



**Media information  
For immediate use**

**Cast announced for *Afterplay* at Edinburgh International Festival 2009**

Acclaimed actors **Frances Barber** and **Niall Buggy** will perform **Brian Friel's *Afterplay*** at **Edinburgh International Festival 2009**.

The play forms part of a residency by Dublin's **Gate Theatre** at Festival 09 - supported by **Culture Ireland** - celebrating the work of Ireland's greatest living playwright.

Frances Barber is well known to film and TV audiences, with starring roles in *Sammy and Rosie Get Laid*; *Prick Up Your Ears*; *The Street*; *Bremner, Bird and Fortune*; *The IT Crowd* and *Hotel Babylon* among others.

Her critically praised theatre work includes *King Lear*, *The Seagull*, *The Dead Monkey*, *Love's Labour's Lost*, *Hamlet*, and *Camille* with the RSC; *Aladdin* at the Old Vic; and *Tales from the Vienna Woods*, *Pygmalion* and *The Night of the Iguana* at the National Theatre.

For her performance in *Uncle Vanya* at the Albery she won the TMA Regional Award 'Best Supporting Actress' and was an Olivier Nominee. She won the What's On Stage Award Best Actress in a Musical for *Closer to Heaven* at the Arts Theatre.

Frances Barber has most recently appeared on stage in *Madame de Sade* at Wyndham's Theatre and *Pieta* at St James's Piccadilly.

Olivier Award winning Niall Buggy reprises the role of Andrey in *Afterplay* from the Gate Theatre's triumphant production at Sydney International Festival in January 2009. His stage work also includes roles in *Uncle Vanya* – for which he won Best Actor, Irish Theatre Awards; *Haunted* at the Royal Exchange; *Translations* on Broadway; *Guys and Dolls* at the Donmar; and *John Bull's Other Island* at Tricycle Theatre. The Dublin-born actor's diverse film and TV career includes appearances in *Lewis*; *Malice*; *Aforethought*; *Grease Monkeys*; *The Cruise Of The Gods*; *Father Ted*; *Mamma Mia*; *The Duel*; *The Libertine* and *The Butcher Boy*.

*Afterplay*, which opens at the **King's Theatre** on Monday 31 August, will be directed by Tony award winning co-founder of Druid Synge Theatre, **Garry Hynes**.

The play creates an extraordinary encounter between two of Chekhov's lost souls, Sonya from *Uncle Vanya* and Andrey from *The Three Sisters*. Now middle aged and unable to escape the baggage of their earlier lives, they meet by chance in café and as we follow their conversation we discover the fate of both their families.

For its Festival residency the Gate Theatre presents three masterworks by Brian Friel, performed by the company with which he has a uniquely close relationship - *The Yalta Game*, directed by Patrick Mason, *Faith Healer* directed by Robin Lefèvre and *Afterplay*.

Edinburgh International Festival 2009

**Gate / Friel**

*Afterplay*

Monday 31 August 9.00pm, Tuesday 1 September 6.00pm, Thursday 3 September 7.30pm,  
Friday 4 September 2.00pm & Saturday 5 September 5.00pm

King's Theatre

[eif.co.uk/afterplay](http://eif.co.uk/afterplay)

*Faith Healer*

Saturday 15-Tuesday 18 August 7.30pm, Sunday 16 August 2.00pm, Wednesday 2, Friday 4 &  
Saturday 5 September 7.30pm

King's Theatre

[eif.co.uk/faithhealer](http://eif.co.uk/faithhealer)

*The Yalta Game*

Saturday 29 & Sunday 30 August 9.00pm, Tuesday 1 September 9.00pm, Friday 4 September  
5.00pm, Saturday 5 September 2.00pm

King's Theatre

[eif.co.uk/theyaltagame](http://eif.co.uk/theyaltagame)

**Supported by Culture Ireland**

[eif.co.uk](http://eif.co.uk)

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