



*a Play,
a Pie
and a Pint*

The National Theatre of Scotland in partnership with Òran Mór, SaiTa (Beijing) Cultural LTD, Tian Qinxin Theatre Studio and in association with the Confucius Institute for Scotland in the University of Edinburgh, present

**THE FIRST UK SEASON OF NEW WRITING FROM CONTEMPORARY CHINESE WRITERS
NEW PLAYS FROM CHINA, CURATED BY DAVEY ANDERSON**

**Òran Mór, Glasgow; Bedlam Theatre, Edinburgh and Regal Theatre, Bathgate
From 22nd April to 1st June 2013**

Secrets by Lin Weiran, adapted by Rona Munro and directed by Graeme Maley
Thieves and Boy by Hao Jingfang, adapted and directed by Davey Anderson
Fox Attack by Xu Nuo, adapted by Catherine Grosvenor and directed by Amanda Gaughan

The ***New plays from China*** season, which presents three new plays from contemporary Chinese writers translated into English and adapted by Scottish playwrights, celebrates the National Theatre of Scotland's new partnership with the National Theatre of China. It is also the first season of new plays from contemporary Chinese writers to be presented in the UK.

The National Theatre of Scotland and Òran Mór's, third international ***a Play, a Pie and a Pint*** season, starts on Monday 22nd April 2013 with each of the three productions running for a week at Òran Mór, Glasgow. The first two plays, ***Secrets*** and ***Thieves and Boy***, will play a subsequent week at Bedlam Theatre, Edinburgh and ***Thieves and Boy*** has a performance at the Regal Theatre, Bathgate.

In 2012, an international new writing project was launched with the National Theatres of Scotland and China collaborating to discover new Chinese writers and plays from China. Following a series of international new writing initiatives led by Davey Anderson (season curator, playwright, director) and George Aza-Selinger (Literary Manager) from National Theatre of Scotland, a group of exciting young writers were selected from over 150 applicants to develop new ideas. After workshops and residencies in Scotland, three new plays were commissioned for the season. These new plays were subsequently adapted by leading Scottish playwrights, Runo Munro, Davey Anderson and Catherine Grosvenor and are presented as part of an international ***a Play, a Pie and a Pint*** season at Òran Mór.

Inspired by real events, both intimate and political, each play dramatises the tension between public and private lives, the gap between rich and poor, and the dangers of telling lies to ourselves and others. As cities grow at an astonishing rate and power shifts from one generation to the next, audiences are offered a glimpse into the lives of a handful of individuals whose stories paint a portrait of a society in flux.

Davey Anderson, curator of the New Plays from China season says

"My passion is new writing. I wanted to take a group of Chinese writers through a collaborative process and produce plays that were unique to this creative exchange between Scotland and China. Literally hundreds of Chinese writers wanted to come and take part in the first workshop National Theatre of Scotland ran in Beijing. They all had distinctive voices and bright ideas. Our first challenge was selecting which writers to invite into the room. Then we had to negotiate the language barrier, as well as the different sets of cultural reference points, artistic traditions, social backgrounds, political frameworks and so on. In amongst all that, we shared ideas, interests, inspirations and ways of working. I asked lots of questions about what it is like to live in China right now. These plays are the result of that conversation. A few tiny peep holes into parts of China we don't often get to see."

The development activities in China were facilitated by leading Chinese director Tian Qinxin, who is the Vice-Director of the Institute of Film, Television and Theatre, Peking University. She is also a theatre director with the National Theatre of China.

New plays from China

Secrets by Lin Weiran, adapted by Rona Munro and directed by Graeme Maley
Cast: Helen Mallon, Mark Wood

An ex-lover shows up on the doorstep of a married woman. He disappeared two years ago without warning and she has built a new life without him. His reappearance threatens to shatter her new existence and rekindle their romance. But first she wants the truth about why he left her.

Thieves and Boy by Hao Jingfang, adapted and directed by Davey Anderson

A darkly comic crime story. Two construction workers turn vigilante, trying to right the wrongs of society by burgling a high ranking, corrupt government official. However once they get inside it turns out they both have very different ideas about justice.

Fox Attack by Xu Nuo, adapted by Catherine Grosvenor and directed by Amanda Gaughan

A thrilling psychological two hander about a promising and obsessive young pianist who commits a terrible crime to save his own skin. When he arrives home he finds his overbearing mother waiting up for him and demanding answers as to where he's been. An unsettling true story about ambition, conspiracy and family.

Writer biographies:

Lin Weiran is a playwright and screenwriter. She graduated from the Central Academy of Drama, and is currently working with Beijing Opera Company. She is the Director of IATC China branch and Deputy Director of Beijing Young Drama Association. Weiran's work investigates contemporary relationships.

Jingfang Hao graduated from Tsinghua University in Beijing, China, majoring in Physics in undergraduate school and Economics in Phd studies. She started to publish short stories in 2007, and has published two science fiction novels, a short story collection and an introductory book of European Culture. **Thieves and Boy** is her first play for theatre. She is inspired by British theatre for its rich and dynamic verse.

Xu Nuo is a young writer who graduated from playwriting at the Central Academy of Drama. Her works include *Hello, Dad* (which won an award for Excellent Minority Screen Work). Her musical credit includes *The Story of Teng Tao Lai* which premiered at Poly Theatre in 2011 in Beijing. Currently, she is working on a TV drama script and film commission. **Fox Attack** is her first theatre production since graduating.

New plays from China season curator **Davey Anderson** studied Theatre, Film & TV at the University of Glasgow. He was Director in Residence with the National Theatre of Scotland 2006-07. His work as Associate Director and/or Musical Director for the company includes: *Enquirer*, *Peter Pan*, *Be Near Me*, *Architecting* and *Black Watch*. His work as Writer/Director for the company includes: *A Dead Man's Dying*, *Mixer Maxter*, *Rupture* and *Snuff*. He recently worked as Dramaturg on *Menage a Trois*. As a writer, Davey's other plays include: *The Static*, *Blackout*, *Scavengers*, *Playback*, *Clutter Keeps Company*, *Liar* and *Wired*. He was Associate Playwright with the Playwrights' Studio, Scotland, 2010-11 and was co-recipient of the Arches Award for Stage Directors 2005.

LISTINGS

New plays from China, curated by Davey Anderson

Secrets by Lin Weiran, adapted by Rona Munro and directed by Graeme Maley
Òran Mór, Glasgow from 22 to 27 April 2013, 1pm
Bedlam Theatre, Edinburgh from 30 April to 4 May 2013, 1pm

Thieves and Boy by Hao Jingfang, adapted and directed by Davey Anderson
Òran Mór, Glasgow from 6 to 11 May 2013, 1pm
Regal Theatre, Bathgate on Sunday 12 May 2013, 7.30pm
Bedlam Theatre, Edinburgh from 14 to 18 May 2013, 1pm

Fox Attack by Xu Nuo, adapted by Catherine Grosvenor and directed by Amanda Gaughan
Òran Mór, Glasgow from 27 May to 1 June 2013, 1pm

BOOKING INFORMATION

ÒRAN MÓR

Tickets: Monday, Tuesday, £10 (£8 students); Wednesday, £8; Thursday, £10; Friday, Saturday, £12.50
Box Office: www.ticketweb.co.uk 08444 77 1000 (Bkg fees apply) www.playpiepint.com

REGAL THEATRE, BATHGATE

Tickets: £8
Box Office: 01506 630085 www.bathgateregal.org

BEDLAM THEATRE, EDINBURGH

Tickets: £12/£10 (Bkg fees apply)
Box Office: www.bedlamtheatre.co.uk/playpiepint Info: 0131 662 2180 Email info@confuciusinstitute.ac.uk

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Press images:

There is a selection of images for current productions available for download from
www.nationaltheatrescotland.com/press - please contact the press office for a password

You can follow the National Theatre of Scotland's press office on Twitter @NTSpres

NOTES TO EDITORS

- Since its launch in February 2006, the National Theatre of Scotland has been involved in creating 189 productions in 162 different locations. With no building of its own, the Company takes theatre all over Scotland and beyond, working with existing and new venues and companies to create and tour theatre of the highest quality. It takes place in the great buildings of Scotland, but also in site-specific locations, airports and tower blocks, community halls and drill halls, ferries and forests. The Company has performed to over 830,000 people across four continents.
www.nationaltheatrescotland.com

- **A Play, a Pie and a Pint** is the UK's largest commissioner and producer of new drama. Founded in 2004, it has mounted over 250 productions in the last nine years. Plays from Òran Mór have been produced in England, Ireland, Sweden, Holland, Italy, Spain, Russia, Australia and the USA. In 2011 A Play, a Pie and a Pint co-produced a season of six plays from Latin America with the National Theatre of Scotland and last year the two companies co-produced a similar season of works from the Arab World. Future plans include seasons from Russia and the Commonwealth.
<http://playpiepint.com/>
- **The Confucius Institute for Scotland in the University of Edinburgh** was established in 2007 and is one of a global network of around 400 such Institutes. Working to establish links in education, business and culture between Scotland and China, the Institute supports the New Writings from China programme. The plays will be shown at the University's recently renovated Bedlam Theatre.
www.confuciusinstitute.ac.uk



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