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CAMBRIDGE JUNCTION

The Solid Life of Sugar Water
by Jack Thorne
A Graeae Theatre Company and Theatre Royal Plymouth co-production

Cambridge Junction’s spring arts season continues on Monday 22nd February with The Solid Life of Sugar Water, a candid, uninhibited and visceral new play from the award-winning Jack Thorne (Let the Right One In, Shameless, This is England).

Following rave reviews and audience acclaim at the 2015 Edinburgh Festival Fringe The Solid Life of Sugar Water will appear for one night only at Cambridge Junction ahead of a 3 week run at the National Theatre.

The tender, compelling and unsettling play follows the journey of a young couple, Phil and Alice, as they attempt to reconnect with each other following a stillbirth. The Solid Life of Sugar Water is a play about love, loss, recovery, and how a couple communicate in the wake of a tragedy.

Premiering at the 2015 Edinburgh Festival Fringe, the production picked up three five-star reviews (including from The Observer) and fifteen four-star reviews from across the national press. It was also awarded the most accessible production at the fringe at the inaugural Euan’s Guide Awards.

Jack Thorne is an award-winning writer for stage, television and film. He recently adapted the cult-novel and film Let the Right One In for the stage, which played to sell-out audiences at the Royal Court, in London’s West End and in New York. He is also the writer of Harry Potter and the Cursed Child, opening in the West End in summer 2016. He previously collaborated with Graeae on co-writing the radio adaptation of Hunchback. For television, his credits include Glue, Skins, Shameless, This is England and the recent BBC Three drama Don’t Take My Baby.

For Graeae, Amit Sharma co-directed the outdoor spectacle Prometheus Awakes in 2012 and directed Ted Hughes’ The Iron Man, which toured nationally and internationally.

Arthur Hughes as Phil and Genevieve Barr as Alice will reprise the roles they created for the run at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. Arthur Hughes has acted in several productions for the Richard Burton Company and was a member of the BBC Radio Drama Company in 2013, receiving the Carleton Hobbs Award. Genevieve Barr is best known for BBC One primetime drama The Silence for which she received BAFTA and International Emmy nominations for Best Actress. Additionally, she has appeared in Channel 4’s Shameless, also written by Jack Thorne.

The Solid Life of Sugar Water will include a creative combination of captioning and audio description.

For further information please contact Ed Hine, Marketing & Communications Manager edmund@junction.co.uk or 01223 403489

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Editor’s notes

Jack Thorne
Theatre includes Hope (Royal Court), Let The Right One In (Dundee Rep/Royal Court, NTS/Marla Rubin Ltd.), The Borough (Punchdrunk /Aldeburgh Festival), Stuart: A Life Backwards (adapt. Hightide/Sheffield Theatre - Edinburgh Festival & tour), Mydidae (Drywrite - Soho Theatre/Trafalgar Studios), The Physicists (adapt. Donmar Warehouse), Bunny (Nabokov - UK tour/NYC), Red Car Blue Car, Two Cigarettes, When You Cure Me (Bush Theatre), Greenland (National Theatre), 2nd May 1997 (Bush/Nabokov), Burying Your Brother in the Pavement (NT Connections) and Stacy (Tron/Arcola/Trafalgar Studios). Television: The Last Panthers, This is England 90, Don’t Take My Baby, Glue, The Fades (Best Drama Series – BAFTA 2012), This Is England 88 (Best Mini-Series – BAFTA 2012) and This is England 86, Cast-Offs and episodes of Skins and Shameless. Film: Warbook, A Long Way Down and The Scouting Book for Boys (Best British Newcomer - London Film Festival 2010).

Amit Sharma has been Graeae’s Associate Director since 2011, and is a graduate from Graeae’s Missing Piece actor training course. In summer 2012, Amit co-directed the outdoor spectacle Prometheus Awakes (GDIF and SIRF), marking the first large-scale outdoor production to be artistically led by Deaf and disabled people in the UK. Also for Graeae, he directed Ted Hughes’ The Iron Man which toured both nationally and internationally and co-directed Graeae’s Rhinestone Rollers in Sequins and Snowballs with Jenny Sealey at the Southbank Centre. He has worked extensively as an actor and director for various companies including the BBC, the National Theatre, Tamasha Theatre Company, East 15 Drama School and The Unicorn where he was part of the Ensemble.

About Graeae Graeae is a force for change in world-class theatre - breaking down barriers, challenging preconceptions and boldly placing Deaf and disabled artists centre stage. Artistically led by Jenny Sealey, Graeae’s signature characteristic is the compelling creative integration of sign language and audio description, which engages brilliantly with both disabled and non-disabled audiences. Championing accessibility and providing a platform for new generations of artists, Graeae leads the way in pioneering, trail-blazing theatre. Graeae won the Promotion of Diversity Award at the TMA Theatre Awards UK 2012. www.graeae.org

About Theatre Royal Plymouth Theatre Royal Plymouth has built a national reputation for its specialist contemporary work producing provocative, intriguing, ambitious theatre by commissioning and working with some of the very best regional, national and international writers, artists and directors. In addition, TRP has been a long term collaborator and supporter of some of the most exciting theatre companies of our times including Frantic Assembly, Ontroerend Goed, Paines Plough and Told By An Idiot. www.theatreroyal.com

Quotes:

Amit Sharma, Director of The Solid Life of Sugar Water and Associate Director at Graeae Theatre Company, said: “Following an amazing run at the Edinburgh Fringe, I am absolutely thrilled that we’re working with Theatre Royal Plymouth in reuniting the original Sugar Water company so that audiences up and down the country get to experience Jack Thorne’s beautifully evocative play. Our pride at performing at so many different venues, culminating at the National Theatre for the first time in the company's history, is a truly landmark moment in providing Deaf and disabled talent a much deserved platform. I really can't wait to work with our brilliant team again.”

Jack Thorne said: “I've loved working on The Solid Life of Sugar Water. A brilliant director and excellent cast, for an amazing company. Sugar Water is a play about pain and hope. Or hope and pain. Or hopelessness. As a grieving couple tries to connect they reflect on their years together.”

The Solid Life of Sugar Water
Monday 22 February | Cambridge Junction (J2)
Box Office: 01223 511 511 | junction.co.uk
Tickets £12 (£8 con)
Recommended for ages 16+ Contains language of a strong & sexual nature
More info and tickets at http://www.junction.co.uk/the-solid-life-of-sugar-water