

MEDIA RELEASE

Level 5, 10 Hickson Road The Rocks
Sydney NSW 2000 Australia
Phone 61 2 8248 6500 Fax 61 2 8248 6599
sydneyfestival.org.au



Measure for Measure

AUSTRALIAN EXCLUSIVE

Cheek by Jowl with Pushkin Theatre Moscow, UK/Russia



Photo: Johan Persson

★★★★★ “so electrifyingly intense and disturbing that they make your hair stand on end.”

The Times

★★★★★ “Fascinating and frequently gripping”

Time Out UK

★★★★★ “A punchy reminder that power corrupts”

The Guardian

Cheek by Jowl’s piercing production with **Pushkin Theatre Moscow**, delves into the depths of an unpredictable city to dissect the nature of government, love and justice.

A ruler who doesn’t know how to rule, a bureaucrat seduced by his newfound position and a novice nun faced with an appalling dilemma. In this chaotic world, where prisons, convents and brothels are policed by a corrupt regime, only conflict and self-interest prevail.

Shakespeare’s brew of laughter and high seriousness asks questions about the relationship between ordinary citizens and those in power. **Declan Donnellan**, who The Times has named as “among the world’s most insightful, bold and sensitive directors of Shakespeare”, draws out their topicality with his taut modern-dress update, matching Russian theatre traditions with swiftly changing scenes played out in vivid abstract settings.

Pushkin Theatre Moscow in this Cheek by Jowl production perform in Australia for the first time. Hailed by the Moscow press as “a shattering portrait of contemporary Russia” (Novaya Gazeta), they were subsequently nominated for five Golden Mask Awards, including Best Director and Best Male Performance.

Donnellan, who has directed more than 30 shows for Cheek by Jowl, was recently awarded a lifetime achievement prize at the 2016 Venice Biennale where he took home the Golden Lion of Venice prize for his “profound faith in the text”.

Since forming in 1981, Cheek by Jowl have performed in over 300 cities in more than 40 countries, presenting large scale classical and modern works in English, French and Russian languages around the world.

Director	Declan Donnellan
Designer	Nick Ormerod
Assistant Director	Kirril Sbitnev
Composer	Paul Akimin
Choreographer	Irina Kashuba

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Where Roslyn Packer Theatre, Walsh Bay

When 7–11 January at 8pm
11 January also at 2pm

Duration 100mins

Tickets Premium \$110
A Reserve (M) \$96/\$86
B Reserve \$80/\$72

Bookings Sydney Festival on 1300 856 876
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