

Press release: 4 October 2010 (replaces 3 September)



**Clean Break presents**

# ***Charged***

**Six new plays about women, crime and justice**

**performed in and around Soho Theatre from 10 to 27 November 2010**

written by EV Crowe, Sam Holcroft, Rebecca Lenkiewicz, Chloë Moss, Winsome Pinnock, Rebecca Prichard

directed by Lucy Morrison, Caroline Steinbeis and Tessa Walker

design: Soutra Gilmour; lighting: Johanna Town; sound: Emma Laxton

**Press performances: Friday 12 November, Charged 1 at 3pm; Charged 2 at 7.30pm**

Premiering plays by six of Britain's best female playwrights, Clean Break takes over the entire Soho Theatre building with a season of exhilarating new plays about women, crime and justice. The six plays are presented over two performances in two cycles of three plays each:

## **Charged 1**

*Fatal Light* by Chloë Moss, directed by Lucy Morrison

*Taken* by Winsome Pinnock, directed by Caroline Steinbeis

*Dream Pill* by Rebecca Prichard, directed by Tessa Walker

## **Charged 2**

*Doris Day* by EV Crowe, directed by Lucy Morrison

*Dancing Bears* by Sam Holcroft, directed by Tessa Walker

*That Almost Unnameable Lust* by Rebecca Lenkiewicz, directed by Caroline Steinbeis

Audiences journey into Soho Theatre's different spaces, discovering the untold stories of women and the criminal justice system. Girl gangs and life on the edge, older women trapped in the system, deaths in custody, child trafficking, addiction and power struggles are some of the themes uncovered by *Charged* through this series of engaging, provocative, moving and funny plays.

The production is accompanied by a series of events including panel discussions and student performances. During the run, Clean Break also presents Katie Hims' *Five Women* (Gold Award for Playwriting, 2010 Koestler Awards) at Southbank Centre as part of *Prose and Cons* on 13 November.

**Clean Break** is a women's theatre company using theatre for personal and political change and working with women whose lives have been affected by the criminal justice system. The company delivers a year-round programme of theatre productions, new writing projects and drama-based education from its North London studios and in women's prisons, alongside professional development, training and advocacy.

In the last twelve months, Clean Break has enjoyed huge success with a nomination for the South Bank Show Award; critical acclaim for its 2009 production, Lucy Kirkwood's *it felt empty when the heart went at first but it is alright now* at Arcola Theatre; the revival of Chloë Moss's play *This Wide Night* (winner of the prestigious trans-Atlantic Susan Smith Blackburn Prize 2009) at Soho Theatre; and the company's first collaboration with LIFT, with *She from the Sea* by Resident Playwright Zawe Ashton performed by Access students at The Lift venue in Canning Town.

[www.charged.org.uk](http://www.charged.org.uk) / <https://twitter.com/CleanBrk>

**Press contact: Nancy Poole on 07957 342 850 / [nancy@nancypoolepr.com](mailto:nancy@nancypoolepr.com)**

## Listings details

**Venue** Soho Theatre, 21 Dean Street, London, W1D 3NE  
**Dates + times** 10 – 27 November at 7.30pm + 12, 13, 18, 20, 25, 27 at 3pm  
**Box office** 020 7478 0100 / [www.sohotheatre.com](http://www.sohotheatre.com)  
**Ticket prices** Week 1: £10 / £7.50 (concs); Week 1 matinees: £7.50  
Week 2: eves £15 / £12.50 (concs); mats £12.50 (£25/£20 for both in Week 2)  
Week 3: eves £20 / £17.50 (concs); mats £12.50 (£30 for both in Week 3 or across Weeks 2 + 3)

## Notes to Editors

### Biographies

#### **EV Crowe**

EV Crowe was a member of the Royal Court Theatre Young Writers' Programme 2005, Royal Court Theatre Super Group 2009 and has been on attachment to the Royal Court Theatre and National Theatre Studio. Previous plays include *A Just Act* (for Clean Break, 2009), *Number 1* and *Community Hall* (Bush Theatre, Wraparound response and Election short) and *One Runs the Other Doesn't* (Royal Court Rough Cuts). Two further plays by EV Crowe opening this autumn are *Kin* at Royal Court and *ROTOR* at Siobhan Davies Studios.

#### **Sam Holcroft**

Sam Holcroft's recent work includes *While You Lie* (Traverse Theatre) and *Pink* (*Women Power and Politics* season, Tricycle Theatre). Other work includes *Vanya*, Sam's radical adaptation of *Uncle Vanya* (Gate Theatre), *Cockroach* (co-produced by the Traverse Theatre and the National Theatre of Scotland, nominated for Best New Play by the Critics' Awards for Theatre in Scotland 2008, shortlisted for the John Whiting Award 2009), *Ned and Sharon* (HighTide Festival) and short play *Vogue* (Royal Court). She received the Tom Erhardt Award for up and coming writers in 2009, and was the Pearson Writer in Residence at the Traverse Theatre, 2009-10. Sam is currently under commission to the Traverse Theatre and Paines Plough.

#### **Rebecca Lenkiewicz**

Rebecca Lenkiewicz's theatre plays include *The Lioness* (*Women Power and Politics* season, Tricycle Theatre), *The Typist* (Riverside Studios and Sky Arts), *Her Naked Skin* (National Theatre, Olivier), *Soho – A Tale of Table Dancers* (Edinburgh Festival Fringe First, opening of Arcola Theatre in 2001), *The Night Season* (National Theatre, Cottesloe, Critics' Circle Award 2004 for Most Promising Playwright), *Shoreditch Madonna* (Soho Theatre), *Blue Moon Over Poplar* (NYT/Soho Theatre), *Faeries* (Royal Opera House), and *Justitia* (Sadlers Wells). Adaptations include *An Enemy of the People* (Arcola), *Ghosts* (for ATC, Arcola) and Stravinsky's *The Soldier's Tale* (Old Vic). Radio dramas includes *Sarah and Ken* (BBC Radio 3), *Fighting For Words*, *The Man in the Suit* and *Caravan of Desire* (all for BBC Radio 4). Her prose has been published in *Granta* and *New Statesman*.

#### **Chloë Moss**

Chloë Moss's credits include *This Wide Night* (winner of the Susan Smith Blackburn Prize, for Clean Break at Soho Theatre in 2008 and revived in 2009; US production by Naked Angels in 2009), *A Day in Dull Armour* (winner of the Royal Court Young Writers' Festival 2004), *How Love is Spelt* (opening at the Bush Theatre prior to a US première at the Summer Play Festival 2005 in New York), *Christmas is Miles Away* (Manchester Royal Exchange and Bush Theatre), *The Way Home* (Liverpool Everyman) and *Catch* (Royal Court, written collaboratively with four other playwrights). She has been a Writer in Residence at the Bush and with Paines Plough and also writes for television.

#### **Winsome Pinnock**

Winsome Pinnock's plays include *One Under* and *Water* (Tricycle), *Mules* (Royal Court Upstairs, Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles and The Magic Theatre in San Francisco), *Talking in Tongues*, *A Hero's Welcome* and *A Rock in Water* (Royal Court Upstairs), *Leave Taking* (produced by Liverpool Playhouse, Contact Theatre) and for young people, *Beg, Borrow or Steal* (Kuumba Arts Community Centre) and *Can You Keep a Secret* (National). For radio, *Let them call it Jazz* (an adaptation of a

Jean Rhys short story), *Her Father's Daughter* and *Water* (all for Radio 4). She also writes for television with credits including *Biller Harvest*, her original screenplay for BBC2.

### **Rebecca Prichard**

Rebecca Prichard's credits include *Yard Gal* (Critics' Circle Award for Most Promising Playwright, co-produced by Clean Break and performed at the Royal Court and in women's prisons), *Essex Girls* (Royal Court Young Writers' Festival, also included in the publication *Coming on Strong: New Writing from the Royal Court Theatre*), *Fair Game*, a free adaptation of Edna Mazyza's *Games in the Backyard* (Royal Court Downstairs at the Duke of York Theatre), *Delir'ium* (performed at Tricycle, Royal Court and Chichester Festival Theatre), *Futures* (Theatre 503 and The Schauspiel House, Zurich), and *Something Blue* and *A Good Doctor* (both for Radio 4). Rebecca has worked as a drama workshop facilitator in various community settings, including prisons and hostels, and is currently AHRC Fellow at Lancaster University, where she is researching ways to use creativity to support female survivors of violence.

### **Lucy Morrison, director**

Lucy Morrison is Clean Break's Head of Artistic Programme. For Clean Break, she developed and directed *it felt empty when the heart went at first but it is alright now* by Lucy Kirkwood (Arcola Theatre) and *This Wide Night* by Chloë Moss (Soho Theatre, Live Theatre Newcastle, Plymouth Drum Theatre in 2008, revived at Soho Theatre in 2009). She was formerly Literary Manager of Paines Plough, where she worked with many of the country's most exciting playwrights including; Dennis Kelly, Abi Morgan, Sarah Kane, Chloë Moss, Mark Ravenhill and Jack Thorne. Her directing credits include: *Product* by Mark Ravenhill (a Paines Plough production at Traverse Theatre, Royal Court Theatre Upstairs, European tour including Schaubühne in Berlin, and theatres and festivals in Moscow, St Petersburg, European New Play Festival at Wiesbaden and finally Bush Theatre in 2007).

### **Caroline Steinbeis, director**

Caroline Steinbeis studied at Royal Holloway and Central School of Speech and Drama. In 2008 Caroline completed the Director's Course at the National Theatre Studio where she was also on attachment. Caroline was the recipient of the 2009 JMK Award. Directing credits include: *The Cost of Things* (Public Theatre, New York), *Sports et Divertissements* (La Carrier Du Normandoux, Poitier), *Mad Forest* and *Photo Story* (BAC), *Mile End* (Southwark Playhouse and UK tour) and *Dealing with Claire* (Pleasance, Edinburgh). Recent assistant directing credits include: *The Frontline* (Shakespeare's Globe), *Dido Queen of Carthage* (National), *Shoot/Get Treasure/Repeat* (Hampstead Theatre, Latitude and Traverse), *Orpheus X* (for A.R.T. in Boston at the Lyceum Edinburgh), and *The Seduction of Almighty God* (Birmingham Rep and Riverside Studios). Caroline was the associate director on *Earthquakes in London* for Headlong / National Theatre, which opened at the Cottesloe in July.

### **Tessa Walker, director**

Directing credits include *The Red Helicopter* by Robin French (Almeida), *She From the Sea* by Zawe Ashton (Clean Break / LIFT), *Women on the Verge of HRT* by Marie Jones (Derby Theatre), *Harm's Way* by Zawe Ashton (The Lowry, Manchester), *Black Crows* by Linda Brogan (Arcola Theatre, Clean Break), *Orange* by Alan Harris (Script Cymru), *Matches for Monkeys* by Sean Buckley (Chelsea Theatre), *Debris* by Dennis Kelly (Theatre 503, BAC Critics' Choice Season, The Traverse, Edinburgh and Staatstheater Biennale, Germany), *Blackout* by Dennis Kelly (Soho Theatre), *The Watched* by Christopher William Hill (tour), *The Supposed Person* by Francesca Bartellini (Le Petit Herbertot, Paris) and *Hysteria Studs* by Charlotte Mann (BAC and Theater Lab, Houston). Tessa was an Associate Director at Soho Theatre from 2001 to 2003, the Literary Director at Paines Plough from 2008 to 2010, and is currently a Literary Associate at the National Theatre of Scotland.

### **Notes to Editors End**