

## **Nothing Mal-content about this drama!**

Two Edinburgh companies – Malmaison in Leith, the hotel group that “Dares to be Different”, and independent theatre production company Siege Perilous - have teamed up to form a unique collaboration. Siege Perilous will exclusively perform its theatre productions at the Leith hotel for an initial period of 2 years. This is the latest exciting partnership that Siege Perilous has initiated and follows hot on the heels of its last show at Ocean Terminal, Leith in December 2011.

The facilities available to theatre audiences match those of any leading venue: a large sumptuous bar serving everything from a Mojito to a macchiato, the Brasserie serving pre (or post!) theatre classic dishes made from locally sourced produce, and a warm comfortable environment to see an up-close and personal theatre show.

Speaking about the new partnership, Malmaison General Manager Stewart Campbell said “Malmaison is always looking for innovative ways to entertain our hotel guests and local community. We had a bit of live music during last year’s Festival Fringe but this is the first time we’ve tried something like this. Everyone here is really excited and we are delighted to be working with another Leith-based company”.

Producer Tina Finch concurred by saying “We are thrilled to be able to show our work in such magnificent surroundings. Malmaison is a wonderful venue for our audience to come to at any time of year. We have some cracking new scripts to present and our Artistic Director, Andy Corelli, has already got a vision for how he’d like to present the first of these in May”.

To launch the theatre programme, a special promotion has been arranged. “Bite at the Bar” offers audience members a main course with a glass of wine plus a ticket to the show for £20 per person (food served in the Bar). For those wanting to make more of a night of it, a pre/post Theatre meal in the Brasserie offers 2-courses with half a bottle of wine and a ticket to the show for £30 per person. These offers, or tickets for the show can be arranged by calling Siege Perilous’s Box Office 0131 554 3005 who will make the reservation with Malmaison on your behalf.

Siege Perilous’s first show with Malmaison will open 8pm Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> May and run for 6 nights with a matinee at 4pm on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May. The company will showcase Dundee-based playwright Bob Ballantine with ‘Standing Stanes’, a political comedy.

**ENDS**

## Notes to editors

### 1) Show details and Press contact.

Show title	Venue	Date
'Standing Stanes'	Malmaison 1 Tower Place, Leith, Edinburgh, EH6 7BZ	3 <sup>rd</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> May (Thurs-Tues)
Time	Duration	Prices
8.00 p.m Matinee - 4pm 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Approximately 60 minutes	£10/£8 £6 matinees
Press and Photo contact	Tickets; public	Tickets: Press
Tina Finch 07720 288620 tinaf@siegeperilous.co.uk	1) www.wegotickets.com 2) 0131 554 3005 3) On the door	Tina Finch 07720 288620

2) Based in Leith Edinburgh, Siege Perilous is a professional theatre production company which was founded in 2000. Run by co-founders Artistic Director Andy Corelli and Producer Tina Finch, the company specialises in new writing and is committed to producing quality small-scale theatre in Edinburgh outwith the Fringe. In 2011, it introduced a Playwright Development Programme the winners of which were announced at the end of October. During a 2-year residency at the venue formerly known as The GRV, it staged 8 well-received productions. Since 2000 it has appeared at Edinburgh's Festival Fringe five times, completed a UK tour and staged an open air production at Craigcrook Castle in association with the de Marco European Art Foundation. The Company mentors new entrants to the industry in roles such as Assistant Director, Stage Manager, Wardrobe, Technical crew and newly graduated actors. It received an Arts and Business Award in 2010. For more information about Siege Perilous, go to [www.siegeperilous.co.uk](http://www.siegeperilous.co.uk).

3) In an area steeped in history and landings of several reigning Monarchs, award-winning Malmaison in Leith was the very first in the super-chic hotel group. Less than a 10 minute taxi ride from Waverley Station, with views across the Water of Leith and surrounded by high quality eateries and pubs, including three Michelin-starred restaurants, the hotel is a firm favourite destination for locals, holidaymakers, professionals and pensioners alike. Malmaison occupies a former sailor's mission built in 1883 on the dock front referred to in its day as the "Angel Hotel". There are now 12 Malmaison hotels across the UK and the company is part of the MWB group which also owns another leading hotel brand, Hotel du Vin. For more information about Malmaison, Leith go to <http://www.malmaison.com/hotels/edinburgh>.

4) Robert Ballantine has professional credits in both stage and television writing. He was a founder-member of Dundee Playwrights' Workshop, which was active under the umbrella of Dundee Rep Theatre in the 1980s and '90s. Bob was one of the writing team involved in the Dundee Mystery Play, centrepiece of the Dundee Community Festival in 1989. His television work has included material for the BBC comedy series Naked Video. Bob has also collaborated with local playwright Donald Gunn on various projects, and is currently working on a musical play on the life and influence of St Andrew, Scotland's patron saint. Bob has combined his writing with a varied career in the fields of economic development, business consultancy, taxation, social work and most recently conflict resolution. He lives in Dundee with his wife Ann.

5) Interviews can be arranged with Malmaison, Andy Corelli, Tina Finch and Bob Ballantine on request.