

Press Release

July 2007

Yellow Earth Theatre presents

TYPHOON LIVE

Getting Married by Yi Kang-baek

Directed by Phillippe Cherbonnier

Dogs by Elangovan

Directed by Kwong Loke

Both productions designed by Yoon Bae

Cast – Andy Cheung, Jaime Zubairi, Liz Sutherland,

On National tour from 25 September 2007

Press Night – 26 September 2007 at Oxford Playhouse

London Press Night 9 October at The Oval House

Yellow Earth Theatre will spend autumn 2007 touring **TYPHOON LIVE**, the UK and European premiere of a double-bill of short plays by two of East Asia's most exciting playwrights. *Getting Married* and *Dogs*, two plays about falling in love.... and falling out again opens at the **Oxford Playhouse** on **25 September 2007**.

Getting Married is a light-hearted one-act play exploring the sweet and touching absurdity of the beginning of a love affair. A young man, a swindler by trade, borrows a grand house for the weekend and a suit for the day, to impress a charming and innocent young woman. As their courtship unfolds, the house's stern and silent butler starts to reclaim the possessions the young man claims as his own, and we are left to enjoy a contest between love and dishonesty.

The production is written by Yi Kang-baek, one of Korea's most prominent dramatists since the 1970s. He won the Daesan Award for Drama in 1996. The director Philippe Cherbonnier is Yellow Earth's Literary Associate who runs the company's scheme to nurture, develop and promote British East Asian writers.

In direct contrast, *Dogs* is a savage but funny play from Singapore, which tells the tale of what happens when a woman prefers her dog to her loser of a husband. This rollercoaster of resentment, disappointments and hatred is full of foul-mouthed humour, but has a dark and disturbing ending which leaves the audience breathless and stunned. *Dogs* is directed by Kwong Loke (Malaysia) who is Yellow Earth Theatre's Artistic Associate and foremost among an emerging group of vibrant and exciting British East Asian directors working with Yellow Earth.

Singaporean writer Elangovan is a prolific poet and dramatist. His drama is confrontational and questions the accepted wisdom of society in Singapore, and through its exploration of universals, the rest of the world. His plays have won the Singapore International Award twice and he received the 1997 South-East Asian Writer's Award for his lifetime contribution to the theatre.

Cast members Jamie Zubari and Liz Sutherland were both recently seen in *The Letter* in the West End and most recently Andy Cheung appeared in *Nixon In China* at The London Coliseum.

Yellow Earth Theatre, now in its thirteenth year is the only UK company which produces work that explores universal themes from an East Asian perspective, celebrating cultural diversity, through an integration of theatre skills from the East and the West. Their ongoing initiatives

include 'Yellow Stage' a scheme for young directors and 'Yellow Ink' for writers. Work by British East Asian artists is still under-represented on the British stage. This production is part of Yellow Earth's ongoing effort to redress this balance.

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LISTINGS INFORMATION

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| Oxford Playhouse, Burton Taylor Studio
Tues and Wed at 7.30pm (Wed matinee 2.30pm)
Tickets £10 (£8 concessions)
Box Office 01865 305305 | 25 & 26 September |
| Salisbury Playhouse
Thursday – Saturday at 7.45pm
Tickets £8.50/ £6.50 concessions
Box Office 01722 320333 | 27 - 29 September |
| Bridport Arts Centre
Wednesday at 7.30pm
Tickets £8 /£7 concessions/ £5 students
Box Office 01308 424204 | 3 October |
| Gulbenkian Theatre, Canterbury
Thursday at 7.45pm
Tickets £12/ £10 concessions
Box Office 01227 769075 | 4 October |
| South Hill Park Arts Centre, Bracknell
Friday – Saturday at 8pm
Tickets £10/ £9 concessions/ £8 members
Box Office 01344 484123 | 5 & 6 October |
| Oval House Theatre, London
Tuesday – Saturday at 7.45pm (Thu mat 1.15pm / Sat mat 3pm)
Tickets £12/ £6 concessions
Box Office 0207 5827680 | 9 – 13 October |

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