

MEDIA RELEASE

STATION HOUSE OPERA'S LATEST PIECE MIND OUT

A fascinating experiment in performance

UK tour starts 8 October at Nuffield, Lancaster London performances at BAC from 13 to 29 November

Visionary company Station House Opera returns to pure live performance with *Mind Out*, a complex game of human relations laced with a cruel humour, in which each performer is split in two.

Each one acts as the mind of another. They give instructions, direct speech and express otherwise silent thoughts. Meanwhile, their own body is controlled by someone else.

With constantly shifting relationships and with minds and bodies shared between two, three or even all five performers, it becomes increasingly difficult to discern just who is in charge. As the actions of one bend to the whim of another, *Mind Out* moves from a fragile harmony where performers co-operate and collaborate to resistance, contradiction and anarchy.

Continuing to explore the possibilities of theatre, *Mind Out* turns the focus back to performance after Julian Maynard Smith's recent adventures with video and internet technology. In *Mind Out* the company has created a structure that depicts unfolding and shifting states of mind, exposing the contradictions and complexities in human behaviour.

Mind Out's five performers are Zena Birch, Tom Bowtell, Susannah Hart, Helen Morse Palmer and Maynard Smith himself.

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PRESS ENQUIRIES

Samantha Scott at Artsadmin 020 7247 5102 or sam@artsadmin.co.uk or Martha Oakes or Sue Lancashire at Martha Oakes PR on 020 8854 5460 / 07798 626555, martha.oakes@btconnect.com, sue.lancashire@btconnect.com

**TOYNBEE STUDIOS, 28 COMMERCIAL STREET
LONDON E1 6AB UNITED KINGDOM**

TELEPHONE **+44 (0)20 7247 5102** FAX **+44 (0)20 7247 5103** TEXTPHONE **+44 (0)20 7247 5182**
EMAIL **ADMIN@ARTSADMIN.CO.UK** WEBSITE **WWW.ARTSADMIN.CO.UK**

DIRECTORS STEPHEN AINGER, CHARLES GARRAD, SHREENA GHOSH, LEW HODGES, CHRIS HORSNELL, LOIS KEIDAN, ALISON RITCHIE, MHORA SAMUEL, EUGENE SKEEF, SEONAIID STEWART, SALLY STOTE, DAVID THORP. **REGISTERED OFFICE** HARBOTTLE AND LEWIS SOLICITORS, HANOVER HOUSE, 14 HANOVER SQUARE, LONDON, W1S 1HP. VAT REGISTRATION NO. 657086117. REGISTERED NO. 2979487. REG. CHARITY NO. 1044645

NOTES TO EDITORS

MIND OUT is an Artsadmin project developed at BAC

JULIAN MAYNARD SMITH is the founder and artistic director of Station House Opera. He studied architecture and visual art at Middlesex University and has practised since 1978, producing solo and group performance work as well as sculpture and installation. Julian has conceived and directed (and regularly performed in) all of Station House Opera's projects since the company's formation in 1980.

www.stationhouseopera.com