



## MEDIA RELEASE

### RENOWNED NOEL COWARD PLAY "THE VORTEX" DEBUTS IN SINGAPORE

*WITH A STELLAR CAST OF HOLLYWOOD ACTRESS JANE SEYMOUR AND FAMED BRITISH ACTORS*

**Singapore, February 2016** – . With a long track record of successful London West End productions, "**The Vortex**" by one of Britain's most famous playwrights - Sir Noel Coward, will open its Asian premiere in Singapore at Raffles Hotel, Jubilee Hall on 27 April and run until 15 May 2016. Award-winning Hollywood actress and one of Britain's most famous actresses **Jane Seymour, OBE**, alongside leading British actors, will star in Coward's searing exposé of the London high society's promiscuity in the 1920s.

British-born **Jane Seymour** is the winner of two Golden Globe Awards ("**East of Eden** & "**Dr Quinn, Medicine Woman**") and a coveted Emmy Award ("**Onassis – The Richest Man in The World**"). Jane launched her career as the beautiful 'Solitaire' in the James Bond movie "**Live and Let Die**". Since then, she has had one of the most successful careers in the history of any Hollywood actress, especially with the hugely popular series "**Dr Quinn, Medicine Woman**". She has recently starred in the newly-released satire movie "**Fifty Shades of Black**" and will soon be making her screen appearance again in "**Bereave**" with Malcolm McDowell and Keith Carradine.

Jane's first major stage role was in "**Amadeus**" on Broadway where she starred as "Constanze" with Ian McKellen. In "**The Vortex**", she will play the lead role of "Florence Lancaster", the scandalous high society beauty leading a decadent life in her advanced years.

### **A Stellar Cast Lineup**

Joining Jane in Singapore is another multi award-winning British actor, **James Cartwright**, in the role of Florence's young lover, "Tom Veryan". A rising star, James won the prestigious 2015 Edinburgh Festival "Fringe First" Award having previously won awards as "Best Actor" (Royal Television Society Awards) and the West End's "Best Leading Actor" award in 2014.

Fans of the television series "**Allo Allo**" will also see **Arthur Bostrom** as "Pawnie" in "**The Vortex**". Arthur is known to fans worldwide from the hit TV series as "Officer Crabtree", the heavily disguised, mispronouncing French gendarme.

Acclaimed West End director Bob Tomson will be adding his distinctive style to "The Vortex" and directing the production. Bob's impressive directorial portfolio includes the award-winning "Blood Brothers" in London; "Dreamboats and Petticoats", "Scrooge", productions of "Evita" and the Olivier Award nominated comedy "On The Piste" in the West End.

"**The Vortex**" caused a sensation at its first performance on 25 November 1924 and its scandalous storyline of London society's promiscuity shocked many. Despite the rippling shock effect, it was a huge box office success and achieved strong recognition

and acknowledgement as one of Coward's masterpieces, besides being one of the most popular productions of all his plays.

### **Official Sponsors and Ticketing Information**

The British Theatre Playhouse is proud to collaborate with The Swissotel Stamford Hotel and British Airways as the main sponsors of **"The Vortex"**.

*"It is indeed our pleasure to embark on this wonderful partnership with the British Theatre Playhouse, as we jointly present "The Vortex", and support their ongoing mission to bring the best shows out from London to delight and enthrall audiences here in Singapore",* says Tom Meyer, Managing Director, Fairmont Singapore and Swissotel The Stamford.

#### Ticket Prices Via SISTIC:

Tue, Wed, Thu & Sun	\$135, \$125, \$115
Fri & Sat	\$155, \$145, \$135

A Charity Gala Show and Dinner will be held on Friday, 29 April 2016. 30% of the ticket sales will be donated to the International Committee of Red Cross and Red Cross Singapore.

#### Charity Gala Show and Dinner Ticketing Info:

- \* Tickets with show, cocktails and dinner - \$7,000 per table of 10 or \$700 per ticket
- \* Tickets with show and cocktails only - \$350 per ticket

All ticket holders can also enjoy the "See & Save" promotion with 20% discount off their bills at Tiffin Room, Raffles Courtyard and Bar & Billard Room on the day of the

show at Raffles Hotel, Singapore. The promotion also applies at at Prego, Asian Market Café, Café Swiss, Kopitiam, Equinox, Lobby Court, City Space and Alligator Pear at Swissotel The Stamford.

The “See & Stay” promotion also allows ticket holders to enjoy a special room rate at the Raffles Hotel, Fairmont Hotel and Swissotel The Stamford in Singapore.

**Raffles Hotel**

SGD\$395++ per room per night with breakfast for Raffles Inc Suite and SGD\$495++ per room per night with breakfast for Courtyard Suite at Raffles Hotel, Singapore.

**Fairmont Singapore**

Deluxe Room: S\$270++ per room per night; inclusive of one breakfast and Internet

Fairmont Premier Room: S\$300++ per room per night; inclusive of one breakfast and Internet

**Swissotel The Stamford**

Classic Room: S\$240++ per room per night; inclusive of one breakfast and Internet

Classic Harbourview Room: S\$290++ per room per night; inclusive of one breakfast and Internet

*Terms and conditions apply. Subject to black-out dates stipulated by the hotel.*

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## **ABOUT BRITISH THEATRE PLAYHOUSE**

The British Theatre Playhouse (BTP) is a professional theatre production company headquartered in Singapore, and is internationally focused with a strong British connection. A long-standing member of the British Chamber of Commerce and the European Chamber of Commerce, the eleven-year old business established its UK branch office in 2012, in order to work more closely with established British playwrights, writers, actors, directors, musical directors, set and costume designers. The company has produced and presented a series of highly successful British productions in Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Indonesia and the UK.

The BTP takes pride on high standards equivalent to London's West End theatres and offers UK casts comprising prominent stage, television and film actors. Every one of BTP shows has featured stars from London's West End. The first show, Alan Ayckbourn's "**How The Other Half Loves**", in a dinner-theatre setting at Singapore's Shangri-La Hotel from April 27th - 30th, 2004, was a sell-out production. Other productions included Oscar Wilde's "**The Importance of Being Earnest**" at the Jubilee Hall Theatre at Raffles Hotel Singapore in October 2004.

The phenomenal success of the show led to the transfer of the production to the Greenwich Theatre, London, in April 2005. Following Singapore, the production went on tour to Kuala Lumpur (Hilton Kuala Lumpur), Penang (Eastern & Oriental Hotel) and to Bangkok (The Oriental, Bangkok) with great success.

Other notable milestones include the public nomination of "**Private Lives**" for "**Best Leisure Event**" 2006 Tourism Award by the Singapore Tourism Board. October 2013 saw the theatre's most successful production since its inception with sell-out audiences in Singapore and Kuala Lumpur as well as well-received response in Bangkok, with the play Agatha Christie's "**The Mousetrap**". This production was part of the worldwide celebrations of the Diamond Anniversary of the first performance in London and the continuous sixty year run since then. In May 2014, the British Theatre Playhouse produced "Yes, Prime Minister" and presented "Leo Sayer Live in Singapore" in January 2015.

The BTP also believes in giving back to the community, by creating its own "Art for Charity" programme, where it dedicates one performance and evening to help raise fund for a chosen charity. Charities that the BTP has supported include The Community Chest of Singapore, Make-A-Wish Foundation, MILK (Mainly I Love Kids), Business Times Budding Artist Fund, Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund, Viva Foundation for Children with Cancer and KK Hospital Health Endowment Fund.

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