

Cast and creative team announced for the European première of Jerry Herman's multi Tony Award nominated Broadway musical *The Grand Tour*



**Alastair Brookshaw**



**Nic Kyle**



**Zoë Doano**

**Alastair Brookshaw**, **Nic Kyle** and **Zoë Doano** are to head the cast for the European première of Jerry Herman's 1979 Broadway musical, **The Grand Tour**, directed by Thom Southerland, at the Finborough Theatre as part of the 20 Premières Season.

Produced by Danielle Tarento, **The Grand Tour** will run for an eight-week strictly limited season from Thursday, 1 January to Saturday 21 February.

**Press Nights** are **Tuesday 6 January & Wednesday 7 January** at 7.30pm

France, 1940. Jacobowsky, a Polish Jewish intellectual, has been one step ahead of the Nazis for years. Stjerbinsky, an aristocrat, anti semitic Polish colonel is desperately trying to get to England. Jacobowsky has purchased a car he doesn't know how to drive. The Colonel knows how to drive, but has no car. When the two meet at a Paris hotel, they agree to join forces in order to escape the approaching Nazis. Together with the Colonel's girlfriend, Marianne, they begin their perilous journey on the road to freedom. Featuring one of Jerry Herman's most engrossing and heartfelt scores, **The Grand Tour** finds beauty, light and humour in one of history's darkest hours.

**Alastair Brookshaw** (Jacobowsky) received rave reviews for his starring role as Leo Frank in Thom Southerland's critically acclaimed production of *Parade* at Southwark Playhouse. Alastair's West End shows include *Cabaret* and *Blood Brothers*, with him understudying Eddie. He was in Craig Revel Horwood's revival of *Hot Mikado* at the Watermill Theatre, and he was a vocalist in the dance musical *Shoes* at Sadler's Wells. He recently premièred the one-man Oscar Wilde musical, *De Profundis*, winner of Leicester Square Theatre's The New Musical Project.

**Nic Kyle** (The Colonel) hails from New Zealand, where he starred as Chris in the NZ premiere of *Miss Saigon*. His other musicals include Jesus in *Jesus Christ Superstar*, Anthony in *Sweeney Todd*, Emcee in *Cabaret* and *Assassins*.

**Zoë Doano** (Marianne) was in the musicals *Sweet Smell of Success* (Arcola), *High Society* (UK tour) and *Les Miserables* (West End).

The rest of the cast are: **Michael Cotton** (*Parade*, *Victor/Victoria*, *The Tailor Made Man*, *Martin Guerre*, *My Fair Lady*, *Oliver!*), **Laurel Dougall**, **Elizabeth Graham** (*Alvaro's Balcony*, *Candide*, *Salad Days*, *Cabaret*), **Natasha Karp**, **Vincent Pirillo** (*Sweeney Todd*, *Chichester*, *The Phantom of the Opera*, *The Woman in White*, *Ragtime*, *Fiddler on the Roof*), **Blair Robertson**, **Samuel J Weir** (*Dogfight*, *Monkee Business*, *Parade*, *Spring Awakening*), **Lizzie Wofford**.

Press contact: Kevin Wilson at KWPR 07884 368697 [kevinwilsonpr@gmail.com](mailto:kevinwilsonpr@gmail.com)

kevinwils★n  
public relations

**FINBOROUGH | THEATRE**

The full creative team is also announced today:

Director **Thom Southerland**  
Choreographer **Cressida Carré**  
Musical Director **Joanna Cichonska**  
Set Designer **Philip Lindley**  
Costume Designer **Sophia Simensky**  
Sound Designer **Max Pappenheim**  
Producer & Casting Director **Danielle Tarento**

**Jerry Herman** (Music and Lyrics) is one of Broadway's most prolific composers, whose best known works include *Hello, Dolly!*, *Mame*, *La Cage aux Folles* and *Mack & Mabel*. He has been nominated for the Tony Award five times, and won twice, for *Hello, Dolly!* and *La Cage aux Folles*. In 2009, Herman received the Tony Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Theatre.

**Michael Stewart** (Book) made his Broadway debut with *Bye Bye Birdie* in 1960. He won two Tony Awards for Best Musical and Best Book of a Musical for *Hello, Dolly!* and was further nominated for *Mack & Mabel*, *Carnival!*, *I Love My Wife*, *Barnum*, *42nd Street* and *Harrigan 'n' Hart*.

**Mark Bramble** (Book) has been nominated for the Tony Award three times: for Best Book of a Musical for *Barnum* and *42nd Street* and Best Direction of a Musical for *42nd Street*.

**Thom Southerland** (Director) was longlisted Best Newcomer in the 2011 Evening Standard Awards for *Parade*. He was named Best Director at the 2011 The Offies - Off West End Theatre Awards - for *Me And Juliet* at the Finborough. He directed *Titanic*, *Victor/Victoria*, *Mack & Mabel* and *Parade* (Southwark Playhouse); *Daisy Pulls It Off*, Irving Berlin's *Call Me Madam!* (Upstairs At The Gatehouse); the European première 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* (Union); *Noël and Gertie* (Cockpit); the European première of *The Unsinkable Molly Brown* (Landon); and the European première of *State Fair* (Finborough & transfer to Trafalgar Studios).

**Danielle Tarento** (Producer and Casting Director) was named Best Producer at the 2012 Off West End Awards and recently won Best Off West End Production at the 2014 Whatsonstage Awards and Best Musical Production at the 2014 Off West End Awards for *Titanic* at Southwark Playhouse. She has also produced *Dogfight*, *Victor/Victoria*, *Mack & Mabel*, *Parade*, *Company* and *Three Sisters* at Southwark Playhouse; *Taboo* (Brixton Clubhouse); *The Pitchfork Disney* (Arcola); *Burlesque*, *Drowning on Dry Land* (Jermyn Street); *Noël and Gertie* (Cockpit). 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 five Olivier Awards.



## THE GRAND TOUR

Finborough Theatre  
118 Finborough Road  
London SW10 9ED

Box Office: 0844 847 1652  
[www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk](http://www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk)

Thursday 1st January - 21st February

**Press nights: Tuesday 6 & Wednesday 7 January at 7.30pm**

Tuesday to Saturday Evenings at 7.30pm  
Saturday and Sunday Matinees at 3.00pm  
(no Saturday matinee 10 January)  
Extra matinee on Friday 20 February at 3.00pm

Ticket prices:  
Previews (1 - 4 January): £14 all seats  
6 - 25 January: £20, £16 concessions, except Tuesday evenings £16 all seats, and Friday and Saturday evenings £20 all seats  
27 January - 21 February: £22, £18 concessions, except Tuesday evenings £18 all seats, and Friday and Saturday evenings £22 all seats  
£10 tickets for under 30's for performances from Tuesday to Sunday of the first week when booked online only.  
£12 tickets for residents of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea on Saturday 10 January when booked online