

**Issued 2 July 2004**

Soho Theatre Company in association with Chantal Arts + Theatre and Naked Angels (NYC)  
presents the world premiere of

## **Thom Pain (based on nothing)**

by Will Eno

**Pleasance Courtyard: 5 - 30 August**

**Soho Theatre + Writers Centre: 3 – 24 September (press night: 6 September)**

**Thom Pain (based on nothing)**, a disturbingly funny new play by **Will Eno**, premieres at the Pleasance Courtyard during this year's Edinburgh Festival before transferring to Soho Theatre from 3 – 24 September.

Hollywood actor **James Urbaniak** stars as Thom Pain in a one-man show that straddles comedy and theatre, toying with the tensions between audience and performer. Will Eno's Thom Pain tackles modern life and love head-on, for better or for worse. His sardonic character plays with the audience in a last-ditch plea for empathy and enlightenment, sharing stories of a childhood punctuated by events that pave the way for his particular brand of disastrous love.

New Yorker **Will Eno's** previous productions in the UK include *The Flu Season* (2003) and *Tragedy: A Tragedy* (2000), which both played to critical and popular acclaim at The Gate Theatre. He has been described by **Edward Albee** as 'one of the finest playwrights I have come across in years - wild and evocative'.

**James Urbaniak's** recent film credits include *American Splendor*, *Confessions of a Dangerous Mind*, Woody Allen's *Sweet and Lowdown*, and Hal Hartley's *Henry Fool* and *The Book of Life*. His off-Broadway theatre credits include *sic* (Soho Rep.), Denis Jonson's *Shoppers Carried By Escalators Into Flames*, *Lipstick Traces*, and an Obie winning performance in Richard Foreman's *The Universe*. He is the co-founder of New York based theatre company Arden Party.

**Hal Brooks's** recent directing credits include *The Flu Season*, Don DeLillo's *Valparaiso* (NY Times Top Play 2002), *Beckett One-Acts* (Drama League Director Fest 2003), and *Almost Blue* (Flatiron Playhouse). He has recently been appointed the Artistic Director of well-known New York performance company Rude Mechanicals.

Soho Theatre + Writers' Centre aims to discover and develop new plays, new writers and new audiences. This is the first full Soho Theatre Company production at the Festival since 2001, when Shan Khan's Verity Bargate Award winning play *Office* played to sell-out audiences as part of the Edinburgh International Festival.

Further comedy and plays transferring to Soho after the Festival include Michael Morpergo's *Private Peaceful* directed by Simon Reade (produced in association with Bristol Old Vic) and Perrier nominated comedy duo *Flight of the Conchords* in their first London run.

**For further information please call:**

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Images will be available from the Electronic Press Office (EPO) at [www.epo-online.com](http://www.epo-online.com)

## LISTINGS DETAILS

### **EDINBURGH FESTIVAL**

**Production** **Thom Pain (based on nothing)**  
presented by Soho Theatre Company  
in association with Chantal Arts + Theatre and Naked Angels (NYC)

**Venue** Pleasance Courtyard (Venue 33 – Pleasance Upstairs)  
Edinburgh Festival Fringe

**Dates** 5-30 August (excluding 10 and 16)

**Time** 3pm (running time: 1hour)

**Prices** £5.00 Aug 5-7  
£9.00 (£7.50) Aug 8-9, 11-13, 17-19, 23-25, 30  
£10.00 (£8.50) Aug 14-15, 20-22, 26-29

**Box Office** 0131 556 6550  
[www.pleasance.co.uk](http://www.pleasance.co.uk)

### **LONDON**

**Production** **Thom Pain (based on nothing)**  
presented by Soho Theatre Company  
in association with Chantal Arts + Theatre and Naked Angels (NYC)

**Venue** **Soho Theatre + Writer's Centre**  
21 Dean Street, London W1

**Dates** 3-24 September

**Time** 7.30pm

**Ticket price** £5 Mondays and matinees  
£14 (£10) Tuesday – Thursday  
£15 (£12.50) Friday and Saturday

**Box Office** 0870 429 6883  
[www.sohotheatre.com](http://www.sohotheatre.com)

### **Post Show Discussion**

**Signed performance**

**Audio Described Performance**