

UNICORN

PRESS RELEASE –

for immediate use from 28th February 2008

Puppet State Theatre Company presents

The Man Who Planted Trees

8 April – 27 April 2008

Suitable for ages 7+

PRESS PERFORMANCE: Wednesday 9 April, 2.30pm

Puppet State Theatre Company's adaptation of **Jean Giono's** classic environmental fable comes to the Unicorn Theatre for a three-week run in April before embarking on an international tour.

This inspiring story, set in the Provence area of France where Giono grew up, follows a French shepherd whose tireless dedication completely transforms a bleak landscape into a massive forest over a period of 40 years.

The production premiered at the Edinburgh Festival in 2006, where it enjoyed sell-out success and critical acclaim.

It is very, very rare to find something that appeals as effortlessly to children and adults as this magical show. ***** (5 Stars), *The Scotsman*

Puppet State tell this remarkable story with a memorable blend of comedy, puppetry and storytelling performed by **Richard Medrington** (*AA Milne's Winnie The Pooh*) and **Rick Conte** (*Catherine Wheels' Martha, Snow Baby*), designed and directed by **Ailie Cohen** (*Jazz Mouse, Rumpelstiltskin*).

"We've now done over 350 performances to around 44,000 people. The audience response to the show has been amazing. We seem to have struck a chord, perhaps because with current environmental concerns people need to hear a story that fills them with hope or simply because the shepherd's dog makes everyone laugh." says Richard Medrington.

The production won the Eco Trust's Eco Prize for Creativity in 2007.

Following the Unicorn dates, the play travels to Yorkshire, Wales, and Ireland, returning to the Edinburgh Fringe before tour dates in Kuala Lumpur in October.

Please contact: Vid Simoniti on 020 7645 0545 or vid.simoniti@unicorntheatre.com

See www.puppetstate.com for more info and downloadable images.

LISTINGS INFORMATION

The Man Who Planted Trees

8 April – 27 April 2008

For ages 7+

Unicorn Theatre, 147 Tooley Street, London

Nearest Tube: London Bridge

Box Office: 020 7645 0560

Email: boxoffice@unicorntheatre.com

PERFORMANCE TIMES (8-20 Apr)

Tue-Sun 2.30pm (except Fri); Wed, Fri & Sat 11.30am.

PERFORMANCE TIMES (22-7 Apr)

Tue-Sun 1.30pm (except Fri); Wed-Fri 10.30am.



Puppet State Theatre

The Man Who Planted Trees Tour Dates: May – June 2008

| Date | Venue | Performance Time |
|-----------------------|--|-------------------------|
| 10 th May | Goole Arts Centre, Goole | 2pm |
| 11 th May | Selby Town Hall, Selby | 2.30pm |
| 16 th May | Theatr Harlech, Harlech, Gwynedd | 1pm & 7pm |
| 17 th May | Sherman Theatre, Cardiff | 11am & 2pm |
| 19 th May | The Welfare, Brecon | 6.30pm |
| 20 th May | St Josephs Environment & Heritage Centre, Cwmaman | 7pm |
| 21 st May | Blackwood Miner's Centre, Blackwood | 1.30pm |
| 22 nd May | Wyeside Arts Centre, Builth Wells, Powys | 1.30pm & 7pm |
| 23 rd May | Hay Festival, Hay-on-Wye | 11am & 1pm |
| 24 th May | Salisbury Festival, Salisbury Playhouse Studio | 12pm & 3pm |
| 25 th May | Memorial Hall & Theatre, Barry | 2.30pm |
| 26 th May | Theatre Mwldan, Ceredigion | 2pm |
| 27 th May | Muni Arts Centre, Pontypridd | 2.30pm |
| 28 th May | Pontardawe Arts Centre, Pontardawe | 1pm |
| 29 th May | Span Arts, Queens Hall, Narbeth | 3pm & 6pm |
| 30 th May | Theatr Gwynedd, Bangor | 6.30pm |
| 31 st May | Neuadd Dwyfor, Pwllheli | 2.30pm |
| | | |
| 5 th June | Citizens Theatre, Glasgow | 10.30am & 1pm |
| 7 th June | Eigse Carlow Arts Festival, Carlow, Ireland | 3pm |
| 8 th June | Eigse Carlow Arts Festival, Carlow, Ireland | 3pm |
| 9 th June | Roscommon Arts Centre, Roscommon, Ireland | 10.30am & 12.30pm |
| 11 th June | Spreacha Festival, Draiocht, Blanchardstown, Ireland | 10.15am & 12.15pm |
| 12 th June | Spreacha Festival, Draiocht, Blanchardstown, Ireland | 10.15am & 12.15pm |
| 13 th June | Mermaid Arts Centre, Bray, Ireland | 10am & 12pm |
| 14 th June | Mermaid Arts Centre, Bray, Ireland | 12pm |