

Freehouse present

'Master Harold'... and The Boys

by **Athol Fugard**

At the Southwark Playhouse
31 August - 18 September at 7.30pm
Saturday Matinees at 3pm

Press Night Tuesday 31st August at 7.30pm

Directed by Joyce Branagh Cast Jonathan Broadbent
Designed by Becky Hurst Ewart James Walters
Lighting by Tony Simpson David Webber



A lazy, rainy afternoon in Port Elizabeth. In a small deserted café the smooth, jazzy sounds of Sarah Vaughan can be heard coming from the jukebox. Whilst Hally does his homework, Sam and Willy scrub floors, practice the quickstep, and share their daydreams about better times.

'There's no collisions out there Hally. Nobody trips or stumbles or bumps into anybody else. That's what that moment is all about. To be one of those finalists on that dancefloor is like...like being in a dream about a world in which accidents don't happen.'

Athol Fugard (1932 -) is South Africa's greatest living dramatist. Drawn from a haunting incident in his own childhood, Athol Fugard's uniquely personal account of 1950's South Africa won the Evening Standard Best Play Award 1983.

This production of **'Master Harold'... and The Boys** enjoyed a successful run at the **Bristol Old Vic**, where it was first produced in 2002.

Joyce Branagh has recently co-directed a production of *Twelfth Night* which is currently touring nationally, and she will be directing *Summer Again* at the Orange Tree in October. She has just been appointed as the Literary Director for Watford Palace Theatre

Jonathan Broadbent has worked with the Royal Shakespeare Company, Royal National Theatre, Shared Experience, and Bristol Old Vic and recently in *Mill on the Floss* for Nottingham Playhouse.

Ewart James Walters has worked for the Royal Shakespeare Company, Royal National Theatre, Young Vic, and Covent Garden Opera. He recently appeared in the feature film *The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen*

David Webber has worked with Talawa Theatre Company, Bristol Old Vic, and Royal Exchange Manchester. David appeared in *Tipping the Velvet*, and most recently played the title role in a national tour of *Othello*.

Becky Hurst has worked at the Bristol Old Vic, Riverside Studios, Orange Tree Theatre and is a core member of the theatre company Cartoon de Salvo. She is currently designing *Kes* for the Royal Exchange.

Tony Simpson has most recently designed the lighting for *Round the Horne Revisited* at The Venue and the West Yorkshire Playhouse's *Bat Boy*, the Musical which is currently transferring to the West End.

Athol Fugard has written 27 plays since 1956. These include: *The Island*, *Sizwe Bansi is Dead*, *Playland*, *The Cell*, *My Children! My Africa*, *Road to Mecca*, *Valley Song* and most recently *Sorrows* and *Rejoicings*. *Hello* and *Goodbye* was performed at the Southwark Playhouse last year starring Tracy Ann Oberman.