## PLAYWRITING WITHOUT BORDERS

Conference on 21st-century theatre (Russia, Ukraine, Belarus)

Wolfson College, University of Oxford Thursday 6 and Friday 7 April 2017



Dragonfly Design © created for Theatre Royal Plymouth's production (2016) of *The War Hasn't Yet Started* by Mikhail Durnenkov, translated by Noah Birksted-Breen.

This is a two-day conference on 21<sup>st</sup>-century Russian-language playwriting in Russia, Ukraine and Belarus. It addresses the following topics in particular: contemporary playwriting as a sphere for political debate; the transnational nature of contemporary playwriting in Russian; the role of festivals and competitions; the language(s) of contemporary playwriting; developments in theatrical form and the use of technology; the role of documentary and verbatim theatre; the role of cultural policy; censorship and self-censorship. The event is organised by Professor Julie Curtis (University of Oxford) and the translator, director and playwright Noah Birksted-Breen, whose Sputnik Theatre, based in London, focuses on staging modern Russian drama.

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