

PRESS RELEASE

9 January 2018



Actors Touring Company and Orange Tree Theatre bring *Winter Solstice* to HOME Manchester, Tue 13 - 17 Feb 2018

When [Actors Touring Company](#)'s English language version of [Winter Solstice](#) received its world premiere at the Orange Tree Theatre in London early 2017, it received rave reviews and played to sell-out audiences.

To kick off the company's 40th anniversary, in early 2018, the company takes Roland Schimmelpfennig's startling drama to the road for a national tour of the UK, opening at [HOME](#) in Manchester, Tue 13 - 17 Feb 2018.

Winter Solstice tells the story of what appears to be a normal family. It is Christmas, in a Western middle class home. Bettina and her husband Albert aren't happy. Bettina's mother is staying for the holidays. Which is awkward. Not least because Bettina's mother met a man on the train. A charismatic, mesmerising man. Whose words carry echoes of a sinister past...

HOME

As a new - or maybe old? - kind of politics rises up around the world, this razor-sharp comedy exposes the betrayals at the heart of family and society, shedding light on the insidious shifting of the boundaries of acceptable political discourse.

Roland Schimmelpfennig is the most performed playwright in Germany, and one of the country's most original voices, with productions of his work staged in over 40 countries.

Winter Solstice (Wintersonnenwende) was premiered to great acclaim at the Dramaten in Stockholm in 2015. Schimmelpfennig's previous plays include *The Golden Dragon* and *Arabian Night*, both presented by Actors Touring Company. Other plays performed in the UK include *The Woman Before* and *Push Up* at the Royal Court. *Winter Solstice* is a co-production between Actors Touring Company and the Orange Tree Theatre, Richmond.

Actors Touring Company performed [The Events](#) at Number One First Street in 2014.

@home_mcr
#WinterSolstice

PERFORMANCE CALENDAR

Tue 13 Feb 2018 - 19:45

Wed 14 Feb 2018 - 14:15, 19:45 (press night performance)

Thu 15 Feb 2018 - 19:45

Fri 16 Feb 2018 - 19:45

Sat 17 Feb 2018 - 14:15, 19:45

TICKETS

£12.50 (concessions £10.50, £5).

PRESS NIGHT PERFORMANCE

Wed 14 Feb 2018 - 19:45

For further information - to request review tickets, images or interviews, please

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FUNDED BY:



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NOTES TO EDITORS

HOME, Manchester's centre for international contemporary art, theatre, film and books, officially opened its doors over the 2015 May Bank Holiday weekend. Designed by Dutch architects Mecanoo and featuring a 500-seat theatre; a 150-seat flexible theatre; a 500m², 4m high gallery space; five cinema screens; digital production and broadcast facilities; a café bar and restaurant. HOME's theatres are a platform for questioning and ambitious artistic projects that involve audiences with new and extraordinary theatrical experiences. The international contemporary visual art programme is dedicated to presenting new commissions by emerging and established artists of regional, national and international significance, with a bold, proactive policy of visual, innovative storytelling with the ability to experiment and explore, probe and provoke, creating a distinct experience for both artists and audiences. HOME's five cinemas showcase the very best in contemporary and classic cinema, screening works by artists and filmmakers both established and new. HOME is a centre for co-production, talent development and artistic creation, dedicated to learning, for people of all ages. A place for new work and playful ideas; of festivals and commissions; of artists and of audience engagement. The patrons of HOME are Danny Boyle, former National Theatre Artistic Director Nicholas Hytner, actress Suranne Jones, playwright and poet Jackie Kay MBE, artists Rosa Barba and Phil Collins, filmmaker Asif Kapadia, and actress and author Meera Syal CBE. After *Winter Solstice*, HOME's theatres stage [On the Outskirts Of A Large Event](#) (21 - 24 Feb 2018), [Circle Mirror Transformation](#) (2 - 17 Mar 2018), [Extraordinary Rendition](#) (7 - 9 Mar 2018), [Slap Talk](#) (10 Mar 2018), [The Flying Lovers of Vitebsk](#) (3 - 7 Apr 2018), [Minefield](#) (12 - 14 Apr 2018), [The Tiger Lillies: Corrido De La Sangre](#) (20 Apr - 5 May 2018), [Things Easily Forgotten](#) (25 - 28 Apr 2018), [Dollywould](#) (3 - 5 May 2018), [Long Day's Journey Into Night](#) (10 - 26 May 2018), [Jesus Hopped the 'A' Train](#) (16 - 19 May 2018), [Scottee: Fat Blokes](#) (22 - 24 May 2018), [The Duke](#) (6/7 June 2018), [Me & Robin Hood: Change the Story](#) (8/9 June 2018), [Diamond](#) (11 - 13 June 2018), [The Drill](#) (14 - 16 June 2018), [The Fishermen](#) (20 - 28 July 2018), [o t h e l l o m a c b e t h](#) (14 - 29 Sept 2018), [Släpstick](#) (13 - 22 Dec 2018), and [White](#) (13 - 23 Dec 2018). www.homemcr.org | @HOME_mcr



ACTORS TOURING COMPANY (ATC) makes international, contemporary theatre that travels. The company creates shows with a global perspective: activating and entertaining the audience whilst asking questions of the world around us. Placing the actor at the heart of its work, and employing a lean aesthetic which promotes environmental sustainability, ATC has toured the UK and internationally since being founded in 1977, reaching audiences far and wide. Current projects include *Living with the Lights On*, written and performed by Mark Lockyer and touring nationally, and *The Suppliant Women*, which receives its London premiere at the Young Vic last autumn. Other recent work includes *The Events* by David Greig (Traverse and Young Vic and UK and international tours 2013-6); *The Golden Dragon* by Roland Schimmelpfennig (Traverse & UK tour); and *Martyr* by Marius von Mayenburg (co-production with Unicorn Theatre and UK touring). www.atctheatre.com | @ATCLondon

THE ORANGE TREE THEATRE aims to delight, challenge, move and amaze with a bold and continually evolving mix of new and rediscovered plays in their unique in-the-round space. Over its forty-five-year history it has had an exceptional track record in discovering writers and promoting their early work, as well as rediscovering artists from the past whose work had either been disregarded or forgotten. Since Paul Miller became Artistic Director in 2014, the OT has been recognised for its work with a number of major industry awards, including 5 Offies (Off West End Awards), 3 UK Theatre Awards including London's Most Welcoming Theatre, the Alfred Fagon Audience Award and the Peter Brook Empty Space Award. www.orangetreetheatre.co.uk | @OrangeTreeThtr

Did you know that HOME is a charity? We need your support to bring the best film, theatre and art to Manchester and inspire the next generation. Get involved at www.homemcr.org/support

