
**ORIGINAL THEATRE COMPANY and
ICARUS THEATRE COLLECTIVE with
South Hill Park Arts Centre and Anvil Arts**

invite you to

VINCENT IN BRIXTON

By Nicholas Wright

Touring 12 March – 05 May 2009

Winner of The Olivier Award for Best Script
"One of the best new plays ever presented by the National Theatre"

-John Peter, *The Times*

★★★★★, *The Independent*

The Original Theatre Company and Icarus Theatre Collective team up after hugely successful tours of *The Lesson* by Eugène Ionesco (15 reviews giving four stars or better) and *Shakespeare's R&J* by Joe Calarco (Mid Scale, currently touring).

Concept:

Inspiration found in the most unusual corners.

The year is 1873. A young art dealer called Vincent van Gogh arrives at 87 Hackford Road in Brixton looking for a room and looking for love. As Vincent settles in to his new lodging he finds himself inexplicably drawn to his grieving landlady Ursula with whom he starts a turbulent, secret relationship that will change his life forever.

Set in a working, authentic kitchen, the smells, sights and sounds of life in 87 Hackford Road are brought vividly to life, immersing the audience in a truly extraordinary theatrical experience. The Play wrenches home the destructive power of love and art and the sacrifices made by those who create it. As the allusions between life at 87 Hackford Road and art intensify, this story turns into a tragic parable about the ruthless flame of art consuming all in its path.

Director Max Lewendel's previous productions include Lynn Seifert's *Coyote Ugly* which was Time Out Critics' Choice, James Graham's *Albert's Boy* with Tony award winner Victor Spinetti, and *The Lesson* by Eugène Ionesco which has toured to 37 venues across the country, transferred to the Assembly Rooms at Hill Street Theatre for the duration of the Edinburgh Festival, and finally went to Romania where the production won two major awards. Max's forthcoming productions include Pulitzer-Prize winning *The Time of Your Life* by William Saroyan, and a national tour of William Shakespeare's *Othello*.

The Press on Max Lewendel

"Max Lewendel's production succeeds by the strength of its acting and the steadily increasing tension."

-Jeremy Kingston, *The Times* on *The Lesson*

"It is impossible not to enjoy Icarus Theatre Collective's production of Ionesco's one-act play"

-Francesca Whiting, *The Stage* on *The Lesson*

"Fringe Theatre at its best." -Aleks Sierz, *The Stage* on *Albert's Boy*

"This sexy, steamy drama really hits home, especially after delivering the scorpion sting in its tail".

-Philip Fisher, *British Theatre Guide* on *Coyote Ugly*

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