

Richmond School



Press Release

Issued: March 2008

STUDENTS FIND THEIR DRAMATIC DARK SIDE

A-level students at Richmond School are preparing a daring theatrical feast, to be performed on Wednesday 19 th March at the Georgian Theatre Royal in Richmond.

Two casts of nine talented young actors present a double bill of dark drama in this wonderfully atmospheric and historic theatre – as their Theatre Studies exam. Marlowe's 'Doctor Faustus' conjures a world of temptation, sin, hellfire and 'voluptuousness', while Greek tragedy 'The Bacchae' pushes the actors to their limits to show the ecstatic abandon of the followers of Dionysus.

Students attended a residential workshop at Marrick Priory in January to create the characters and movement style of the two pieces.

"The Priory is such an atmospheric setting – it really brought out the intensity in our performance," said cast member Ashleigh Fayers, who plays Faustus, the Renaissance scholar who sells his soul to the devil.

Eleanor Papadimos said, "There are some brilliant visual effects in both plays, creating a sense of dark magic. I even have to wear white contact lenses for Tiresias' prophetic visions!"

Head of Drama Amy Southworth said, "This is a very unusual exam! To perform in the Georgian Theatre is a unique opportunity that brings the students to the next level – and it's so much more exciting for the audience. We can't imagine a better showcase for these two plays."

Tickets for the performance, which is at 7.30pm, are available from the Georgian Theatre Box Office on 825252.