



Media Release

PETER BROOK RETURNS TO TRAMWAY

C.I.C.T. / Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord, Paris

11 and 12

Co-produced by barbicanbite¹⁰, London;

C.I.C.T. / Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord, Paris;

Grotowski Institute, Wroclaw

Tramway

Tuesday 30 March – Saturday 3 April 2010

Tickets on sale Friday 15 January 2010

Tramway is delighted to announce the return of **Peter Brook**, for the first time since *Les Beaux Jours* in 1997.

Directed by **Peter Brook**, this new play, which comes to Tramway as part of an international tour, explores an extraordinary conflict in West Africa under French occupation. It shows how a dispute over whether a certain prayer should be recited 11 or 12 times leads inexorably to hatred and massacres. The question of violence and the true place of tolerance make this epic story more than ever relevant today.

11 and 12 is adapted by Brook and **Marie-Hélène Estienne** and is based on Brook's play *Tierno Bokar* which was critically acclaimed during its run in Warwick in 2005 where it was performed in French. This new English-language production receives its UK premiere at the Barbican, London by an international cast including; **Makram J. Khoury; Tunji Lucas; Jared McNeill; Khalifa Natour; Abdou Ouologuem** and **Maximilien Seweryn**.

Over the past 50 years Peter Brook has irrevocably influenced the landscape of theatre, and has inspired a new generation of theatre practitioners. His work has been seen in bite three times previously, in 2007 with *Sizwe Banzi is Dead*, in 2006 with *The Grand Inquisitor* and in 2005 with *Ta main dans la mienne*.

11 and 12 is co-produced by **C.I.C.T. / Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord; barbicanbite 10, London** and **The Grotowski Institute, Wroclaw**. Presented in association with William Wilkinson for Millbrook Productions Limited.

LISTINGS INFORMATION

Peter Brook

11 and 12

Venue: Tramway
25 Albert Drive, Glasgow G41 2PE
0845 330 3501 www.tramway.org

Dates and time: Tue 30 March – Sat 3 April 2010, 7.30pm
Sat 3 April 2010, 2.30pm

Running time: 100 minutes

Tickets: £20 / £15

Age guidance: 14+

<http://www.tramway.org/>

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NOTES TO EDITORS

For Christians and Muslims alike, God through his Prophets has given to mankind a clear and simple commandment: "Thou Shalt Not Kill". Today we see that no rational thought, no intelligent debate, no social analysis has ever influenced nor can explain the endless current of hatred that pours through history.

The great African writer, Amadou Hampaté Bâ, born into traditional African village life and as a young man entering the French colonial administration, lived close to these agonising human realities and wrestled deeply with the questions they aroused. In his book *Tierno Bokar* he draws on vivid experiences from his own life, opening up images of uncontrollable passion in family, social and political relationships. The deep question of religion and its place in everyday life is ever-present, not to draw moral conclusions but to live through its frightening contradictions. These are the themes that are developed in *11 and 12*.

11 and 12 are two numbers which on a purely theological level have a deep hidden meaning. In the recent past, these abstract figures gradually took on flesh and blood, leading to feuds, violence and massacres.

11 and 12 also shows the unshakeable conviction of two remarkable individuals Tierno Bokar and Cherif Hamallah. They both believe that tolerance is the most difficult and the most essential quality for a human being to develop. They stand firm despite every pressure and in the end sacrifice their lives in the name of a supreme tolerance that can encompass violence with an even greater power. In this way, the theme of "11 and 12" is not only irresistibly fascinating as a dramatic narrative, but closer than ever to our preoccupations today.

11 and 12 is presented by a cast in which Israel-Palestinian, African and European actors come together. Presented by the Barbican Centre, the Bouffes du Nord and the Grotowski Institute, it opened in Paris in November 2009.

Peter Brook

Biographies

Peter BROOK

Peter Brook was born in London in 1925. He directed his first play there in 1943. He then went on to direct over 70 productions in London, Paris and New York. His work with the Royal Shakespeare Company includes *Love's Labour's Lost* (1946), *Measure for Measure* (1950), *Titus Andronicus* (1955), *King Lear* (1962), *Marat/Sade* (1964), *US* (1966), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (1970) and *Antony and Cleopatra* (1978).

In 1971, he founded with Micheline Rozan the International Centre for Theatre Research in Paris and in 1974, opened its permanent base in the Bouffes du Nord Theatre. There, he directed *Timon of Athens*, *The Ik*, *Ubu aux Bouffes*, *Conference of the Birds*, *L'Os*, *The Cherry Orchard*, *The Mahabharata*, *Woza Albert!*, *The*

Tempest, The Man Who, Qui est là?, Oh! les Beaux Jours, Je suis un Phénomène, Le Costume, The Tragedy of Hamlet, Far Away, La Mort de Krishna, Ta Main dans la Mienne, Le Grand Inquisiteur, Tierno Bokar, Sizwe Banzi is dead, Fragments, Warum Warum and Love is my Sin – many of these performing both in French and English.

In opera, he directed *La Bohème, Boris Godounov, The Olympians, Salomé* and *Le Nozze de Figaro* at Covent Garden; *Faust* and *Eugene Onegin* at the Metropolitan Opera House, New York, *La Tragédie de Carmen* and *Impressions of Pelleas*, at the Bouffes du Nord, Paris and *Don Giovanni* for the Aix en Provence Festival.

Peter Brook's autobiography, *Threads of Time*, was published in 1998 and joins other titles including *The Empty Space* (1968) – translated into over 15 languages, *The Shifting Point* (1987), *Evoking (and Forgetting) Shakespeare* (2002), *There are no Secrets* (1993) and *With Grotowski* (2009).

His films include *Lord of the Flies, Marat/Sade, King Lear, Moderato Cantabile, The Mahabharata* and *Meetings with Remarkable Men*.

Marie-Hélène ESTIENNE

Marie-Hélène Estienne has taken part in many theatre and cinema projects as author and production assistant. While a journalist at *Le Nouvel Observateur* and *Les Nouvelles Littéraires*, she became Michel Guy's assistant, working on the programming of the Paris Festival d'Automne.

In 1974 she worked on the casting of Peter Brook's *Timon of Athens*. She joined C.I.C.T. in 1977 for *Ubu aux Bouffes* and has since been production assistant for all the Centre's work.

She was also Brook's assistant for *La Tragédie de Carmen* and *The Mahabharata* and artistic collaborator for *The Tempest, Impressions de Pelléas* and more recently *The Tragedy of Hamlet* (2000). This collaboration developed to include dramaturgy for *Woza Albert !, The Man Who, and Qui est là ?*. She co-authored, with Peter Brook, *Je suis un Phénomène*, presented at Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord (1998). She was the author of the French language adaptation of *Le Costume* ("The Suit") by Can Themba, created in 1999 at Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord as well as *Far away*, by Caryl Churchill in 2002.

She collaborates on all the aspects of the work and together with Jean Claude Carrière has signed the texts of *La Tragédie d'Hamlet* (2002) and *La Mort de Krishna*.

She recently made the French adaptation of *Ta main dans la mienne* by Carol Rocamora, signed in 2003 the theatrical adaptation of *Le Grand Inquisiteur* by Dostoïevski and in 2004, *Tierno Bokar* from Amadou Hampaté Bâ's works. She lately adapted to French the play *Sizwe Banzi is dead* by Athol Fugard, John Kani and Winston Ntshona.

Toshi TSUCHITORI (composer)

Toshi Tsuchitori was born in Kagawa prefecture of Japan in 1950 and began performing on Japanese traditional drums at an early age. Since the 1970s he has performed internationally with specialists in free improvisation such as Milford Graves, Steve Lacy, Derek Bailey and others.

He began working with Peter Brook's theatre group in 1976, and has since created the music for productions including *Ubu*, *The Conference of the Birds*, *L'Os*, *The Mahabharata*, *The Tempest*, *The Tragedy of Hamlet* and *Tierno Bokar*.

He has studied traditional music from all over the world and for over a decade has been researching the earliest strata of Japanese music and presenting the results as musical performances. He has released a series of three recordings of prehistoric Japanese sounds entitled *Dotaku*, *Sanukaito* and *Jomonko*.

He has written two books: an autobiography, *Spiral Arms*, and a study of the music of prehistoric Japan, *The Sounds of Jomon*.

Tour Dates 2010

Poland

Wroclaw, Grotowski Institute
16 - 23 January 2010

UK

Barbican Theatre London
Friday 5 – Saturday 27 February 2010
Press performance: Wednesday 10 February, 7.45pm

New Zealand

Wellington, New Zealand Festival, St James Theatre
Wednesday 10 – Sunday 14 March 2010

UK

Tramway, Glasgow
Tuesday 30 March – Saturday 3 April 2010

Nottingham Playhouse, Nottingham
Tuesday 6 April – Saturday 10 April 2010

Northern Stage, Newcastle
Tuesday 20 April – Saturday 24 April 2010

Rose Theatre Kingston, Kingston
Tuesday 27 April – Saturday 1 May 2010

Spain

Madrid, Festival de Otono, Teatro Matadores
Thursday 13 – Tuesday 18 May 2010

Singapore

Singapore Arts Festival, Drama Centre
Wednesday 26 – Friday 28 May 2010

Australia

Sydney, Sydney Theatre Company, Sydney Theatre
Friday 4 – Sunday 13 June 2010

South Korea

Seoul, LG Arts Center
Thursday 17 – Sunday 20 June 2010

More dates in Asia to be confirmed.

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