



## **New Unicorn Theatre For Children Announces Opening Date And First Season**

**TOM'S MIDNIGHT GARDEN...IN THE BOX...JOURNEY TO THE RIVER SEA...  
WITH A DOLL IN HER POCKET..PLAY ANTARCTICA..YIKES! ..TREASURE ISLAND**

**16 September 2005, London:** The new £13m Unicorn Theatre – the UK's first ever purpose built professional theatre for children – announced its opening date and first season, today.

The Unicorn Theatre, close to City Hall on the south bank, is destined to become a national cultural flagship and international centre of excellence. It will play to over 100,000 children each year – influencing and growing the country's next generation of theatregoers through a broad range of theatre, education and other arts productions.

Unicorn, designed by Keith Williams Architects, comprises a 340 seat main auditorium, the Weston Theatre; a 120-seat studio, the River Theatre; a dedicated education centre, the Foyle Education Studio; rehearsal and green rooms, public space and a café.

**Unicorn opens on 1 December 2005 with two shows: TOM'S MIDNIGHT GARDEN and IN THE BOX.**

**Barclays First Class**, a new community initiative from Barclays Bank PLC in partnership with the Unicorn Theatre, is enabling over 1,500 children from across London to see TOM'S MIDNIGHT GARDEN during a special preview week before the Unicorn formally opens. Schools from every borough in London are being invited to bring a class of children to the theatre. The selected schools are those serving some of the most disadvantaged communities in their borough, emphasising Unicorn's and Barclays' commitment to make the new theatre accessible to all children regardless of background or parental income.

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## **Opening Season**

Unicorn aims to move theatre for children into a contemporary frame. The opening season reflects Unicorn's aim of tackling issues surrounding childhood today, hosting the best national and international companies and adapting children's classics for a modern audience. The programme also reflects Unicorn's major commitment to commissioning and staging new plays.

**Tony Graham**, Unicorn Artistic Director; **Carl Miller**, Unicorn Associate Director (Royal Court, Birmingham Rep and Bury St Edmunds) and **Rebecca Gatward**, Unicorn Associate Director, (Shared Experience and RSC) have developed a programme that will feature an array of national and international artists and work.

**Tony Graham, Unicorn Artistic Director**, said: *"Unicorn's work for children is destined to shake things up. Unicorn is a remarkable new theatre and marks an exciting development for theatre for children in national and international cultural life. Our artistic ambitions remain as adventurous as ever."*

*"We are committed to creating an imaginative, resonant theatre for children and for all of us. The first season does just that and is an explosive brew of national and international theatre with new writing, world premières and classics. Education is integral to the new season and addresses issues as diverse as the child's place in society through to the awesome power of Antarctica."*

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## Overview Of Shows:

### ❖ **TOM'S MIDNIGHT GARDEN:**

(For everyone aged 8+)

Unicorn's opening show in the 340 seat Weston Theatre runs from 24 November 2005 – 29 January 2006. **Tony Graham** will direct **David Wood's** adaptation of **Philippa Pearce's** novel **TOM'S MIDNIGHT GARDEN** with live incidental music by **Stephen McNeff**. The play is a contemporary adaptation of the classic novel with **Rudi Dharmalingam** as Tom. **Rudi Dharmalingam** is currently appearing in the National Theatre's production of **PLAYING WITH FIRE**. **TOM'S MIDNIGHT GARDEN** is a revival of the Unicorn production that won the TMA award for Best Show for Children & Young People in 2001. [Full details page six.](#)

### ❖ **IN THE BOX:**

(For everyone aged 5+)

Unicorn's opening show in the 120 seat River Theatre runs from 24 November 2005 – 29 January 2006. **IN THE BOX** is a contemporary installation about childhood examining the issues of what it means to be a child today. **IN THE BOX** features children's ideas about the meaning of childhood in the shape of a theatrical journey. Devised by professional aural and visual artists, **IN THE BOX** employs a range of art forms including poetry, photography, textiles & sculpture. **IN THE BOX** is directed by **Alison Barry**, Unicorn's Education Director and designed by **Rachana Jadhav**. [Full details page eight.](#)

### ❖ **JOURNEY TO THE RIVER SEA:**

(For everyone aged 7+. Weston Theatre, 09 February – 25 March 2006)

**Carl Miller's** adaptation of **Eva Ibbotson's** award-winning children's classic about an English girl at the turn of the century caught up in a life changing adventure along the Amazon River. **JOURNEY TO THE RIVER SEA** gets its first bold and colourful staging in a co-production by **Unicorn** and **Theatre Centre** – the premier new writing company for young people in the UK. **JOURNEY TO THE RIVER SEA** is directed by **Rosamunde Hutt**, (Artistic Director, Theatre Centre), costume and set designer is **Nettie Scriven**, lighting design is by **Ceri James**, choreography by **Jeanfer Jean-Charles** and live music by **Matthew Bailey**. [Full details, page nine.](#)

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❖ **WITH A DOLL IN HER POCKET:**

(For children aged 4-8 years old. River Theatre, 07 – 26 February 2006)

A co-production with **Teatro delle Briciole**, from Parma, Italy, **WITH A DOLL IN HER POCKET** is a mesmerising fairy tale for younger children. The play demonstrates Unicorn's commitment to working with the best international production companies and actors. [Full details, page 11.](#)

❖ **PLAY ANTARCTICA:**

(For everyone aged 8+. River Theatre, 10 March – 30 April 2006)

Penguins, puppets and paper. Supported by **Molecule Theatre**, **PLAY ANTARCTICA** is a theatrical and musical journey composed by **Craig Vear** and directed by **Tony Graham**, with extraordinary puppetry by **Sean Myatt**. In 2003 Craig Vear adventured across Antarctica in search of silence. [Full details, page 12.](#)

❖ **YIKES!:**

(For everyone aged 6+. Weston Theatre, 06 April – 14 May 2006)

A new musical play for children commissioned and presented by the Unicorn, written by **Bryony Lavery**, (National Theatre, RSC) with music by **Gary Yershon**, **YIKES** is directed by **Rebecca Gatward** and highlights Unicorn's commitment to new writing and music. [Full details, page 13.](#)

❖ **TREASURE ISLAND:**

(For everyone aged 8+. Weston Theatre 24 May – 10 June '06)

Award winning Scottish children's theatre company, **Wee Stories**, presents Robert Louis Stevenson's **TREASURE ISLAND**, directed and performed by **Andy Cannon** and **Iain Johnstone**. [Full details, page 14.](#)

**Future activity:** Unicorn will shortly be announcing exciting new events and future plans with **Michael Morpurgo**, **Walker Books**, Children's poetry with **The Poetry Book Society** and a new **Story Telling Festival**.

**Family Days:** Special show dates that enable family groups to see the production, take part in a workshop, have refreshments and meet the cast.

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### **The Unicorn Myth Becomes Reality**

The striking, copper clad £13m Unicorn Theatre stands poised to become part of London's most vibrant cultural quarter. Unicorn joins other theatrical leaders such as the Globe and National Theatre and is central London's first dedicated theatre and cultural centre for children.

The iconic new Unicorn Theatre is a long way from the company's humble beginnings 58 years ago. Caryl Jenner founded the Unicorn in 1947, travelling the country, putting on theatre for children from two Army trucks. Caryl Jenner died in 1973, twelve years after announcing her plans to build the first purpose built professional theatre for children in the UK.

### **Created In Partnership With Children**

The new building has taken 6 years to create and has involved a three-year consultation with a class of 30 eight year-old children from Tower Bridge Primary School who acted as 'Unicorn Young Consultants' assisting with the theatre's design and helping to select the public artists. Beverley Hughes, Minister of State for Children, Young People and Family, hailed the consultation report 'The Floors Should Be Made of Chocolate' as a model example of how children can be effective consultants and active citizens.

### **Fundraising Target**

The Unicorn Theatre has raised just over £13m and is now seeking £500,000 in funding to reach its target. Unicorn is running a public appeal, encouraging theatre lovers to join famous actors and actresses to 'Name a Seat' and 'Buy a Brick' in the theatre.

### **Ticketing And Pricing Policies**

The Unicorn believes that theatre should be accessible to everyone and has set its pricing policy accordingly. Top ticket prices for adults and children are £12.50 and £8.50 respectively, which compares very favourably to West End ticket prices which can reach £50+ per ticket. Unicorn's prices also compare well with other major children's attractions within London and the M25 such as London Zoo (£14.00 adult/£10.75 child) and LEGOLAND (£26 adult/£22 child).

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## Unicorn Productions Detailed:

### TONY GRAHAM DIRECTS DAVID WOOD'S ADAPTATION OF

#### TOM'S MIDNIGHT GARDEN

(For everyone aged 8+. Unicorn's opening show in the 340 seat Weston Theatre runs from 24 November 2005 – 29 January 2006.)

Unicorn's Artistic Director, **Tony Graham**, will direct **David Wood's** adaptation of **Philippa Pearce's** classic novel, **TOM'S MIDNIGHT GARDEN**, a revival of a Unicorn production that won the TMA award for Best Show for Children and Young People in 2001. Tom is played by **Rudi Dharmalingam** currently appearing in the National Theatre's production of **PLAYING WITH FIRE**

Designed by **Russell Craig**, **TOM'S MIDNIGHT GARDEN** has incidental music composed by **Stephen McNeff** and lighting by **Jeanine Davies** .

*Tom has been sent away to stay with Aunt Gwen and Uncle Alan in their boring flat whilst his brother is recovering from the measles. There is nothing to do, and only grown-ups to talk to – that is, until late one night Tom hears the grandfather clock strike thirteen. He creeps downstairs to investigate, and discovers another world .....*

#### **Tony Graham**

In May 1997 Tony Graham was appointed Artistic Director of the Unicorn Theatre. Subsequently he has directed over twenty productions including *Red Red Shoes* which won the Arts Council Award for Best New Play for Children and Philip Pullman's *Clockwork*, the Unicorn's first new opera for children, performed at the Linbury Studio Theatre at the Royal Opera House. Graham has toured Unicorn shows to New York and Singapore and has represented the Unicorn in workshops and conferences in Korea and Japan. Previously Tony Graham was Artistic Director of TAG, Scotland's national young people's theatre company based at the Citizens Theatre, Glasgow. For the Edinburgh Festival he directed Lewis Grassic Gibbon's trilogy *A Scots Quair*.

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## David Wood

Multi award-winning children's playwright David Wood has written and adapted many plays for children including *The Witches*, *The BFG*, *Clockwork*, *The Gingerbread Man*, *James and the Giant Peach*, *The Old Man of Lochnagar* and *Meg and Mog*, many of which have been produced by the Unicorn Theatre.

**TOM'S MIDNIGHT GARDEN** plays in the Weston Theatre at the Unicorn:

- ❖ **10.15am** performances are on: November 30, December 2, 8, 9, 14, 15, January 5, 6, 11, 13, 18, 19, 20, 25, 26, 27
- ❖ **11.00am** performances are on: December 3, 10, 21, 28, 29, January 7, 14, 21
- ❖ **1.30pm** performances are on: November 24, 25, 29, 30, December 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, January 5, 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 24, 25
- ❖ **2.30pm** performances are on: December 10, 11, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, January 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, 29.
- ❖ **7.00pm** performances are on: December 17, 22, 23, 30, January 28.

During the run of **TOM'S MIDNIGHT GARDEN** there will be a programme of accompanying events and workshops including:

- ❖ **Family Days** on 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 28, 29 December, 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22 and 28 January.
- ❖ **INSET:** Unicorn Education offers INSET workshops and teacher courses to support classroom practice and visits exploring ways of responding to the characters, themes and events in the production and the novel.
- ❖ **School Workshop Days.** These are a chance for a class of children to take part in a pre-show workshop, have their packed lunch in the John Lyon Room and then see the show. *School Workshop Days* cost £11.00 per child. Teachers attend free. School Workshop Days are on January 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, and 25.

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## EXPLORE THE UNICORN'S INSTALLATION PROJECT

### IN THE BOX

(For everyone aged 5+. Unicorn's opening show in the 120 seat River Theatre running from 24 November 2005 – 29 January 2006.)

**IN THE BOX**, is a guided installation directed by Alison Barry and designed by **Rachana Jadhav**. Music and sound design are by **John Avery**, lighting is by **Ciaran Bagnall** and the Education Consultant is **Susanna Steele**.

***IN THE BOX** brings together the work of Unicorn Education's visual and word art projects with six to eleven year olds from six local primary schools. Climb inside and experience their world in everything from soundscapes to sculptures, poetry to painting and see their journey as artists and thinkers. During the run of **IN THE BOX** there will be accompanying INSET workshops led by artists **Susanna Steele** and **Tessa Garland**.*

**IN THE BOX** is funded by the **Pool of London Partnership** through the **Government's Single Regeneration Budget Challenge Fund**, part funded by the **London Development Agency**.

**IN THE BOX** is presented at the River Theatre at the Unicorn:

- ❖ **11.30am** performances are on: November 24, 25, 29, 30, December 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, January 5, 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 24, 25, 26 .
- ❖ **12.30pm** performances are on: December 10, 11, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 30, 31, January 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, 29.
- ❖ **1.15pm** performances are on: 30 November, December 8, 9, 14, 15, January 5, 6, 11, 13, 18, 19, 20, 25, 27.
- ❖ **2.00pm** performances are on: December 10, 28, 29, January 7, 14, 21.
- ❖ **5.00pm** performances are on: December 17, 22, 23, 30, January 28.
- ❖ **5.15pm** performances are on: December 20, 21, 27, 28, 29.

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## WORLD PREMIERE OF CARL MILLER'S ADAPTATION OF

### JOURNEY TO THE RIVER SEA

(For everyone aged 7+. Weston Theatre, 09 February – 25 March '06)

The Unicorn and **Theatre Centre** present **Carl Miller's** adaptation of **Eva Ibbotson's** award-winning book, **JOURNEY TO THE RIVER SEA**. Directed by **Rosamunde Hutt**, Artistic Director of Theatre Centre, Musical Director is **Matthew Bailey**, lighting by **Ceri James**, choreography by **Jeanfer Jean-Charles** and set design by **Nettie Scriven**.

*Amazon rhythms beat and the colours of Brazil explode in a vibrant new adaptation of this modern children's classic. Live music and dance thread through the thrill-packed journey of orphan Maia, adrift on the world's greatest river, forging new friendships amidst life-changing adventures. Packed with all the colourful characters, laughter and action you would expect from Eva Ibbotson, this is a tale of children who lead big lives.*

**Carl Miller** is Associate Director/Literary Manager of the Unicorn. Previously he was Artistic Director of the Young People's programme at the Royal Court. His plays include *Janet and Jane*, *Descent*, *The Last Enemy* and *Master Betty*.

**Eva Ibbotson's** novel **JOURNEY TO THE RIVER SEA** was the winner of the Smarties Gold Medal for Best Children's Book. Her other novels include *Magic Flutes*, *The Worm* and the *Toffee-nosed Princess*, *Dial-a-Ghost* and most recently, *Beasts of Clawstone Castle*.

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**JOURNEY TO THE RIVER SEA** plays in the Weston Theatre at the Unicorn:

- ❖ **10.15am** performances are on February 22, March 3, 9 10, 16, 22, 23, 24
- ❖ **1.30pm** performances are on February 9, 21, 22, 23, 28, March 1, 2, 7, 8, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22
- ❖ **2.30pm** performances are on February 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 25, 26, March 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 19, 25
- ❖ **7pm** performances are on February 10, 17, 18, 24, 25 March 3, 4, 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, 25

### **Family Days**

During the run of **JOURNEY TO THE RIVER SEA** there will be accompanying Family Days on February 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 25, 26 and March 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 19, 25.

Following its world première at the Unicorn **JOURNEY TO THE RIVER SEA** will tour to:

- ❖ Gala, Durham (28 March – 1 April),
- ❖ MacRobert Arts Centre, Stirling (11 – 15 April),
- ❖ Lighthouse, Poole (25 –29 April)
- ❖ Theatre Royal, York (2-6 May).

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**CO-PRODUCTION WITH TEATRO DELLE BRICIOLE, THE BRITISH PREMIERE OF:**

**WITH A DOLL IN HER POCKET**

(For children aged 4-8 years old. River Theatre, 07 – 26 February '06)

Italian Director, **Letizia Quintavalla**, will direct **Bruno Stori's** *Con la Bambola in Tasca*, translated by Rina Vergano. **WITH A DOLL IN HER POCKET**, performed by **Laura Magni**, is an English translation by Rina Vergano commissioned by the Unicorn Theatre. Designs are by **Flavia Armenzoni** and **Letizia Quintavalla** and music is by **Alessandro Nidi**.

*Based on a Russian tale comes the English language premiere of **WITH A DOLL IN HER POCKET** by Italy's celebrated Teatro delle Briciole. **WITH A DOLL IN HER POCKET** is a wickedly beautiful, mesmerising fairytale for younger children which forges a unique relationship between the actor and the audience.*

Founded in 1976, the Italian theatre company Teatro delle Briciole has received recognition both at home and abroad. Its work is targeted at the very young to adolescents and adult audiences. With a strong focus on the importance of theatre in school and education, Teatro delle Briciole creates performances which necessitate an unusual level of interaction from its audiences.

**WITH A DOLL IN HER POCKET** is presented at the River Theatre at the Unicorn:

- ❖ **10.30am** performances are on February 7, 8, 9, 10, 21, 22, 23
- ❖ **11.00am** performances are on February 24
- ❖ **12 noon** performances are on February 11, 15, 16, 17, 18, 25
- ❖ **1.00pm** performances are on February 7, 8, 9
- ❖ **3.00pm** performances are on February 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23

Following its British première at the Unicorn, **WITH A DOLL IN HER POCKET** will tour to Brighton Pavilion Theatre (3 & 4 March), Warwick Arts Centre (10 & 11 March), York Theatre Royal (21- 25 March), The Egg, Bath (28 March – 1 April) and MacRobert Arts Centre, Stirling (4 – 8 April).

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## A THEATRICAL AND MUSICAL JOURNEY DIRECTED BY TONY GRAHAM

### PLAY ANTARCTICA

(For everyone aged 8+. River Theatre, 10 March – 30 April '06)

The Unicorn Theatre, supported by **Molecule Theatre**, presents **PLAY ANTARCTICA**, a theatrical and musical journey composed by **Craig Vear**, directed by **Tony Graham**. Extraordinary puppetry is provided by **Sean Myatt** with **Steve Tiplady** acting as Puppetry Adviser.

*Penguins, puppets and paper. **PLAY ANTARCTICA** is based on the real life journey of musician **Craig Vear**, who in late 2003 made field recordings of life in the mysterious frozen world of Antarctica for an electronic symphony. **Craig Vear** set out to discover the silence and the natural music of this awe-inspiring continent, but along the way he found something that lies at the heart of every great adventure ....*

**Craig Vear**, an electro-acoustic composer, is a winner of the joint fellowship with Arts Council England and British Antarctic Survey's Artists and Writer Programme, which funded his trip to Antarctica.

**PLAY ANTARCTICA** is presented at the River Theatre at the Unicorn:

- ❖ **10.30am** performances are on March 17, 22, 23, 24, 29, 30, April 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28
- ❖ **1.00pm** performances are on March 14, 15, 16, 21, 23, 28, 29, April 20, 25, 26
- ❖ **1.30pm** performance is on March 10
- ❖ **2.00pm** performances are on March 11, 12, 18, 19, 25, 26, April 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 15, 22, 23, 29 30
- ❖ **5.00pm** performances are on March 11, 18, 25
- ❖ **7.00pm** performances are on April 1, 7, 8, 12, 15, 22, 29

### **Family Days**

During the run of **PLAY ANTARCTICA** there will be accompanying Family Days on 11 and 13 April.

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## REBECCA GATWARD DIRECTS BRYONY LAVERY'S

### YIKES!

(For everyone aged 6+. Weston Theatre, 06 April – 14 May '06)

Bryony Lavery's **YIKES!** is directed by **Rebecca Gatward**, designs by **Liz Cooke** with lighting by **Colin Grenfell** and music by **Gary Yershon**. **YIKES!** highlights Unicorn's commitment to new writing and music.

***"Let's go to the top of the mound, to the spooky old graveyard  
with the things in the ground, with the woo woos and nyi nyis..."***

*YIKES!* is a larger than life comedy musical for anyone who loves to be frightened silly!

**Bryony Lavery** has written more than 20 plays, a range of novels as well as producing for television and radio. Her most celebrated work, *Frozen*, which opened at the National Theatre with **Anita Dobson**, **Josie Lawrence** and **Tom Georgeson** subsequently transferred to New York.

**Rebecca Gatward** is Associate Director of the Unicorn where she directed Ken Campbell's *Old King Cole*. Her other directing credits include *Thyestes* for the Royal Shakespeare Company, *The Accrington Pals* for the West Yorkshire Playhouse, *The Magic Toyshop* for Shared Experience and *The Three Birds* for the Gate Theatre. Rebecca is currently co-directing the RSC's new extravaganza, *The Canterbury Tales*. **YIKES!** plays at the Weston Theatre at the Unicorn:

- ❖ **10.15am** performances are on April 20, 21, 26, 27, 28, May 3, 4, 5, 10, 12
- ❖ **11.30am** performances are on April 8, 13, 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13
- ❖ **1.30pm** performances are on April 6, 7, 19, 20, 25, 26, May 2, 4, 9, 10, 11
- ❖ **2.30pm** performances are on April 9, 23, 30, May 7, 14
- ❖ **3.00pm** performances are on April 8, 11, 12, 13, 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13

### **Family Days**

Family Days on 22, 23, 29, 30 April and 6, 7, 13, 14 May.

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## WEE STORIES PRESENT ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON'S

### TREASURE ISLAND

(For everyone aged 8+. Weston Theatre 24 May – 10 June '06)

Award-winning Scottish children's theatre company, **Wee Stories** will present Robert Louis Stevenson's **TREASURE ISLAND** directed and performed by **Andy Cannon** and **Iain Johnstone**.

*Andy Cannon and Iain Johnstone re-tell Stevenson's classic adventure with blood, guts and a double bass. Our hero Jim Hawkins sets out on one of the most famous adventures in history, as he joins the crew of the Hispaniola in search of pirate treasure.*

Wee Stories is passionate about telling stories. Based in Scotland, this Scottish children's theatre company tours throughout the UK and beyond to audiences of all ages.

Wee Stories, founded in 1995, won the Equity Award for Best Show for Children and Young People in the 2004 TMA Theatre awards for Arthur, The Story of a King . Arthur, The Story of a King also won the Critics' Award for Theatre in Scotland for Best Children's Show in June 2005, having also received nominations for Best Production and Best Directors.

**TREASURE ISLAND** plays at the Weston Theatre at the Unicorn:

- ❖ **10.15am** performances are on May 24, 25, 26, June 6, 8, 9
- ❖ **11.30am** performances are on May 27, 31, June 3, 10
- ❖ **1.30pm** performances are on May 24, 26, June 6, 7, 8
- ❖ **2.30pm** performances are on May 28, June 4
- ❖ **3.00pm** performances are on May 27, 30, 31, June 1, 2, 3, 10

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### **Further information and Images**

This press release is supported via a dedicated Unicorn Theatre section at [www.kallaway.co.uk/unicorn.htm](http://www.kallaway.co.uk/unicorn.htm). All information about the new season is detailed including high resolution images for download. All other Unicorn press releases and high resolution photographs are also available.

### **Unicorn Theatre Season Brochure**

To request a Unicorn Season Brochure please contact Sally Wrench at the Unicorn theatre on 0207 697 1167 or email [sally.wrench@unicorntheatre.com](mailto:sally.wrench@unicorntheatre.com). The Unicorn Season Brochure can also be downloaded from [www.kallaway.co.uk/unicorn.htm](http://www.kallaway.co.uk/unicorn.htm). To join Unicorn's mailing list, please visit [www.unicorntheatre.com](http://www.unicorntheatre.com).

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### **About the Unicorn Theatre**

Unicorn is the one of the foremost producers of theatre for children in the UK. Founded in 1947, Unicorn has been creating theatre productions for 4 - 12 year-olds for 58 years. It aims to produce theatre with the power to transform a child's understanding of the world around them and provide spectacular learning opportunities. All children are welcome. Unicorn runs programmes for deaf and hearing-impaired children as well as those from disadvantaged communities. Its AccessWorks programme has enabled over 15,000 children in financial hardship to see productions.

### **About the new £13m Unicorn Theatre**

Unicorn is located on Tooley Street, close to City Hall and Tower Bridge. It is part of the More London development, which follows the Foster & Partners masterplan for the area. Unicorn is designed by Keith Williams Architects and Mansell Construction Services is the lead contractor. The design team includes:

- ❖ Theatre Projects Consultants - Theatre Consultants
- ❖ Charcoalblue - Theatre Consultants
- ❖ Bucknall Austin - Quantity Surveyors
- ❖ Arup Associates - Structural, Service and Mechanical Engineers
- ❖ Arup Acoustics - Acousticians
- ❖ Buro Happold - Access Consultants

Unicorn's plans and models have been exhibited in the Theatre Museum, Covent Garden along with other ground breaking theatre designs and, in 2003, it won the Architectural Review/MIPIM Award for Future Projects.

**DOCUMENT END**