

<p>The Faction's SCHILLERFEST UK 2017</p> <p>*** CONFIRMED SCHEDULE *** Last updated: 05/10/2017</p> <p><i>Please note: All artist appearances are subject to other professional commitments</i></p>	
<p>Tuesday 31st October 7.30pm Festival Launch + FIESCO</p> <p>The festival is officially opened by The Faction's Artistic Directors Mark Leipacher and Rachel Valentine Smith with the launch of the full programme. Join in the event, celebrating The Faction's birthday, with members of the core ensemble Amelia Donkor and Anna-Maria Nabirye and founder members Richard Delaney and Daniel Millar, co-adaptor of The Faction's Schiller adaptations.</p> <p>David Byrne, Artistic and Executive Director of New Diorama Theatre, will speak about his own passion for Schiller, and how that led to The Faction launching the Schiller project at New Diorama.</p> <p>The event will include The Faction ensemble in a rehearsed reading of FIESCO, which The Faction staged at New Diorama in 2013, the first time that the 234 year old text had been performed in the UK.</p> <p><i>"The play emerges as a complex but fascinating tale of coveted power and revenge and you're gripped throughout."</i> – The Telegraph on The Faction's FIESCO</p>	<p>David Byrne Mark Leipacher Rachel Valentine Smith</p> <p>Cast includes:</p> <p><i>Fiesco</i> Richard Delaney</p> <p><i>Leonora</i> Amelia Donkor</p> <p><i>Bourgognino</i> Anyebe Godwin</p> <p><i>Hassan</i> Anna-Maria Nabirye</p> <p><i>Gianettino</i> Daniel Millar</p>
<p>Wednesday 1st November 7.30pm Robert David MacDonald celebration + WILLIAM TELL</p> <p>A panel of Glasgow Citizen Theatre artists celebrate the life and career of Robert David MacDonald, whose work in adaptation and translation revolutionised the reception of Schiller in the UK.</p> <p>Robert David MacDonald was a writer, director, pianist, occasional actor, and Artistic Director. In a triumvirate with Giles Havergal and Philip Prowse, MacDonald ran the Glasgow Citizen Theatre for over 30 years. Witty, erudite and urbane, it may be as a translator that MacDonald is best remembered – he was fluent in eight languages – translating and directing over 50 plays, five by Schiller.</p> <p>Actors Jane Bertish, Garry Cooper, Ciarán Hinds, Mark Lewis, Jason Morrell and Roberta Taylor and former Artistic Director Philip Prowse share their recollections of MacDonald and their time at the Citz. They will also read MacDonald's adaptation of WILLIAM TELL, Schiller's final completed play, which last received a rehearsed reading at the National Theatre in 2005.</p> <p><i>"The consummate theatrical polymath"</i> – The Independent on Robert David MacDonald</p>	<p>Jane Bertish Garry Cooper Ciarán Hinds Mark Lewis Jason Morrell Philip Prowse Roberta Taylor</p>
<p>Thursday 2nd November 7.30pm JOAN(S) OF ARC</p> <p>Michael Billington will be in conversation with BAFTA, Emmy and three-time Olivier Award winner Dame Eileen Atkins about the differing portrayals of Joan of Arc by Schiller, Shakespeare and Shaw, and why this enduring enigma fascinates playwrights.</p> <p>In a glittering career on stage and screen, Eileen Atkins portrayed Shakespeare's Joan on</p>	<p>Eileen Atkins Michael Billington</p> <p>Kate Sawyer Rachel Valentine Smith</p>

<p>television in the BBC's AN AGE OF KINGS and the title role in Shaw's SAINT JOAN on stage at the Old Vic, Liverpool Playhouse and on tour. This will be her first time approaching Schiller.</p> <p>Michael Billington is the Guardian's theatre critic and author of <i>State of the Nation: British Theatre since 1945</i>. In addition to numerous articles and reviews about Schiller, he is also the author of <i>The 101 Greatest Plays</i>, discussing two Schiller plays.</p> <p>Following the conversation, Kate Sawyer from The Faction ensemble will perform a one-woman show of Schiller's JOAN OF ARC, directed by Rachel Valentine Smith, Artistic Director of The Faction.</p> <p><i>“**** Sawyer's eyes glitter and her voice thickens menacingly. It's an outstanding performance.”</i> – WhatOnStage on The Faction's JOAN OF ARC</p>	
<p>Friday 3rd November 7.30pm MARY STUART + “Schiller The Icon” panel</p> <p>The Faction's critically acclaimed and award-winning production of Schiller's MARY STUART is revived in a semi-staged reading directed by Artistic Director Mark Leipacher.</p> <p>Lesley Sharpe, Emeritus Professor of the University of Exeter, and author of <i>Friedrich Schiller: Drama, Thought and Politics</i>, will then lead a talk on “Schiller the Icon” exploring why Schiller has such an impact on the German theatre canon and how and why he was attracted to iconic characters like Mary and Elizabeth.</p> <p><i>“**** The Faction's thrilling, rough theatre-ish version made me feel that I had never seen the play before... superbly imaginative... Go.”</i> – The Independent on The Faction's MARY STUART</p>	<p>Mark Leipacher Lesley Sharpe</p>
<p>Saturday 4th November 2.30pm & 7.30pm WALLENSTEIN DAY</p> <p>Artistic Director Rachel Valentine Smith leads us through Schiller's epic WALLENSTEIN with a series of talks and a rehearsed reading in two parts.</p> <p>Across the matinee and evening events, Rachel directs members of The Faction ensemble and special guests in WALLENSTEIN – encompassing the three-play arc of Schiller's great historical hero during the Thirty Years War.</p> <p><i>“Dramatically engrossing – what Schiller understood, like Shakespeare, was the dynamics of power”</i> – The Guardian on WALLENSTEIN at the Minerva Theatre</p>	<p>Rachel Valentine Smith</p> <p>Cast includes: Lydia Bakelmun Christopher Hughes James Ronan</p>
<p>Monday 6th November 7.30pm “Schiller's Anatomy of Power” + DON CARLOS</p> <p>Professor Rüdiger Görner, Director of the Centre for Anglo-German Cultural Relations, explores Schiller's grasp of power politics and its contemporary implications in an exclusive talk. Rüdiger Görner is a recipient of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Lüst Prize for life achievement and the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany.</p> <p>Then, following a rehearsed reading of his own adaptation of DON CARLOS, acclaimed dramatist Peter Oswald discusses Schiller's place in the verse drama tradition and how Schiller has impacted his work as a verse playwright.</p> <p><i>“They come no finer than from Peter Oswald, a playwright who is almost single handedly</i></p>	<p>Rüdiger Görner Peter Oswald</p>

<p><i>keeping the ideas of verse drama alive</i>” – The Guardian of Peter Oswald</p>	
<p>Tuesday 7th November 7.30pm INTRIGUE AND LOVE + “Schiller our contemporary” talk</p> <p>The Faction's fascination with Schiller began in 2010 with a production of INTRIGUE AND LOVE at the Southwark Playhouse. Now a company of guest artists use The Faction's adaptation to explore Schiller's tragic love story, with obvious echoes to ROMEO AND JULIET.</p> <p>There will then be a discussion looking beyond the canon, and how Schiller's lesser known status in the UK can be used to an advantage: extraordinary texts from the classical repertoire that are not widely known but speak pertinently to our time.</p>	<p>Cast includes: Amelia Donkor Sakuntala Ramanee</p>
<p>Wednesday 8th November 7.30pm THE MAID OF ORLEANS + post-show Q&A</p> <p>Artistic Director Rachel Valentine Smith directs The Faction ensemble in a rehearsed reading of the 2014 production of JOAN OF ARC under Schiller's original title of THE MAID OF ORLEANS.</p> <p>Followed by a cast & creative team Q&A exploring the themes of the play and the issue of gender representation in the classical repertoire.</p> <p><i>“Finding the mordant humour in the ego-driven power politics and a fresh visual shorthand, this compelling starkly-stripped back, modern-dress production never relaxes its grip.”</i> – The Independent on The Faction's JOAN OF ARC</p>	<p>Cast includes: Lowri Izzard Jude Owusu Natasha Rickman Josh Taylor</p>
<p>Thursday 9th November 7.30pm Virtually Opera: TURANDOT and beyond</p> <p>Leo Doulton, Artistic Director of Virtually Opera and opera historian, explores Schiller's impact on the world of opera with this specially selected and illuminating programme of arias and lieder.</p> <p>Eight of Schiller's nine major plays have influenced the opera repertoire, inspiring amongst others Verdi, Donizetti and, of course, Puccini's TURANDOT and the celebrated aria “Nessun Dorma.”</p> <p>Previous praise for Leo Doulton's work: <i>“Open's ones horizons”</i> – Neue Westfälische <i>“Extraordinarily well done”</i> – Saarbrücker Zeitung</p>	<p>Leo Doulton Virtually Opera</p>
<p>Friday 10th November 7.30pm Schiller's Birthday Party + DEMETRIUS</p> <p>Come and enjoy a Bratwurst and a Bier with members of The Faction and special guests to celebrate Friedrich Schiller's 258th Birthday with DJs and Schiller inspired musical contributions!</p> <p>The evening will also include the launch of 'Act 3' of The Faction's DEMETRIUS – a portmanteau project including established and emerging writers working on units to complete Schiller's final, unfinished play.</p>	<p>Cast includes: Alice Allemano Karlina Grace-Pasada Yasmeen Khalaf Andy McLeod Celia Meiras</p>

<p>Contributors to DEMETRIUS so far include: April de Angelis, Ranjit Bolt, Jon Brittain, Georgia Fitch, Gareth Jandrell, Emily Juniper, Daniel Kanaber, Glyn Maxwell, Rachael McGill, Simon Reade and Ché Walker.</p>	
<p>Saturday 11th November 2.30pm DIE BRAUT VON MESSINA + Directors' Talk</p> <p>Jennifer Bakst, Resident Director at the Tricycle Theatre, directs a company of German-speaking actors in a rehearsed reading of Schiller's seldom seen THE BRIDE OF MESSINA performed in the original German. Jennifer's other work includes <i>The Flowers o'Edinburgh</i> at The Finborough Theatre and the <i>Signs and Songs</i> gala at Shakespeare's Globe.</p> <p>This will be followed by a director and cast talk hosted by The Faction's Artistic Director Rachel Valentine Smith.</p> <p><i>Please note: this reading will be performed in German with scene briefing surtitles in English. The director talk will be conducted in English.</i></p>	<p>Jennifer Bakst Rachel Valentine Smith</p>
<p>Saturday 11th November 7.30pm Introducing THE ROBBERS</p> <p>Dr John Guthrie, Senior Lecturer and Fellow of Murray Edwards College at the University of Cambridge will introduce Schiller's first play, THE ROBBERS, with reference to the satanic in eighteenth Century German literature.</p> <p>Then, The Faction's Artistic Director Mark Leipacher directs members of The Faction in a rehearsed reading of THE ROBBERS, for which The Faction won the Peter Brook Award in 2011 – an appropriate finale to close the first SchillerFest.</p>	<p>John Guthrie Mark Leipacher</p> <p>Cast includes:</p> <p>Shelley Davenport Lachlan McCall Tamarin McGinley Siân Polhill-Thomas Kate Sawyer Christopher York</p>