

**The next project from the creative team behind PARADE at Southwark Playhouse  
- the most acclaimed musical of the year**

"The best fringe production of 2011. A triumph!" \*\*\*\*\* 5 stars Evening Standard

"A deserved revival... and it's a cracker" \*\*\*\* 4 stars The Guardian

One of the Top 5 Plays in London "A compelling revival" \*\*\*\*4 stars The Independent

"A show of tremendous heart and vocal power" \*\*\*\* 4 stars The Daily Telegraph

"A fine revival of a gripping and ambitious work" \*\*\*\*4 stars Metro



**Ben Stock**



**Helena Blackman**

# Noël & Gertie

An entertainment devised by Sheridan Morley  
With the words and music of Noël Coward

Director/Designer **Thom Southerland**  
Choreographer **Stewart Nicholls**  
Musical Supervisor **Michael Bradley**  
Lighting Designer **Howard Hudson**  
Producer/Casting Director **Danielle Tarento**

The creative team behind the acclaimed production of *Parade* at Southwark Playhouse are reunited for a major revival of **Noël & Gertie**, Sheridan Morley's hit play about Noël Coward and Gertrude Lawrence, that originally ran in the West End for nine years.

**Noël & Gertie**, starring Helena Blackman and Ben Stock, directed by Thom Southerland, produced by Danielle Tarento, will get a major revival at the Cockpit Theatre from Tuesday 27th September - Saturday 22nd October. Press night is Friday 30th September at 7.30pm.

This witty and moving show, affectionately crafted from diaries and letters between Coward and his stage partner, Gertrude Lawrence, tells the story of the professional and personal relationship between two of this century's greatest stage personalities. Although they only appeared in two productions together, *Private Lives* and *Tonight at 8.30*, Noël Coward and Gertrude Lawrence epitomised an era of high style and elegance. The songs, sketches and snippets of scenes pieced together in **Noël & Gertie** have the entrancing effect of accurately portraying this remarkable duo and the era they helped to define.

Helena Blackman was nominated for a TMA Award as Best Actress in a Musical in 2008 for her starring role as Nellie Forbush in the UK number 1 tour of *South Pacific*. She starred as Helen Fogel in the West End premiere of Stephen Sondheim's *Saturday Night* at Jermyn Street Theatre. She was a runner up in the TV contest *How Do You Solve A Problem Like Maria?*

Ben Stock's West End roles include Eugene in *Grease*, *Over My Shoulder - The Jessie Matthew Story*, and *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang!* On tour he played Lumiere in *Disney's Beauty & The Beast*.

Director Thom Southerland recently directed the acclaimed revival of *Parade* at Southwark Playhouse. He was named Best Director at the 2011 Off West End Theatre Awards for *Me and Juliet* at the Finborough. He directed the European premiere of *I Sing!*, *Divorce Me, Darling!*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *The Pajama Game* and sold-out all-male adaptations of Gilbert and Sullivan's *HMS Pinafore* and *The Mikado* (all at the Union Theatre).

Produced by Danielle Tarento, who recently produced *Parade* and the sold-out *Company*, both at Southwark Playhouse. She is co-founder of the Menier Chocolate Factory and co-produced all in-house shows 2004- 2006, including *Sunday In The Park With George*, which received a West End transfer and 5 Olivier awards.

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## Kevin Wilson Public Relations

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## LISTINGS INFO

### Noël & Gertie

#### Cockpit Theatre

Gateforth Street,  
Marylebone,

LONDON NW8 8EH

Box office: 020 7258 2920

### Tuesday 27th September - Saturday 22nd October

Tuesday - Saturday at 7.30pm  
matinees Saturday at 4.00pm  
and Sunday at 5.00pm

Tickets: £17.00 £14.00 (concs)  
inclusive of all booking fees

### Press Night: Friday 30th September at 7.30pm

How to Get There

Nearest stations:

#### Edgware Road:

Hammersmith & City, District, Circle,  
Bakerloo

#### Marylebone:

Bakerloo and main line

Buses stopping nearby are:  
6, 16, 18, 98, 139, 189, 332, 414