

30 September 2009

PRESS RELEASE

Canolfan y Celfyddydau
Aberystwyth Arts Centre

**BOLD PRODUCTIONS and LURKING TRUTH/GWIR
SY'N LLECHU present in co-production**

A WOUNDED KNIFE

By Howard Barker

**Directed by David Ian Rabey (assisted by Francesca
Keeling)**

7.45pm, Wednesday 21 - Saturday 24 October

2.30pm, Saturday 24 October



Bold Productions and Lurking Truth present in co-production *A Wounded Knife* at Aberystwyth Arts Centre from Wednesday 21st to Saturday 24th October, 7.45pm and a 2.30pm matinee performance on Saturday 24th October, 2.30pm.

This is the first English-language performances of this recent play by Howard Barker. *A Wounded Knife* is a tense and compelling dramatic enquiry into the terms of life and death.

'Britain's greatest living playwright' - *The Times* on Howard Barker

A Wounded Knife brings together strong characters and shockingly unsentimental humour in a vivid story of sexual fixation and remorselessness. In this highly intriguing and engaging example of Barker's distinctive drama an unrepentant murderer is given a new lease of life by an unpredictable prince, who is driven to test the limits of others and himself, including a seductive widow, a revenge-driven tailor and a lethal surgeon.

A Wounded Knife explores the dangers of love and questions justice, in scenes rich with the tangles of eroticism and speculation, which prove both comic and terrifying.

This performance of *A Wounded Knife* is part of *21 for 21*: an international tribute to Howard Barker. On the 21st October 2009 actors in four continents and eighteen countries are joining together to perform the work of British playwright Howard Barker. As the earth turns, performances will cascade across the globe to celebrate the 21st birthday of his theatre company, the Wrestling School. They begin in the summer of Perth, Western Australia and end in the winter of Burnaby, Western Canada. On this one day journey, Barker's plays and poetry will be spoken in seven languages by more than two hundred performers.

21 for 21 is a remarkable event of staged readings, full performances and devised works that rejoice in Barker's playwriting, directing, poetry and painting. The festival is surprisingly diverse. It includes the long-established Royal Shakespeare Company who will be in Newcastle, England and the international Avatar Repertory Theatre who will be performing in the online world of Second Life.

The project is the brainchild of Executive Producer, Sarah Goldingay. She explains: "Howard has been writing plays since the 1970s. I first came across his work when I was a student: I was mesmerised by his dark and erotic stories and poetic language. The 21st anniversary of the Wrestling School Theatre Company gives us a great reason to revisit his rich body of work, old and new. His plays seem even more relevant now in a world that is trying to understand the wars it is fighting and economic turmoil it is in. Everyone involved in the project is giving their time for free, and because of their generosity something that's been run from my computer in the wilds of Devon is going to be shared by audiences across the globe. We're delighted to be having a birthday party with so many wonderful people."

Recommended for audiences aged 15+ Tickets for this performance are £7.50 (£6) and can be booked by contacting the Arts Centre ticket office on 01970 62 32 32 or online at www.aber.ac.uk/artscentre

Performers:

Henry Pickett

Izzy Rabey

David Blumfield

Andrea Edwards

Karla Jenkins

Roger Owen

Ritz Wright

-ENDS-

Notes to editors:

Further information is available from Rachel Taylor on 01970 622894 email rst@aber.ac.uk

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