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Arts Council England (London)

MTM:UK Annual Conference 2009

The Creative Business of Musical Theatre

Date:	Friday 6 March, 9.30am – 6.00pm Saturday 7 March, 10.00am – 12.00pm (optional)
Venue:	Leicester Square Theatre, London
Host:	Musical Theatre Matters (MTM:UK)
Contact:	Tom Atkins, tom@chrisgrady.org
Website:	For full details, visit www.musicaltheatrematters.org.uk

Details

The Creative Business of Musical Theatre is the only dedicated conference in the UK for musical theatre producers, managers and creative professionals.

This is MTM's second annual conference which brings together a significant part of the membership, including our friends from overseas, as well as encouraging new members to join the network. Where the 2008 conference concentrated on the development of new work and how best to nurture new writers, this year's conference will discuss the business of the form as well as social innovation, educating the next generation of business leaders and building relationships with other organisations within the UK and in the wider world.

We will be exploring the topics with around 100-150 delegates in the spacious Leicester Square Theatre along with an esteemed panel of special guest speakers who all have experience in the area and are passionate that **musical theatre matters**. Through Q&As, panel discussions, open debates and networking time, delegates will each bring ideas for moving forward.

The conference will also consider a shift in gear for MTM:UK, with the formation of a number of working parties who will identify specific research topics throughout the year, reporting back at certain stages with a presentation at the 2010 conference.

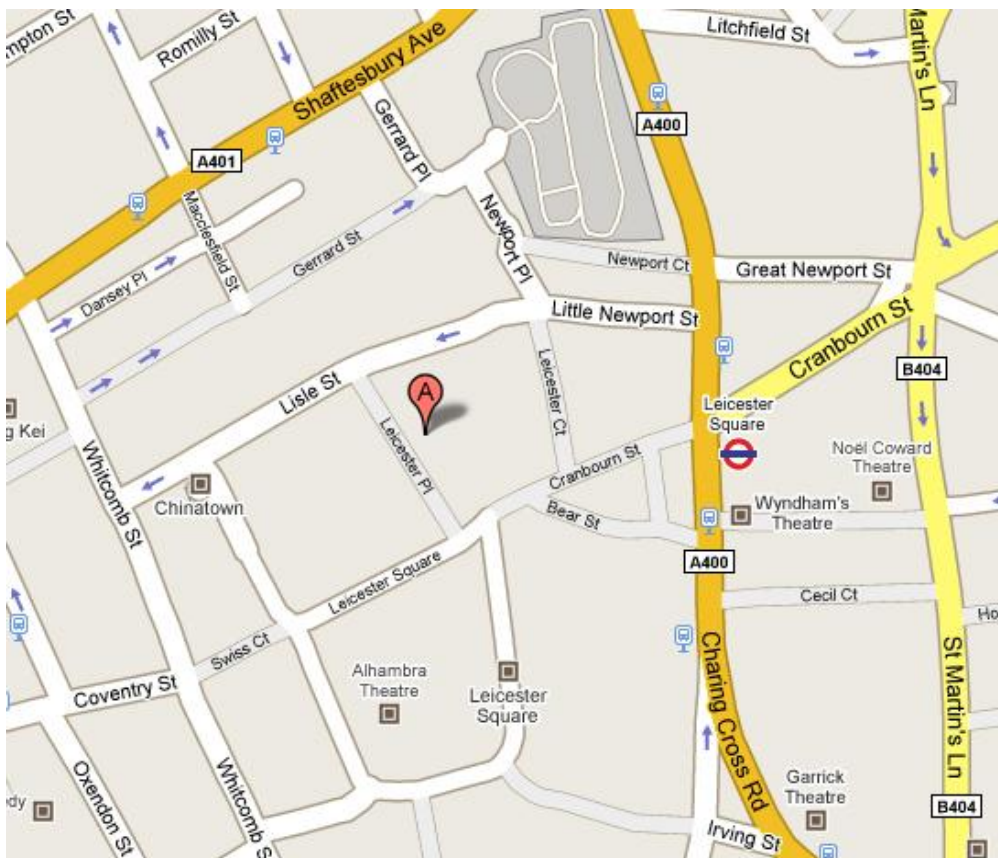
Musical Theatre Matters

Founded in 2005, Musical Theatre Matters (MTM:UK) is a not-for-profit organisation established in the UK by and for professional theatre creatives/producers wishing to develop and champion new musicals, new opportunities and new writers throughout the UK. MTM:UK has three initial aims: a) to increase knowledge, b) to encourage a community and c) to champion new musical theatre initiatives. Members share one core belief: that Musical Theatre Matters.

To date, MTM:UK has hosted over 30 members meetings, as well as a number of road shows throughout the UK and USA, and workshops along with other informal networking events. They also run the MTM:UK Awards at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and sponsored the creation and development of Perfect Pitch Musicals.

Directions

- Address:** Leicester Square Theatre, 6 Leicester Place, London WC2H 7BX
- Nearest Tube:** 2mins from Leicester Square (Northern/Piccadilly lines)
- Nearest Rail:** 10mins from Charing Cross (mainline, Northern/Bakerloo lines)
- Buses:** 24, 29, 176 to Charing Cross Road
- Nearest Car Park:** Whitcomb Street



Programme

Timings and speakers are subject to final confirmation on the day.

Friday 6 March 2009

- 9.00 - 9.30 Open for Registration
- 9.30 - 10.00 Official Start, Morning Tea/Coffee
- 10.00 – 10.15 **Welcome and Introduction**
Getting To Maybe and What's the Point?
Chris Grady, Chair of MTM:UK
- 10.15 – 11.15 **Session 1**
The Future: Changing Lives, Changing World, Changing Priorities
David Benedict (Chair), *Variety Magazine*
Pippa Bailey, *Creative Producer/Director - Total Theatre Awards*
Clive Belgeonne, *Empowering Educators / Manchester University*
Laiz Chen, *Open Space for Dialogue and Enquiry / Nottingham University*
Jeremy Newton, *Prince's Foundation for Children and The Arts*
- 11.15 – 11.45 **Report Back**
Encouraging Investment and Business Innovation
Open discussion chair TBA
Christine Denniston, *MTM:UK*
Peter Watts, *Bourner Bullock Accountants*
- 11.45 – 12.15 Tea/Coffee Break
- 12.15 – 13.15 **Session 2**
Strategies for New Work Development
Kerry Michael (Chair), *Theatre Royal Stratford East*
Andy Barnes, *Perfect Pitch Musicals*
Tony Gibbs, *National Operatic and Dramatic Association*
Nancy Golladay, *BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop*
Sam Levy, *Summer Play Festival NYC*
Vernon Mound, *University of Gothenburg*

Tim Seward, *Mercury Musical Developments*

Tim Sutton, *Freelance composer and MD*

13.15 – 14.15 Lunch Break – Chinese Finger Buffet

14.15 – 15.00

Session 3a

Two Musical Theatre Superpowers

Chris Grady (Chair), *MTM:UK*

Bill O'Brien, *USA - National Endowment for the Arts*

Jannette Cheong, *China - UK Musical Theatre Forum*

15.00 – 15.30

Session 3b

Trans-National Market Position Enhancement

Chris Grady, *Musical Theatre @ George Square, Edinburgh*

Isaac Robert Hurwitz, *New York Musical Theatre Festival*

15.30 – 16.00

Tea/Coffee Break

16.00 – 17.30

Session 4

Building Collaborative Business

Ken Bennett Hunter (Chair)

Iain Gillie, *The Curve – Leicester*

Kerry Michael, *Theatre Royal Stratford East*

Laurie Sansom, *Royal and Derngate – Northampton*

James Seabright, *Independent Producer*

Chantelle Staynings, *Primavera Productions*

17.30 – 18.00

Final Thoughts / AOB

End at Leicester Square Theatre

18.00 – 19.30

Reception at The Balcony Bar, Ruby Blue, Leicester Square

Entrance opposite Leicester Square Theatre

Supported by Superbreak – www.superbreak.com

Please turn overleaf for the itinerary for the optional Saturday 7 March session.

Saturday 7 March 2009 (Optional Attendance)

9.30 – 10.00 Informal Gathering

10.00 - 11.00

Session 5

Writers and Creative Producers in Discussion

Chris Grady (Co-Chair), *MTM:UK*

Neil Marcus (Co-Chair), *Mercury Musical Developments*

Open discussion with guests from the conference and writers from MMD

11.00 – 12.00 Open Networking and Discussion

Ends

That completes the **MTM:UK Annual Conference 2009 on The Creative Business of Musical Theatre.**

For booking, up-to-date information, biographies of speakers or to contact us, please visit:
www.musicaltheatrematters.org.uk

Delegates packs will be issued upon registration on the day.
