

The Family

a new play by Bradley Barlow

PROGRAMME

The Family

written, directed and choreographed by **bradley barlow**

cast

peter **peter westmacott**
beth **mandy humphrey**
soldier **david robson**
emma **ella sowton**

music: in order of appearance

closer

written & performed by kings of leon

destruction

written & performed by bradley barlow

gentle piece

written & performed by craig armstrong

corona radiata

written & performed by nine inch nails

999,999

written & performed by nine inch nails

lights in the sky

written & performed by nine inch nails

lonely soldier

performed by damien rice

open heart zoo

written & performed by martin grech
remixed by bradley barlow

cold

written & performed by bradley barlow

02 ghosts I

written & performed by nine inch nails

freeze (labradford remix)

written & performed by lfo

with thanks to

gary andrews, debbie miller

the workshop attendees: carol hall, samantha mansi, stuart martin, jerrard moore, jo ord, jo pickering, peter russell

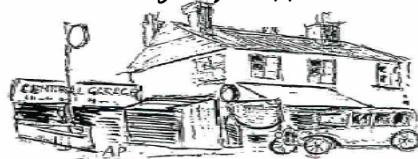
crew

stage manager **mark o'halloran**
production assistant **louise adams**
lighting design & operation **alex gibson**
crew **daniel adams, emma ladd**
photography **stevie pickering**
bed construction **john hankin**
costume alteration **sheila hankin**

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GOTCHA!



Reported by Dave Noon, Editor

The BRM have achieved what Guy Fawkes failed to do over 400 years ago - their leader, the mysterious Radcliffe, has burnt Parliament to the ground.

The sun has risen this morning on an historic day in British history.

On Wednesday 12 October, the Prime Minister and his gutless fellow MPs were heroically killed when the BRM set off a network of over 100 bombs strategically placed to bring maximum chaos.

The Day can exclusively reveal that whilst the fat cat MPs have been holidaying at our expense this summer, the BRM has had its members secretly planting bombs and sabotaging fire alarms, sprinklers and fire exits.

Over 200 firefighters arrived to tackle the blaze but were held back by thousands of Londoners tired of the nanny state the MPs have created. The gathered crowds stopped the fire engines getting closer than half a mile, with fire fighters attempting to put out the raging fires by carrying buckets of wa-

• **Radcliffe and BRM keep promise to destroy Parliament and MPs**

• **Fire visible 20 miles away**

• **Over 850 scum dead**

ter to the scene.

The British Army have placed Britain under martial law but this has not stopped towns and cities from celebrating with their own demonstrations and resistance against the soldiers.

BRM members have successfully infiltrated thousands of public sector jobs, including hospitals, schools, immigration, police, the Home Office and local councils. It is expected that BRM members will not attend work for the foreseeable future, bringing chaos to the streets.

Terrorism experts yesterday appeared on news stations around the world to explain the devastation the BRM's actions will have created.

As *The Day* went to press this morning, the fire continued to rage and has begun to spread to neighbouring buildings. Rising smoke is still visible from miles around and this is unlikely to change for days to come.

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INSIDE: the full story on pages 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19 and commemorative 16-page pullout



Rehearsal Photos

by stevie pickering



about The Family

The exact nature of how the play came about is now a bit of a blur to me, but I do recall that the initial inspiration for *'The Family'* came during a night at the theatre in January 2008 when I saw a photographic interpretation of Paula Rego's painting *'Girl Lifting Up Her Skirt to a Dog'* - a striking image that reminded me of another of Rego's paintings: *'The Family'*. The artwork depicts a man sat on the end of a bed being held by one girl as another tries to strip him. A third stands by the window with her hands clasped in either prayer or glee. The title suggests they are related but are the girls trying to help or harm the man?

It was around this time that I read many newspaper articles about soldiers returning from fighting in Afghanistan and Iraq struggling to readjust to 'normal' life. As time went on, the Government's popularity began to fall even further - MPs' expenses, NHS waiting lists, rising unemployment - and this prompted the idea: what would happen if we had enough of the PR spin and there was an uprising? What if the people waged war on our own country? How would those left behind be affected? How would the returning soldiers cope upon their homecoming?

'The Family' is my first full-length play and I'm truly grateful to Archway Theatre for giving me the opportunity to produce it for three nights. It's been an incredibly challenging, thrilling and terrifying experience - but I've loved every second. For the past year I've been writing a blog on the entire production process so if you'd like to know what it's like to produce a new play from scratch then visit my website and click 'blog'. Finally, thank you to the cast and crew - it's been a joy to work with you all and I'm not sure I could've wished for a better bunch of people to have on board. Thank you.



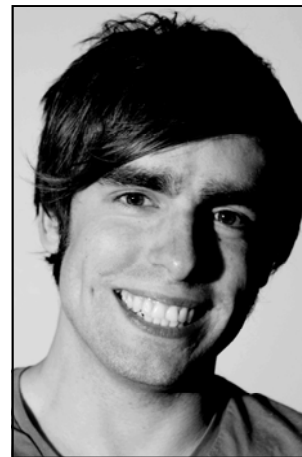
Additional Content

Audience members can download a free short story from the writer of *The Family*. To access this exclusive additional content, follow the following steps:

1. visit www.bradleybarlow.co.uk
2. click 'the family' poster
3. enter the following code in the login box: FAMILY09
4. the story will open as a pdf file

Bradley Barlow

writer, director and choreographer



In 2005 Bradley graduated from the University of Chichester with a degree in Dance and Related Arts. In the same year he wrote and directed his first short film *'Breaking Point'*. With a background in devised work, *'The Family'* is Bradley's first full-length play. In 2010 he will be directing Patrick Marber's *'Closer'* in the Archway Theatre main house. Bradley is currently working on his second play for the Studio for 2011, *'The Woods'*: a mischievous tale of a wolf with a penchant for killing old women, a gang of pigs with a score to settle, and a family of bears with an unhealthy interest in young girls.

Visit www.bradleybarlow.co.uk for more.

Peter, played by **Peter Westmacott**

Peter loves to act and although his first love is Shakespeare he enjoys taking on all sorts of roles. Although this will only be his third appearance at Archway Theatre, he is looking forward to many more productions there. Peter has also enjoyed playing Demetrius at Polesdon Lacey this summer, and Victor in *Private Lives* at Archway, but it's nice to do something modern once in a while; all classics were new once. Peter can next be seen in Agatha Christie's murder mystery *And Then There Were None* in Kingswood at the end of this month.

Having helped Bradley to workshop the play in the spring, he has found *The Family* particularly exciting and enjoyed the flexibility that comes with having the scriptwriter on hand at all times.



Soldier, played by **David Robson**

David recently graduated from The Southern Theatre Arts Centre and has been performing as an actor for many years, both as a student and professionally. David's recent theatre credits include Demetrius in *Midsummer Night's Dream* for the Brighton Fringe Festival and the title role in *Roberto Zucco* at the Northbrook Theatre in Worthing. David has worked as a performer for outdoor site-specific theatre company Periplum for the last two years, performing in their critically acclaimed *The Bell*, *Arquiam* and *Snowglobe* throughout the country.

David jumped at the chance to play a role as challenging as Soldier. He says: "As a writer and director Bradley has allowed me to be very free with my interpretation of the character, and has pushed me to the limits of my performance, in terms of both comfort and physicality. His past experience as a performer and connection to the text he wrote makes him a very actor-friendly director".



Beth, played by **Mandy Humphrey**

Mandy has been a company member at Archway Theatre for over 20 years yet this is her first foray into the Studio. Mandy has had enormous fun being involved with *The Family* as it has been a great project to work on; she has enjoyed being involved in staging ideas, characterisation and pitching in with various aspects of the production. Mandy is delighted to be working with such a talented cast, crew and, dare she say, writer/director as Bradley (she was paid to say that).

Mandy's passion at the theatre is to act and she has enjoyed many parts such as Dolly in *Dolly West's Kitchen* and Abigail in *The Crucible*. She can also be found crewing, manning the box office, and standing on the theatre council (not literally), and recently gave up her position as Assistant Treasurer after five years. Mandy has also acted for Pitchy Breath Theatre in Crawley, appearing in *Fair Maid of the West* and in an all female production of *Much Ado about Nothing*. Outside of theatre, Mandy is a part-time lawyer, part-time mum.



Emma, played by **Ella Sowton**

Ella is a sixth form student currently studying Drama, Sociology and Psychology. She has appeared in one other production at Archway Theatre, *Twisted Tales* with the Young Adults Workshop. She is also a member of Gatton Community Theatre and has performed in several of their productions including *The Twelve Days of Christmas*, *The Nativity*, their promenade performances of *The Canterbury Tales*, and more recently *The Passion*. Ella is currently co-directing *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at St. Bede's School.

On working on *The Family*, Ella says: "I have thoroughly enjoyed working on this play; it has been a privilege to be able to work with so many talented people. I have learnt so much in such a short time; and am extremely thankful for this opportunity".



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