

**Yellow Earth presents
2009 autumn tour**

**Boom by Jean Tay, directed by Philippe Cherbonnier
wAve by Sung Rno, directed by Jonathan Man**

Yellow Earth, the British East Asian theatre company, presents two contemporary plays directed by its two new Artistic Directors, Philippe Cherbonnier and Jonathan Man. The two plays are cross cast and will play in repertory in London at: Greenwich Theatre (20-24 October) and Riverside Studios (10-15 November). The week at Greenwich Theatre continues the partnership which started in June 2009 with Typhoon 6, the International Playreading Festival, between Yellow Earth and Greenwich Theatre.

Boom press night is on 21 October at 7.30 at Greenwich Theatre.

wAve press night is on 23 October at 7.30 at Greenwich Theatre.

The creative team for both productions will be: designer is Wai Yin Kwok; lighting designer Douglas Kuhrt; sound design Cos Chapman.

Boom by Singapore writer Jean Tay and directed by Philippe Cherbonnier. The play is a warm exploration of what makes a home, and what makes us so attached to it once we have got the perfect one. Singapore 2008 – with the economy booming and the demand for land intense, many of the older homeowners are being bought out to make way for the luxury high rise flats. A property developer's mother refuses to move from the family home to make way for a new and very profitable apartment block, while a psychic civil servant, charged with relocating a cemetery, comes up against the most stubborn corpse yet.

Boom was created by Singapore Repertory Theatre and developed through the Royal Court Theatre's International Programme.

wAve is by Korean American playwright Sung Rno and is directed by Jonathan Man. The play is an entertaining black comedy which veers from farce to tragedy as a Korean immigrant's wish for a perfect life as an American housewife turns sour. Exasperated by her husband's dreams of Hollywood success, M's increasing dislocation and isolation lead her on a hallucinatory journey where she must come to terms with the past and embrace the future. Loosely based on the Medea myth with a chorus of comic characters, **wAve** is a passionate and satirical play exploring the collision of cultures.

wAve was commissioned by Center Theatre Group/Mark Taper Forum's Asian Theatre Project and premiered at Ma-Yi Theatre Company.

Philippe Cherbonnier was Yellow Earth's Literary Associate for some years and has written several plays for the company. He has written and directed extensively both in the UK and internationally and also works as a freelance dramaturg for Theatre-Rites and as a director for Box Clever.

Jonathan Man is passionate about theatre that bridges cultures, from new writing and community theatre to the classics. He has directed extensively, including work with Contact Theatre in Manchester, Polka Theatre, Soho Theatre, Southwark Playhouse and the Young Vic.

Yellow Earth is a London based touring company, established in 1995 with a view to raising the profile and standing of British East Asian theatre. The company tours nationally and internationally and runs the UK's only international East Asian playreading festival, Typhoon. In addition Yellow Earth works with new and emerging British East Asian artists, particularly playwrights and directors, and connects with a wide range of people through its programmes, Yellow Ink (for writers) and Yellow Stages (for directors & producers). The company has an extensive education and outreach programme, and summer 2009 sees the launch of Yellow Central, the company's youth theatre for 8-18 year olds in conjunction with Central School of Speech and Drama.

In addition to the performances at Greenwich Theatre and Riverside Studios will be:

Boom at Margate Theatre Royal (Canterbury Festival, 27 October); Newcastle Live Theatre (30 October).

wAve at Newcastle Live Theatre (31 October); Gulbenkian Theatre, Canterbury (3 November); Manchester Contact Theatre (5 & 6 November).

LONDON LISTINGS INFORMATION

Greenwich Theatre
Crooms Hill
London
SE10 8ES
Box office: 020 8858 7755
www.greenwichtheatre.org.uk

Boom - 21, 22 & 24 October at 7.30
wAve - 23 October at 7:30, 24 October at 2:30
Press Nights: 21 & 23 October at 7.30
Tickets: £15
Concessions: £2.50 off

Riverside Studios
Crisp Road
London
W6 9RL
Box Office: 020 8237 1111
www.riversidestudios.co.uk

wAve – 10, 11 & 14 November at 7:30
Boom - 12, 13 & 15 November at 7.30
Tickets: £12.50/£15
Concessions: early bird offer £10

For details of the touring venues consult the Yellow Earth website: www.yellowearth.org.

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