

# forced entertainment

April 2010

## Forced Entertainment present *THE THRILL OF IT ALL*

World Premiere:

7 May 2010

Kunstenfestivaldesarts, Brussels

Followed by more dates in mainland Europe before a UK tour in autumn 2010

Forced Entertainment's new performance, directed by Tim Etchells, opens May 2010. After the minimalism of *Spectacular* and the animated graphic novel of *Void Story*, the group return to working with a large cast and a large stage, filled with ragged dances and distorted voices.

It's bright under the lights, and hot, and frightening. Nine performers in grubby tuxedos and tarnished sequins play out a comical and disconcerting vaudeville to the strains of Japanese lounge music.



Deranged dancing girls swirl, giggle, bicker and stray ever further from the point. Shabby comperes compete for the microphone and the audience's laughter as the show itself slowly starts to unravel. Dances end in fights, jokes end in confusion and sentimental stories end in arguments in this unsettling and extraordinary performance.

This new piece continues Forced Entertainment's work both on the spectacle of theatre and the spectacle of the contemporary world, exploring the ways in which we live, breathe and tell stories in the circumscribed space of late capitalism. It also heralds a new direction for the group as they explore voice distortion and movement.

Since forming the company in 1984, the six core members of the group have sustained a unique artistic partnership for quarter of a century, confirming time and again their position as trailblazers in contemporary theatre. The company's substantial canon of work reflects an interest in the mechanics of performance, the role of the audience and the machinations of contemporary urban life. The work - framed and focused by Artistic Director Tim Etchells - is distinctive and provocative, delighting in disrupting the conventions of theatre and the expectations of audiences. Forced Entertainment's trademark collaborative process - devising work as a group through improvisation, experimentation and debate - has made them pioneers of British avant-garde theatre and earned them an unparalleled international reputation.

[/more](#)

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## Credits

### *THE THRILL OF IT ALL*

Conceived and devised by the company

**Performers** Thomas Conway, Amit Hadari, Phil Hayes, Jerry Killick, Richard Lowdon, Claire Marshall, Cathy Naden, Terry O'Connor, John Rowley.

**Direction** Tim Etchells

**Design** Richard Lowdon

**Lighting Design** Nigel Edwards

**Music and Sound** John Avery

**Choreographic Advice** Kate McIntosh

**Director's Assistant** Hester Chillingworth

**Production** Ray Rennie and Francis Stevenson

### **Forced Entertainment**

Forced Entertainment is Robin Arthur, Tim Etchells (Artistic Director), Richard Lowdon (Designer), Claire Marshall, Cathy Naden and Terry O'Connor.

**Co-produced by** Kunstenfestivaldesarts (Brussels), Hebbel am Ufer (Berlin), PACT Zollverein (Essen), Les Spectacles vivants - Centre Pompidou in collaboration with Festival d'Automne (Paris)

**With support from** Sheffield City Council.

Forced Entertainment is regularly funded by Arts Council England.

### **Confirmed Tour Dates 2010**

7 - 10 May 2010	Kunstenfestivaldesarts, BRUSSELS
19 - 21 May 2010	PACT Zollverein, ESSEN
22 - 25 June 2010	Hebbel-am-Ufer, BERLIN
6 - 9 October 2010	Pompidou Centre, PARIS
12 - 13 October 2010	Nuffield Theatre, LANCASTER
15 - 16 October 2010	Lyceum Theatre, SHEFFIELD
19 - 20 October 2010	Warwick Arts Centre, COVENTRY
26 October - 6 November 2010	Riverside Studios, LONDON
16 - 20 November 2010	Contact Theatre, MANCHESTER
25 - 26 November 2010	Rotterdam Schouwburg, ROTTERDAM

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