



presents their **125th Anniversary Tour**

THE MASTER AND MARGARITA

by **Max Hoehn** and **Raymond Blankenhorn**

A brand new adaptation of the cult novel by Mikhail Bulgakov.

Moscow's Devil comes to Edinburgh...

It is 1930, and the citizens of Moscow no longer believe in Heaven and Hell.

While the Devil toys with the literary elite, a young woman searches for her lover, a blacklisted writer who has disappeared after the rejection of his novel - a novel about Pontius Pilate...

Bulgakov's novel was a tale of courage and faith told like no other before or since. With no question of passing Soviet censors, it remained unpublished until 1966. It is now his most famous and loved work.

Incorporating live music, ballet, songs and pantomime, this ensemble has achieved the impossible in bringing the myth and magic of Bulgakov's ground-breaking novel to the stage in a truly impressive fringe show. With a towering set and over thirty costumes changes, OUDS have pulled out all the stops for their 125th Anniversary tour. Spectacle and the novel's philosophical core combine to pose anew the question of what is 'real'.

“What OUDS have achieved is remarkable.” - The Oxford Times

An entirely new script written by two Russian-speaking members of the company, and direction inspired by the non-naturalistic theatre of Vsevolod Meyerhold and followers, brings writers and madmen, witches and babushka to life. The adaptation packs in all the novel's favourite episodes while returning motifs in the storylines of the lovers and of the gospel produces a coherent sense of a developing tale for the uninitiated.

The production comes to Edinburgh from London's Battersea Arts Centre following a unique performance as the first theatrical piece to be staged in the cavernous main hall of Modern Art Oxford, an event which won it attention in **The Wall Street Journal** ('Top Picks', Weekend Journal, 6/8/10). In Edinburgh, the renowned found spaces at C Soco have had a health and safety renovation, but still retain their dilapidated walls, so the atmosphere of Moscow spreads through the audience from the set to the ceiling. With inspirational company Belt-Up playing downstairs, Oxford's ingénues have found a perfect space with C Soco.

The tour brings to these stages a host of outstanding young actors. Featuring stars of the huge Oxford Playhouse stage and veterans of many a fringe and festival, not least Edinburgh, this group is one to watch.

The Director, **Max Hoehn**, first came to the fringe in 2007 with a production of *Danton's Death*. Since then at Oxford he has directed and acted in a huge variety of shows, including a staging of *The Marriage of Figaro* in Oxford's Sheldonian Theatre. After Edinburgh he will be assisting on a new production of Rossini's *Guillaume Tell* at the Opernhaus Zurich in Switzerland.

Listings information

Venue: C Soco 2a, Edinburgh Fringe

Dates: 6th – 30th August

Time: 10.30pm (1hr10)

Ticket prices: £8.50-£10.50 / £7.50 - £9.50

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The Edinburgh Festival
fringe