

10 JUNE 2006

THE STICKING PLACE PRESENTS:

# **HAMBURG**

**WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY DARREN ORMANDY**

**UNDERBELLY – BIG BELLY - EDINBURGH FESTIVAL FRINGE: 13 – 27 AUGUST 2006**

However just the cause, no one emerges from war with clean hands, an issue more relevant today than ever before. **Darren Ormandy** makes his **Edinburgh Festival Fringe** debut with an in-depth look at the 'just cause' of World War II with **HAMBURG**, a harrowing drama based on eyewitness accounts from both sides of the RAF bombing of Hamburg in 1943. Written and directed by The Sticking Place Associate Director **Darren Ormandy**, **HAMBURG** runs from the **13 – 27 August** at the **Smirnoff Underbelly (Big Belly)**.

In 1941 Charles Portal of the British Air Staff advocated that entire cities and towns should be bombed, one tactic used by the RAF and US Air Force was the creation of firestorms. In February 1943 a directive issued by the Allied Chiefs of Staff set out objectives for Bomber Command and the USAAF stating 'The progressive destruction and dislocation of the German military, industrial and economic system and the undermining of moral of the German people. Arthur Harris personally amended the directive, replacing the word 'and' with 'aimed at'- German morale was the sole objective following which Harris ordered four major raids against Hamburg. On 24 July, 791 bombers dropped 2,000 tons of bombs on the centre of Hamburg. On 27 July a firestorm swept through the city, with winds of up to 160km per hour and temperatures of 1,000oC. Nearly 1 million were made homeless; death toll from the fire and suffocation has been estimated at 46,000, including 5,000 children. Attacks on the city continued until 2 August.

This is the first-time The Sticking Place will be performing at the Fringe. The Sticking Place is committed to developing and producing new writing, exploring new ways of working and the growth of new audiences. Focusing on simple, clear storytelling and the belief that theatre is primarily a physical practice.

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**For more information please contact Kate Allen on 07930 554746 or email [allenkate@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:allenkate@hotmail.co.uk) or Underbelly Press Office on 0870 745 3078 / [press@underbelly.co.uk](mailto:press@underbelly.co.uk)**

## **Notes to editors**

Evening Performances: 13 - 27 August (20.45)

Tickets: £8.50 - £9.50 (Concession Available)

Box office: 0870 745 3083 or [www.underbelly.co.uk](http://www.underbelly.co.uk)