

15 July 2024

Full companies announced for the final two Minerva Theatre productions of Chichester's Festival 2024:

John le Carré's *THE SPY WHO CAME IN FROM THE COLD*

Adapted for the stage by **David Eldridge** and directed by **Jeremy Herrin**

THE CAT AND THE CANARY adapted by **Carl Grose** from the play by **John Willard**

A co-production with **Told by an Idiot**, directed by **Paul Hunter**

The first ever **John le Carré** novel to be adapted for the stage, ***THE SPY WHO CAME IN FROM THE COLD*** will have its world premiere from 23 August – 21 September (press night 29 August). Adapted by **David Eldridge** and directed by **Jeremy Herrin**, this award-winning 1963 thriller has been hailed as a modern masterpiece.

The cast is: **Philip Ardit** (*Breathtaking, No Return*) as Fiedler; **Norma Atallah** (*Follies, In The Heights*) as Miss Crail/President of the Tribunal; **Mat Betteridge** (*Ulster American, Slow Horses*) as Riemeck/Kiever; **Gunnar Cauthery** (*Dear England, Mack & Mabel CFT*) as Mundt; **Ian Drysdale** (*Firebrand, Ross CFT*) as Control; **Tom Kanji** (*Richard My Richard, The Box of Delights*) as Ashe; **Rory Keenan** (*Somewhere Boy, Plenty CFT*) as Leamas; **Agnes O'Casey** (Screen International Star of Tomorrow 2024, *Lies We Tell, The Miracle Club*) as Liz; **John Ramm** (*King Lear CFT, Wolf Hall/Bring Up The Bodies RSC*) as Smiley; and **David Rubin** (*Grantchester, Finding My Voice*) as Pitt/Ford.

The designer is **Max Jones**, lighting designer **Azusa Ono**, composer **Paul Englishby**, sound designer **Elizabeth Purnell**, movement director **Lucy Cullingford**; fight director **Bret Yount**; and casting director **Jessica Ronane CDG**.

THE CAT AND THE CANARY is a classic example of the horror/comedy genre, having woven its macabre fascination for over 100 years. **Carl Grose** adapts **John Willard's** deliciously terrifying tale for a new co-production with **Told by an Idiot**. The show is inspired by Rian Johnson's acclaimed film *Knives Out* and is directed by **Paul Hunter**. It runs from 27 September – 26 October, with a press night on 3 October.

The cast is **Tarinn Callender** (*Come From Away, Hamilton*) as Harry Blythe; **Hayley Carmichael** (*Home CFT, Witness for the Prosecution*) as Mrs Pleasant; **Calum Finlay** (*Hamlet, Mary Stuart Almeida/West End*) as Paul Jones; **Nick Haverson** (*Much Ado About Nothing & Love's Labour's Lost CFT/RSC/West End, Charlie and Stan Told by an Idiot*) as Crosby/Hendricks/Patterson; **Lena Kaur** (*I Jack Wright, Hollyoaks*) as Susan Sillsby; **Heather Lai** (*My Neighbour Totoro, Would You Bet Against Us? Told by an Idiot*) as Dora; **Nikhita Lesler** (*Noises Off, Blood Sex & Royalty*) as Cicily Young; **Lucy McCormick** (*Cowboys RSC/Royal Court, Wuthering Heights National Theatre/Wise Children*) as Annabelle West; and **Will Merrick** (*Skins, Dead Pixels*) as Charlie Wilder.

The Cat and the Canary will be designed by **Angela Davies** with lighting by **Aideen Malone**, music by **Ian Ross**, puppetry design by **Lyndie Wright**, puppetry direction by **Rachel Leonard**, and casting by **Matilda James CDG**.

The Spy Who Came In From The Cold is sponsored by Kenton Budd Estate Agents.
The Cat and the Canary is sponsored by Bennett Griffin.

Minerva Season Principal: Charles Holloway OBE.

ENDS

BOOKING INFORMATION

cft.org.uk Box Office **01243 781312**

Prologue: £5 tickets for 16 – 30s

Images can be downloaded from cft.org.uk/pressimages, password: festivalpress

For further information, please contact Lucinda Morrison, Head of Press on 01243 812917 or lucinda.morrison@cft.org.uk