

LOVE&MADNESSESEMBLE presents

AJAX

Directed by Jack Shepherd

PART OF THE MADNESS SEASON

A season of three plays exploring the actions and motives of men who kill.

Venue: Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, Hammersmith, London, W6 9RL

Dates: Evening: May – 26th to 30th
June – 4th, 5th, 7th, 9th, 13th, 24th, 25th
July – 11th, 15th, 22nd, 25th
Matinee: July – 5th, 16th, 19th

Time: 7. 30pm (Matinees – 2.00pm)

Box office: 020 8237 1111

Internet: www.riversidestudios.co.uk

Tickets: £17/£13 concessions, £9 School groups of 15+

“A NEAR PERFECT EXAMPLE OF HOW TO INTEGRATE ACTION WITH AUDIENCE” The Stage

Ajax is generally accepted as Sophocles earliest play (written around 450bc to 430bc) and centres on the fate of the warrior following the end of the Trojan Wars.



After the death of Achilles, Ajax is enraged to find that Odysseus has been awarded Achilles arms and armour instead of him and vows vengeance on the Greek Leaders who he believes have disgraced him. Tricked by the Goddess Athena, he slaughters a herd of cattle, believing them to be his commanding officers. Upon coming to his senses he is horrified at his actions and decides his only way forward is to take his own life. Director, Jack Shepherd has reset this moving story of a great warrior's downfall amongst the killing fields and insanity of the First World War.

A translation by Robert Cannon.

Jack Shepherd is one of the UK's best known television, screen and stage character actors, he was TV Detective Charles Wycliffe and was recently seen in *The Golden Compass*. He is also an acclaimed writer and director.

LOVE&MADNESS was founded in 2000 by Artistic Director Neil Sheppeck. Their first production was a challengingly original take on *Macbeth* which received great critical acclaim. They have produced a wide range of engaging, accessible theatre drawing on classic texts and stories for London seasons and tours of the UK and Ireland. This season sees two new productions and a revival of the show that started it all. An ensemble of twelve will perform all

three plays, plus a devised piece of theatre - Project X - that will be fed by, and a response to the ensemble's work on the season.

www.loveandmadness.org

Contacts:

Further info and School workshops: **Amy Taylor** on 07801 987687 or by email at amy@loveandmadness.org

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