

+++ PRESS RELEASE +++ PRESS RELEASE +++ PRESS RELEASE +++

the **vienna theatre project** presents  
the **CONTINENTAL-EUROPEAN PREMIERE** of  
the **2003 Edinburgh Fringe Festival** success



**IZ**

by **Oliver Emanuel**

Being greeted with three men in black suits and ties on a bare stage, one might think one is in for a sub-Tarantino gangster testimonial. Instead, *Iz* gives a mature look at bereavement that is full of emotional honesty. When the title character dies suddenly, the lives of the three men that loved her are altered completely: Iz is gone, but not forgotten. In fact she is making her lack of presence felt to Bez, Baz and Ben – two former lovers and her husband. In life Iz was the link between the three, but in death she is pulling them apart as grief and memory play tricks and they discover how hard it is to say that you really knew somebody. Iz has dominated each of the three, calling them her "Apostles," and by changing skilfully between monologue, conversation and fury, the three men realise how much she has defined them.

An assured piece of writing, Oliver Emanuel's clever and touching script is a physical manifestation of the three men's struggle to understand, communicate and reclaim the friendship that bound them, and the woman who is no longer with them.

"one of those rare shows that achieves a real sense of polish and assurance without sacrificing either detail or depth" - Joyce McMillan, The Scotsman

"Mesmerising ... a genuinely moving piece of theatre" - Plymouth Evening Herald

"Beautifully written ... I would recommend this show to anyone. 10 out of 10."  
- BBC Radio

Engaging, intelligent and moving, this impressively executed play is definitely one to watch.  
Strongly recommended." - Theatreworld Internet Magazine

---

### About *Oliver Emanuel*

Oliver Emanuel trained at the Workshop Theatre, Leeds, and on the creative writing MA at UEA and recently finished working as an assistant director at the King's Head Theatre, London.

He has written and directed PORCELAINLIVING, THE GAMBLER and GEMINI, written THE SACRIFICE and IZ and directed THE FIRE PLAY (summer 2004) for **silver tongue theatre**. He also co-manages the company. Other writing includes: *The Visions* (in which he also appeared) and *Rhapsody*. Other directing includes: *Baal*, *Parade*, and *Le Bouef sur le Toit*. As a freelance writer and dramaturge he has worked on many productions including *Warcrime* for **The Wedding Collective** and an original opera libretto for *The Girl in the Red Dress*.

---

**vienna theatre project**  
Hörlgasse 16/Top 4  
A-1090 Vienna

office@viennatheatreproject.at  
www.viennatheatreproject.at  
tel/fax +43 1 920 25 83

## About vtp

The **vienna theatre project** was founded in 2002 with the purpose of facilitating high-quality English-language theatre productions at different venues in and around Vienna. Drawing from a pool of mostly Vienna-based professional actors whose native language is usually English, **vtp** attempts to offer a wide range of contemporary plays in the original and to make the tremendous scope of English-language plays from all over the world more accessible to Vienna audiences. After close to three successful seasons without any city or government funding, with a total of 12 two- or three-week runs at Theater Drachengasse (3), the Ensemble Theater (3), dietheater Konzerthaus (1) and Die Neue Tribüne (Café Landtmann, 5), *the Continental-European premiere of IZ is the vienna theatre project's* first production in 2005, its 13th overall. It will be followed in late April/early May by the **vienna theatre project's** first musical production, *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*, by Joe DiPietro & Jimmy Roberts, at the Ensembletheater.

To find out more about the **vienna theatre project**, please contact its artistic & executive director Martin Buxbaum at [office@viennatheatreproject.at](mailto:office@viennatheatreproject.at) or +43 1 920 25 83, or visit its website at [www.viennatheatreproject.at](http://www.viennatheatreproject.at).

---

## Production information IZ

Location: **dietheater Konzerthaus**  
**Lothringerstrasse 20, 1030 Vienna**

Dates & Times: **March 4-16, 2005**  
**daily except Sunday – 8.00 p.m.**  
**Premiere: Friday, March 4**  
**Teachers' Preview: Thursday, March 3**



**SPECIAL EVENT: Talk-Back Session with playwright Oliver Emanuel following the performance on Friday, March 11.**  
**Under the patronage of the British Embassy.**

Running time: **approx. 80 minutes** (without intermission)

With: **Dave Moskin, Drew Sarich, Kyrre Kvam**

Tickets: **16€regular - 11€students/seniors**  
**group discounts (€13/€9) available for groups of 10 or more**

Reservations: **+43 1 587 0504 (4.30-7pm)**      **+43 1 920 2583**  
**kasse@dietheater.at**      **office@viennatheatreproject.at**  
**www.dietheater.at**      **www.viennatheatreproject.at**

Directed by **Thomas Crawley**

Assistant Directors: **Adrienne Ferguson & Joanna Godwin-Seidl**

Technical Design: **Wolfram Zöttl**

Lights & Sound: **Anita Wolfartsberger**

Produced by the **vienna theatre project / Martin Buxbaum**

**Performances in English**

---

**vienna theatre project**

Hörlgasse 16/Top 4  
A-1090 Vienna

[office@viennatheatreproject.at](mailto:office@viennatheatreproject.at)

[www.viennatheatreproject.at](http://www.viennatheatreproject.at)

tel/fax +43 1 920 25 83