

THE PRESS ON DIRECTOR PETER KAVANAGH



Nuala O'Neill & Andrew Scott in 'I was The Cigarette Girl'

"The best Shakespeare BBC has done for years, its virtues are easily stated - you can boil them down into one overriding virtue: lucidity."

★★★★ Four Stars, The Independent on **Measure for Measure** (Drama on 3)

"Previn's musical could not have been more entertaining, an underrated gem at Watford. This was a superb evening." ★★★★★ Four Stars, MusicalCriticism.com on **The Good Companions** (*Watford Colosseum, semi-staged performances*)

"Towering intensity...does great justice ...A superlative production" The Guardian on **Faith Healer**

"Razor sharp....a wickedly good adaptation... 'a sparkling new production' '... (Telegraph) 'wickedly, good, nasty pitch, black, and very very funny... R Times

★★★★★ Five Stars Daily Mail on **Joe Orton's Funeral games**

'...utterly gripping from start to finish.' (R Times) 'Peter Kavanagh's direction graces Sam Shepard's classic with such style that the production itself should become a classic' Observer on **True West**

'....terrifyingly convincing. I was thoroughly seduced by both play and performances' (The Stage)
Four ★★★★★stars FT / Mail on **True West**.

"A first-rate revival of Arrabal's absurdist classic, transferred to the Royal Court Theatre, from the Dublin Theatre Festival
Sunday Times on **The Labyrinth** (Royal Court – transfer Dublin Theatre Festival)

"Peter Kavanagh's beautifully paced production' 'captivating performance by Betsabeh Emran
(The Stage)

★★★★★ Five stars The FT on **Motel Texel**

"Outstanding... brilliantly directed and acted... beautifully captured Peter Kavanagh should be proud
(*Windsor Fringe Review-The Most Dangerous Woman in America* (**winner Kenneth Branagh Award**))



(R to L) Richard E Grant, Francesca Annis, Howard Barker, Peter Kavanagh
'In the Depths of Dead Love'

"Richard E. Grant gives a staggering performance." [Radio Times](#) on **In the Depths of Dead Love**

"Dazzlingly good." [The Stage](#) on **In the Depths of Dead Love**

Richard E. Grant, marvellously droll against the magnificent hauteur of Francesca Annis... relish the vividness of the production by Peter Kavanagh, so sharp yet so simple."

★★★★ [Four Stars](#), [The Spectator](#) on **In the Depths of Dead Love**

"Absorbing revival... Peter Kavanagh's light touch well suited to Porter's eccentric narrative... so much good work." [The Stage](#) on **Blink (Barons Court Theatre)**

"Sisters is television drama at its richest - intimate, close-up and highly personal." [Radio Times](#) on **Sisters** written by Katie Hims ([BBC2](#))

"...outstanding performances by Nicholas Farrell, Helen Baxendale and Ronald Pickup.' .A fine, clear immediately accessible version in a production that exactly matched the text."

★★★★ [Four Stars](#), [Sunday Telegraph](#) on **Ibsen's Rosmersholm**

"...starring its author Harold Pinter - if Penelope Wilton makes the words quiver, Pinter makes them boil.... A completely compelling mix of rage threat and humour ([Times on Landscape](#)) Drama on 3

'At the Kings Head, a blythly entertaining comedy... Peter Kavanagh deftly directs... craftily ironic performances from Stewart Wright and Su Lin Looi.

★★★★ [Four Stars](#) [The Stage](#) on **Love & The Art of War** (Kings Head)

"A first-rate production.... a tiny masterpiece, ...crisply directed... music ...softly compelling...superb. Simon Jenner [Fringe Review](#) on **A Selfish Boy** (Tristan Bates)

Captivating performances with steady pacing throughout this intense thriller...
The Reviews Hub / Artiscap on **Cyanide at 5** (Kings Head)

(see [Link](#))

'Undercurrents simmer... a small gem... a gripping production at the Kings Head'.
[The Spectator](#) / [Reviews Hub](#) on **Cyanide at 5**

'Peter Kavanagh's captivating revival... impeccable direction

★★★★ [Four Stars](#) [The Reviews Hub](#) on **Salt Water Moon** (Finborough Theatre)

(see [Link](#))

'A stunning production... Peter Kavanagh's direction elevates the urgency... Joseph Potter fantastic... Bryony Miller similarly brilliant: she isn't playing Mary, she is Mary

★★★★ [Four Stars](#), [Independent](#) '**Salt Water Moon**'.

'Stormingly performed... ingeniously realised with absolute authenticity by Peter Kavanagh, a bruisingly funny, sharply intelligent evening...'

Mark Lawson, The Tablet on 'Not Quite Jerusalem'

(see [Link](#))

"Mordantly funny... enthralling performances... sparkles with relevance"

★★★★ Four Stars Simon Jenner Fringe Review on Not Quite Jerusalem

A dazzling version'..: (Mail)' a fine tribute to the playwright (S Times)

★★★★ Four Stars, Daily Mail on Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead (*Drama on 3*)



James Purefoy in Corneille's 'Le Cid' adapt Ranjit Bolt

'James Graham's peerless play, directed by Peter Kavanagh... the best this year... Victor Spinetti gives a sterling performance that deserves a prize'

The Oldie on **Albert's Boy** (R4)

Peter Kavanagh directs so well every scene is sharp as a needle.' '...a magnificent adaptation...' ... Kenneth Cranham's totally mesmeric performance'

★★★★ Four Stars. The Stage, Daily Mail and S. Times on **Earthly Powers**

"Harold Pinter's *The Caretaker*... This new production by Peter Kavanagh with David Warner ... lingers in the mind to haunt and warn because it has terrified yet sometimes surprised you into sudden laughter. It was, in short, marvellous."

★★★★ Four Stars, The Telegraph on **The Caretaker**

'Jonathan Pryce and Nicholas Le Prevost superb.... Fractiously funny... Tetchy, mean-spirited and hugely enjoyable' ..'Inspired... beautifully acted comedy'

Five ★★★★★ stars Daily Mail / Sunday Mail on **HR**



Michael Gambon, Peter Kavanagh Harold Pinter's 'The Interrogation'

SOME AUTHOR TESTIMONIALS:

from **BRIAN FRIEL:**

Dear Peter,
Congratulations on your FAITH HEALER.

I think you did an excellent job. I loved the three actors who got the rhythms and cadences perfectly and carried their stories with vigour and clarity. All in all a true and moving reading of the play.

Thank you for doing it, Peter, and for doing it with such intelligence and fidelity. Perhaps we'll do something else together.

Warmest good wishes,
Brian

from **PAUL KEMBER:**

I just wanted to put this on record, for what it's worth. Peter Kavanagh's production of 'Not Quite Jerusalem' had possibly the finest cast I've had, and that includes many in the U.K., U.S. and other countries. I was thrilled with the production.

It was excellent, very funny, moving and truthful to my intent as a writer, in large part due to Peter's approach, the most sensitive and accomplished I've come across in years.

Peter is highly intelligent and has an amazing gift. It's always about the truth for Peter. Always. He doesn't compromise, he doesn't give in and he produces magic, which, for me, is what theatre is about.

Paul Kember, author

from **MICHAEL HASTINGS:**

Your All's Well was wonderful. We listened rapt throughout.
I feel very safe in your hands, indeed, delighted to be one of your writers.

Michael



*Emily Rose Smith, Nick Moran, Clare Lawrence-Moody
Double bill: Chekhov and de Musset, Chichester Theatre Festival*

from **DON TAYLOR:**

Dear Peter,
I think Flee as a bird is terrific, beautifully acted, and very moving. Very much what I intended.
Thanks for a wonderful job.

Don

from **ANDREW LEESON**

This is the most vivid and relatable Ibsen I have ever come across! A pinnacle! Thank you!
Idyllwildarts on 'The Wild Duck'

ESBETH BARKER:

Dear Peter
Joe Orton's Funeral Games - bravo!
I was quite astonished to stumble on such a fine play.
Excellent excellent excellent.

Esbeth

DAVID POWNALL:

One good reason for coming back from Australia was your production of The Caretaker.
We thought it was marvellous.
Casting David Warner as Davies was a masterstroke. A very fine, skilful piece of work.

Many congratulations,
David



Jonathan Bailey, Christopher Hampton. Gina McKee, Tom Goodman-Hill, Keziah Joseph, Peter Kavanagh in Florian Zeller's 'The Mother'

JUDGES AND CHAIRS:

SOCIETY OF AUTHORS

'The Judges commend Peter Kavanagh for his achievement in sourcing, nurturing and developing writing to such high standards that he directed the entire shortlist in this year's competition.

This has never before occurred.

*Neville Teller, Chairman, **Richard Imison Award** Judging Panel*

KAREN DARVILLE (*Chair Windsor Fringe*)

"I congratulate Peter Kavanagh for his direction of the winning play. We very much value his contribution and hard work and his incredible creativity.

He and his excellent cast brought the play to life and created a thoroughly absorbing performance.

FRANK KAYE (*Windsor Fringe*)

Outstanding... a fascinating play ...brilliantly directed and acted with a simple but very effective set and music.

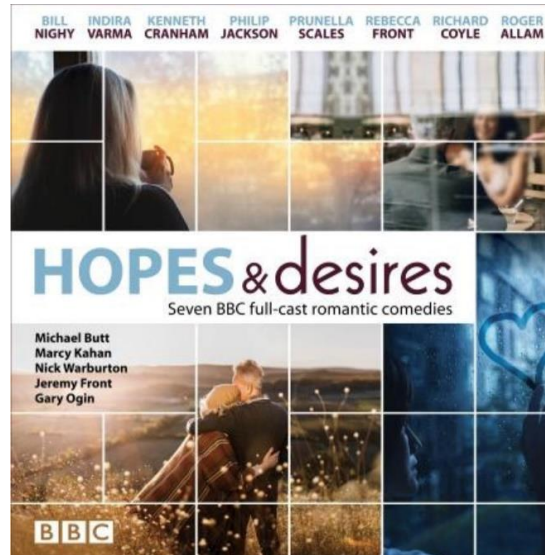
The lead is to be commended on an amazing performance... other actors superb. The relationship between the three is beautifully captured... The director, Peter Kavanagh should feel proud.

Frank Kaye.

Windsor Fringe Review

NOW ALSO AVAILABLE ON AUDIBLE: 5 SHORT COMEDY DRAMAS

...directed by Peter Kavanagh



Starring: Bill Nighy, Indira Varma, James Fleet, Rebecca Front, Philip Jackson, Eleanor Bron, Kenneth Cranham, Richard Coyle, Roger Allam.

TOAD SQUAD, with Philip Jackson Amanda Root, Jonathan Coy (5★★★★★)

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