Edmunds

Thomas Holcroft: Actor, Playwright, Radical

A novelist, playwright, translator and critic, Thomas Holcroft (1745-1809) assisted in the publication of Thomas Paine's *Rights of Man* and was later tried for treason over his association with the Society for Constitutional Information. Holcroft's works feature his ideas about social and political reform as well as strong moral messages. In this lunchtime lecture, Heritage Manager Helga Brandt will introduce you to this fascinating contemporary and close friend of Elizabeth Inchbald.

Time: 1.10pm

£4 (£10 for all three Lunchtime Lectures)

Thursday 11 June

Restoring the Repertoire

A rehearsed reading of

Duplicity

a comedy by Thomas Holcroft

first performed on 13 October 1781

Mr Osborne is engaged to be married to Melissa and his long standing best friend Sir Harry Portland has fallen in love with Clara. It sounds like the perfect recipe for domestic bliss until Sir Harry's life starts to unravel and one by one he loses everything he holds dear. The ultimate blow comes when he discovers his woes are all thanks to his friend Mr Osborne. Interspersed with some laugh out loud funny scenes, this is one of the most interesting of Holcroft's satirical contemplations of a gambling obsessed society with self-destructive tendencies.

£7 (£15 for all three Rehearsed Readings)

Please note: this rehearsed reading will also be performed on Friday 5 June, 8pm, at the Old School building, Thetford Grammar School, as part of the Tom Paine 200 festival. More information on www.tompaine200.org.uk

Supported by The Foyle Foundation and The Idlewild Trust

Thursday 4 June

How does your garden grow, Mr. Shakespeare?

Join Garden Historian Caroline Holmes for a morning of intrigue, love and death not forgetting symbolism, plant language and sound gardening advice according to the Bard. Following the presentation you are invited to enjoy a delicious lunch in our Greene Room Restaurant with Caroline. Doors open at 10.30am at which time tea and coffee will be available in the Greene Room. Caroline will also be signing copies of her books.

Time: 11am.

Tickets for talk only including interval refreshments: £8 - £11

Join Caroline for lunch afterwards in our Greene Room restaurant. £13.50 for 2 courses – numbers are strictly limited.

This is a fundraising event to support the Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds

Tuesday 16 June

Theatre Royal Lunchtime Concert

Huw Morgan, trumpet

Since becoming Brass Winner of the BBC Young Musician 2006, Huw has appeared in concert and recital throughout Europe, Asia and North America. Hailed by *The Times* as an artist of 'high intelligence and immaculate professionalism,' Huw currently studies at the Royal Academy of Music, and has recently become the youngest ever winner of both the International Trumpet Guild Solo and Orchestral competitions. His programme today will feature Hertel's trumpet concerto and works by Glazunov and Arban.

Time: 1.10pm

Concert tickets £7

Lunch / Concert ticket combined £11

Friday 12 June

Nick Ross Orchestra

Sounds of the Glenn Miller era

The lights soften, the mood settles. An audience waits for that first moment of sound. The Big Band is poised, relaxed, but with eyes anxious for the lead. Then the murmured notes of 'Moonlight Serenade'... and the night, it seems, is suddenly full and timeless. Recapture the sounds of a bygone era as the Nick Ross Orchestra presents 'an unmissable evening of music and song' – the Classic Big Band Sound of the 1940s.

£8 - £24

Saturday 13 June

Pure Bedlam Productions

Gertrude's Secret

In the fine traditions of Alan Bennett's *Talking Heads*, *Gertrude's Secret* transports you to an absorbing world of bizarre, comic and sad characters. What is the dreadful fate of ten-year-old Emily, sitting alone in an Amsterdam hotel room? And, as lonely Gertrude waits for her daughter to telephone with birthday wishes, what is the shocking revelation that will expose her dark secret? Star cast to be announced.

£8 - £24

Wednesday 17 June

Ballet Central

Ballet Central return to the Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds with an exciting new programme. The 2009 repertoire presents works by renowned choreographers Richard Alston (Richard Alston Dance Company), David Bintley (Birmingham Royal Ballet) and the late Christopher Gable (founder of Central School of Ballet).

Ballet Central is comprised of graduate students from the Central School of Ballet, offering them a unique opportunity to experience 'life on the road' of a touring company

£8 - £22

Tuesday 16 June

An audience with Benjamin Zephaniah

Benjamin Zephaniah is best known for his performance poetry with a political edge for adults, and groundbreaking performance poetry for children. He is in constant demand to perform his work across the globe and is the only Rastafarian poet to be short-listed for the Chairs of Poetry for both Oxford and Cambridge University. Join him for an evening in which he talks about his life, reads extracts of his poetry, takes questions from the audience and signs copies of his books, including his latest title '*Gangsta Rap*', about the troubled world of excluded students and the rivalries of rap bands.

£8 - £22

Friday 19 June

OperaEast

Il Mondo della Luna

by Franz Joseph Haydn

A witty farce featuring the scheming of self-styled astronomer Ecclitico to dupe the rich but simple Buonafede into believing that he is on the moon. Haydn's score needs no introduction. It is a masterpiece of 18th century 'light' opera in a mood which may have anticipated Mozart's *Così fan tutte*. Its delightful music and comic content have made this Haydn's most popular opera.

£8 - £30

Tuesday 23 – Saturday 27 June

Restoring the Repertoire

A Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds Production

The Massacre

by Elizabeth Inchbald

Following the spectacular success of last year's production of Mrs Inchbald's sparkling comedy *Wives as they Were, and Maids as they Are*, her only tragedy is now given its première European professional production, more than two hundred years after it was written. The play is inspired by the horrific events of the French Revolution and is a tragic exploration of war and of questions of justice, mercy or retribution in its aftermath.

Felt to be too controversial to be staged in her own time, even its author accepted that – "from the time that I first undertook the foregoing scenes, I never flattered myself that they would be proper to appear on the stage. The subject is so horrid, that I thought it would shock, rather than give satisfaction, to an audience. Still, I found it so truly tragic in the essential springs of terror and pity, that I could not resist the impulse of adapting it to the stage."

The play retains its power to this day and the tale of the family Tricastin and their tragic demise is as provocative and disturbing as it was when it was first suppressed – by its own author.

Times: 8pm daily, 2pm matinees on Wed 24 and Sat 27

£8 - £24

TalkOut Wednesday 24 June

Post Show Discussion Thursday 25 June

Chaired by novelist and critic, Marina Warner. panelists include award-winning playwright Timberlake Wertenbaker, academic and author Bridget Orr and the Theatre Royal's Artistic Director Colin Blumenau.

Captioned Performance 2pm Saturday 27 June

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