

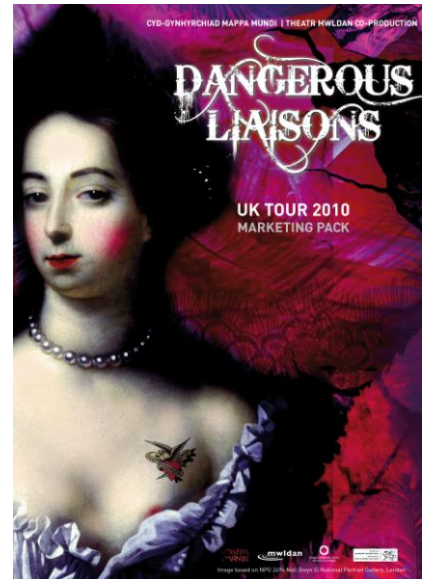
**April 2010
PRESS RELEASE**

Canolfan y Celfyddydau
Aberystwyth Arts Centre

**Mappa Mundi Present
DANGEROUS LIAISONS
At Aberystwyth Arts Centre
7.30pm, 7 May 2010**

A MAPPA MUNDI | THEATR MWLDAN CO-PRODUCTION

"Cruelty has a noble ring to it."



Mappa Mundi, Wales' most dynamic and popular theatre company visit Aberystwyth Arts Centre on Friday 7th May with *Dangerous Liaisons*, a racy new stage adaptation of Pierre Choderlos de Laclos' 1782 novel of lust, greed, deception, and romance. The original book was an overnight sensation and, simultaneously, the scandal of French society, which was bewitched by its exposé of the sexual mores of the aristocracy.

Starring Kerion Self of BBC's *My Family*, along with some familiar Mappa Mundi faces, *Dangerous Liaisons* is a sumptuously mounted celebration of artful wickedness, betrayal, and sexual intrigue among depraved 18th-century French aristocrats, which promises audiences seductively decadent fun.

Set amongst the glittering chandeliers and marble salons of Paris, *Dangerous Liaisons* exposes the seedy reality of the rarefied microcosm of the old French aristocracy. This is a society in which the most innocent and noble-minded become the sexual prey of a couple of bored and decadent ex-lovers, the Marquise de Merteuil and the Vicomte de Valmont, having both ice-cold revenge and sizzling seduction on their minds. The story unfolds through a series of letters written by the idle rich, as each missive exposes plots and counterplots until sexual corruption and the desire for vengeance propels the story to its tragic ending.

Bringing to it the panache and flair which theatre audiences have long associated with Mappa Mundi's work, *Dangerous Liaisons* is sophisticated, witty, yet raucous; it is dark, sensual, and insightful. Most of all, it is very, very sexy. This new production of *Dangerous Liaisons* is a treat for the senses: Mappa Mundi recreates in its own indomitable style the spectacle and squalor of French society at the moment it was to change forever.

Mappa Mundi's *Dangerous Liaisons* will be a new adaptation of the original novel, and follows their previous successful adaptations of *Canterbury Tales* and *Moll Flanders*.

"Le Vicomte de Valmont is conspicuously charming and never opens his mouth without first calculating what damage he can do." Mme. De Volanges

Please note: Dangerous Liaisons will be performed in English, and is suitable for audiences over the age of 16+. The show will contain no bad language or nudity but may contain innuendo of an adult nature. Tickets for this performance are £10 (£9) CC £9.50 (£8.50) and can be booked by contacting the Arts Centre Box Office on 01970 62 32 32 or online at www.aber.ac.uk/artscentre

-ENDS-

Notes to editors:

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

Marketing Assistant *Cynorthwy-ydd Marchnata*

Aberystwyth Arts Centre *Canolfan y Celfyddydau Aberystwyth*

Further Aberystwyth Arts Centre press releases can be found at

www.aberystwythartscentre.co.uk/press.shtml.