

PRESS RELEASE

YELLOW EARTH PRESENTS

58 by Philippe Cherbonnier
Directed by David K.S. Tse

Produced in association with Birmingham Repertory Theatre, Leicester Haymarket Theatre and Gulbenkian Theatre, Canterbury.

Yellow Earth under the artistic directorship of Britain's leading East Asian director, David K.S. Tse, will be presenting the world premiere of **58**, a new play by Philippe Cherbonnier. **58** is the first play to look at issues surrounding the recent deaths of Chinese migrants. **58** will be touring from 8th October, with a London run at Soho Theatre from 8th November. There will be a press performance at The Gardner Arts Centre in Brighton on Tuesday 12th October at 8pm and at Soho Theatre, London on Monday 8th November at 7.30pm

Kate starts work as a police exhibits officer at Dover whilst her husband Dave obsesses about living in a villa in Spain and winning the lottery. One of Kate's jobs involves cataloguing the clothes and possessions of 58 Chinese, found dead in the back of a lorry. Meanwhile in China, Meng flees persecution, blue haired rebel Lan seeks freedom and Chen moves to mend a broken heart. All three end up in the back of an ill-fated lorry with 55 others.

A poignant story of a few whose struggle for freedom and a new life ended tragically.

The play was researched with community groups in Britain, looking at the country's views on immigration and Chinese migrants' experience. The production will give voice to all sides of the debate by featuring video interviews with the British public from Birmingham, Leicester and Canterbury. **58** is a new play exploring numbers, immigration and luck; in memory of the 58 Chinese found dead amongst the crates of tomatoes in the back of a lorry at Dover in 2000.

Philippe Cherbonnier is a writer and Literary Manager of **Yellow Earth** and **David K.S. Tse** is a co-founder and Artistic Director. Tse will be working with the creative team behind **Lear's Daughters**, with Set and Costume Design by Sigyn Stenqvist, Lighting Design by Douglas Kuhrt. Liz Sutherland and Bronwyn Lim from **Lear's Daughters** are in the cast, as well as Tim McCluskey, Nina Kwok and Terri -Ann Brumby.

"Director David K.S. Tse swings us giddily from comedy to darker material. A spirited and perceptive revival" Time Out (**Lear's Daughters**, 2003)

"David KS Tse's highly imaginative production... (he) creates a magical world on stage in which an eldritch fable exists in a world of hi-tech sophistication" Michael Billington, Guardian (**Lear's Daughters**)

Yellow Earth is the UK's pioneering East Asian theatre company producing work that explores contemporary experience and multi-cultural heritage. Artistic Director David K.S Tse is a leading writer and director of populist new work, crossing theatrical and ethnic boundaries with bold adaptations and the creation of acclaimed ensembles. Previous work includes: **Lear's Daughters**, **The Butcher's Skin**, **Rashomon** and **Play to Win**. Earlier this year **Yellow Earth** hosted **Typhoon 3**, an international festival of East Asian work, and schemes for new East Asian writers and directors, **Yellow Ink** and **Yellow Stage**. **David K.S. Tse** has recently been awarded the Windrush Award for Arts Achiever 2004 and YET is nominated for The Pearl Award for Creative Endeavour '04. YET is spearheading a bid to open an East Asian arts centre for London, Chinatown Arts Space.

Dover 58 Fundraising Benefit Reception on Monday 8th November: YET is holding a benefit fundraising reception for the Dover 58 Fund. Yellow Earth wish to show support to not only the UK's Chinese community but also to the international Chinese community.

For further information please contact Emma Schad on 020 7 207 2874 or 07930 308018
Or email: emmaschad@aol.com

TOUR INFORMATION

Gulbenkian Theatre, Canterbury

Dates and Time: Fri 8th & Sat 9th October at 7.45pm

Ticket prices: £12 /Concessions: £10

Box Office: 01227 769075

Website: www.kent.ac.uk/gulbenkian/

Gardner Arts Centre, Brighton

Dates and Time: Tue 12th & Wed 13th Oct at 8pm

Ticket prices: £11/ Concessions: £9

Box Office: 01273 685 861

Website: www.gardnerarts.co.uk

A Nottingham Playhouse presentation in association with Nottingham Stages at Waverley Studio Theatre at The Nottingham Trent University.

Dates and Time: Fri 15 & Sat 16 October at 7.30pm

Ticket prices: £8 (£5.50) in advance, £10 (£7.50) on the door

Box Office: 0115 941 9419

Website/e-booking: www.nottinghamplayhouse.co.uk

A Leicester Haymarket presentation at The Y Theatre

Dates and Times: Tue 19th at 8pm & Wed 20th Oct at 2pm and 8pm

Ticket prices: £7/ Concessions: £5/ Schools: £4.50

Box Office: 0116 255 7066 / 0870 330 3131

Website: www.lhtheatre.co.uk

Contact Theatre, Manchester

Dates and Times: Thur 21st & Fri 22nd October at 8pm

Ticket prices: £9/ Concessions: £6

Box Office: 0161 274 0600

Website: www.contact-theatre.org.uk

The New Wolsey Theatre, Ipswich

Dates and Times: Mon 25th Oct at 7.45pm

Ticket prices: £5.95 to £12.95

Box Office: 01473 295900

Website: www.wolseytheatre.co.uk

The Door, Birmingham Repertory Theatre

Dates and Times: Wed 27th to Sat 30th Oct at 7.45pm

Ticket prices: £9.75/ Concessions: £6.50

Box Office: 0121 236 4455

Website: www.birmingham-rep.co.uk

A Salisbury Arts Centre presentation at Salisbury College Drama Studio

Dates and Times: Wed 3rd November at 8pm

Ticket prices: £8/ Concessions: £7

Box Office: 01722 321744

Website: www.salisburyartscentre.co.uk

Bristol Old Vic

Dates and Times: Thur 4th to Sat 6th Nov at 8pm

Ticket prices: £10/ Concessions: £7

Box Office: 0117 987 7877

Website: www.bristol-old-vic.co.uk

Soho Theatre, London

Dates and Times: Monday 8th to Saturday 13th November at 7.30pm **Matinees:** Wed 10th & Sat 13th Nov at 4pm

BSL interpreted performance: Tuesday 9th November

Ticket Prices: £15/£12 concessions The first 20 tickets per night @ £5.

Box Office: 0870 429 6883

Website: www.sohotheatre.com