

4 August 2009
PRESS RELEASE

THE WATERMILL THEATRE
presents

HOT MIKADO

Directed by Craig Revel Horwood

Musical Director and musical arrangements adapted by Sarah Travis

Designed by Diego Pitarch, Lighting by Richard G Jones

on tour to

Kingston, Guildford, Salford, Oxford, Eastbourne, Aberystwyth, Ipswich and Girona

Books and lyrics adapted by Andrew H Bell, Music adapted and Arranged by Rob
Bowman

Based on The Mikado by WS Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan, Originally produced at Ford's Theatre,
Washington DC, USA

Producing Director Frankie Hewitt, Performed by arrangement with Josef Weinberger Ltd on behalf of
the authors

Strictly Come Dancing judge, **Craig Revel Horwood** revives his actor/musician production of HOT MIKADO for a UK tour. His sultry take on Gilbert and Sullivan's THE MIKADO runs at Aberystwyth Arts Centre from Tuesday 3rd to Saturday 7th November following its sell-out run at The Watermill Theatre, Newbury, also home to its all-male Shakespeare company Propeller.

East meets west head-on in this hilarious 1940's-style updating of the perennial G&S classic. With the music transmuted into blues, Cab Calloway swing, hot gospel, scorching torch songs, and 'Three Little Maids' turned into a sexy Andrew Sisters' show-stopper, this all-singing and tap-dancing colourful show is certain to provide an evening of feel-good entertainment..

"To say that the production is sensational is no understatement..." **The Stage**

Set in Japan, the show features the inhabitants of the village of Titi-Pu. A wandering musician named Nanki-Poo enters the scene, looking for his true love, Yum-Yum. He discovers that she is about to marry her ward, Ko-Ko. What transpires is a rowdy tale that combines Gilbert and Sullivan's timeless style with a heavy dose of swing and blues.

"... The Watermill is back with another of its marvelous musical makeovers."

The Daily Telegraph

Craig Revel Horwood's West End choreographing credits include an Olivier Award for SPEND, SPEND, SPEND! and BEAUTIFUL AND THE DAMNED. He directed and choreographed SUNSET BOULEVARD which transferred from The Watermill last year to the West End. This revival of his 2006 production of HOT MIKADO

embraces both Kabuki and Manga, realising a thoroughly contemporary approach to Gilbert & Sullivan's operetta.

"The hardy G&S perennial gets a terrific injection of vitality in this wittily jazzed-up version" **The Daily Telegraph**

Sarah Travis, the Musical Director and Arranger for the show also worked on SUNSET BOULEVARD, HOT MIKADO, and MARTIN GUERRE with Revel Horwood and recently SPEND, SPEND, SPEND! She won a Tony Award for Best Orchestration for SWEENEY TODD in New York.

The robust score and lively choreography will be given life by a very talented cast including: **Robin Colyer, Neil Ditt Jeffrey Harmer** and **Karen Mann** who appeared in the original production of HOT MIKADO at The Watermill in 2006; and **Alastair Brookshaw, Lee Drage, Georgina Field, Julian Littman, Melanie Marshall, Abiona Omonua, Kit Orton, Cassie Pearson** and **Dominic Tighe**.

Tickets for evening performances are £16 (£15), Groups £12. Tickets for the Opening Night and all matinees are £12. To book contact the Arts Centre Box Office on 01970 62 32 32 or online at www.aber.ac.uk/artscentre

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NOTES TO EDITORS

If you'd like to listen to Craig talking about the show go to <http://www.theinterviewonline.co.uk/crh>

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

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