

The Cherry Orchard

By Anton Chekov
A new version
by ***John Byrne***

Directed by
Tony Cownie

**16 April – 8 May
2010**

www.lyceum.org.uk/cherry



With another brilliant piece of work, John Byrne shows (again!) exactly why he is so renowned on the Scottish arts scene.

Byrne (*The Slab Boys*, *Tutti Frutti*) crafted an exceptional version of *Uncle Vanya* (reworked and re-titled as *Uncle Varick*) for the Lyceum a few years back. His love affair with Chekov now resumes with this brand new adaptation of the Russian master's classic political comedy *The Cherry Orchard*.

Relocated to northern Scotland in the late 1970s, Byrne's re-telling nonetheless retains the central story of a once-grand family brought low by the changes of time and tide.

The Ramsay-Mackays are not used to struggle, but as their debts mount and the vultures begin to circle, they must face losing their ancestral home and the cherry orchard that goes with it.

An up-and-coming young investor, Malky McCracken, is sniffing around and determined to make his name in business. But while his main target is the family estate, the charms of the family's adopted daughter Mhairi may yet be enough to distract him...

THE LYCEUM PRESS RELEASE

Royal Lyceum Theatre Edinburgh

Thursday, 25 March 2010

Director Tony Cownie (*The Beauty Queen of Leenane, Copenhagen, Mary Rose, Vanity Fair*) brings his expert comic touch to this new play from one of Scotland's finest writers.

-ENDS -

NOTES FOR EDITORS:

Lyceum Press Night: Saturday 17 April at 7.45pm

Curtain Raiser

The Curtain Raiser for *The Cherry Orchard* will be held on **Tuesday 20 April at 6pm**. This will be a conversation with the writer **John Byrne** and BBC Radio Scotland presenter **Janice Forsyth**. Please note that BBC Radio Cafe will be recording this event.

Cast:

Mrs Ramsay-Mackay	Maureen Beattie
Ainsley	Hannah Donaldson
Mhairi	Lesley Hart
Guy Ramsay	Philip Bird
Bobby Wishart	John Ramage
Malky McCracken	Andy Clark
Trotter	Matthew Pidgeon
Charlotte	Myra McFadyen
Dolina	Nicola Roy
Cluny	John Kielty
Fintry	Ralph Riach
Sorley Shanks	Grant O'Rourke

Creative Team:

Tony Cownie	Director
Michael Taylor	Set and Costumes Designer
Jeanine Davies	Lighting Designer

LYCEUM TICKETS & PERFORMANCES:

Performances: **16 April – 8 May**

Evenings: Tuesday – Saturday at 7.45pm

Matinees: 21, 24, 28 April and 1, 8 May at 2.30pm

First Look Previews sponsored by *The List*: Friday 16 April at 7.45pm – **SOLD OUT**

Curtain Raiser: Tuesday 20 April at 6pm – tickets £5 Conc £3 & under 18s free

Post-show discussion with members of the cast: Tuesday 27 April (FREE)

Audio described performances: Thursday 29 April at 7.45pm & Saturday 1 May at 2.30pm

Touch Tour for the visually impaired: Saturday 1 May at 1.15pm

BSL Interpreted performance: Wednesday 5 May at 7.45pm

Matinee Discussion Group: Wednesday 28 April after Matinee (FREE but ticketed)

Evening performances (full price): £12 - £27

Matinee Performances: Wednesday and Saturday Matinees £15

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Concessions: £2 off full price for all Tuesday – Thursday shows

Under 18s: Half Price any performance

School Groups: £7.50 (stalls & grand circle). £6.50 (upper circle). Matinees – all seats £6.50. One teacher free with every ten pupils.

Registered unemployed: (Tues – Thurs) half price in advance, £1 Stalls tickets available on the day (max 20 per show, stalls only). ID required.

Students/ people with disabilities: Half price (excludes First Look Previews), £5 for Wed matinees.

Wheelchair spaces are available in the stalls boxes. Students – full time only – ID required.

Groups: 8-19 People £3 off full price tickets (matinees £2 off); 20+ £4 off full price tickets (matinees £3 off) plus one FREE ticket.

For press tickets and more information please contact Melissa Clarke, Press Officer on 0131 248 4822 or mclarke@lyceum.org.uk

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