

# MEDIA RELEASE

## SEASON 2 2010 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



MALTHOUSE THEATRE AT THE CUB MALTHOUSE 113 STURT STREET SOUTHBANK VIC AUSTRALIA 3006 T +61 3 9685 5100 F +61 3 9685 5112  
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MALTHOUSE THEATRE, SYDNEY THEATRE COMPANY AND THINICE PRESENT

# THE TRIAL

MERLYN THEATRE  
AUGUST 13 – SEPTEMBER 4  
WORLD PREMIERE

ADAPTED BY LOUISE FOX, FROM THE NOVEL BY FRANZ KAFKA  
DIRECTOR MATTHEW LUTTON  
SET DESIGNER CLAUDE MARCOS  
COSTUME DESIGNER ALICE BABIDGE  
LIGHTING DESIGNER PAUL JACKSON  
COMPOSER ASH GIBSON GREIG  
SOUND DESIGNER KELLY RYALL  
ASSISTANT COSTUME DESIGNER MEL PAGE  
BESEN FAMILY ARTIST PROGRAM SARAH JOHN (DIRECTION)

CAST JOHN GADEN / PETER HOUGHTON / RITA KALNEJIS / EWEN LESLIE / HAMISH MICHAEL / BELINDA MCCLORY  
IGOR SAS

A MALTHOUSE THEATRE, SYDNEY THEATRE COMPANY AND THINICE COMMISSION

Josef K (Ewen Leslie) is not having a good day. On the morning of his thirtieth birthday he awakes to find himself under arrest. For what, he cannot tell. By whom, he's unsure.

He's allowed to go about his daily business but soon finds the entire world in which he travels has been infected with this bizarre implication of guilt, and the more he struggles the more he becomes wound up in ludicrous scenarios. An amorous neighbour, a porn-peddling washer-woman and a court-room with all the order of a barnyard seem to tempt him to madness, but throughout it all K maintains the stoic front of a man for whom it will all make sense in the end. The joke, of course, is on him.

An absurdist provocation on the bleakness of life in a modern world, this sartorial take of one of the classics of 20<sup>th</sup> century literature

### MELBOURNE SEASON INFO

VENUE: MERLYN THEATRE, THE CUB MALTHOUSE, 113 STURT STREET SOUTHBANK VIC AUSTRALIA 3006

OPENING NIGHT: WEDNESDAY AUGUST 18 AT 7.30PM

SEASON: 13 AUGUST – 4 SEPTEMBER. TUESDAYS AT 6.30PM, WEDNESDAYS TO SATURDAYS AT 7.30PM, SUNDAYS AT 5PM. MATINEES: THURSDAY 26 AUGUST AT 1PM, SATURDAY 4 SEPTEMBER AT 2PM.

BOOKING INFO: [WWW.MALTHOUSETHEATRE.COM.AU](http://WWW.MALTHOUSETHEATRE.COM.AU) / 03 9685 5111

TICKET PRICES: \$23 – \$49 + MIN BOOKING FEE \$1.50

SYDNEY SEASON INFO SYDNEY THEATRE COMPANY, THE WHARF THEATRE, SEPTEMBER 14 - OCTOBER 16

PERTH SEASON INFO THINICE, SUBIACO ARTS CENTRE, OCTOBER 23 - OCTOBER 30

### MEDIA CONTACT:

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invites us into the heady maze of intrigue and desire. This major national production reunites **Matthew Lutton** and **Louise Fox** – talents last seen together on Malthouse Theatre stages with 2008's sensational production of *Tartuffe* – and matches them with a stellar cast including **John Gaden** (*Season at Sarsaparilla*), **Belinda McClory** (*The Odyssey*) and **Peter Houghton** (*The Pitch*). Sensual, comedic and disarming, *The Trial* delights in Kafka's obsession with the erotic and the hijinks of clowning, all the while staring down a daunting authority.

"UNCONVENTIONAL AND ENDLESSLY INVENTIVE, THE LUTTON EXPERIENCE IS INTOXICATING..." THE WEST AUSTRALIAN

"WITH LUTTON NAMED YOUNG WEST AUSTRALIAN OF THE YEAR FOR ARTS IN 2005, IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE EAST COAST THEATRE COMPANIES TOOK NOTE. IN 2008 HE TOOK OVER THE DIRECTION OF MICHAEL KANTOR'S PRODUCTION OF *TARTUFFE* FOR MELBOURNE'S MALTHOUSE WHEN KANTOR FELL ILL. THIS FURTHER CEMENTED HIS GROWING REPUTATION..." THE AUSTRALIAN



THIS PROJECT HAS BEEN ASSISTED BY THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT THROUGH THE INTERCONNECTIONS INITIATIVE OF THE AUSTRALIA COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS, ITS ARTS FUNDING AND ADVISORY BODY.