

LAMBCO Productions presents

The TAILOR-MADE MAN

Hollywood's
scandalous cover-up
by Claudio Macor

**STAGE
DOOR
THEATRE**
150 DRURY LANE
stagedoortheatre.co.uk

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRODUCER

We're thrilled you've come and thank you for supporting live theatre.

Without your patronage we could not be here at the Stage Door Theatre. We hope that you'll enjoy watching this show. Please tell your family and friends that we're here and post about us on social media:

Facebook: @lambcoprods • Twitter/X: @lambco_prods • Instagram: lambcoproductions

LAMBCO PRODUCTIONS

LAMBCO is an independent live entertainment production company based in London.

LAMBCO has also produced *Do You Have A Secret Crush?* (Sleeping with Straight Men) (Lost Theatre); five Christmas skating events (Torquay); *Bluebirds* (Above The Stag); *Sincerely Yours* and associate producer for *Bewitchment on Black Ice* (Landor), *Boys in the Buff* and *Skin Deep*, both of which received 5 Star Reviews. *Skin Deep* then went on a National Tour and the Edinburgh Fringe Festival gaining another 5 Star Review and a Fringe Award from "Scots Gay", *The Crumple Zone* and *Margot, Dame, the Most Famous Ballerina in the World* (King's Head Theatre).

At the Drayton Arms Theatre and Ed Fest, LAMBCO produced *Boys in the Buff*, *Tickle*, *Soho Boy*, *Bette Midler and Me*, *Twinkle and Love is Blue*. Playbill chose *Boys In The Buff* as their "pick of the fringe" and the Scotsman declared *Tickle* and *Boys In The Buff*, two of the Fringe's four sexiest musicals.

Further details about LAMBCO are at www.lambcoproductions.co.uk

Many thanks to Gini Lazzoni and the staff of the Prince of Wales.

CAST

Hugo Pilcher	William 'Billy' Haines
Gwithian Evans	Jimmie Shields, E. Mason Hopper, Roderick
Peter Rae	Howard Strickling, Victor Darro
Shelley Rivers	Miss Marion Davies
Olivia Ruggiero	Miss Carey, Miss Pola Negri, Miss Carole Lombard
Dereck Walker	Louis B. Mayer

CREATIVES

Written by	Claudio Macor
Directed by	Robert McWhir
Designed by	David Shields
Costume Design	Janet Huckle
Original compositions	Aaron Clingham
Lighting Design	Richard Lambert
Video Design	Steve Caplin
Props Construction	Mark Magill
Crew	Chris Marsh-Hilfiker, Daniel Preciado
Production Photography	Peter Davies
Press	Kevin Wilson PR

FOR THE STAGE DOOR THEATRE

Patron	Su Pollard
Board members	Josephine Buchan (Cultural) Prav MJ (Development) Andrew Harmer (Chair and Legal)
Artistic Director	Robert McWhir
Executive Director	Richard Lambert
Musical Director	Aaron Clingham
Website and graphic design	Steve Caplin

INTRODUCTION

HELLO, AND WELCOME to the Stage Door Theatre in the heart of Covent Garden. You are currently sitting in the first (and only) pop up pub theatre in the West End – not only that, but you can have dinner served right where you are now, prior to the show – how about that! I'm thrilled to join Richard and LAMBCO in this new venture. We have worked together many, many times in various different venues, and it's great to be back in our own space. The Stage Door Theatre provides somewhere to meet for drinks, dinner *and* a show, a one-stop shop for a fantastic night out with friends.

Our first theatrical play (as opposed to musical) is *The Tailor-Made Man*. This brand-new and distinctly different production of Claudio Macor's sensational (in every sense of the word!) play, *The Tailor-Made Man* tells the true story of Hollywood heartthrob William "Billy" Haines, a popular silent screen MGM movie star who was fired by Louis B. Mayer because he was gay and refused to give up his lifelong partner. As punishment, his films were removed from release and sealed in the MGM vaults, never to be seen again. But Billy and Jimmy's turbulent, passionate love affair was to survive and lasted over 50 years.

Our next LAMBCO production here at the Stage Door Theatre will be the UK première of *The Story Of My Life* by composer-lyricist Neil Bartram and librettist Brian Hill. Nominated for four 2009 Drama Desk Awards, including Outstanding Musical, this Broadway musical candidly explores the simplicity of human need and the complexity of the feelings under which it lies buried – an emotional tribute to the people who change our lives.

Anyway, back to tonight's performance of *The Tailor-Made Man*. I really hope you enjoy this performance as much as we enjoyed making it for you and that we will see you back at the Stage Door again very soon!

Robert McWhir, Artistic Director

CAST



HUGO PILCHER

Training: The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama

Theatre Credits: Hugo is delighted to be making his London theatre debut.

Theatre Credits Whilst in Training: Brack in *Hedda Gabler* (Royal Central), Sir Arthur in *The Witch of Edmonton* (Royal Central), Conrade in *Much Ado About Nothing* (Royal Central), The Judge in *The Government Inspector* (Royal Central).

Instagram: hugo_pilcher



GWITHIAN EVANS

Theatre credits include: Christopher Wren in *The Mousetrap* (St Martins Theatre); Michael in *The Elephant Song* (Park Theatre); Benedick in *Much Ado About Nothing* (Folksy Theatre); *Jane Eyre* (Minack Theatre); "Sailor, Beware!" and *Spider's Web* (Manor Pavilion Theatre, The Pomegranate Theatre); Gabriel in *Albion* (The Electric Theatre); *DIG* (Vaults Festival), *The Shape of Things* (Drayton Arms Theatre); Khlestakov in *A Government Inspector* (Hampton Hill Theatre); *Immortal* (Watermans Theatre); Edmund in *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* (Rose Theatre Kingston); *Two of a Kind*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor* and *Immortal* (Edinburgh Fringe Festival); *Timequake 500* (Hampton Court Palace); *The Snow Queen*, *The Last Post* and *Robin Hood* (Hobgoblin Theatre Company).

Voice-over credits include: Postman Pat in *Man vs Train* series (MASHED on Youtube); Mad Jack in *Fallout: London* (Fallout 4 MOD); The Great Bearded Man in *Eugenius!* (The Turbine Theatre); Bob in *Bob the Cowboy Builder* (MASHED on Youtube).



SHELLEY RIVERS

Training: LTA & RNCM

Theatre and TV credits include: Carlotta in *The Phantom Of The Opera* (X- Entricity Productions), Garbo *Frostbite* (LAMBCO Productions), Adele *Die Fledermaus* (Harrogate G&S Festival), Becca *Closure* (United National Theatre), Judy Garland *Starstruck* (Remarkable TV), Fairy *Iolanthe* (Carl Rosa Opera Company), Title role Nell Gwynn (Stoke Repertory Theatre), Titania *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Little Morton Hall), Coronation Street (ITV), Wicked Queen *SnowWhite* (Shone Productions); *The Magical Mermaid Treasure Island* (Shone Productions).

Instagram: @shelleyannerrivers



PETER RAE

Training: Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts

Theatre credits include: currently Lord Sebastian Hardcastle (& writer) in *Don't Take The Pith!* (Drayton Arms); Don Juan in *Don Juan* (Hoxton Hall); Marcus in *Dead Lies* (No. 1 UK tour, directed by Joe Harmston); Lord Sebastian Hardcastle (& writer) in *An Absolute Farce of a Murder Mystery* (Drayton Arms); Don John in *Much Ado About Nothing* (Oxford Shakespeare Company); Bernard Marx in *Brave New World* (TNT/ADG International Tour); Bob Cratchit & Marley's Ghost in *A Christmas Carol* (ADG International Tour); Claudius in *Hamlet* (Edinburgh Fringe & UK tour); Cecil Beaton in *Dancing With The Devil* (Sadler's Wells).

Film & Web Series: The Unnamed Man in forthcoming feature film *Quixotic* (& writer); Benjamin Hardcastle in *The Self-Tappers*; James in *Gentrification*.

Audio/Podcasts: The Narrator in *Victoriocity*; *Doctor Who* (various) for Big Finish; The Narrator in *Margate Murder Mystery*.

Web: CanonbieProductions.com



OLIVIA RUGGIERO

Training: Queensland Conservatorium, Griffith University

Theatre credits include: Anna in *A Merry Christmas Musical* (Winterfest – Away Resorts); Princess Jasmine in *Aladdin: Pantomime* (Winterfest – Away Resorts); Diva in *Broadway Diva* (Australian Tour, Edinburgh Fringe Festival), Woman in *Puppets* (Australian Tour, Edinburgh Fringe Festival) and Raelene in *S*** Storm* (Anywhere Festival)

Theatre credits while training include: Ursula in *Sweet Charity* (QCGU), Carmen in *The Life* (QCGU), Margarita in *West Side Story* (QCGU).



DERECK WALKER

Training: London School of Musical Theatre

Theatre Credits: Grandma in *George's Marvellous Medicine* (Birmingham Stage Company); Mr Birling in *An Inspector Calls*, Friar Laurence in *Romeo & Juliet* (Arty-Fact Theatre); Liberty in *Liberty Rides Forth*, Annie in *The Ugliest Do Edinburgh* (DK Productions); Quinny in *Get 'Em Off* and Don in *Grindr The Opera* (Above the Stag); Dame Trott in *Dick Whittington* (Extravaganza); Dame Herda Gerda in *Frostbite*, Tina Tickle in *Tickle the Musical* and Harold in *Twinkle* (Lambco Productions); Dame Queen Camilla in *Sleeping Beauty* (Red Entertainment).

CREATIVES

CLAUDIO MACOR WRITER



Claudio Macor was born in South Africa to Italian parents. He's fluent in Italian. After abandoning his acting career he moved to London in 1983 where he began writing plays. For the stage his credits include *Savage*, *Zanetto*, *In The Dead Of Night* (London 1989, 1998, 2015) *The End Of Innocence*, *Santa Cruz*, *The Other Man*, first stage adaptation of Gabriele D'Annunzio's classic Italian novel *L'innocente*, *The Man Inside*, *The Love Of An Angel*, *Casanova* (London 1991, 1996), *Venetian Heat* (London, 1988, 1994, 1999) *The Tailor-Made Man* (London 1992 1993, 1996, 2017, 2024, San Diego, Los Angeles, and off-Broadway New York, it has also been adapted for the radio, Freedom Radio produced by Rob Falconer, directed by Chris Bould starring two time Oscar Nominee Judd Hirsch as Louis B Mayer, Thames Television Showcase and a musical). *Margot – Dame*, *the Most Famous Ballerina in the World* and *Different from the Others* (LPT Best New Play) Off-West Award End Best New Play nomination.

Screenplays: *The Tailor-Made Man*, *Savage*, *In The Dead Of Night* and *Out Of The Night*.

The Tailor-Made Man and *Savage* are published by Oberon Books/Bloomsbury Publishing.

ROBERT MCWHIR DIRECTOR



As Director:

2024: *Marry Me A Little* (Stage Door Theatre)

2023: *Dreamcoat Stars* (National Tour), *The Small Hours*, *Boeing Boeing* (Manor Pavilion, Sidmouth), *Tinderella* (Union Theatre), *Sleeping Beauty* (Queen's Theatre, Barnstaple).

2022: *How The Other Half Loves* (Manor Pavilion, Sidmouth), *Jack & The Beanstalk* (Queen's Theatre).

2021: *Sailor Beware!* (Manor Pavilion, Sidmouth)

2020: *Change Of Heart* (St James' Theatre), *Next Thing You Know*, *Frostbite* (Who Pinched My Muff!) (Garden Theatre, Vauxhall).

2019: *Beauty & The Beast* (Ferneham Hall, Fareham), *Tickle*, *the musical* (Kings Head), *Double Death* and *The Kingfisher* (Manor Pavilion, Sidmouth), *The King's Speech*

(Theatre Royal, Windsor & Manor Pavilion, Sidmouth), *Queeretereia TV*, *Goodbye Norma Jean*, [title of show] (Above The Stag).

2018: *Cinderella* (Ferneham Hall, Fareham), *The Crumple Zone* (Kings Head), *The Musical of Musicals*, *the Musical* (Above The Stag), *Strictly Murder* (Manor Pavilion, Sidmouth), *The Dresser* and *Lloyd George Knew My Father* (Theatre Royal, Windsor & Manor Pavilion, Sidmouth), *Mousetrap Projects 21st Birthday Gala* (Prince of Wales).

2017: *Beauty & The Beast* (Watersmeet, Rickmansworth), *House Guest* (Theatre Royal, Windsor & Manor Pavilion, Sidmouth), *He Shoots! He Scores!* (Above The Stag), *The Crumple Zone* (Pleasance), *Jonathan D. Ellis & The 20th Century Foxes* (Brasserie Zedel).

2016: *Sleeping Beauty* (Ferneham Hall, Fareham), *An Evening With Webborn & Finn* (St James'), *The Ladykillers* (Theatre Royal, Windsor & Manor Pavilion), *Grand Central* (Charing Cross Theatre), *Get 'Em Off! the musical* and *Torsten, The Beautiful Libertine* (Above The Stag).

2015: *Dick Whittington* (Ferneham Hall, Fareham), *The Rhythm Of Life* (St James' Theatre), *Personals*, *Romance Romance* and *The Clockmaker's Daughter* (Londor Theatre), *The World According To Nancy Dell'Olio* (Hippodrome Casino), *Rent Boy*, *the musical* and *The Bus* (Above The Stag). Before going freelance, Robert was Artistic Director of the Landor Theatre for 16 years where productions were too numerous (and brief) to mention, but notably included *She Loves Me*, *The Man Inside*, *Meet Me In St Louis*, *A Class Act*, *Curtains*, *Ragtime*, *Tomorrow Morning*, *Into The Woods*, *I Love You Because* and *Follies*.

AARON CLINGHAM MUSICAL COMPOSITIONS



Aaron has received 11 Off-West End Award Nominations for Best Musical Director and was nominated for a Broadway World Award for *The Apple Tree* (Ye Olde Rose and Crown Theatre).

Favourite credits as Musical Director include: *Marry Me A Little* (Stage Door Theatre); *Into the Woods* (The Cockpit); *Betty Blue Eyes* (Union Theatre); *Romance Romance*, *Fanny & Stella*, [title of show] and *Grindr The Opera* (Above The Stag); *Metropolis*, *The Kissing Dance*, *Wonderful Town* and *A Little Night Music* (Ye Olde Rose and Crown); *Faking Bad* (Turbine Theatre); *Sleeping Beauty* (Charing Cross Theatre); *My Land's Shore* (Theatr Soar); *It's a Bird...It's A Plane...It's Superman* (Leicester

Square Theatre); *The Ripper's Five* (Theatro Technis); *Naked Boys Singing* (King's Head and Garden Theatre); *Sondheim by Sondheim* (Roundhouse); *Next Thing You Know* (Garden Theatre); *Dorian: Son Of Love and Death* (The Other Palace); *Soho Boy, Boys In the Buff* and *Tickle* (Drayton Arms) and *Cinderella* (White Rock Theatre).

Credits as Orchestrator include: *Romance Romance*, *Grindr The Opera*, *Metropolis*, *Into The Woods*, *110 In The Shade* and *My Land's Shore*.

Cabaret credits include: *Mountains – A Musical Journey* (St. James Studio and Jermyn Street Theatre), *An Evening of Sondheim* (Lauderdale House), *Don't Ask the Lady!* and *Dorothy and Friends* (Crazy Coqs) and *Tim McArthur and Friends* (Hippodrome Casino).

Recording credits include: *Grindr The Opera* and *The Pleasure Garden* (Jay Records).

@aaronclingham

JANET HUCKLE COSTUME SUPERVISOR

Janet is a graduate of Reading University and Goldsmith's College, University of London.

She has designed and costumed for many years for shows including *Grease*, *The Beggars Opera*, *Bugsy Malone*, *Into the Woods*, *A Midsummer's Night's Dream*, *Die Fledermaus*, *Honk*, *High Society*, *Dad's Army*, *Jack the Ripper*, *Top Hat*, *Copacabana* and *Wizard of Oz*. *Living Together*, *Absent Friends* and *Taking Steps* at OSO Barnes; *Boeing Boeing*, *Handbagged* and *Wife Begins at Forty* at Theatre Royal Windsor. *But I'm a Cheerleader*, *Faking Bad* and *Nutcracker* at The Turbine Theatre; *Made in Dagenham* (staged concert) at The London Palladium; *Elf* and *Romeo & Juliet* (the Musical) at Cultural Hall Bahrain.

Directing credits include: *Crazy for You*, *Twelfth Night*, *Kiss me Kate*, *Our Country's Good* and *The Addams Family*. *Oliver*, *Me and My Girl*, *Guys and Dolls* and *Anything Goes* at Wimbledon Theatre. She has been responsible for costuming The Paul Taylor-Mills Sidmouth Summer Play Festival from 2018 to present.

DAVID SHIELDS DESIGNER

David has designed the sets and costumes for plays, musicals and other spectacles at venues of every scale from International arena tours to studio theatres via prominent international and regional producing houses and

the West End. Some of his many credits include *Strictly Come Dancing The Professionals* (UK Tour), *Ant and Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway on Tour*, (UK Arena tour), *The Last five Years*, Associate designer, *The Other Palace*, (directed by Jason Robert Brown).

National Touring productions of *End of the Rainbow*, *Little Shop of Horrors* and *Our House*. *Hair in Concert* (London Palladium), *Pippin* (Charing Cross Theatre), *Heathers The Musical*, (Theatre Royal Haymarket, National tours and The Other Palace), *The Pleasure Garden* (Offie 2021 Award winner, best set design), *The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me* (Wimbledon Studio Theatre), *But I'm A Cheerleader* (Turbine Theatre), *Oh, And Another Thing*, an evening with Su Pollard (Tour), *Rose* starring Dame Maureen Lipman (Ambassadors Theatre).

RICHARD LAMBERT LIGHTING DESIGNER



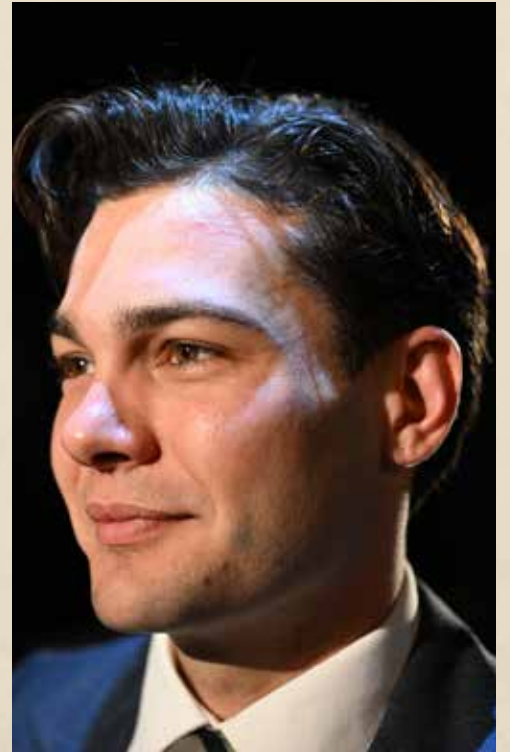
Boys in the Buff (Best lighting design OFFIE Nomination); *Twinkle*, *Tickle*, *Boys in the Buff*, *Love is Blue* (Drayton Arms Theatre and Ed Fringe 2023); *Soho Boy* (Drayton Arms Theatre and Ed Fest 2022); *Bette Midler & Me* (Garden Theatre, Ed Fest 2022, Town and Gown, Drayton Arms); *Frostbite*, *Next Thing You Know*, *Pippin*, *Fanny & Stella* (Garden Theatre); *Undetectable* (Best lighting design OFFIE Nomination); *The Crumple Zone* (King's Head); *Skin Deep* (Ed Fest 2018, UK Tour); *Marry Me A Little*, *Muscles the Musical*, *Alvaro's Balcony*, *Discotivity*, *Stand Tall*, *Vincent River*, *The Hot Mikado*, *Get Aladdin*, *A Class Act*, *Next Thing You Know*, *Nunsense*, *Bakewell Bakeoff*, *Meet Me in St. Louis*, *No Way to Treat a Lady*, *The Man Inside*, *Damn Yankees* (OFFIE award nomination), *She Loves Me*, *In the Dead of Night*, *The Clockmaker's Daughter*, *Sincerely Yours*, *Personals*, *Romance Romance*, *Devilish the musical* (Londor Theatre); *Margot*, *Dame*, *the Most Famous Ballerina in the World* and *Boys in the Buff*, at the King's Head.

Other credits: Luseil Stadium (FIFA World Cup 2022); Erasmus Bridge (Rotterdam); *Disney on Ice* (7 continents, Tokyo Budokan, New Orleans Super Dome, Toronto Sky Dome, NYC Radio City Music Hall), *Royal Wedding Dress Exhibition* (Kensington Palace), *#Hashtag Lightie* (Arcola Theatre), *Cirque Enchantment* (UK Tour) and *Jazz Dance Company UK Tour* (8th year). *Do you Have a Secret Crush* (*Sleeping with Straight Men*)? (LOST Theatre).

Website: lambcolighting.co.uk







BILLY HAINES BY DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS JR

BILLY HAINES is, physically, a most annoying and contradictory person.

He is muscular without being athletic, yet when he walks there is a certain grace that suggests delicacy. There is masculinity in his actions, yet a definite tendency toward femininity in his thoughts.

Being at heart an expressionistic artist, he has a great deal of the woman in him that is best expressed in his discriminating taste in decorations, furniture and art works. He runs an antique shop in Hollywood under a friend's name.

He is embarrassingly frank in everything that he does. He carries about him no inhibitions or "spooks" as to convention or precedents, and does what he damn well pleases, either because he wants to, or because he thinks it is right. He is candid to a fault.

He seems to be forever seeking something, and whilst passing away the time, he will act the clown. It is a contagious humor which has seldom, if ever, been what one would conservatively term dignified. In fact, he frankly states that only the Rabelaisian species of humor really appeals to him.

He is the only individual that comes to my mind who can tell an anecdote and at the conclusion be his own most enthusiastic audience without being offensive. He has a deep spasmodic laugh that seems to deprive him of his breath every few moments—most

Published in *Vanity Fair*, 1932

of the time it is forced, and one may, with a little effort, detect it.

He is the life of every party—its most likable fool, and at the same time its most profound philosopher.

He rarely imbibes to any considerable degree, yet he can go the limit and never be suspected. He has a great deal of pride that visibly manifests itself at rare intervals. His temper is cautious and shrewd and his vocabulary at such times is devastating to say the least. He is super-sensitive and extraordinarily easy to offend.

He admires smart women. If he knows the lady and she is not wearing what he considers the correct things, he will not hesitate—very politely—to tell her so. He is one of Marie Dressler's greatest and most ardent fans.

He takes great pleasure in dressing himself meticulously in whatever may be at the moment the *dernier cri*. He has a passion for large white linen handkerchiefs, and has an enviable collection of imported ties. He is a gourmet *par excellence*, but that talent has a potent tendency to carry him overweight.

When he is working he is forced by the demands of his profession to limit his luncheon to a slim glass of buttermilk. He is a diligent worker and the majority of his most amusing scenes are the result of an impromptu inspiration. He would rather be



a serious actor than a comedian, but being a good business man, he knows that at the moment his success lies in comedy.

The fresh character which he portrays in the cinema annoys him considerably more than it does some of us.

His most pregnant fear is that his hair is visibly thinning in front, making him easy prey for any and all hair growing systems.

There is still a trace of "Old Virginny" in his speech that adds a certain naiveté to his manner.

One needs but two things with which to arm oneself against such a calamity, and place oneself in a comfortable position for a good hearty laugh—first, read the reports from the theatre managers as to the increasing attendance of each succeeding picture; second, meet him and know him. *C'est assez.*



Pub dinner theatre in the heart of the West End

Upcoming productions

Sauna Boy

A look behind one of the world's most secretive industries

Composers of Note

Their music and their biographies

The Chemistry Test

Can binary code create romantic connections?

Sunday Roasts with Overtures

Scrumptious roast, glass of bubbly and a sing-along

Thief by Liam Rudden

Inspired by Jean Genet's "Sailor"

...and many more plays and musicals to come



See the website for full listings of theatre productions coming up at the Stage Door Theatre

stagedoortheatre.co.uk

Don't miss our next production...

The Story of My Life

UK premiere
of the Broadway musical

Nominated for four
2009 Drama Desk Awards
including Outstanding Musical,
The Story of My Life is a
Broadway rarity

Music & Lyrics by

NEIL BARTRAM

Book by

BRIAN HILL

By arrangement with Music Theatre International

4 September to 19 October

**STAGE
DOOR
THEATRE**
150 DRURY LANE
stagedoortheatre.co.uk