



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## A Hound for Hong Kong: Re-contextualising a Modern Classic

The Real Inspector Hound  
28 APRIL - 3 MAY 2015  
Ngau Chi Wan Civic Centre

HONG KONG - Award-winning theatre company The Shadow Players returns to the Hong Kong stage with their unique adaptation of the classic absurdist comedy *The Real Inspector Hound*.

Sir Tom Stoppard, the brilliant playwright behind *Shakespeare in Love* and *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*, turns the classic “whodunit” genre on its head, as this play within a play combines murder mystery with funny parody and satirical meta-theatricality to create an hour of uninterrupted laughter. This play will be performed at Ngau Chi Wan Civic Centre, Cultural Activities Hall, between 28 April and 3 May 2015.

Pompous drama critics Birdboot and Moon attend the production of a new theatrical thriller. The classic ingredients are there: an isolated country mansion, a dark and stormy night, guests with hidden agendas, a faithful housekeeper, and a mysterious stranger. What will they do with a stubborn corpse that refuses to be found, an overabundance of romantic tension, dangerous games of mahjong, and the immediate threat of murder?

First performed in 1968, *The Real Inspector Hound* is a comic parody of Agatha Christie’s *The Mousetrap* (which received its first public performance in Hong Kong as recently as 2012). But *The Real Inspector Hound* is no simple comedy: by blurring the distinctions between fiction and reality, it will leave audiences surprised, enlightened and wondering if they are themselves part of the play.

Co-Directors Julian Lamb and Rosalind Wong said, “The Real Inspector Hound is an outrageous twist on the classic murder mystery in which the perpetrators and victims are members of the audience! In this fresh interpretation, we have re-contextualised the play within 1970s Hong Kong, and we hope the inclusion of sultry tai tais, Chinglish, and aggressive mahjong games will have audiences laugh knowingly. We hope, above all, that whoever comes to see the play will be absorbed and delighted by its witty plot twists, and ultimately be left wondering, ‘Whodunnit?’”

The Real Inspector Hound will be performed nightly at Ngau Chi Wan Civic Centre between 28 April and 3 May 2015 at 20:00, with matinees at 15:00 on 2 and 3 May (Saturday and Sunday).

Tickets will be on sale through URBTIX at \$220 **FOR** Adults **AND** \$180 **FOR** Students.  
Enjoy 10% off for groups purchases of 5 to 10 standard tickets on the same performance, 15% off for 11 to 15 standard tickets, and 20% off for 16 standard tickets or more.

For Press enquiries, review tickets, and production pictures please contact  
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**Note to Editors:**

**ABOUT THE SHADOW PLAYERS**

The Shadow Players is a theatre company formed by professors and graduates of The Chinese University of Hong Kong and The University of Hong Kong. The company was formed in 2012 and has since produced sold-out productions of Moliere's *The Learned Ladies of Mid-levels* (April 2013) and Gogol's *The Government Inspector* (June 2014). Both were performed at the Fringe Club to sell out audiences, and both received 4 out of 5 stars from Hong Kong English Language Drama reviews. The Government Inspector earned the remark: "This company is making a name for itself as a local company whose work is not to be missed."

**ABOUT TOM STOPPARD**

Tom Stoppard is widely considered to be one of the most important dramatists of contemporary theatre. He has written prolifically for TV, radio, film and stage, finding prominence with works such as *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*, *Shakespeare in Love*, *Dogg's Hamlet*, *Cahoot's Macbeth*, and *Arcadia*. He is regarded as one of the most intellectual dramatist of our time, and his works are permeated with cultural allusions and a remarkable depth of scholarship in a dizzying array of fields. Stoppard has been a key playwright of the National Theatre and is one of the most internationally performed dramatists in modern times.