

Farnham Maltings in association with the Orange Tree Theatre

Jess and Joe Forever

BY ZOE COOPER

3 – 27 August 2017

PRESS NIGHT: Fri 4 August at 6.30pm

Scottish Premiere

Director **Derek Bond**

Designer **James Perkins**

Lighting designer **Sally Ferguson**

Cast **Nicola Coughlan** and **Rhys Isaac-Jones**

Farnham Maltings announces its first production at Edinburgh Festival Fringe, the critically acclaimed *Jess and Joe Forever*.

Following on from its London run in 2016 at the Orange Tree Theatre, *Jess and Joe Forever* will play at the Traverse Theatre and features the same cast and creative team.

Meet Jess and Joe. They want to tell you their story. Joe is Norfolk born and bred. Jess holidays there with her au pair. They are miles apart even when they stand next to each other.

Jess and Joe Forever is a coming of age tale that explores rural life and what it means to belong. It is a story of growing up, fitting in (or not), secrets, scotch eggs, love and friendship that will make you both laugh and cry.

Gavin Stride, Director of Farnham Maltings said: *'I am so pleased that we are working with the Traverse to show Zoe's play. We are pleased because of the story it tells, because of the characters and people on the stage and everyone who made it and because we are really proud of it as a show from Farnham Maltings, the first we have presented at the Fringe.'*

Zoe Cooper (*Petrification* and *Nativities* at Live Theatre Newcastle and *Man on the Moon* for New Writing North/Sage) received the Off West End Award for Most Promising Playwright 2017 for *Jess and Joe Forever* during its run at Orange Tree Theatre. Zoe was also longlisted for Most Promising Playwright at the 2016 Evening Standard Awards. The play will again be directed by Derek Bond (*Sweet Charity* and *Little Shop of Horrors* at the Royal Exchange Theatre, *Stig of the Dump* at Storyhouse, Chester and Alice Birch's *Many Moons* at Theatre503).

Jess and Joe Forever was originally commissioned by Old Vic New Voices.

PRESS CONTACT

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NOTES FOR EDITORS

This is the first time **Farnham Maltings** will be presenting a piece of work at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

Farnham Maltings is a cultural organisation that works with artists and communities of South East England to encourage the most people to make the best art they can. We believe that the arts help us to make sense of the world, bring people together and articulate new ideas. By encouraging people to participate in the arts, as audiences and makers, we will foster a healthier, happier and safer contemporary Britain.

We are curious about how we make and build an audience for contemporary theatre. We support a network of 180 venues across the region, organise a bi-annual showcase of new English performance for an international audience, produce a stable of independent theatre companies and are working to diversify the makers and audience for the arts.

Farnham Maltings is a registered charity (no 305034) supported by Arts Council England and Waverly Borough Council.

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At its home in Richmond, South West London, the **Orange Tree Theatre** aims to delight, challenge, move and amaze with a bold and continually evolving mix of new and rediscovered plays in our unique in-the-round space. We want to change lives by telling remarkable stories from a wide variety of times and places, filtered through the singular imagination of our writers and the remarkable close-up presence of our actors.

Over its forty-five-year history the Orange Tree has had an exceptional track record in discovering writers and promoting their early work, as well as rediscovering artists from the past whose work had either been disregarded or forgotten.

In the last two years, the OT has been recognised for its work with sixteen major industry awards, including ten Offies (Off West End Awards), three UK Theatre Awards, the Alfred Fagon Audience Award and the Peter Brook Empty Space Award.

In 2016 the Orange Tree's work was seen in 24 other towns and cities across the country.

The OT are co-producing three plays in the Roundabout season with Paines Plough and Theatr Clwyd, which are playing at Summerhall for the Edinburgh Fringe, followed by a national tour and a run at the Orange Tree. The plays are *Black Mountain* by Brad Birch, *Out of Love* by Elinor Cook and *How to be a Kid* by Sarah McDonald-Hughes.

Artistic Director **Paul Miller**
Executive Director **Sarah Nicholson**

The Orange Tree is a registered charity (no. 266128) and is generously supported by the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames.

orangetreetheatre.co.uk | @OrangeTreeThtr | Facebook/Instagram: OrangeTreeTheatre

LISTINGS INFORMATION

Traverse Theatre

Thu 03 (preview), Tue 15, Sun 20, Sat 26 Aug 4pm
Fri 04 (press night), Sun 27 (final performance) Aug 6.30pm
Sat 05 Aug 9pm
Sun 06, Sat 12, Fri 18, Thu 24 Aug 11am
Tue 08, Sun 13, Sat 19, Fri 25 Aug 1.30pm
Wed 09 Aug 3.45pm
Thu 10, Wed 16 (Captioned), Tue 22 Aug 6.15pm
Fri 11, Thu 17, Wed 23 Aug 8.45pm

Traverse Theatre, 10 Cambridge St, Edinburgh EH1 2ED

Running Time

70mins, no interval

Box Office

traverse.co.uk | 0131 228 1404 (open 10am-6pm, Mon-Sat, or until performance start time)
tickets.edfringe.com | 0131 226 0000

Captioned Performance

Wed 16 Aug, 6.15pm

Ticket Prices

Preview £13 | £9 concession
£19.50 | £14.50 standard concession | £9.50 other concession