

Press Release

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By Particular Desire -The Theatre, Bury St Edmunds

By Carl Miller

***By Particular Desire* is a richly visual and entertaining guide to the forgotten history of Georgian theatre as told through the story of the beautiful Suffolk Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds, the last remaining Regency theatre.**

In September 2007 the Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds completed a £5.3 million restoration project with the National Trust to re-instate its original décor and layout. The importance of this project rested not only with the cultural value of the building's architecture, but also on the fact that the repertoire and history of Georgian drama has been largely forgotten. The companion book, *By Particular Desire*, provides a unique insight into this lost history of British theatre, revealing the distinctive characteristics of Georgian drama through the story of the Theatre Royal.

The book is a delight for the eyes, illustrated with many original pictures and engravings from the Georgian period as well as photos of the exquisite Theatre Royal and its Regency performances.

Told with an easy narrative style, Carl Miller effectively brings to life the story of building with all the drama it entails. Voices from the past speak throughout the text in the form of highlighted statements of significant persons from the Theatre's history. These combined with interesting facts from the period make *By Particular Desire* a highly entertaining read which reveals why the Theatre Royal is so culturally and historically significant.

Carl Miller is a writer, playwright and currently Associate Director of Unicorn Theatre. He has written and adapted a number plays for the Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds, including their re-opening Georgian melodrama Douglas Jerrold's *Black Eyed Susan*. His other plays include *Return* (Watford Palace Theatre); *Descent* (Birmingham Rep); *The Last Enemy* (The Drill Hall) and *Master Betty* (Man in the Moon, London). He also wrote the award-winning short-film, *Jean*, starring Susannah York.

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