



wexner center for the arts  
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY



# Performing Arts

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THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

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PRESENTS

U.S. PREMIERE

# Hoipolloi

## *Hugh Hughes in Story of a Rabbit*

THU–SAT, MAY 14–16 | 8 PM

SUN, MAY 17 | 7 PM

Performance Space

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CREDITS

Major support for the Wexner Center's 2008–09 performing arts season is generously provided by **Huntington Bank** and the **Doris Duke Charitable Foundation**.

U.S. tour supported by the **British Council** and in association with the **Welsh Assembly Government, New York Office**.

Accommodations are provided by **The Blackwell Inn**.

All performing arts programs and events also receive support from the **Corporate Annual Fund of the Wexner Center Foundation** and **Wexner Center members**, as well as from the **Greater Columbus Arts Council, The Columbus Foundation, Nationwide Foundation**, and the **Ohio Arts Council**.

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## PROGRAM

U.S. PREMIERE

# Hoipolloi

## *Hugh Hughes in Story of a Rabbit*

Performed and created by **Hugh Hughes** and **Aled Williams**

Production Manager..... **Tom Cotterill**

U.S. tour supported by the **British Council** and in association with the **Welsh Assembly Government, New York Office**. For details of upcoming activities and events representing Wales at the Smithsonian Folklife Festival (where Wales is the featured country), in and around Washington, D.C., please visit [wales.com/smithsonian](http://wales.com/smithsonian).

### PROGRAM NOTE

When I make a theater show, I suppose all I'm really trying to do is to share my experiences. In this increasingly fragmented world, it's very important to me that people make connections with each other and I hope that my shows will help that process a little bit.

In *Story of a Rabbit*, I tell two stories, one about a rabbit and the second about my father. The theme of death links them. A lot of people ask me why I wanted to make a show about death. I told them that I thought we could all benefit from taking a closer look at death, because there are so many difficult questions surrounding the subject and because it is often scary and confusing. And I hope that if people can do that together, as part of a theater experience, it will make it a little bit easier and a little bit less scary.

I am really excited to be at the Wexner Center, making new friends and sharing my work with new audiences. I hope you enjoy the performance.

Hugh Hughes

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## ABOUT HOIPOLLOI

We are committed to creating new work for theater that imaginatively engages our audience and makes them laugh. It is these two things, imagination and laughter, that drives us. Since 1994, when the company was formed by Shôn Dale-Jones (artistic director) and Stefanie Müller (associate director), we have toured 16 new shows nationally and internationally.

Hoipolloi won a Total Theatre Award for *Floating* (2006) and a Scotsman Fringe First award for *Story of a Rabbit* (2007). The company also received three Total Theatre Award nominations (for *My Uncle Arly*, *Floating*, and *Story of a Rabbit*) and a nomination for best actor from The Stage Awards.

Hoipolloi is now one of the leading award-winning, critically acclaimed British theater companies, both nationally and internationally, making innovative new theater productions. In 2009, our work will be seen around the world including London's Barbican Centre, the National Museum of Singapore, UCLA Los Angeles, Sydney Opera House, and here at the Wexner Center for the Arts.

For the latest tour dates, videos, and exclusive backstage news, please visit our web site: [hoipolloi.org.uk](http://hoipolloi.org.uk).

### **Hugh Hughes**

Hoipolloi began collaborating with the emerging Welsh artist Hugh Hughes in 2005, when he made his first ever theatershow, *Floating*. Before working with Hoipolloi, Hughes was involved in artistic projects that ranged from slide photography and film to writing and storytelling. Hughes's work in theater has allowed him to combine all these disciplines into a unique form of live performance.

*Story of a Rabbit* and *Floating* continue to tour around the world, and Hughes is continuing to work with Hoipolloi, currently developing a range of new projects for theater and film. His brand new show, *360*, will be seen at the forthcoming Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

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## RESIDENCY ACTIVITIES

In addition to organizing public presentations of contemporary work in the performing, media, and visual arts, the Wexner Center actively seeks to provide opportunities for interaction among visiting artists, students, faculty, and staff of The Ohio State University, and members of the community. These activities and associated discussions led by authorities in many fields offer our audiences a better understanding of the creative process and the work of artists engaged by the Wexner Center.

While at the Wexner Center, Shôn Dale-Jones, artistic director of Hoipolloi, met with students in Ohio State's Department of Theatre and discussed the company's approach to creating solo works of high impact with modest production and technical budgets. Students also gained insight into Hoipolloi's innovative storytelling forms and interest in connecting directly with its audiences.



PHOTO: GERAINT LEWIS

# William Forsythe: Transfigurations

ON VIEW April 2–July 26

## WEXNER CENTER RESIDENCY AWARD PROJECT

Discover how this renowned dance artist is projecting his choreographic ideas into new media. Videos, installations, and a just-launched web project developed at Ohio State are all part of this exhibition.

find more at [WEXARTS.ORG](http://WEXARTS.ORG)

TICKETS—(614) 292-3535

WILLIAM FORSYTHE  
SUSPENSE, 2009; STILLS FROM VIDEO,  
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The Wexner Center for the Arts is part of **The Ohio State University** and receives major public institutional support from the university. Support is also provided by **Wexner Center members** and through the **Corporate Annual Fund of the Wexner Center Foundation**. The foundation is a private, nonprofit partner of the university's Board of Trustees, established to provide trustee guidance and financial support for the Wexner Center.

List reflects annual gifts and pledges of \$25,000 or more, as of January 20, 2009.

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Set your web browsers to [wexarts.org/members](http://wexarts.org/members) for online features available exclusively to you.

Not a member? Stop by the box office, head to [wexarts.org/join](http://wexarts.org/join), or call (614) 292-1777 to join now.

## **Tickets**

Call (614) 292-3535 (TTY/TDD: 292-1210) or stop by the Patron Services Desk on the entrance level of the Wexner Center for attentive customer service and information on all our events.

Ticketing services are also available one hour prior to events for sales and pick up of prepaid tickets. Sorry, no refunds or exchanges will be made unless an event is canceled. The Wexner Center is a Ticketmaster outlet.

## **Wexner Center for the Arts**

The Ohio State University  
1871 North High Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43210-1393

WEXARTS.ORG

## **Policies**

All programs are subject to change.

At some artists' requests, late seating will not be permitted at their performances. Where late seating is possible, latecomers will be admitted during a break so that their entrance will not disturb previously seated patrons.

Taking pictures and using recording devices are strictly prohibited. Please talk to the ticketing staff about checking your equipment.

Please turn off signal watches, pagers, and cell phones before the performance begins.

The Wexner Center strives to make our events and facilities accessible to all our patrons. If you have questions concerning access, please visit our web site ([wexarts.org](http://wexarts.org)) or contact our patron services staff at (614) 688-3890 (TTY/TDD: 614 292-1210) or by e-mail to [houseweb@wexarts.org](mailto:houseweb@wexarts.org).

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