



REVIEW OF 2013

www.thelondonhub.com



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sustained theatre
raising the roof

the london hub

the london hub of **sustained theatre** presents a conversation on a theme

City Lives: International Ties
How are arrivals and departures reflected in the making of art?

Thursday 7 October 2010
at The Jellyfish Theatre

Chair: **Sara Wajid**
Panellists:
Paulette Randall, Benjamin Yeoh, Lindsay Johns

www.sustainedtheatre.org.uk
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the london hub of **sustained theatre** presents

City Lives: International Ties

Chair and panellists



Sara Wajid - Chair

Sara Wajid is a freelance arts journalist and editor of Untoldlondon.org.uk, the Museum of London site about the historical roots of the city's diverse population. She has written for the New Statesman, Wasafiri, The Guardian and Prospect. She is currently working with Tamasha Theatre Company and once directed the losing entry in a school drama competition.
www.untoldlondon.org.uk



Benjamin Yeoh

Benjamin Yeoh won the international 2006 Gate Translation Award for *Nakamitsu*. Ben was born in London to a Chinese-Malay father and Singaporean mother. He trained as a behavioural neuroscientist at Cambridge, before studying play writing at Harvard. His theatre credits include: *Lemon Love*, Finborough Theatre (2001); *Lost in Peru*, Camden People's Theatre (2003); *Yellow Gentleman*, Oval House Theatre (2006); *Nakamitsu*, Gate (2007). Radio: *Inventor of Fireworks*, Radio 3 (2004); *Patent Breaking Life Saving*, BBC World Service (2006); *Places in Between*, Radio 4 (2007).
www.benjaminyeoh.com



Paulette Randall

Paulette has two productions running currently: *5 Guys Named Moe* starring Clarke Peters at Stratford East and *Twelfth Night* at Nottingham Playhouse. Other recent credits include *Funny Black Singles* for Leopard Television, *Up Against The Wall* (Director and Co-Writer) at Bolton, *Angel House* by Roy Williams for Eclipse, *Gem of the Ocean* by August Wilson at the Arena Stage Theatre in Washington DC (previously at The Tricycle), *Diamond Hard* as part of the Almeida Write Festival, *What's in a Cat* by Linda Brogan at the Royal Court, *Christ of Coldharbour Lane* at Soho Theatre and *The Three Sisters*, in a version by Mustapha Matura, that opened at Birmingham Rep and went on a national tour.



Lindsay Johns

Lindsay Johns is a writer and broadcaster. He writes regular comment and travel pieces for the Evening Standard, and has also written for The Times, the Guardian and Prospect magazine. From BBC 2's The Culture Show to Radio 3's Nightwaves and from Radio 4's Front Row to C4 polemics, he has cut his media teeth on several platforms. From Shakespeare to Sean Paul and from Boethius to Beenie Man, he relishes his ability to oscillate effortlessly between the classical canon and the contemporary cutting edge. In his spare time he works as a volunteer mentor on a flagship leadership scheme with young people in Peckham, South London.
www.lindsayjohns.com

City Lives: International Ties launches The London Hub
at the award-winning Jellyfish Theatre

exploring the canon

Exploring the Canon. A day of performance readings looking beyond the usual suspects to widen the repertoire of British Theatre

Held at Arcola Theatre in front of a 125-strong audience made up of the public, artistic directors, directors, producers, theatre companies.

Moon on a Rainbow Shawl was revived in 2012 by the National Theatre after it was showcased at Exploring the Canon.

exploring the canon²

Exploring the Canon 2. Artistic Directors champion nine performance pieces that they think should be considered modern classics

Free event at the Cottesloe, National Theatre.

158 audience made up of drama students, ACE, BBC Writersroom, artistic directors, producers, theatre companies.

Audience feedback:

“Interesting, informative and enlightening”

“A totally enriching experience”

“What a treat! And really important to get this work shown”

“Well organised, well performed, exciting”

“Thank you we need more events like these”

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theater **RAST**

TALIMHANE
TIYATROSU



Building international links we hosted a cultural exchange for **Europe Now**. A European partnership project strengthening relations between cultural operators who believe in dialogue and the intercultural Europe



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ALL THE PIECES MAKE A WHOLE



- A 2-day international conference celebrating the richness of British culture with discussions and great art.
- Produced in partnership with Project Phakama and Queen Mary, University of London
- Attended by 138 delegates
- Keynote speeches by Topher Campbell and Mojisola Adebayo
- Panellists: Nadia Davids (QMUL), David Tse Ka-Shing, Kwame-Kwei Armah (via Skype), Funmi Adewole and Ekuu Bayunu (Chair of Sustained Theatre National)
- Twitter exposure during the event topped 71,000 with over 20,00 people reached (Source: Event with Me Ltd)

"I was impressed by the professional presentation and organisation of the event, truly engaged in the debate, inspired by the passion of the creatives who attended, intrigued by the pop ups and moved by the theatre at the end of the day. I knew I would want to come back the next day and carry on."

**Imogen Butler-Cole,
Director, Performer,
Educator,
TheWhatWorks**

- Commissions awarded to emerging artists and companies with mentoring:
 - Director Natalie Ibu mentored by Talawa Theatre Company and Nitro
 - Writers and Directors Anna Ngyuen and Renu Arora mentored by Tamasha
- Pop –up Mosaic performances by:
 - Dean Atta (Spoken word)
 - Floreo (Flamenco dance)
 - Paula Siu (Physical Theatre Performer)
 - Project Phakama Artist in Residence
 - Susan Parkes (Opera Soprano)
 - Tina Chiang (Monologue)
 - StoneCrabs Theatre Company
- Videos from the conference on Vimeo



“Reckord Celebrations”

A tribute to the late writer, Barry Reckord.

Presented by Talawa Theatre Company and The London Hub in association with Bush Theatre

Directed by Michael Buffong, tonight's event will include staged readings from some of Barry's most memorable plays as well as contributions from Yvonne Brewster (Talawa founder), Michael Billington (theatre critic), Don Warrington (actor), Max Stafford-Clark (director), Kwame Kwei-Armah (actor/director), Hassan Mahamdallie (Arts Council England) and Diana Athill (editor and writer).

All the proceeds from tonight's event will go to the newly launched Barry Reckord Bursary which aims to support emerging BAME playwrights. To donate to the bursary visit: <http://wefund.com/project/the-barry-reckord-bursary/p45440/>

“I think that Barry's contribution to the British theatrical landscape is undeniable. The London Hub's launch of The Barry Reckord Bursary ensures that his legacy is kept alive for future generations.”

Michael Buffong, Artistic Director, Talawa Theatre Company



Supported by
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ENGLAND**

The London Hub and Talawa Theatre Company were approached by Hassan Mahamdallie (ACE) to create an event to celebrate the late playwright's life and work. We took the opportunity to launch **The Barry Reckord Bursary** at the event.



We've created two bursary schemes:
Pitch It and **The Barry Reckord Bursary**

Pitch It awards two annual bursaries to emerging arts practitioners working in any genre. They receive:

- Mentoring from industry professionals within The London Hub network
- A work-in-progress presentation in front of an industry audience with Q&A and feedback
- Showcase at Tara Theatre
- Cash award to help with RND and showcase

The Barry Reckord Bursary is awarded to an emerging playwright every two years. The awarded is supported by Oberon Books and the patron of the bursary is Kwame Kwei-Armah OBE. The current recipient is receiving:

- Mentoring from Madani Younis Artistic Director, Bush Theatre and Michael Buffong, Artistic Director, Talawa Theatre Company
- Dramaturgy from Rob Drummer, Bush Theatre
- A rehearsed reading at Bush Theatre
- Cash award to help with RND

Pitch It



Pitch It recipients:
Actor/Producer **Emma Dennis-Edwards** and
Dancer/Choreographer
Rachael Nanyonjo

“The
**Barry
Reckord**
Bursary”

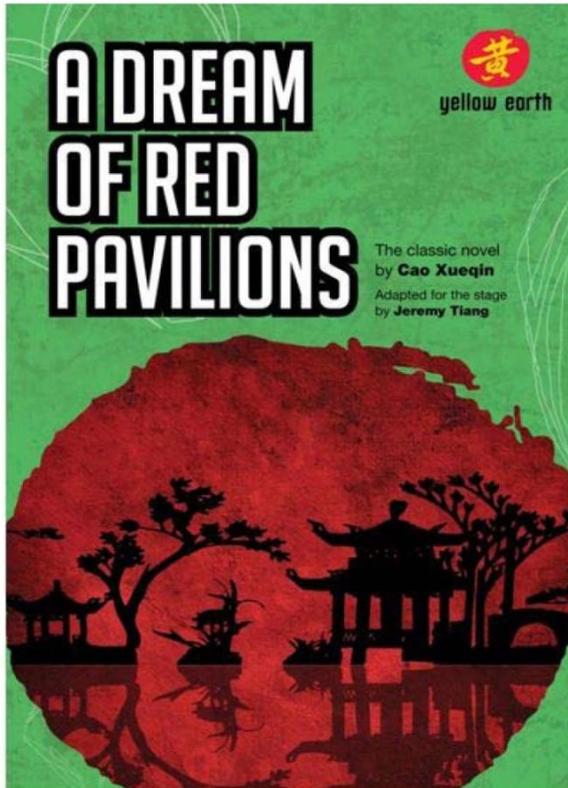


**The Barry Reckord
Bursary** was
awarded to
playwright **Ravi
Thornton**

*“Winning The London Hub’s Pitch It bursary has been a life changing experience for me as an artist. For a long time I had been searching for a development bursary that would allow me to bring my ideas to life in the form of a performance but would also help me gain an understanding of the theatre and dance industry in addition to challenging and growing my creative process. I found all these elements in the Pitch It bursary.” **Rachael Nanyonjo** (2013)*

Through Our Lens

creative responses to current political issues affecting diversity in the arts.



A DREAM OF RED PAVILIONS

BY CAO XUEQIN

Adapted for the stage by **Jeremy Tiang**

Directed by **David Lee-Jones** Assistant Director – **Tina Chiang**

Jia Baoyu, a young man – **Will Sharpe**
Jia Yuanchun, his older sister, a palace scribe – **Liz Sutherland**
Jia Tanchun, another sister – **Gabby Wong**
Jia Xichun, his third sister – **Kerry Gooderson**
Jia Zheng, his father – **David Yip**
The Dowager, Jia Zheng's mother – **Pik-sen Lim**

Lin Daiyu, a poor cousin, an orphan – **Amy Yamazaki**
Xue Baochai, another poor cousin, also an orphan – **Kae Alexander**
Wang Xifeng, an even poorer cousin – **Elizabeth Tan**
Qin Keqing, a distant relative – **Kerry Gooderson**

Fairy False, a dream figure – **Kerry Gooderson**

Xiren, a maid – **Liz Sutherland**
Ping'er, Xifeng's maid – **Gabby Wong**

All other parts played by members of the company.

The play is set in the city of Jinling in the 1750s and 60s.

KAE ALEXANDER – "Baochai"

Recent credits include: *Dr Korczak's Example* and *A Winter's Tale* (Unicorn Theatre), *Bad Education* (BBC), *Pramface* (BBC), *House of Anubis* (Nickelodeon). Trained at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama. Productions at Guildhall: *Richard III*, *Coriolanus*, *House of Atreus*, *Dear Brutus*, *DNA* and *The Cherry Orchard*.



KERRY GOODERSON – "Keqing/ Fairy/ Xichun/ Maid"
 Little Em'ly in *David Copperfield* (Mercury Theatre Colchester), *The Suitcase Kid* (The Orange Tree/UK No. 1 Tour), *NewsRevue* (Pleasance Courtyard, Edinburgh Festival 2011).



WILL SHARPE – "Baoyu"

Theatre: *The Tragedy of Thomas Hobbes*, *The Taming of the Shrew* and *The Merchant of Venice* (RSC). TV: Yuki in *Casualty* (BBC), *Sherlock* (BBC). Film: Tim in BAFTA-nominated *Black Pond* (Black Pond Films).



LIZ SUTHERLAND – "Yuanchun/ Xiren/ Maid"

Fringe Report Best Actor Award for *Dogs* (Yellow Earth), *The Letter* (West End), *Soho Streets* (Soho Theatre), *Demon Baby* (Birmingham Rep), *Come Fly With Me* (BBC), *Ideal* (series regular, BBC). BBC Radio Drama Repertory Company. Upcoming: *Blowback* (Radio 4), *Gone Too Far* (Poisson Films).



ELIZABETH TAN – "Xifeng"

Bunny in *This Isn't Romance* (Soho Theatre), *Road to Kowloon Park* (Warehouse Theatre Croydon), Beatrice in *Much Ado About Nothing* (WT). Regular TV roles as Xin in "Coronation Street" (ITV), Princess Windsor in *Waterloo Road* (BBC), also SuLim in *The Syndicate* (BBC), *Spooks* and *Dr Who* (BBC). Trained at NIDA, VCA and CSSD.

GABBY WONG – "Tanchun/ Ping'er/ Fairy Maid"

Gabby speaks Cantonese, English, Mandarin and German. She studied Politics at Bath University and trained at Italia Conti. Credits include: *Othello* (Shakespeare's Globe), *Takeaway* (Stratford East) and *Random 11* (Vertigo Heights). Gabby is also writer/producer for award-winning GRfilms and is part of Unheard Voices at Royal Court Theatre.



AMY YAMAZAKI – "Daiyu"

Charlotte in *Hollyoaks* (Lime Pictures), *Law and Order UK* (Kudos Ltd), *Absolutely Fabulous* (BBC).



DAVID YIP – "Jia Zheng/ Servant"

Gold Mountain (Les Deux Mondes, Montreal), *The Bomb* (Tricycle Theatre), *Fit and Proper People* (Soho Theatre/RSC).
www.davidyip.co.uk



Through Our Lens An occasional series of events responding in creative ways to issues affecting diversity in the arts.
 The first event, a rehearsed play reading, took place at Bush Theatre.



sustained theatre

raising the roof

- The London Hub remains committed the ethos of Sustained Theatre
- We maintain strong links with our colleagues in the regional hubs of Sustained Theatre. We are in discussions with Sustained Theatre Yorkshire about touring **Exploring the Canon Festival**.
- We attend the National Artists Team of Sustained Theatre quarterly meeting
- We support the Spaces projects in England and have a watching brief over the Spaces in London:
 - **ARCOLA LAB**
 - Nurturing the diverse, rich and vibrant creative talent emerging within our society*
- So far in 2013 seventy-seven BAME artists have benefited from 1-2 week tenancy at Arcola Theatre with access to rehearsal spaces, desk with computer and wifi, and networking with creatives in residence. Bookings for 2014 open in January.
- Tara Theatre (space coming in 2015)



The future

Over the last four years The London Hub has developed into an organisation that responds to the needs of our diverse membership.

We are excellent at building partnerships with artists, venues and performing arts companies.

We have the skills and know-how to contribute to the continuing success of the London region of Sustained Theatre by supporting BAME artists and their work.

Upcoming projects include:

- Exploring the Canon Festival
- The London Hub Summer School
- Pitch It
- The Barry Reckord Bursary
- Through Our Lens