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HARROGATE
THEATRE



Hamlet - Marketing Pack

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Brochure copy

Icarus Theatre Collective & Harrogate Theatre present

Hamlet

Written by William Shakespeare

Directed by Max Lewendel

Does revenge justify murder?

Following on from their hugely successful production of *Othello* the highly acclaimed **Icarus Theatre Collective** team up with **Harrogate Theatre** to present their bold and exciting new production of **Hamlet**.

The spirit of a murdered king, the wrath of a vengeful son and the turmoil of Denmark in 1601. Shakespeare's masterpiece tells the tale of young Prince Hamlet who, consumed with grief, devotes himself to avenging his father's death with devastating consequences for his family and the Kingdom.

In the 400 years since his first appearance, Hamlet has become one of Shakespeare's most iconic tragedies. This brand new production sees **Icarus Theatre Collective** combine traditional and physical theatre to bring some of the bard's most vibrant language and characters to life.

Target audience

Target group:	Schools and sixth form colleges (GCSE/BTEC/A-Level)
Key Messages	“Gain a deeper understanding of Shakespeare’s iconic masterpiece by seeing it in a different light in this bold and exciting production”
Communications:	Direct mail/email to named contacts in secondary schools and colleges Personal contact (phone, email, face-to-face) with subject leaders
Target group:	HE Institutions
Key Messages	“See Shakespeare’s iconic masterpiece in a different light in this bold and exciting production” “Gain an understanding of how ensemble performance techniques and choral work can be used to breathe new life into a classic text”
Communications:	Direct mail/email to named contacts in HE Institutions Personal contact (phone, email, face-to-face) with tutors and societies Leaflet/poster distribution to SU’s, student bars and shops Forge links through social networks
Target group:	Existing drama audience
Key Messages	“A literary classic is given a new life in this bold and exciting production” “A theatrical feast for the eyes and ears from this highly-acclaimed company” “Something different yet familiar”
Communications:	Direct mail/email to attenders of Shakespeare Direct mail/email to attenders of classic drama Direct mail/email to attenders of contemporary drama Direct mail/email to attenders of new work by comparable companies Direct mail/email to lists from your regional marketing agency Print distribution to your regular networks Advertising in local press and radio

Education

This production of Hamlet is supported by a range of 90 minute workshops which are suitable for Key Stages 3, 4 and 5.

1) Building a Shakespearean Character: To be or not to be

In this workshop students have the chance to discover how contemporary theatre works to access the Shakespearean character. Through exploring Icarus Theatre Collective's Stanislavskian approach, students will bring the characters of Hamlet to life culminating in a greater understanding Shakespeare's transition from page to stage.

2) Physicality, etiquette and gender: Get Thee to a Nunnery

This practical workshop introduces students to elements of Shakespearean etiquette, physicality and gender, allowing them to understand the context in which Shakespeare wrote. Applying these ideas practically to a scene, students will explore the concept of gender relationships and their portrayal in Shakespeare's time and our own.

3) Trippingly on the Tongue: Shakespearean verse in performance

This workshop gives students an opportunity to understand verse in the best possible way – by speaking it. Taking a scene from Hamlet, Icarus Theatre Collective provides an introduction into how actors access the meaning of Shakespearean verse through vocal work and textual analysis.

4) Shakespeare the Icarus way: Hamlet and the Chorus

An ideal accompaniment to seeing the show this workshop gives students the opportunity to workshop the opening scene exactly as Icarus Theatre Collective did, exploring both Shakespearean verse and choral work.

Icarus Theatre Collective's Education Department are able to adapt material to fit your requirements. Working with up to 30 students, each workshop will be led by two artists: a professional facilitator and a member of the Hamlet company (subject to the performance schedule).

A comprehensive education pack will also be provided.

Workshop Price: £275

Two Workshops: £500

For further information email education@icarustheatre.co.uk or call 0207 998 1562.

Creative team

Max Lewendel Director/Producer

In 2004 Max Lewendel founded The Icarus Theatre Collective where he directs most of their plays. The Finborough Theatre commissioned Max to direct James Graham's **Albert's Boy** (which won the Pearson Playwright Award) starring Tony Award winner Victor Spinetti. Max also directed **Coyote Ugly** (no relation to the film) and co-produced the British premiere of Frank McGuinness' **Gates of Gold** for the Finborough, both Time Out Critics' Choice. In 2009 he developed a World Premiere of Philip Ridley's next play and directed two mid-scale tours: **Othello** & Nicholas Wright's **Vincent in Brixton**. Last year Max directed an international tour of Ionesco's **The Lesson** which transferred to the Assembly Rooms, Old Red Lion Theatre, and Romania. He also co-directed Engage's production of **Lost Children** which toured East Anglia, Holland, and Kenya.

At Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington, Illinois, Max completed a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) degree in Theatre Arts with an emphasis on directing and minors in French Language and Business Administration.

Bethany Pitts Assistant Director

Bethany has been part of Icarus Theatre Collective since 2008 when she was Assistant Director on their production of **The Time of Your Life** at the Finborough Theatre. She has since become Resident Assistant Director of the company, assisting on **Vincent in Brixton**, **Othello** and now **Hamlet**. In addition to this, she has helped set up and now manages the growing Icarus Education Programme, designing and facilitating workshops alongside Icarus' productions.

Bethany also works freelance as a director and workshop leader, for companies such as Old Vic New Voices, Theatre Royal Haymarket and the V&A Theatre and Performance Department. Her most recent work includes **Unseen** (V&A Spiral Booths Exhibition) and **Can't Stand Up for Falling Down** (White Bear Theatre).

Caroline Saunders Production Manager

Caroline has worked with The Icarus Theatre Collective as Deputy Stage Manager for **The Time of Your Life** at the Finborough Theatre and Assistant Stage Manager for **Vincent in Brixton** by Nicholas Wright on its national tour. She has recently worked as technician for **Crack in the Wall**, a devised piece by The Lab Theatre Collective and as part time Assistant Stage Manager for The Icarus Theatre Collective's National tour of **Othello** in Autumn 2009. This year she has continued her association with The Icarus Theatre Collective working as Rehearsal Assistant Stage Manager with a National Tour of **Journey's End** and Production Manager for **Rip her to Shreds** by Grant Corr which premiered at The Old Red Lion Theatre. She is very excited to be Production Manager for **Hamlet** and was also Production Manager for the Icarus Theatre Collective's co-production of **The Madness of George III** by Alan Bennett.

Cast



Tobias Deacon
Rosencrantz

Tobias trained at Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts.

Theatre credits include:

Coriolanus, **A Midsummer Night's Dream**, and **Love's Labour's Lost** (OH Players); **What Big Eyes You Have** (Kerfuffle Productions); **Wisdom of the Den** (msft and The Oubliette); **The Basement** (Niclissa Productions); **A Yorkshire Tragedy** (Tough Theatre); **Twelfth Night** (Sell A Door); **Antigone** (Theatre Lab Company) and **Macbeth/The Taming of the Shrew** (Principal Theatre Company).

Tobias represented Mountview in the Sam Wanamaker Festival 2009 at The Globe.



John Eastman
Polonius

Most recently for Icarus: **The Time of Your Life** at the Finborough. John's early work included **Home and Away**, and Police Rescue in Australia. After graduating from Central School of Speech and Drama with an M.A., he has appeared in both Daniel Keene's **Night, A Wall**, **Two Men** (Brighton Festival) and **Terminus**, UK premiere at RADA for Jacaranda Theatre. An associate member of the Icarus Theatre, he featured in their critically acclaimed inaugural production of **The Lesson**, (Old Red Lion) which toured successfully to the Edinburgh Fringe, throughout the UK, and was recently awarded the Special Jury Prize at the Romanian Comedy Festival in Bucharest. He is also a commercial voiceover artist.

After having just spent a year as Co-ordinator of the Foundation Acting Course, at Arts Educational, London, he is happy to be performing once again.



Nick Holbek
Laertes

Nick trained at the Birmingham School of Acting and is pleased to be returning with Icarus Theatre Collective after playing Roderigo in last year's successful tour of **Othello**. Playing Laertes is another step in the right direction, not only being part of Shakespeare's greatest play, but also advancing his skills in stage combat and taking on more responsibilities as a company member.

Theatre credits include:

Sweeney Todd, **Lulu**, **Don Juan in Soho**, **Richard II** and **Assassins** (Birmingham School of Acting).



Omar Ibrahim
Guildenstern

Omar trained at Guildford School of Acting.

Theatre credits include: **The Cherry Orchard, The Comedy of Errors, Suburbia, The Kitchen** and **Serious Money** (Guildford School of Acting); **The Time Of Your Life** and a rehearsed reading of **Make Me A Martyr** (Finborough Theatre), and **Unseen** (V&A Museum).

Film credits include: **Lying Down** (Fleeting Projects) and **In The Pipeline** (Lonely Duck Productions).

Radio credits include: **Kafka Thinking Stations, The Lab Theatre Collective** (BBC Carleton Hobbs Finalist 2008).

Writing credits include the play **I Have A Penis** and comedy series **In The Pipeline** as well as Stand Up and Sketch Comedy.



Dani McCallum
Horatio

Dani trained at The Bristol Old Vic Theatre School where she won The Newton Blick Best Actor Award and represented the school at Carleton Hobbs 2008 for the BBC.

Credits include Portia in **Julius Caesar** and **Antony and Cleopatra** (Shakespeare at The Tobacco Factory), Julia in **The Two Gentlemen Of Verona** and **The Taming Of The Shrew** (The Guildford Shakespeare Company), U/S Title role in **Hedda Gabler** (Bath Theatre Royal), Frieda Joubert in **Statements After An Arrest Under The Immortality Act, The Blue Room**, and **Sky Sports Premiere Season Football** advert 2009. Dani is half way through a two year apprenticeship with the Academy of Performance Combat, training to be a fully qualified stage combat teacher.



Julia Munrow
Gertrude

Julia trained on scholarship at RADA and was Artistic Director of the award-winning MOMI Actors Company at the National Film Theatre.

Theatre credits include: **Humble Boy** (New Vic); **Absent** (Royal Opera House); **Life And Beth** (SJT); **Suspended Lives** (Tara Arts); **The Lesson** (Icarus Theatre); **The Allotment** (New Perspectives); **The Seagull** (Tabard); **Underground** (Barbican, Brighton Theatre Royal); **Where's The Bear?** (Northampton Theatre Royal); **Precious Bane** (Pentabus); **Mutton** (Watford Palace); **Breathing Space** (Toronto Festival); **Table Manners** (Yeovil, Octagon); **Picasso's Women** (Ambassadors); **Trojan Women** (Drill Hall) and **Much Ado About Nothing** (LTI).

Screen credits include: **Sight Test; Dear Anne Frank** (Qualia); Queen Elizabeth II in **Great Balls Of Fire**, Queen Elizabeth II in **Love Again** and **Mercy in Mankind** (BBC) and Lesley in **Emmerdale** (Yorkshire TV).

Radio credits include: Anna Polikovskaya in **Letters from Chechnya** (BBC Radio 3).



Loren O'Dair
Ophelia

Loren trained at Ecole Jacques Lecoq, Paris.

Theatre credits include: Cocteau in **The Underworld** (Arcola/Linbury Studio); **Before I Sleep** (dreamthinkspeak/Brighton Festival); **Othello** (Icarus Theatre Collective UK tour); **Hamlet** (Odin Teatret/Grotowski Festival, Poland); **The Trapeze Artist** (Tara Arts); **The Pleasure Project: Ariadne** (Digame/CPT); **Handbag and 26** (BAC); **Cinderella** (Lyric Hammersmith); **The Boy Who Said Yes, Astyanax and Stabat Mater** (Arcola); **The Marriage Of Medea** (Odin Teatret, Denmark); **Briefing** (Mercurial Productions/CPT); **The Turn Of The Screw** (Theatreworks national tour); **The Red Death Lates** (BAC/Gideon Reeling); **Ripe And Rotten** (Shunt/BAC); **Blanche Neige** (MAC/VAL, Paris) and **The Fence** (The Wrestling School/Birmingham Rep).



John Paton
Claudius

John trained at East 15, graduating in 1996 with a Post Graduate Diploma. One of his very first jobs was playing Judge Turpin in **Sweeney Todd** (Mainbrace Theatre).

Theatre credits include: **The Rivals** (Bath Theatre Royal); **Devil at Coventry** (Belgrade, Coventry); **The Crucible** (Watford Palace); **Pickwick Papers** (Luton Library); **A Christmas Carol** (Darwen Library); **Croak, Croak, Croak** (Bristol Old Vic); **A Midsummer Nights Dream** (Hampton Court Palace); **Lorna** (Tours de Force) and a Timeout 'critics choice' run of **Mountain Language** (In Tandem).

Screen credits include: **Casualty** (BBC); work for Video Arts, RDF Television, Maverick Media, Serious Pictures and De Warrenne Pictures, and most recently on the big screen playing Sir John Seymour in **The Other Boleyn Girl** (Sony Pictures) and **The Gasping Man** in **Sweeney Todd** (Dombey Street Productions) directed by Tim Burton.



Giles Roberts
Hamlet

Giles trained at The Oxford School of Drama and has previously worked with Icarus Theatre Collective on their 2008 production of **The Time of Your Life** at the Finborough Theatre.

Other theatre credits include: **Bingo** (Theatre Royal Haymarket); **Suburbia** (Southwark Playhouse); **Macbeth** (Broadway Theatre); **Tranquil** (Cockpit) and **Romeo & Juliet** (Cambridge Shakespeare Festival).

TV and film credits include: **Operation Paraquat** (Channel Five) and **The Boat That Rocked** (Working Title).

Press release

Icarus Theatre Collective & Harrogate Theatre present

Hamlet: Prince of Denmark

Touring October 2010 – May 2011

By William Shakespeare

Directed by Max Lewendel

Does revenge justify murder?

Following on from their hugely successful production of *Othello* the highly acclaimed **Icarus Theatre Collective** team up with **Harrogate Theatre** to present their bold and exciting new production of **Hamlet**.

The spirit of a murdered king, the wrath of a vengeful son and the turmoil of Denmark in 1601. Shakespeare's masterpiece tells the tale of young Prince Hamlet who, consumed with grief, devotes himself to avenging his father's death with devastating consequences for his family and the Kingdom.

In the 400 years since his first appearance, Hamlet has become one of Shakespeare's most iconic tragedies. This brand new production sees **Icarus Theatre Collective** combine traditional and physical theatre to bring some of the bard's most vibrant language and characters to life.

Giles Roberts leads the cast as Hamlet. He will be joined by **Tobias Deacon** (Rosencrantz), **John Eastman** (Polonius), **Nick Holbeck** (Laertes), **Omar Ibrahim** (Guildenstern), **Dani McCallum** (Horatio), **Julia Monrow** (Gertrude), **Loren O'Dair** (Ophelia) and **John Paton** (Claudius).

Hamlet will be at <venue> from <dates>. Tickets cost <prices> and can be booked securely online at <website> or through the Box Office on <number>.

ENDS

For interviews, images, tickets and/or further information please contact Louise at Icarus Theatre Collective on 0207 998 1562 or email louise@icaruscollective.co.uk

Editors Notes

About Icarus Theatre Collective

The Icarus Theatre Collective explores the harsh, brutal side of modern and classical drama, creating a contemporary Theatre of the Absurd while maintaining a cohesive, evocative story. We choose to relish what others shy away from, show what others aren't, and destroy boundaries when others would create rules.

We aim to produce two mid-scale tours and one professional fringe production every year using unusual interpretations of classics in diverse performance formats and sometimes new writing. Intellectual, visceral, engaging and dynamic we produce theatre that moves.

As a young company, Icarus succeeds by following its namesake too close to the sun, always picking plays which seem just out of their reach, soaring most elegantly and creating a beautiful organized chaos when they are stretching beyond their grasp.

About Harrogate Theatre

Harrogate Grand Opera House, as the Theatre was originally known, opened its doors on 13th January 1900 as a number one provincial circuit theatre for star-studded touring companies. In 1933 the Theatre became home to the White Rose Players - one of the first permanent repertory companies in the country, they performed around 45 shows a year on a weekly basis.

In 1955 The Grand Opera House closed its doors. Following a period boarded up, the building was purchased by Harrogate Borough Council and The Harrogate (White Rose) Theatre Trust was established. The Trust runs the Theatre to this day leasing the Grade II listed building from Harrogate Borough Council and in 1967 the building was renamed as Harrogate Theatre.

The Theatre's current artistic programme combines in-house produced theatre and toured in work that is both entertaining and relevant. Placed very much at the heart of its District the Theatre provides a range of education and outreach activities including youth theatre, professional development programmes and access to professional and community work. The Theatre has been greatly enhanced by a building-wide refurbishment of its public areas.

Cast

Rosencrantz	Tobias Deacon
Polonius	John Eastman
Laertes	Nick Holbek
Guildenstern	Omar Ibrahim
Horatio	Dani McCallum
Gertrude	Julia Monrow
Ophelia	Loren O'Dair
Claudius	John Paton
Hamlet	Giles Roberts

Creative Team

Director	Max Lewendel
Assistant Director	Bethany Pitts
Movement Director	Carrie Mueller
Fight Director	Ronin Traynor
Production Manager	Caroline Saunders
Assistant Producer	Louise Ody
Set Design	Christopher Hone
Costume Design	Katharine Heath
LX Designer	Oliver Welsh
Sound Design	Theo Holloway
Stage Manager	Jules Richardson

Running time: 2 hours 35 minutes (inc. interval)

Tour schedule

Day	Date	Venue	Box Office
Sat	16 Oct 2010	The Cockpit , London	0207 9981562
Tue	19 Oct 2010	The Castle, Wellingborough	01933 270007
Wed & Thu	20 & 21 Oct 2010	Floral Pavilion, Wirral	0151 6660000
Fri & Sat	22 & 23 Oct 2010	Stanwix Art Theatre, Carlisle	01228 400300
Wed & Thu	27 & 28 Oct 2010	Byre Theatre, St Andrews	01334 475000
Sat	30 Oct 2010	Riverside Theatre, Coleraine	028 70323232
Tue & Wed	02 & 03 Nov 2010	Millennium Forum, Londonderry	028 71264455
Thu	4 Nov 2010	Strule Arts Centre, Omagh	028 82247831
Sat	6 Nov 2010	Great Hall, Downpatrick	028 44610747
Mon	8 Nov 2010	Memorial Hall, Glamorgan	01446 738622
Tue	9 Nov 2010	Blake Theatre, Monmouth	01600 719401
Wed	10 Nov 2010	Bacon Theatre, Cheltenham	01242 258002
Thu	11 Nov 2010	Cornerstone, Didcot	01235 515144
Fri	12 Nov 2010	Merlin Theatre, Frome	01373 465949
Mon - Wed	15 - 17 Nov 2010	Norwich Playhouse	01603 598598
Thu & Fri	18 & 19 Nov 2010	Palace Theatre, Southend	01702 351135
Mon	22 Nov 2010	Theatre Royal Margate	01227 787787
Tue & Wed	23 - 24 Nov 2010	Woodville Halls, Gravesend	01474 337774
Fri & Sat	26 - 27 Nov 2010	Lakeside Arts Centre, Nottingham	0115 8467777
Mon & Tue	29 - 30 Nov 2010	The Arts Centre, Swindon	01793 614837
Thu & Fri	02 - 03 Dec 2010	Uppingham Theatre	01572 820820
Tue & Wed	07 - 08 Dec 2010	Jersey Arts Centre	01534 700444
Tue - Sat	01 - 05 Feb 2011	Harrogate Theatre, Yorkshire	01423 502116
Mon	7 Feb 2011	Loughborough Town Hall	01509 231914
Tue	8 Feb 2011	Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury	01684 295 074
Wed - Thu	09 & 10 Feb 2011	Octagon Theatre, Yeovil	01935 422884
Sat	12 Feb 2011	Theatr Hafren, Newtown	01686 625007
Tue - Wed	15 & 16 Feb 2011	New Theatre Royal, Portsmouth	02392 649000
Fri & Sat	18 & 19 Feb 2011	Riverbank Theatre, Co. Kildare	+353 (0)45 448 327
Tue	22 Feb 2011	Droichead Arts Centre, Drogheda	+353 (0)41 983 3946
Wed & Thu	23 & 24 Feb 2011	Market Place Theatre, Armagh	028 3752 1821
Fri	25 Feb 2011	The Maltings Theatre, Berwick-up-on-Tweed	01289 330999
Mon & Tue	28 Feb - 01 Mar 2011	Middlesbrough Theatre	01642 815181
Wed & Thu	02 & 03 Mar 2011	Barnsley Civic	0845 1800363

Fri & Sat	04 - 05 Mar 2011	Northcott Theatre, Exeter	01392 493493
Mon & Tue	07 - 08 Mar 2011	Mumford Theatre, Cambridge	01223 352932
Wed	9 Mar 2011	Hertford Theatre	01992 531500
Thu	10 Mar 2011	Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton	01902 321321
Fri	11 Mar 2011	Terry O'Toole Theatre, North Hykeham	01522 883311
Sat	12 Mar 2011	The Junction, Goole	01405 763652
Wed	16 Mar 2011	Customs House, Tyne & Wear	0191 4541234
Fri	18 Mar 2011	South Holland Centre, Spalding	01775 764777
Mon & Tue	21 - 22 Mar 2011	The Hexagon, Reading	01189 606060
Mon - Wed	28 - 30 Mar 2011	Theatre Royal Winchester	01962 840440
Fri & Sat	01 & 02 Apr 2011	Connaught Theatre, Worthing	01592 583302
Mon - Wed	04 - 06 Apr 2011	Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury	01743 281281
Thu	07 Apr 2011	Rhyl Pavilion Theatre	01745 330000
Tue - Wed	26 & 27 Apr 2011	Adam Smith Theatre, Kirkcaldy	01592 583302
Sat	30 Apr 2011	Lancaster Grand Theatre	01524 64695
Tue - Sat	03 - 07 May 2011	The Lighthouse, Poole	0844 068666
Tue - Thu	10 - 12 May 2011	Oldham Coliseum Theatre	0161 6242829
Fri & Sat	13 & 14 May 2011	Key Theatre, Peterborough	01733 207239

Previous work



Journey's End

Written by R.C. Sherriff

An Icarus Theatre Collective & Original Theatre Company co-production (National Tour 2010)

"Strong and deeply moving" ★★★★★

The Scotsman

"Alastair Whatley taps into the playwright's rhythms straightaway. He is blessed with a sterling ensemble" ★★★★★

The Times

"A profound piece of theatre that highlights the heroism, humour and tragedy of warfare"

The Public Reviews



Othello

Written by William Shakespeare

An Icarus Theatre Collective & Original Theatre Company co-production in association with South Hill Park Arts Centre (National Tour 2009)

"A dramatic and spectacular show"

Maidenhead Advertiser

"Completely encapsulated... the level of talent was astounding"

York Press

"Kept the audience engrossed in the action to the very bitter end" ★★★★★

The Scotsman



Vincent in Brixton

Written by Nicholas Wright

An Icarus Theatre Collective & Original Theatre Company co-production (National Tour 2009)

**"Brooding, malevolent, marvelous and magnificent...
a work of art"**

Bucks Free Press

**"It is rare to come across a show with such artistry,
intelligence and talent and for that reason this is a must-see
show"**

Farnham Herald

"This play is a must see" ★★★★★

Remote Goat



The Lesson

Written by Eugène Ionesco

An Icarus Theatre Collective production in association with South Hill Park Arts Centre (International Tour 2007/08)

"Lewendel's Icarus Theatre Collective is a strong team"

★★★★★

Ham & High

**"Lewendel's touring production succeeds by the strength of
its acting and steadily increasing tension"**

★★★★★

The Times

**"It is impossible not to enjoy Icarus Theatre Collective's
production"**

The Stage

★★★★★ or better in 15 out of 17 reviews