

# SHAMS AND PERFORMANCE PLATFORM

3-8 MAY 2005

Pleasance Theatre  
London N7

Produced By Tim Burley

Show tickets from £3 Call Pleasance box  
office on 020 7609 1800 to BOOK NOW!



FUNDED BY  
**UnLtd** 

**PLEASANCE**  
THEATRE • ISLINGTON  
[www.pleasance.co.uk](http://www.pleasance.co.uk)



## TICKET PRICES & BOOKING

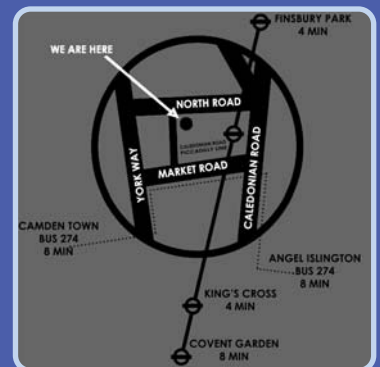
Ticket Prices: £6 per show  
(£3 for students)

£10/£5 double bill, £12/£7 treble bill  
To book tickets call the Pleasance  
box office on: 020 7609 1800

### PLEASANCE THEATRE.

Carpenters Mews, North Road,  
London, N7 9EF

\* Take left exit from Caledonian Road  
Underground Station, Piccadilly Line,  
and left onto North Road.



Lighting & Technical  
Manager: Matt Britten  
Flier Design: Sara Freeman  
New York Trilogy and  
Gas & Air Designer: Polly Sullivan

## TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

Thursday 5th May 2.00pm

A 2hr workshop on devising and directing a solo performance  
led by Artistic Director of *Shams Theatre Company*, Jo Young.

Sunday 8th May 5.30pm

Careers in Theatre & Solo Performance: Panel led debate with Q & A's

## GAS & AIR

All we inherit from our parents is eye colour, hair colour, and the size of our nose. Or is it? Intertwined stories from three generations lament the inclination of children to repeat parents' mistakes. Themes of sex, desertion, and crime tangle in mirror-image monologues spoken by a mother and daughter who – reflecting on all they have loved and lost – both await their delivery. Written by Louise Ramsden, performed by Amy Phillips, directed by Lisa Spirling.

*"inimitably inspired... a beautifully controlled performance"*

**THE STAGE**

Tuesday 3rd May 7.15pm

Thursday 5th May 7.15pm

Sunday 8th May 4.15pm

## MAN, WOMAN, LIFE, LOVE

*Tales from Africa, The Caribbean and Beyond* told by Jan Blake.

Born in Manchester of Jamaican Parents, Jan Blake has been a professional storyteller since 1986. Specialising in West African & Caribbean stories. Jan is one of Europe's leading female storytellers and has performed across the world at numerous international storytelling festivals. Jan was Artist in residence for the *Imagine Children's Literature Festival 2005*, and lead artist for the National Theatre's *Word Alive Festival*. Jan is a published children's author and a regular contributor to broadcasts on Radio 4.

Friday 6th May 7.15pm

## THE GARDEN

Two men of different generations struggle to recover from the trauma of war. Spanning 80 years, from the battlefields of World War One to the chaos of Bosnia, history repeats itself as both find solace in a beautiful sub-tropical Cornish garden. Inspired by the celebrated Lost Gardens of Heligan, Young plays half a dozen characters in this work, highly acclaimed both in the UK and Canada for its physical comedy, stunning video design by Oogoo Maia, and a powerful true story of loss and redemption.



*Young, who plays a multitude of characters . . . is exceptionally talented, both as an actor and a writer. This is one play that should not be missed.*

★★★★★ **WINNIPEG FREE PRESS**

Wednesday 4th May 7.15pm

Sunday 8th May 2.30pm

## STARVING NECROPHILIA

A one woman show.

Written and Directed by Lisa Cagnacci. Performed by Molly Levine. Includes original music from Catdesigners' new album '*Strange Little Creatures*' [www.catdesigners.co.uk](http://www.catdesigners.co.uk)

*"I could devour the world. The weight of the longing within me could kill the world. I listen with blood in my veins." – Starving Necrophilia* Performed in London, Edinburgh, Budapest and Minneapolis; *'truly beautiful and moving ... Go see this: it's disturbing and it's graphic and it's wonderful.'*

★★★★★ **THREE WEEKS**

Thursday 5th May 8.30pm

Friday 6th May 8.30pm



## A NEW YORK THREESOME

Written by Lesley Ross



## MY BROTHER'S CONVERSION

Directed by Lisa Spirling

Performed by Mark Weller

An examination of the relationship between the narrator Samuel, his American wife and his gay brother Davey. Sam's dream is to live in New York but Davey gets there first with a starring role as drag artist Leia Negg. Sam plays the part of the British tourist lost in New York when he goes to visit Davey and immediately falls in love with Davey's room mate and best friend Bronwen resulting in a bizarre love triangle. This monologue examines how we cope with change, be it cultural, geographical, gradual or violent all of which occur in the short but emotional time we spend with Samuel.

*Proves intimacy can make more of an emotional impact than most star-studded blockbusters . . . adorns the potential humdrum clichés with introspection and lyrical beauty.*

**SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST**

Saturday 7th May 7.15pm

## MADAME BUTTERFLY'S CHILD

Directed by Steve Marmion

2nd Japanese villager from the left: Greg Ashton

The second Japanese villager from the left takes centre stage in this exposition of an extra's life in Puccini's *Madame Butterfly*. Puccini plays second fiddle to the often forgotten extra. Two librettos are placed side by side, add a cross-cultural love story and an extra that doesn't even get to sing and you can take your place as an audience member in the Royal Albert Hall. *Madame Butterfly's Child* reveals the contrast between high drama on stage and the small often hidden real life dramas off stage.

Saturday 7th May 8.10pm

*Sharp, original and highly entertaining . . . packs a satisfying punch.*

**THE STAGE**

**LOST THEATRE ONE ACT FESTIVAL 2004:**

**WINNER BEST PLAY OVERALL**

## MANHATTAN BREAST COMPANY

Directed by Lisa Spirling

B: Nicola Goodchild

A bitter sweet story of a New Yorker finding her way in the chic streets of Paris in search of the perfect nipple. Her journey is enlightening and she takes us by her side through the streets of New York, London and Paris where she eventually finds what she was looking for. Cities where we all exist as extras but for a short moment in time we have the opportunity to take centre stage and be heard whether anyone is listening or whether we're just trying to understand ourselves be it our own past, present or future. A story for anyone who has ever found it hard to let go and even harder to remember why you wanted to keep hold of it in the first place.

*Intimate and wonderful . . . A moving story . . . great performance . . . like being home in New York . . . Excellent*

★★★★★ **YOUR VOICE 2004**

Saturday 7th May 9.00pm