

## Festival presents an award-winning line-up of Theatre

Salisbury International Arts Festival presents an exciting variety of theatre in an eclectic mix of venues, from **Morecambe**, winner of the 2010 Best Entertainment award at the Olivier's, to Theatre Ad Infinitum's recreation of Homer's breathtaking adventure **Odyssey**.

Festival Director Maria Bota says: *'In this Festival we celebrate word-spinning in all its guises, and I am very proud to present such a feast of theatrical events to choose from, both indoors and outdoors.'*

Recent Olivier Award winner **Morecambe** is a delicious and deliriously funny memorial to a man who held the mantle of 'Britain's best loved comic' and is best known as one half of comedy duo Morecambe and Wise. Guy Masterson and Tim Whitnall have created a glorious moving portrait of the born entertainer... 'the tall one with glasses'.

**Odyssey** by Lecoq-trained company Theatre Ad Infinitum is a reinvention of the timeless Greek myth following the Greek warrior Odysseus in his relentless attempt to get home so he can see his wife and son again before he dies.

Stories of Prometheus' arrogance, Zeus' philandering, Thesis' fickleness and Narcissus', well, narcissism, all find their common everyday equivalents whether in the London Underground, a busy bar, at a family dinner table or in a child's bedroom in prize-winning and five-star reviewed **Out of Chaos**.

Other highlights include: award winning Israeli theatre company Orto-Da who tell a fascinatingly dark tale of victory in WWII in UK première **Stones; The World's Wife** based on Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy's poetic portraits of the partners of famous men; award-winning **Flick Ferdinando**, who unleashes a stable of unstable characters into her deliciously dark physical comedy **Horse**; and The Globe Theatre's production of **A Midsummer Night's Dream** in the grounds of Old Wardour Castle

The Festival also presents a fantastic range of theatre productions for children and families. Roald Dahl's magical **James and the Giant Peach** gets the colourful Illyria treatment; the moon's caretaker goes in search of a replacement light bulb in **LaLaLuna**; and Baby Bear goes off in search of a rocket to take him to the moon in **Whatever Next!**

Ends

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Note to Editors:

### About Salisbury International Arts Festival

- The 37th Salisbury International Arts Festival runs from Friday 21 May – Saturday 5 June 2010
- The 2009 Festival featured 11 premieres and exclusives of which 9 were commissions by Salisbury International Arts Festival
- The annual 16 day Salisbury International Arts Festival blazed into life in 1974 with a performance by Paco Peña and is a leading commissioning and producing Festival which attracts over 55,000 attendances each year and contributes £3m to the regional economy
- Salisbury International Arts Festival 2009 was named 'Tourism Event of the Year' at the South West Tourism's 'Tourism Excellence Awards' and shortlisted for the Visit Britain National Awards
- Salisbury International Arts Festival is supported by Principal Sponsor Friends Provident, Wiltshire Council and Arts Council England – South West
- Salisbury International Arts Festival's Principal Sponsor, Friend Provident, has been supporting the Festival for a wonderful 25 years
- The full Festival programme was announced 1 March 2010