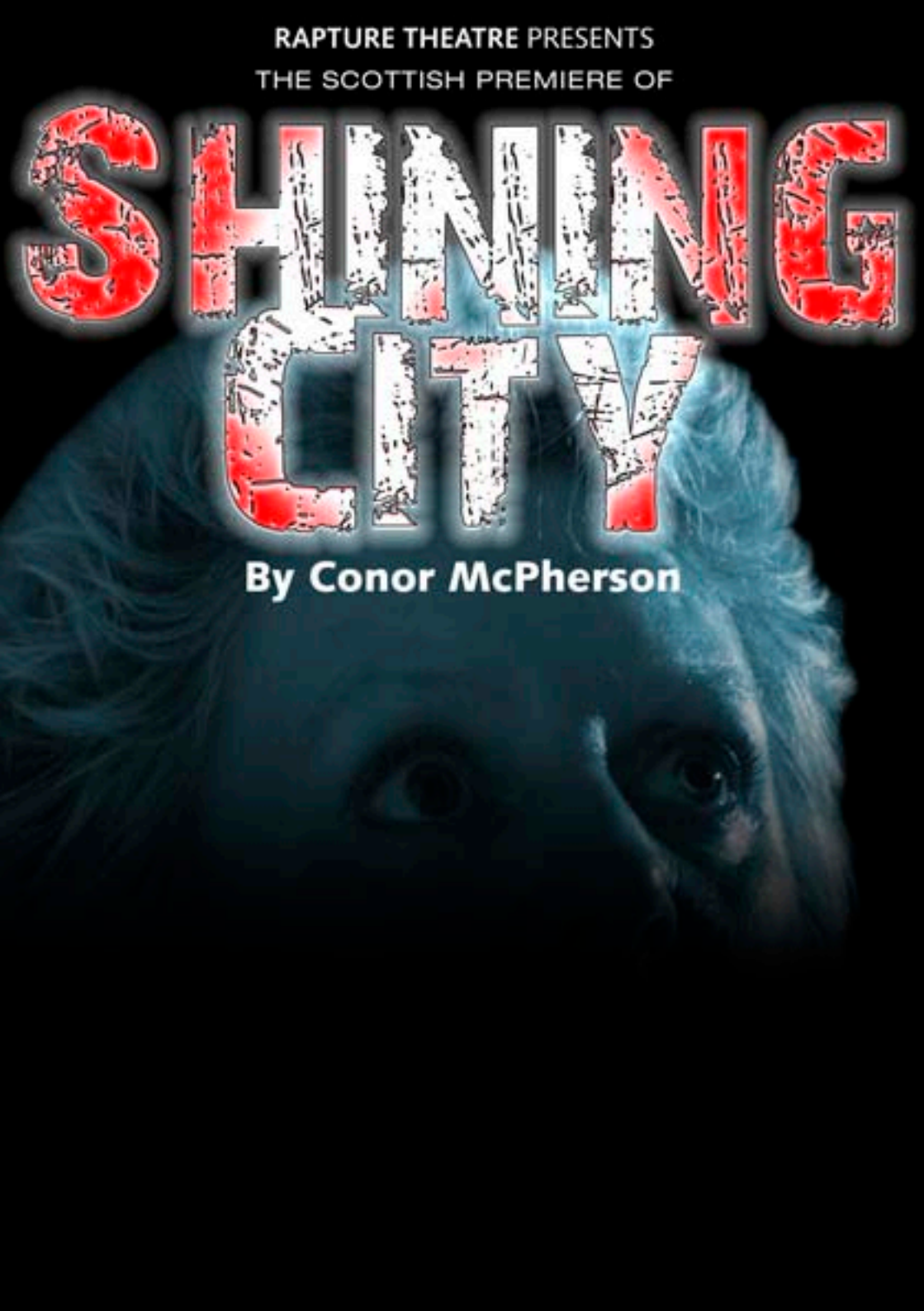


RAPTURE THEATRE PRESENTS  
THE SCOTTISH PREMIERE OF

# SHINNING CITY

By **Conor McPherson**



# ABOUT THE PLAY

The **Emerald Isle** meets **The Sixth Sense** in this **riveting** and **chilling urban ghost story** from the multi-award winning author of **The Weir**, **Dublin Carol** and **The Seafarer**.

After leaving the priesthood, **Ian** sets himself up as a therapist in Dublin. One of his first clients is **John** who, following the tragic death of his wife in a car accident, has repeatedly seen her ghostly figure. But surely it must be his imagination...!!!!  
Through taut and witty Irish banter, hidden demons begin to surface. The play raises questions about the nature of spirituality as Ian starts to realise that his life parallels John's in many ways, and that the "ghosts" of his past may yet come back to haunt him too.

# ABOUT THE COMPANY

## Rapture Theatre

Started, by Michael Emans approximately seven years ago, after he left drama school. Rapture has made its remit to bring new and challenging theatre to Scotland and regularly tours productions the length and breadth of the country. Rapture has also played at Glasgow venues such as The Arches, The Tramway, The Tron and The Citizens Theatre.

Rapture Theatre can be contacted at the following address:

### *RTC* Rapture Theatre Company

C/O 12 Waverley ~ Calderwood ~ Glasgow, G74 3PF ~ Scotland

Phone 01355236651 ~ Email [rapturetheatre@talktalk.net](mailto:rapturetheatre@talktalk.net)

Company No. SC228721

Scottish charity Number: SC032811

[www.rapturetheatre.co.uk](http://www.rapturetheatre.co.uk)

## For Rapture Theatre

Artistic Director            Michael Emans  
Company Secretary        Lyn McAndrew

## Support Group Members

Dr. Paul Dougall  
Catherine Burns  
Mike Tibbetts

## Principal Sponsors

South Lanarkshire Council  
Community Fund  
The ScotbelgeTrust  
The James Wood Bequest  
Fund  
The Theatre Club, Life Long  
Learning Kidd Property  
Developers



# CAST

John..... Michael Glenn Murphy  
Ian ..... Fintan McKeown  
Neasa ..... Melanie MacHugh  
Laurence..... David Walshe

Director..... Michael Emans  
Designer ..... Karen Tennent  
Lighting Designer ..... William Winter  
Sound Designer ..... Craig Henderson  
Production Manager..... Rob Armstrong  
Relights and Technical Support..... Roy Fairhead  
Technical Support ..... Dave Evans  
Press/Marketing..... Mark Irwin  
..... Chris Kane  
Production Photography ..... Richard Campbell  
Poster Actualisation ..... Ross McKenzie  
Set Builders..... The Byre Theatre  
Company Pet..... Sam

**The play was first performed at the Royal Court Theatre, London in a production directed by Ian Rickson**

This Scottish Premiere production is by arrangement with Curtis Brown Ltd and opened at The Brunton Theatre on 1st March 2008 in a production directed by Michael Emans.

## **Thanks to:**

Lesley Smith and all at The Brunton Theatre, Jack and Jean McAndrew, J and W Carpets Jennifer Graham, RSAMD, The Citizens' Theatre, and all the staff and assistance from the various venues.

## **Special Thanks:**

Lyn McAndrew, Conor McPherson Sarah Chadwick, Ann and all at Jarvie Plant Hire, The Scotbelge Trust, The James Wood Bequest Fund South Lanarkshire Council Community Fund, The Theatre Club, Life long Learning in Glasgow and Kidd Property Developers

# CONOR MCPHERSON

## Writer & Director

**SEAFARER:** New play for the National Theatre. Premiere September 2006, transferred to The Booth Theatre Broadway 2007

**OUR LADY OF THE FOREST:** A film for Channel 4 to be directed by Neil Jordan

**BROTHERS:** A film for Film Four

**SHINING CITY:** A new play for the Royal Court. Premier Summer 2004. Broadway transfer 2006

**Nominated for Tony Award: Best Play 2006**

**POOR BEAST IN THE RAIN:** Directed play by Billy Roche for The Gate Theatre, Dublin.

**THE ACTORS:** Feature film for Film Four/ Miramax. Starring Michael Caine & Dylan Moran

**PORT AUTHORITY:** Premiered New Ambassadors, London and The Gate, Dublin 2001. Nominated, Best Play, South Bank Show Awards, 2002.

**SALTWATER:** Feature film for Treasure Film/BBCs. Wr. & Dir. Premiered Berlin Festival 2000, Winner, CICA Prize.

**ENDGAME:** Film of Samuel Beckett's play for RTE/Channel 4 starring Michael Gambon and David Thewlis

**I WENT DOWN:** BBC/Treasure Films. Dir. Paddy Breathnach, distributed Buena Vista.

**Winner Best Screenplay, San Sebastian '97**

**Selected, Cannes, Edinburgh, Sundance Festivals**

**DUBLIN CAROL:** Starring Brian Cox. Reopened the Royal Court, Sloane Square, January 2000. Broadway Premier starring Jim Norton, 2002.

**THE WEIR:** Royal Court, Ambassadors and Duke of Yorks, Gate Theatre, Dublin and world tour Broadway premiere April 1999; productions in Germany, France, Australia, Poland, Italy, Japan, Argentina and Uruguay

**Winner Olivier Award 1999 - Best Play**

**Winner Evening Standard Most Promising Playwright, Winner Critics Circle Award - Most Promising Playwright**

**Finalist - Lloyds Bank Playwright of the Year Award**

**ST NICHOLAS:** The Bush Theatre, London, Primary Stages Theatre, New York

**Joint winner of 1997 George Devine Award**

**Winner Meyer Whitworth Award**

**THIS LIME TREE BOWER:** Dublin Theatre Festival and The Bush

**MACINTYRE:** Screenplay commission for Treasure Films.



# MICHAEL EMANS – Director

**Trained:** Rose Bruford College of Speech and Drama.

**Previous Theatre Includes:** Over the Mountain

(Creek Road Studio Theatre), Tom Jones (Lillian Bayliss Theatre), The Finishing School (Nuffield Theatre, Southampton)

**For Rapture Theatre, Michael has directed:** Death and the Maiden, The Dumb Waiter, Some Kind of Love Story, Shadowlands, Taking Sides, Clara, An Evening with Gary Lineker, Boys' Life, Grace, Death of a Salesman, A Kind of Alaska, Habeas Corpus, Rat in the Skull, Oleanna, Macbeth, Perfect Days, Bold Girls, Shang a lang, Assassins, Betrayal, Mr. Peters' Connections, Insignificance, Speed the Plow, Simpatico, Boy Gets Girl, Your Turn to Clean the Stair, The Old Neighborhood, The Sailmaker, Richard III, Double Top, Boston Marriage, Twisted, Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de lune, Proof, Misery, Blue/Orange, Damages, The Collection, Frozen and Broken Glass

Michael assisted Mark Thomson at the Royal Lyceum Theatre on "Uncle Varick" and "Six Black Candles". Michael has also directed at the Oran Mor the winner of the Orange Playwriting Award "Magnum Opus" and more recently the acclaimed "Burns on the Solway"

Michael recently directed acclaimed Scottish actors, John Stahl, Sandy Morton and Kenneth Bryans in the short film "God's Favourite Son?"



Photo : Eamon McGoldrick

# Karen Tennent – Designer

Karen studied at Edinburgh college of Art. She has worked in Scotland as a theatre designer for many years. She has worked with companies devising, touring, creating site specific and in house projects. Her work has toured all over the world including Japan, Canada, Europe, New Zealand and the USA including Broadway in New York.

Her recent theatre credits include; *The Wizard of Oz* for The Royal Lyceum; *Hansel and Gretel*, *Lion of Kabul*, *Cinderellas Sisters*, *Lifeboat*, *Cyrano and Martha* for Catherine Wheels; *Flat Stanley* for West Yorkshire Playhouse; *The Ugly Duckling and Paddington Bear* for Polka Theatre; *The Little Mermaid* for York Theatre Royal; *The Memorandum*, *The Suicide*, *Playboy of the Western World*, *Portrait of a woman*, *Tall tales*, *Arabian Nights and Place with the Pigs* (nominated best design TMA ) for Communicado ; *The Twits* , *Bondagers* , *Marys Wedding and Comic Potential* for The Byre ; *The Happy Prince* and *Peter Pan* for Macrobert Stirling Peer Gynt for Benchours ; *Playhouse Creatures* , *Flora the Red Menace and Hard Times* for Dundee Rep ; *Home East Lothian* for NTS (best design 2006 CATS awards ) *20 000 Leagues Under the Sea* for Walk the Plank . *Moby Dick* for the RSC

Dance credits include ; *Wee Home from Home and Double Helix* for Plan B ; *The Ancient Mariner* for Tabla Rasa

She also directed *Lion of Kabul* for Catherine Wheels .

Future projects include remounting *Lion of Kabul* with Catherine Wheels and a new co production with NTS *Something Wicked this Way Comes* and a new dance /theatre piece with Frank McConnell and Plan B.

# ACTORS

## Michael Glenn Murphy – John

**Theatre work includes:** Molly Sweeney (National Theatre of Scotland), Shadow Of A Gunman (Glasgow Citizens Theatre), The Weir (Haymarket Basingstoke), Up On The Roof and The Lonesome West for Hull Truck. Also Whistle In The Dark for The Glasgow Citizens Theatre, Playing The Victim (Royal Court/ Told by an Idiot), When We Are Rich (Southampton Nuffield) and The Firework Makers Daughter for Told By An Idiot at The Sheffield Crucible.

Other credits include the role of Valene in The Lonesome West for The Bolton Octagon, Zoo Story and The Architect And The Emperor Of Abyssinia (The Gate Theatre, London), the role of George in Of Mice And Men at Bolton Octagon, Max Brod in Kafka's Dick, Puck in A Midsummer Night's Dream and Azolan in Liasons Dangereuse (all at York Theatre Royal), Puck in A Midsummer Night's Dream (Northcott Theatre Exeter), Christy in Playboy Of The Western World (Abbey Theatre, Dublin, Bristol Old Vic and Leicester Haymarket); Vodicka in Svejik (The Gate Theatre, London); Lar in Brothers Of The Brush (Southampton Nuffield Theatre); Mr Home/Man in Black/Madame Sweeney in Vilette (Sheffield Crucible); Curley in Of Mice And Men (Centreline/Baroque Productions); Eight characters in A Sentimental Journey (Regent's Park Open Air Theatre); Woyzeck in Woyzeck and Puck in A Midsummer Night's Dream (Compass Theatre Company); Iago in Othello (Waterman's Arts Centre and National Tour); Bob Shaparo in Spirit Of The Frontier (RSC Fringe); Michael Byrne in The Tinker's Wedding (King's Head Theatre); Prince Pedro in The Tragedy Of Ines De Castro (Tabard Theatre); Margaret Thatcher's Pimp in A Light For The Florescent Witch (Hackney Empire); and The Ghost of Christmas Past in A Christmas Carol (Shaw Theatre/ National Tour).

**Television credits include** Taggart ( STV), Like Father, Like Son (ITV), Silent Witness (BBC), Catherine Cookson's Dinner Of Herbs (Festival Films), John in Big Bad World (Carlton), Rough Treatment (World Productions), Christie in Rope Trick (BBC), Murphy in Colourblind (Festival Films) and The Bill (Carlton TV).



# Fintan McKeown – Ian

Fintan began his acting career in Dublin appearing at most theatres there including The Gate, The Abbey & The Focus.

Parts included Heathcliff in Wuthering Heights, Macbeth in Macbeth, Davoren in Shadow Of A Gunman and Christy in The Playboy Of The Western World.

In 1988 he made his London debut at The National Theatre in The Shaughraun directed by Howard Davies and appeared in Hamlet & Bartholomew Fair both directed by Richard Eyre.

**Television includes** The eagles And Trumpets, The Govenor, In Deep, Startrek Voyager & The Agency.

**Films include** Immortal Beloved, Waking Ned Devine, Nostradamus, She Creature, Conspiracy Of Silence, Gargoyles & Earthquake.

Most recently he appeared on stage as Macduff in Macbeth at The Odyssey Theatre in Los Angeles, in Harold Pinter's The Dumb Waiter at London's The Royal Court Theatre (staged reading) and as Adolphus Grigson in Glasgow Citizens Theatre's production of The Shadow Of A Gunman.

Fintan recently repeated his performance in The Dumb Waiter playing opposite Stephen Rea. He has also performed Conor Mc Pherson's St.Nicholas. Both of the above were presented at the inaugural Flatlake Festival in Monaghan, Ireland and were directed by Matthew Burton.



## Melanie MacHugh – Neasa

Melanie trained at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama. Her theatre credits include Ruth in *Midden* (Oldham Coliseum); Dorotea in *The Dog in The Manger*, Bathsheba in *Tamar's Revenge* and *Pedro*, *The Great Pretender* all for the RSC Spanish Golden Age Season in Stratford, London and Spain; *Dancing at Lughnasa* (New Vic, Newcastle-under-Lyme); *The Playboy of the Western World*, *Peer Gynt* and *Romeo and Juliet* (National Theatre); *The Art of Success* (Arcola Theatre); *Blood Wedding* (Newcastle Playhouse); *Playgirl*, *Rumplestiltskin* (Abbey Theatre, Dublin); *The Lament for Arthur Cleary* (7:84 Scotland); *The Singular Life of Albert Nobbs*, *Summerhouse* (Druid Theatre, Galway). Film includes *The House of Manannan*, *Double Heartbeat*, *The Guest*. Radio includes various productions for RTE.



## David Walshe – Laurence

Born and bred in County Sligo, David trained at the RSAMD. Whilst at the school he played the title role in *Hamlet* under the direction of Hugh Hodgart at the Arches Theatre.

At the Edinburgh Fringe 2004 he performed the hit one-man show "A Mobile Thriller", which picked up a Herald Angel Award.

Theatre credits include: *Big Baby* (Visible Fictions), *Dirty Dusting* (Robert C Kelly UK Tour), *Mother Courage*, *The Psychic Detective* (BenchTours).

He provided narration for Alice Nelson's multi award winning "A Map with Gaps" which screened last year in New York.

Film Credits Include: *Korea; a soldiers song* : *Love and Rage* ( with Daniel Craig and Greta Scacchi), *The Chop* ( BBC3 ) , *The Morbegs* ( RTE ) .

David is currently developing a new one-man play with the Scottish writer Wilma Stark, with support from Playwrights' Studio, Scotland





# **Rob Armstrong**

## **Production Manager**

Rob Graduated from 'The Royals Scottish Academy of Music and Drama' in 2005 Specializing in Stage Management. His credits include, 'Lost Ones' by Vanishing Point, 'Beauty and the beast' Take-two Productions, 'The Hermit' Two heads two Hearts, 'Night time' Traverse Theatre, 'F.I.T' QUN International and 'One Night.Com' Team Angelica. Rob is looking forward to working with Rapture on their up and coming tour of 'Shining City'.

# **William Winter**

## **Lighting Designer**

William has lit shows for much Scottish Theatre companies and was resident lighting designer for Cumbernauld Theatre Company for over twenty years,

# PAST RAPTURE

What the papers said about Rapture's most recent productions.

## Blue/Orange

*"I'm in raptures over Rapture"* – The Mail on Sunday (★★★★)

*"Jimmy Chisholm is on terrific form"* –The Times

## The Collection by Mike Cullen

*"Fantasy Casting"* – The Sunday Herald

*"Jimmy Chisholm is superb"* – The Scotsman

*"Michael Emans' impressive revival"* – Mark Fisher in The High Arts Journal

## Frozen by Bryony Lavery

*"A stunning production"* – The Stage (Frozen)

*"Michael Emans' superbly coherent and affecting production"*

– Edinburgh Evening News (Frozen)

## Broken Glass by Arthur Miller

*"Warmly received by the capacity audience"* – The Scotsman

*"Michael Emans has assembled a very fine cast"* – The Glasgow Herald



# COMING SOON

A co-production with The Byre Theatre

# BETRAYAL

by Harold Pinter

**Touring Autumn 2008**

**Rapture return with another exciting show !!!.**

*Jerry and Emma were lovers in the past . Emma's husband Robert never knew ...or did he ?*

Told in flashback this intriguing,delightful and dramatic play tells about the love triangle with a twist.

Imagine a Noel Coward comedy like "Private Lives" set in a modern setting and you have the idea. Recently revived in the London's West End Rapture wil be giving Scottish audiences the opportunity to see one of the most exciting pays of recent years.

Written by one of the country's leading playwrights this play will tour venues in Scotland in the Autumn and will further Rapture's repuation as one of Scotland's leading touring theatre companies.

This production will also be the company's first co-production with The Byre Theatre in St.Andrews.

**Rapture Theatre Presents**  
**in association with The Brunton Theatre in Musselburgh**

# SHINING CITY

by **Conor McPherson**

Rapture return after acclaimed and popular productions of **"Frozen"**, **"Broken Glass"**, **"The Collection"** and **"Blue/Orange"**

**The Emerald Isle** meets **The Sixth Sense** in this riveting and chilling urban ghost story from the multi-award winning author of *The Weir*, *Dublin Carol* and *The Seafarer*

After leaving the priesthood, Ian sets himself up as a therapist in Dublin.

One of his first clients is John who, following the tragic death of his wife in a car accident, has repeatedly seen her ghostly figure. But surely it must be his imagination...!!!!

Through taut and witty Irish banter, hidden demons begin to surface.

The play raises questions about the nature of spirituality as Ian starts to realise that his life parallels John's in many ways, and that the "ghosts" of his past may yet come back to haunt him too.

Described by *The Daily Telegraph* as *'the finest dramatist of his generation'*, Conor McPherson flawlessly brings classical Irish storytelling into a modern, urban landscape. This humorous, haunting and fascinating play will have you gripped right up to the shocking twist in the tale. *Shining City* has previously played to sell-out audiences in London, Dublin and on Broadway.

Please note the show contains strong language and is only suitable for the over fourteens.

Rapture are pleased to announce a cast of top notch Irish actors for this production. These are the highly regarded Michael Glenn Murphy last seen in National Theatre of Scotland's production of *Molly Sweeney*, Royal Shakespeare Company actress *Melanie MacHugh*, acclaimed television and film actor *Fintan McKeown* and rising star *David Walshe*.

Director *Michael Emans*  
 Designer *Karen Tennant*  
 Lighting Designer *William Winter*  
 Production Manager *Rob Armstrong*

**Contains strong language**



Michael Glenn Murphy



David Walshe



Fintan McKeown



Melanie MacHugh



The Brunton Theatre,  
 Musselburgh  
 Friday 29th February @ 7:30pm  
 (Preview)  
 Saturday 1st March @ 7:30pm  
 (Opening Night)  
 Ticket Price £10.50 ( £8.50) £6  
 for under 18s  
 Box Office 0131 665 2240  
[www.bruntontheatre.co.uk](http://www.bruntontheatre.co.uk)



Adam Smith Theatre, Bennochry  
 Road, Kirkcaldy, KY1 1ET  
 Wednesday 12th March @  
 7:30pm  
 Tickets £9.50 / £6.50  
 £6.50 if paid by 1st March  
 Box Office 01592 583302



The Round Theatre, Newcastle  
 Wednesday 26th – Saturday 29th  
 March @ 1.30pm Wednesday  
 and Saturday and 7:30pm  
 Wednesday – Saturday  
 Tickets £9  
 Box Office 0191 2605605  
[www.the-round.com](http://www.the-round.com)

Eastfield Community Centre  
 Rutherglen  
 Thursday 10th April @ 7:30pm  
 Tickets £2/£1  
 Box Office 0141 6418319

Old Well Theatre, Moffat  
 Friday 11th April @ 7:30pm  
 Tickets £8  
 Box Office (Moffat Wine Shop)  
 01683 220 554



Eastwood Park Theatre, Giffnock  
 Tuesday 4th March @ 7:30pm  
 Tickets £10/ £7  
 Box Office 0141 5774970



Eastgate Theatre Arts  
 Centre, Peebles  
 Thursday 13th March @ 7:30pm  
 Tickets £8.50/£7.50  
 Box Office 01721 725777  
[www.thebooth.co.uk](http://www.thebooth.co.uk)

The Platform at the Bridge,  
 Easterhouse  
 Thursday 3rd April @ 7:30pm  
 Tickets £8/£4.50/£3.50  
 Box Office 0141 276 9696  
[www.platform-online.co.uk](http://www.platform-online.co.uk)



Palace Theatre, Kilmarnock  
 Saturday 12th April @ 7:30pm  
 Tickets £8.50/£6.50  
 Box Office 01563 554900



The Byre Theatre of St Andrews  
 Wednesday 5th – Thursday 6th  
 March @ 7:30pm  
 Tickets £14 (£10-£8)  
 Box Office 01334 475000  
[www.byretheatre.com](http://www.byretheatre.com)



The Tolbooth Theatre, Stirling  
 Friday 14th March - Saturday  
 15th March @ 7:30pm)  
 Tickets £10/£8  
 Box Office 01786 274000  
[www.stirling.gov.uk/tolbooth](http://www.stirling.gov.uk/tolbooth)



Paisley Arts Centre  
 Friday 4th April @ 7:30pm  
 Tickets £8.50 / £5  
 Box Office 0141 887 1010



Regal Theatre, Bathgate  
 Tuesday 15th April @ 7:30pm  
 Tickets £10/£7  
 Box Office 01506 433634



Perth Theatre, Horsecross, 185  
 High Street, Perth  
 Friday 7th – Saturday 8th March  
 @ 7:45pm  
 Tickets £12 /£8 /£6.50  
 Box Office 0845 6126320  
[www.horsecross.co.uk](http://www.horsecross.co.uk)



East Kilbride Arts Centre  
 Sunday 16th March @ 8pm  
 Tickets £8/£6  
 Box Office 013552 61000



Harbour Arts Centre, Irvine  
 Saturday 5th April @ 7:30pm  
 Tickets £9/£7  
 Box Office 01294 274059



Greenwich Theatre, Greenwich  
 Tuesday 22nd – Saturday 26th  
 April @ 7:30pm ( Saturday  
 matinee @ 2:30pm )  
 Tickets Eves @ 7:30pm £20, £18,  
 £16 ( £18, £16, £14 )  
 Tickets Mat @ Sat 2:30pm  
 £18, £16, £14 ( £16, £14, £12 )  
 Box Office 0208 858 7755  
[www.greenwichtheatre.org.uk](http://www.greenwichtheatre.org.uk)



Ryan Centre Theatre, Stranraer  
 Tuesday 8th April @ 7:30pm  
 Tickets £9/£7.50  
 Box Office 01776 703535