

Context Theatre present  
**SHOCK AND AWE- the sequel**  
an evening of work in progress on war and media

26th May 2003, 7 pm  
Diorama 1

The SHOCK AND AWE series of evenings at The Cockpit Theatre were created to provide a forum for immediate responses to the war in Iraq. Through tonight's events we hope to further debate: how can theatre respond to the recent war? What is its frame of reference? its relationship with the political world beyond it? The contributions are in the main creations that are undergoing development and will have a life after tonight, and we would welcome feedback and response to help us in that process.

**Throughout the evening:**

**CanCan Artists: Interlude music**  
**Camilla Sanders, Keda Kashzadeh, Helen O'Paul**

CanCan Artists provide creative happenings in unexpected places, notably their recent 'Whitehall Cabaret.'

**PROVOKE PEACE: JULIA**

PROVOKE PIECE exists to enhance human harmony through the arts via live performance events. Julia will be singing lyrics composed in response to recent events.

**Context Theatre presents: Shot on Location**  
**By Sarmad Sehbai**

'Are you watching?  
Did you see it?  
Switch on, switch on.'

Sarmad Sehbai's monologue, originally written as a poem is performed for the first time by Claire Nowell and directed by Claire Pamment in an invisible theatre context. There are plans to perform the piece in a number of 'unofficial' locations around London in June.

Sarmad Sehbai: poet, screenwriter and film director is known in Pakistan for his unorthodox approach towards art and culture. He pioneered modern theatre with his very first play *'The Dark Room'*. He has been published and performed in English, Punjabi and Urdu.

**Tassos Stevens**

Tassos asks questions for a living. He is available for weddings, parties, funerals and marches.

**Running Order:**

**Escape Artists presents a Context Theatre production: Rolling News by Lance Woodman**  
**Director: Zoe Svendsen, Dramaturg: Claire Pamment, Actors: Scott Brooksbank, Paul Malcolm, Claire Nowell, Catherine Skinner.**

Rolling News: rolling into us, rolling over us and rolling past us. What's going on? There's no time to stop, no time to think. If there aren't any pictures, it hasn't happened.

When does information turn into white noise?

How can more and more information, more and more comment, make less sense? If one thing turns out to be untrue, how do we know if we can trust the rest?

Rolling News was originally presented at The Birmingham Rep's Beyond The Boundaries 2002. We hope that the creative process for Shock and Awe will lead to development of a full-length piece.

**CARDBOARD CITIZENS WRITING WORKSHOP**

**PROGRESS**

by Dell MacTaighn

**HATE**

by Gerry de Burca

**SHOCK AND AWE**

by Paul McCarthy and Alex Mahony

**THE COMMUNITY BARBER**

by Redley Silva

Performed by Gerry, Dele, and Redley.

When Jonathan Chadwick circulated his invitation for responses to the war, it reached Cardboard Citizens Writing Workshop. At our first session this term Penny Cliff led a session around the theme of Shock and Awe. Our workshops are open to all, attended by experienced writers as well as novices. It's particularly exciting that some of these pieces were created by people exploring writing for the first time. We are very happy to have the opportunity to present them again tonight.

**Mayakovsky's Circus.****A minute of silence For Everyone ?****Dramatised by Zoe Simon, Natalie Wilcox and Doug Holton.**

Dramatising the silence behind the noise...

Mayakovsky's Circus came together after working on Lysistrata as part of a world wide artistic anti-war statement., with the aim of producing courageous and innovative work from any century and any part of the world. One of our first aims is to draw attention to the works of the great Bolshevik poet Vladimir Mayakovsky by bringing them to the British stage.

**A Stoke Newington Mum On War****Written and directed by Suzanne Gorman, performed by Emma Kedge.**

A satirical look at one woman's struggle to be the best middle class liberal in a world full of privilege and distraction.

Emma Kedge trained at Dartington College of Arts. Since graduating, she co-founded 2 to1 Against Theatre Company, devising and performing a variety of new work. Suzanne Gorman trained at Dartington College of Arts and is currently a freelance director. She has recently worked as assistant director for Shared Experience's *A Passage To India*.

**Foreground/Background (working title)****Created by Helen Eastman in collaboration with Wayne Reid, Anthony Shuster and Jamie Zubairi for the Young Vic Studio evening 'On War' and is performed tonight by Anthony Shuster, Antony Eden and Jamie Zubairi.**

An immediate response to America declaring the war with Iraq was over. It explored perspective on the war, through the media, through direct involvement and a terrifying amount of it is verbatim or reportage.

**Thank you**

Context Theatre would like to say a big thank you to our audience, Matthew and Christine at Escape Artists, Emma Schad (The Red Room), Jonathan Chadwick (Meeting Ground), Adam Nayyar (Lok Virsa, Pakistan), Catherine Large (BAC) and all of our contributors who pulled together at the last minute!

**Context Theatre**

Context Theatre is an association of theatre practitioners, founded by Claire Pamment (dramaturg) and Zoe Svendsen (director), promoting a working methodology that places dramaturgy at the forefront of practice in order to re-establish the connection between the play and the political and social world in which it takes place. Context Theatre is a Junction/CDC Theatreplan supported company 2002-4.

[PDF downloaded from [www.contexttheatre.co.uk](http://www.contexttheatre.co.uk)]