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Showcasing Northumbria excellence at Northern Stage

Northumbria University performance students will showcase their talents in productions at Northern Stage this week.

Two plays, a variety of drama presentations and script-writing workshops – running from Wednesday 15 to Saturday 18 May – will highlight the work of final year Performance, Performing Arts, Drama, and Drama and Scriptwriting BA Honours students.

This is the first time that the annual final year performance showcases will

take place at Northern Stage, marking a closer collaboration between the University and the largest producing theatre company in the North East.

The main performances will be two productions about Europe: *The Visit* and *States of Descent*. Written and directed by Northumbria academic Steve Gilroy, *States of Descent* is a new play about the crisis facing Europe. The play gathers voices from this fragmented continent and demonstrates how far people will go when pushed. The topical script asks the question, 'with the economic contagion spreading is this the beginning of the end for the European?'

The Visit, written by Friedrich Dürrenmatt, explores the poor, hopeless and tired people of a town called Gullen. How will they react if the answer to solving their money woes involved murder? Will their greed for wealth be stronger than their loyalty for a friend? This fast-paced and wickedly funny play is a tale of revenge, manipulation and the ultimate power of money.

The four-days of events will celebrate the year's most exciting, rigorous and thought-provoking work. Members of the public and industry partners are invited to watch and participate in script-readings, discussions, performances, music and entertainment by Northumbria's next generation of performers, writers and makers.

Timetable of Performance Showcase Events

Wednesday 15 May 7pm *The Visit* - £10/£7 concessions

Thursday 16 May 11am BA (Hons) Drama Presentations - FREE

1.30pm *The Visit* - £10/£7 concessions

3.30pm BA (Hons) Scriptwriting Readings - FREE

7pm *States of Descent* - £10/£7 concessions

Friday 17 May 11am BA (Hons) Scriptwriting Readings - FREE

1.30pm *States of Descent* - £10/£7 concessions

3.30pm BA (Hons) Drama Presentations - FREE

7pm *The Visit* - £10/£7 concessions

Saturday 18 May 7pm *States of Descent* - £10/£7 concessions

10pm The Late Shows Showcase - FREE

For more information about the performances or to buy tickets visit www.northernstage.co.uk or contact the Box Office on 0191 230 5151.

Northumbria is a research-rich, business-focussed, professional university with a global reputation for academic excellence. To find out more about our courses go to www.northumbria.ac.uk

If you have a media enquiry please contact our Media and Communications team at media.communications@northumbria.ac.uk or call [0191 227 4571](tel:01912274571).

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