

## 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 8<sup>th</sup> October, with a London run at Soho Theatre from 8<sup>th</sup> November. There will be a press performance at The Gardner Arts Centre in Brighton on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October at 8pm and at Soho Theatre, London on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:emmaschad@aol.com)

## TOUR INFORMATION

### Gulbenkian Theatre, Canterbury

**Dates and Time:** Fri 8<sup>th</sup> & Sat 9<sup>th</sup> October at 7.45pm

**Ticket prices:** £12 /Concessions: £10

**Box Office:** 01227 769075

**Website:** [www.kent.ac.uk/gulbenkian/](http://www.kent.ac.uk/gulbenkian/)

### Gardner Arts Centre, Brighton

**Dates and Time:** Tue 12<sup>th</sup> & Wed 13<sup>th</sup> Oct at 8pm

**Ticket prices:** £11/ Concessions: £9

**Box Office:** 01273 685 861

**Website:** [www.gardnerarts.co.uk](http://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](http://www.nottinghamplayhouse.co.uk)

### A Leicester Haymarket presentation at The Y Theatre

**Dates and Times:** Tue 19<sup>th</sup> at 8pm & Wed 20<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.lhtheatre.co.uk)

### Contact Theatre, Manchester

**Dates and Times:** Thur 21<sup>st</sup> & Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> October at 8pm

**Ticket prices:** £9/ Concessions: £6

**Box Office:** 0161 274 0600

**Website:** [www.contact-theatre.org.uk](http://www.contact-theatre.org.uk)

### The New Wolsey Theatre, Ipswich

**Dates and Times:** Mon 25<sup>th</sup> Oct at 7.45pm

**Ticket prices:** £5.95 to £12.95

**Box Office:** 01473 295900

**Website:** [www.wolseytheatre.co.uk](http://www.wolseytheatre.co.uk)

### The Door, Birmingham Repertory Theatre

**Dates and Times:** Wed 27<sup>th</sup> to Sat 30<sup>th</sup> Oct at 7.45pm

**Ticket prices:** £9.75/ Concessions: £6.50

**Box Office:** 0121 236 4455

**Website:** [www.birmingham-rep.co.uk](http://www.birmingham-rep.co.uk)

### A Salisbury Arts Centre presentation at Salisbury College Drama Studio

**Dates and Times:** Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> November at 8pm

**Ticket prices:** £8/ Concessions: £7

**Box Office:** 01722 321744

**Website:** [www.salisburyartscentre.co.uk](http://www.salisburyartscentre.co.uk)

### Bristol Old Vic

**Dates and Times:** Thur 4<sup>th</sup> to Sat 6<sup>th</sup> Nov at 8pm

**Ticket prices:** £10/ Concessions: £7

**Box Office:** 0117 987 7877

**Website:** [www.bristol-old-vic.co.uk](http://www.bristol-old-vic.co.uk)

### Soho Theatre, London

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

**BSL interpreted performance:** Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November

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

**Box Office:** 0870 429 6883

**Website:** [www.sohotheatre.com](http://www.sohotheatre.com)