

# FINBOROUGH | THEATRE

VIBRANT **NEW WRITING** | UNIQUE **REDISCOVERIES**  
Spring-Summer Season 2017 | April–July 2017

The European premiere

# LATE COMPANY

by Jordan Tannahill.

Directed by Michael Yale. Designed by Zahra Mansouri. Lighting by Nic Farman. Sound by Christopher Prosho.  
Presented by Stage Traffic Productions in association with Neil McPherson for the Finborough Theatre.  
Cast: Todd Boyce. David Leopold. Alex Lowe. Lucy Robinson. Lisa Stevenson.

“When you wake up in a cold sweat at night and you think someone is watching you, well it’s me. I’m watching you. And that cold sweat on your body, those are my tears...”

As part of the Finborough Theatre’s celebrations of Canada’s 150th birthday, the European debut of “the hottest name in Canadian theatre”, Jordan Tannahill, with the European premiere of **Late Company** playing at the Finborough Theatre for a four week limited season on Tuesday, 25 May 2017 (**Press Nights: Thursday, 27 April 2017 and Friday, 28 April 2017 at 7.30pm**).

One year after the suicide of their teenage son, Debora and Michael sit down to dinner with their son’s bully and his parents.

Closure is on the menu, but accusations are the main course as good intentions are gradually stripped away to reveal layers of parental, sexual, and political hypocrisy – at a dinner party where grief is the loudest guest.

Written with sensitivity and humour, **Late Company** explores restorative justice, cyber bullying, and is both a timely and timeless meditation on a parent’s struggle to comprehend the monstrous and unknown in their child.

Playwright **Jordan Tannahill** has been described as “the future of Canadian theatre” by NOW Magazine. His plays have been presented at theatres across Canada and the US including the National Arts Centre and the Canadian Stage. His films have been exhibited internationally at festivals and galleries including the Toronto International Film Festival, the Art Gallery of Ontario, and the British Film Institute. Jordan’s plays have been honoured with various prizes including the 2014 Governor General’s Award for Drama for his book *Age of Minority: Three Solo Plays*, the 2014 John Hirsch Prize for directing, and Dora Awards for Outstanding New Play for *rihannaboi95* in 2013 and *Concord Floral* in 2015. *Concord Floral* also received the 2015 Carol Bolt Award and was shortlisted for the 2016 Governor General’s Award for Drama. In 2016 *Botticelli in the Fire*, and *Sunday in Sodom* won the Toronto Theatre Critics Award for Best New Play and its production at Canadian Stage received the Dora Award for Outstanding Production. He is currently working on a film adaptation of *Botticelli in the Fire* with filmmaker Stephen Dunn. His book *Theatre of the Unimpressed: In Search of Vital Drama*, published by Coach House Press in 2015, was called “essential reading for anyone interested in the state of contemporary theatre and performance” by The Globe and Mail. It is currently on the curriculum of several North American universities. Jordan is currently working on new projects with the National Theatre in the UK, and the National Film Board of Canada, and the Stratford Festival in Canada.

Director **Michael Yale**’s recent production of *This Little Life of Mine* at Park Theatre was multi-award-nominated at this year’s Broadway World and OffWestEnd Awards including for Best Direction and Best New Musical. Direction includes *Henry IV: Part One* (Rose Playhouse, Bankside, and St. James Theatre), *Thrice Ninth Kingdom* (Soho Theatre and Tristan Bates Theatre), *Maternity* (Riverside Studios), *The Disappeared* (Theatre503), *Wicked Will* (BAC and National Tour) and *Hell’s Kitchen* (Midlands Art Centre). *Late Company* is the fourth Canadian play that Michael has given the European premiere: he previously directed the award-winning *Monsieur D’Eon* (Union Theatre) and produced *A Woman’s Comedy* (Wimbledon Theatre) and *Mrs Ruskin* (Warehouse Theatre, Croydon). Michael trained at London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art, and continues to act and write for theatre and television.

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

# Press Information

**Stage Traffic** is a dynamic new UK/US theatre production company. Based in London, but looking at inspiration from around the globe, it is committed to creating productions with a strong emphasis on contemporary storytelling that truly resonate with modern audiences. Stage Traffic Productions was founded by producer **Eilene Davidson**. She has worked as an Associate Producer on several plays in both the USA and London with recent and forthcoming projects for 2017 including *Speech and Debate* (Trafalgar Studios), *Significant Other* (Booth Theatre, New York) and *War Paint* (Nederlander Theater, New York). She is currently on the board at the award winning Huntington Theatre in Boston.

The cast:

**Todd Boyce** | Michael Shaun-Hastings

Trained at National Institute of Dramatic Art, Australia.

Theatre includes *The Exorcist* (Birmingham Rep), *The Last of the Boys* (Southwark Playhouse), *Hamlet* (The Young Vic), *The Women of Lockerbie* (Orange Tree Theatre, Richmond), *Glyn and It* (Yvonne Arnaud Theatre, Guildford), *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf* (South Australian Theatre Company), *The Normal Heart* and *Dr Faustus* (Sydney Theatre Company), *Limited Edition* (Sydney Dance Company), *Lovers from Hell* (Ovalhouse) and *The Exonerated* (Riverside Studios).

Film includes *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*, *In Clear Sight*, *Kick Ass 2*, *The Gatekeeper*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *Everest*, *The Life and Death of Peter Sellers*, *Spygame*, *Jefferson in Paris*, *The Punisher*, *Blue Ice*, *Penelope* and *The Delinquents*.

Television includes *Mr Selfridge*, *Sherlock*, *The Crown*, *In Clear Sight*, *Coronation Street*, *Spooks*, *Beaver Falls*, *Hollyoaks*, *Adventures Inc*, *Broken News*, *Comfort Zone* and *The Restless Years*.

**David Leopold** | Curtis Dermot

Trained at London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art.

Theatre includes *Muted* (Bunker Theatre), *Burnt Part Boys* (Park Theatre), *Soho Young Playwrights* (Soho Theatre), *Little Sure Shot* (Theatre Royal Bath), *Uncle Vanya*, *Polar Bears* and *The Crucible* (West Yorkshire Playhouse).

**Alex Lowe** | Bill Dermot

Theatre includes *Fatal Attraction* (Theatre Royal Haymarket), *The Changeling* (The Young Vic), *The Girlfriend Experience* (Royal Court Theatre and The Young Vic), *Blue Orange* and *The Barry from Watford Show* (Palace Theatre, Watford), *The Missing Hancocks* (Assembly Rooms, Edinburgh), *The New Power Generation* (Live Nation), *The Trial of Dennis the Menace* (Purcell Room, Queen Elizabeth Hall), *The Tempest* (Stafford Castle) and *Uncle Vanya* (Renaissance Theatre Company).

Film includes *The Devil Outside*, *Grimsby*, *My Week with Marilyn*, *Haunted*, *Much Ado About Nothing* and *Peter's Friends*.

Television includes *Open All Hours*, *Unforgotten*, *Cheap Cheap Cheap*, *The Job Lot*, *Pompidou*, *Barry's Bucket List*, *Secret Diary of a Call Girl*, *The IT Crowd*, *Casualty*, *Peep Show*, *Peter Kay Project*, *Lead Balloon*, *French and Saunders*, *Bremner Bird and Fortune*, *Saxondale*, *The Thick of It*, *Documental* and *New Tricks*.

Radio includes *Barry's Lunch Club*, *Before They Were Famous*, *Clare in the Community*, *Trapped* and *The Brothers*.

**Lucy Robinson** | Debora Shaun Hastings

Theatre includes *Waste and The Hard Problem* (National Theatre), *Handbagged* (Vaudeville Theatre), *Sweet Bird of Youth* (The Old Vic), *In the Next Room* (Theatre Royal Bath), *Cause Celebre* (The Old Vic), *Blithe Spirit* (Nottingham Playhouse), *Happy Now?* (Gate Theatre), *Macbeth* and *Top Girls* (Octagon Theatre, Bolton), *An Ideal Husband* (Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester), *The Hypochondriac* (West Yorkshire Playhouse) and *The Miser* (Chichester Festival Theatre).

Film includes *Highway to Dhampus*, *The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*, *Bridget Jones*, *The Edge of Reason* and *The Biographer*.

Television includes *Cold Feet*, *The Hollow Crown*, *Call the Midwife*, *Being Human*, *Missing*, *Doctor Who*, *New Tricks*, *The IT Crowd*, *Holby City*, *Coronation Street*, *Doc Martin*, *Rosemary and Thyme*, *Casualty*, *The Royal* and *Lewis*.

**Lisa Stevenson** | Tamara Dermot

Theatre includes *War Horse* (National Theatre), *Measure for Measure* and *Richard III* (Royal Shakespeare Company), *A Streetcar Named Desire* (The Young Vic), *Romeo and Juliet*, *Henry V* and *Autumn and Winter* (Shakespeare's Globe), *The Mikado* and *Boston Marriage* (Stephen Joseph Theatre, Scarborough), *Comfort Me With Apples* (Hampstead Theatre), *Hay Fever* (Oxford Stage Company), *Factors Unforeseen* (Orange Tree Theatre, Richmond), *The Comedy of Errors* (West Yorkshire Playhouse), *Rita Sue and Bob Too* and *Explicit Polaroids* (Out Of Joint) and *King Lear* (Bristol Old Vic).

Film includes *Dead House Six* and *The Football Factory*.

Television includes *Dixi*, *Obsession: Dark Desire*, *Eastenders*, *Doctors*, *Holby City*, *Murder in Mind*, *The Message*, *Casualty*, *The Bill*, *The Inspector Lynley Mysteries*, *John Judge Deed*, *Keen Eddie* and *Heartbeat*.

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# Press Information

Radio includes Listening to the Dead: Ruby's Shoes and Tuesday's Child, Being Brave and Listen to the Words.

## **The press on previous productions of Late Company**

- ★★★★★ "Tannahill's subtle writing examines divergent approaches to parenthood without condemning anyone, as well as the challenges of childrearing in the 21st century." Now Magazine
- ★★★★★ "Late Company is first rate theatre, searing but holding out a touch of hope." Now Magazine
- ★★★★★ Jordan Tannahill's searing, unforgettable drama. There are no easy answers to be found here, only the shattered realities of two families struggling to put a terrible ordeal in the past." Torontoist
- "A powerfully polarizing script. There is humour and heartbreak in equal parts..." 10/10 The Grid
- "Excruciatingly good theatre: it feels like open heart surgery" Vancouver Courier
- "It deals deftly with its themes of forgiveness, retribution and accountability." CBC News
- "The compelling script is a feast for those who like their drama taut and provocative." CBC News

## **The press on playwright Jordan Tannahill**

- "The future of Canadian theatre" Now Magazine
- "The hottest name in Canadian theatre" Montreal Gazette
- "The posterchild of a new generation for whom 'interdisciplinary' is not a buzzword but a way of life" The Globe and Mail

## **The Press On Stage Traffic's Production Of This Little Life Of Mine**

- ★★★★★ "An absolute delight" Broadway World
- ★★★★★ "Yale's direction...produces a lovely flow of energy...excellent ...resonates on so many levels" LiveTheatreUK
- ★★★★★ "Michael Yale's production is sensitive and full of ideas...beautifully unfolded in one big tragedy. " LDN Culture
- ★★★★★ "Rude, romantic and real" The Reviews Hub

**PRESS NIGHTS: THURSDAY, 27 APRIL 2017 AND FRIDAY, 28 APRIL 2017 AT 7.30PM**

**PHOTOCALL: TUESDAY, 25 APRIL 2017 AT 1.30PM–2.00PM**

Finborough Theatre, 118 Finborough Road, London SW10 9ED  
Box Office 0844 847 1652 Book online at [www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk](http://www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk)

### **Tuesday, 25 April – Saturday, 20 May 2017**

Tuesday to Saturday evenings at 7.30pm. Sunday matinees at 3.00pm. Saturday matinees at 3.00pm (from 6 May 2017).

**Prices until 7 May** – Tickets £16, £14 concessions, except Tuesday evenings £14 all seats, and Friday and Saturday evenings £16 all seats. Previews (25 and 26 April) £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, 29 April 2017 when booked online only.

**Prices from 9 May** – Tickets £18, £16 concessions, except Tuesday evenings £16 all seats, and Friday and Saturday evenings £18 all seats.

Group Bookings – 1 free ticket for every 10 tickets booked.

Performance Length: Approximately 70 minutes with no interval.

For more information, interviews and images, please contact

**Neil McPherson** on e-mail [admin@finboroughtheatre.co.uk](mailto:admin@finboroughtheatre.co.uk) or **07977 173135**

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

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