

Press Release

TMA Press Contacts

- **Anthony McNeill**, Press & Communications Manager
Anthony@solttma.co.uk / 020 7557 6727
- **Matthew Brown**, Senior Press & Communications Officer
Matthewwb@solttma.co.uk / 020 7557 6729

Winners of 2013 UK Theatre Awards Announced

- **Sheffield Theatre Productions** are the major winners with four Awards including Best New Play for Mike Bartlett's **BULL**, Best Musical Production for **THIS IS MY FAMILY**, and Best Touring Production for **THE FULL MONTY**
- **Women** dominate the acting categories as **Cush Jumbo** wins Best Performance in a Play for **A DOLL'S HOUSE**, **Janie Dee** takes Best Performance in a Musical for **HELLO, DOLLY!** and **Siân Phillips** is awarded Best Supporting Performance for **THIS IS MY FAMILY**
- **Simon Callow, CBE**, receives The Stage Award for Outstanding Contribution to British Theatre and rising star **Blanche McIntyre** crowned Best Director for **THE SEAGULL**
- **The 60-seat Bike Shed in Exeter** wins the public vote for **My Theatre Matters! UK's Most Welcoming Theatre Award**

The Theatrical Management Association (TMA) has announced the winners of the 2013 UK Theatre Awards – the only nationwide awards to honour creative excellence and the outstanding achievement seen on and off stage throughout England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Sheffield Theatre productions are the big winners with Best New Play for Mike Bartlett's **BULL**, Best Musical Production for **THIS IS MY FAMILY**, and Best Touring Production for **THE FULL MONTY**.

Women dominate acting categories as **Cush Jumbo** wins Best Performance in a Play for **A DOLL'S HOUSE**, **Janie Dee** takes Best Performance in a Musical for **HELLO, DOLLY!** and **Siân Phillips** is awarded Best Supporting Performance for **THIS IS MY FAMILY**.

Simon Callow, CBE, receives The Stage Award for Outstanding Contribution to British Theatre and rising star **Blanche McIntyre** is crowned Best Director for **THE SEAGULL**.

The 60-seat Bike Shed in Exeter is announced as winner of the public vote for My Theatre Matters! UK's Most Welcoming Theatre Award, which was open for the first time to any professional theatre that offers legal and fair terms to all performers and stage management, in line with or better than the Equity Fringe Agreement. To ensure a fair and competitive process, the public voting system was weighted by theatre capacity with the winner decided by number of public votes divided by number of venue seats, with more than 55,000 cast in total.

Best Show For Children and Young People was shared by Northern Stage's THE BORROWERS and Unicorn Theatre's MISTER HOLGADO, and Best Design goes to Jonathan Fensom and Charles Balfour for THE ACCRINGTON PALS at the Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester.

In the opera and dance categories, Achievement in Dance goes to the independent dance artist Wendy Houstoun for her insightful and funny solo 50 ACTS, Achievement in Opera is awarded to Welsh National Opera for the productions of LULU & LOHENGRIN, conducted by Lothar Koenigs, and Scottish Opera wins The Renee Stepham Award for Best Presentation of Touring Theatre.

In the Awards for off-stage excellence, Northern Ballet wins Achievement in Marketing, Brenda Walliss of the Princess Theatre, Torquay is named Theatre Employee/Manager of the Year and the Contact Theatre Manchester is recognised for Promotion of Diversity.

The Awards were given at a glamorous ceremony at London's historic Guildhall compèred by Musical theatre star Michael Xavier, with performances from Janie Dee and Frances Ruffelle, and appearances from guest presenters Gina Beck, Christopher Biggins, Sharon D Clarke, Louise Dearman, Paul Michael Glaser, Jonathan Andrew Hume, Katherine Kingsley, Maureen Lipman, Hattie Morahan, Ben Richards and Ed Watson.

A full list of results is published below and available online at www.tmauk.org.

Julian Bird, Chief Executive of the TMA and the Society of London Theatre, said: "It has been a year of great achievement for theatre throughout the length and breadth of the UK, as demonstrated by the range of nominations celebrating skill and variety, both on and off stage. All the shortlists were hotly contested and we offer special congratulations to the winners."

The UK Theatre Awards continue to be sponsored by a number of major organisations involved in theatre across the UK – The Stage, Harbottle & Lewis, John Good, Theatre Tokens and White Light – and for the first time, Global Radio's national classical music station Classic FM.

Winners 2013 UK Theatre Awards

Best New Play

- BULL by Mike Bartlett a Sheffield Theatres production

Best Performance in a Play

- Cush Jumbo for A DOLL'S HOUSE a Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester production

Best Supporting Performance

- Siân Phillips for THIS IS MY FAMILY a Sheffield Theatres production

Best Musical Production

- THIS IS MY FAMILY directed by Daniel Evans a Sheffield Theatres production

Best Performance in a Musical

- Janie Dee for HELLO, DOLLY! a Curve, Leicester production

Best Show for Children and Young People

- THE BORROWERS a Northern Stage, Newcastle production
- MISTER HOLGADO a Unicorn Theatre production

Best Director

- Blanche McIntyre for THE SEAGULL a Headlong and Nuffield, Southampton production in association with Derby Theatre

Best Design

- Jonathan Fensom and Charles Balfour for THE ACCRINGTON PALS, a Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester production

Best Touring Production

- THE FULL MONTY a Sheffield Theatres production, presented by David Pugh and Dafydd Rogers

Achievement in Dance

- Independent dance artist Wendy Houstoun for her insightful, funny solo 50 ACTS

Achievement in Opera

- Welsh National Opera for the productions of LULU & LOHENGRIN, conducted by Lothar Koenigs

The Renee Stepham Award for Best Presentation of Touring Theatre

- Scottish Opera

Achievement in Marketing

- Northern Ballet

Theatre Employee/Manager of the Year

- Brenda Walliss – Princess Theatre, Torquay

Promotion of Diversity

- Contact Theatre Manchester

My Theatre Matters! UK's Most Welcoming Theatre in association with Classic FM

- The Bike Shed Theatre

The Stage Award for Outstanding Contribution to British Theatre

- Simon Callow

Further details about the **UK Theatre Awards** can be found at:

www.tmauk.org/theatreawardsuk.aspx



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Notes to Editors

- Enquiries re ceremony tickets to TMA (events@solttma.co.uk or 020 7557 6746).
- Press enquiries and accreditation for the event is via the Press Office contacts above.
- Established in 1894, the **TMA** is a leading trade association representing the interests of and providing professional support for the performing arts in the UK. Members include theatres, multi-purpose venues, arts centres, concert halls, commercial producers, touring theatre, opera and ballet companies, sole traders and suppliers to the performing arts. The TMA has recently announced that from January 2014 it is to start trading as **UK Theatre** and introduce new types of membership, including one for performing arts professionals at any stage of their careers. www.tmauk.org
- Since 1991 the TMA's annual Theatre Awards have celebrated the creative excellence and outstanding work seen in UK theatres each year. In 2005, the TMA established the TMA Management Awards to champion and applaud the successful business initiatives and acumen of performing arts organisations.
- Situated in the heart of the City of London, Guildhall is a magnificent medieval Grade I listed landmark building and has been the City powerhouse since the twelfth century. In an era when the Lord Mayor of London rivalled the monarch for influence and prestige, this was where he and the ruling merchant class held court, fine-tuned the laws and trading regulations that helped create London's wealth. Today, 800 years on, Guildhall is still home of the City of London Corporation, and

acts as a grand setting for glittering banquets in honour of visiting Heads of State and other dignitaries, royal occasions, and receptions for major historical anniversaries.