

PRESS RELEASE

31st October 2022

Dates announced for *Their Finest Hour* at Waterloo East Theatre



It's the day of Bert's funeral, an RAF veteran of the Second World War. His family have gathered at his home for his last farewell, when they discover an old suitcase full of memorabilia in his attic. There's a photo. 'Me and Jamie, a bit worse for wear after a night out in London. That was a night to remember. I'll say no more. Within 24 hours of that picture, we were over Germany again.'



Waterloo East Theatre, London, will be hosting a three-week run of *Their Finest Hour* from 8th to 26th March 2023. Conceived and written by author Steve Darlow *Their Finest Hour* presents the story of the men and women who served with the Royal Air Force during the Second World War. A completely new theatre piece, told through the words and eyes of those who were there, it is a truly unique and immersive verbatim production, with a cast playing over 100 characters. Featuring 1940s music,

songs, poetry, and gripping story-telling, this stylish performance brings an emotive and significant part of our history to life.

Writer Steve Darlow: 'In 2019 and 2020 we staged short development runs of *Their Finest Hour* at South Hill Park in Bracknell, with fantastic feedback, and were all set to take the show further afield. Alas the pandemic put pay to that! But now it's chocs away and I'm delighted to announce that we have secured a slot with Waterloo East Theatre, an ideal venue for the look and feel of the show.'



'*Their Finest Hour* is based upon the wealth of first-hand accounts I have read, heard, recorded and discovered, in my capacity as an author and publisher. I have sat with some incredible, but humble, veterans listening to their stories of the dark days in which they fought Nazism. Yet they held on to the prospect of brighter days and hope, through love and solidarity.'

The show will once again be directed by Joe Malyan. 'What an honour it is to be asked to direct *Their Finest Hour* again. The fact that it is a piece of new writing coupled with the real-life stories of men and women, makes this production something special. When Steve first showed me the script, he emphasised the importance of telling the emotional story of the people behind the text. This is not a history play, he told me. It is not about dates, times and figures. I soon discovered it is a play about real people. Real moments. Real memories. Real tragedy. Real joy. And everything else in between. Steve has created a beautifully elaborate piece of verbatim theatre, and his passion for story-telling has shone through.'



Show Details.

Their Finest Hour is presented by Fighting High and For George Productions. Written by Steve Darlow. Directed by Joe Malyan. Produced by Steve Darlow and Auriole Wells. Executive Producer Sean Feast.

Waterloo East Theatre, London, will be hosting a three-week run of *Their Finest Hour* from 8th to 26th March 2023. Tickets are now on sale! Box Office 020 7928 0060 www.waterlooeast.co.uk.

Casting details will be released in November.

Further details of *Their Finest Hour* can be found on www.theirfinesthour.info.

Audience Feedback from previous shows.

'We were blown away by the show ... it will stand the test of time ... most fabulous piece of theatre and history.'

'Brilliant story telling from a fantastic cast ... clever and creative re-enactments ... with a lovely sound track and humour to boot!'

'Very cleverly done and such amazing and unbelievable stories!'

Photos courtesy of Savannah Photographic.

For further details please contact

Steve Darlow

finesthour@btinternet.com

www.theirfinesthour.com

(+44) 0752 3854829

