BITING COMEDY AT ITS BEST
Award winning writer/actor/director presents Farce

Fresh from his recent success with The Pitch, comic marvel and writer/actor/director Peter Houghton brings witty comedy A Commercial Farce to the Gardens Theatre from 8 April.

Houghton is a theatrical jack-of-all-trades and is the writer and actor in A Commercial Farce. He specialises in a particular kind of backstage comedy and has written and produced a trilogy of monologues.

Houghton’s recent international hit The Pitch was a perilously funny satire of the film industry and the play won critical acclaim at the 2007 Edinburgh Fringe Festival as well as two Green Room awards for Best Actor and Best New Australian Play.

A Commercial Farce tells the story of an experienced theatre director on the verge of a nervous breakdown. The play is set on the night before the premiere of comic play, as the director (Houghton) rehearses 10 minutes of the plot with his leading man (Tim Potter), who is resistant to his instructions.

The director is also the chief investor and he can see the prospect of his life’s savings disappearing because his actor — hired to take advantage of his fame on a hit television show — does not seem interested in learning the finer points of farce.

Driven by wit, cynicism and thigh-slapping humour, A Commercial Farce is biting comedy at its best. Expect slapstick, running gags, misunderstandings and an inability to communicate the simplest of messages. It’s one big, complex and complicated dog’s breakfast - that must nonetheless unfold with blind precision.

A Commercial Farce is a touring production and is presented by Malthouse Melbourne Theatre.

A Commercial Farce by Peter Houghton
Where: QUT Gardens Theatre, 2 George Street, Brisbane (next to City Botanic Gardens)
When: Friday 8 April | 8pm
Saturday 9 April | 2pm and 8pm
Bookings: www.gardenstheatre.qut.edu.au or phone 07 3138 4455
Cost: $24 - $38, $4 discount for matinee, School groups $16

** Interviews with cast members are available upon request. **

For immediate release
15 March 2011

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QUT Creative Industries Precinct | www.ciprecinct.qut.edu.au
Ticket categories:
Adult $38 | Concession $30 | Student or 24 and under $24
$4 discount for matinee | School groups $16

Acknowledgments:

**Starring** Peter Houghton and Tim Potter
**Director** Aidan Fennessy
**Set & Costume Design** Anna Cordingley
**Sound** Ben Grant
**Lighting** Matt Scott
**Presented by** QUT Gardens Theatre and Malthouse Melbourne Theatre

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