

FINBOROUGH | THEATRE

VIBRANT **NEW WRITING** | UNIQUE **REDISCOVERIES**
Spring Season – January–April 2017

The first professional London production in over 50 years

INCIDENT AT VICHY

by Arthur Miller.

Directed by Phil Willmott. Designed by Georgia de Grey. Lighting by Robbie Butler.

Sound Design and Music by Theo Holloway. Costume Design by Penn O’Gara.

Produced by Anita Creed Productions for The Phil Willmott Company and The Steam Industry.

Cast: Gethin Alderman. Lawrence Boothman. Will Bryant. James Boyd. Andro Crespo. Daniel Dowling. Jeremy Gagan. Timothy Harker. Edward Killingback. Brendan O’Rourke. Michael Skellern. PK Taylor. Henry Wyrley-Birch.

"Jews are not a race, you know. They can look like anybody."

The first professional London production in over 50 years of Arthur Miller’s drama **Incident at Vichy**, directed by multi-award-winning director **Phil Willmott**, opens at the Finborough Theatre for a four week limited season on Tuesday, 28 March 2017 (**Press Nights: Thursday, 30 March 2017 at 7.30pm and Friday, 31 March 2017 at 7.30pm.**).

Arthur Miller’s largely forgotten masterpiece about Jewish registration in Nazi occupied France burns with a terrifying topical intensity.

In the detention room of a Vichy police station in 1942, eight men have been picked up for questioning but none are told why they are held, or when they can leave. At first, their hopeful guess is that only their identity papers will be checked – but as each man is removed for interrogation, some are set free, some are never seen again, and the stakes rise for those who remain...

A haunting examination of the cold, bureaucratic efficiency of evil – and the shared humanity that might overcome it.

Incident at Vichy premiered on Broadway at the ANTA Washington Square Theatre in December 1964, directed by Harold Clurman. The New York Times called it "One of the most important plays of our time...**Incident at Vichy** returns the theater to greatness." It was last seen professionally in London in January 1966 at the Phoenix Theatre.

Playwright **Arthur Miller** (1915-2005) was inarguably one of the greatest American dramatists of the twentieth century with a career that spanned over seven decades. His plays include *The Man Who Had All The Luck* (1940), *All My Sons* (1947), *Death of a Salesman* (1949), *The Crucible* (1953), *A View from the Bridge* (1955), *A Memory of Two Mondays* (1955), *After the Fall* (1964), *Incident at Vichy* (1964), *The Price* (1968), *The Creation of the World and Other Business* (1972), *The Archbishop’s Ceiling* (1977), *The American Clock* (1980), recently presented at the Finborough Theatre also directed by Phil Willmott, *Playing for Time* (1980), *The Last Yankee* (1991), *The Ride Down Mount Morgan* (1991), *Broken Glass* (1994), *Mr Peter’s Connections* (1998), *Resurrection Blues* (2002) and *Finishing the Picture* (2004).

Director **Phil Willmott** is a multi-award winning director, artistic director, playwright, composer, librettist, teacher, dramaturg, arts journalist and performer. He trained as an actor at Rose Bruford in the 1980s and was made a fellow of the college in 2012. Alongside his innovative reinterpretations of the classics, musical theatre revivals and new musical

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www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk Artistic Director Neil McPherson

Press Information

development his notable productions of contemporary and recent drama include F**cking Men (Finborough Theatre, Kings Head Theatre and West End), Liza, Liza, Liza (UK tour for Bill Kenwright), Billy Liar, Athol Fugard's Master Harold... and the Boys (Liverpool Playhouse), Angels in America and Kiss of the Spider Woman (Crucible Theatre, Sheffield), The American Clock, The Notebook of Trigorin, Country Magic, Crime and Punishment, The Lower Depths, The Grapes of Wrath, Trelawny of the Wells and Loyalties (Finborough Theatre), Arturo Ui (Bridewell Theatre), Fear and Misery of the Third Reich, Three Sisters in a version by Tracy Letts (Union Theatre) and Encounter, a new gay love story inspired by Brief Encounter (Above the Stag Theatre). As a writer, many of his plays, musicals and adaptations have been published and are regularly produced around the world. The adaptation of Lysistrata he wrote with Germaine Greer was recently presented as part of the Almeida's Greek Season starring Tamsin Grieg, and his adaptation of Gorki's The Lower Depths is published by Oberon Books.

The New York press on Incident At Vichy

"Arthur Miller's forgotten masterpiece...After years of teaching and thinking about Shoah literature, I have come to value this play above all of Arthur Miller's, including Death of a Salesman. For me Incident at Vichy is about the price of rescuing a victim and also about solidarity among members of the victimized minority groups." Maxim D. Shroyer, The Tablet

"Incident at Vichy gives an airing to still-timely concerns. To modern Americans grappling with questions of privilege and responsibility, in relation to disadvantaged groups in America or abroad, the play remains a thrown gauntlet." Time Out New York

The Press on Phil Willmott's production of Arthur Miller's The American Clock at the Finborough Theatre

"Beautifully lucid direction from Phil Willmott." Giles Cole, WhatsOnStage.

"A tremendous production of an intelligent play." Jon Wainwright, Atomies.

"Director Phil Willmott's rare revival is timely: the parallels with our own situation are numerous and disturbing." Laura Barnett, Time Out.

"An engrossing production from Finborough favourite Phil Willmott." Phillip Fisher, British Theatre Guide.

"Phil Willmott's slick and sharp production...It cannot be argued that the Finborough's revival of The American Clock is anything other than timely. In fact, the true surprise lies in its not having been programmed anywhere else since the beginning of the financial crisis. Arthur Miller's richly woven tapestry of the lives affected by the Wall Street Crash in 1929 sits uncomfortably close to our own recent past" Mary Halton, Stagemon.

"The Finborough Theatre's inclusion of Arthur Miller's sweeping Great Depression drama in its Rediscoveries season has 'timely revival' written all over it – the resonance smacks you full in the face." Catherine Love, Fourthwall Magazine.

**PRESS NIGHTS: THURSDAY, 30 MARCH 2017 AT 7.30PM AND FRIDAY, 31 MARCH 2017 AT 7.30PM.
PHOTOCALL: TUESDAY, 28 MARCH 2017 AT 1.00PM-1.30PM**

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

Tuesday, 28 March – Saturday, 22 April 2017

Tuesday to Saturday Evenings at 7.30pm. Sunday Matinees at 3.00pm. Saturday matinees at 3.00pm (from Saturday 8 April 2017).

Prices until 9 April 2017 – Tickets £16, £14 concessions, except Tuesday Evenings £14 all seats, and Friday and Saturday evenings £16 all seats. Previews (28 and 29 March) £12 all seats.

£10 tickets for Under 30s 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, 1 April 2017 when booked online.

Prices from 11 April 2017 – 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

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>

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