

The book is a collection of greatest hits from the last six years, featuring such classics as "Today, do something radical with your hair", "Today, glorify terrorism" and "Today, threaten a foreign country". Each of Benrik's challenges comes with its own artwork, the best of which will be exhibited at KK Outlet in London, from 27 October to 1 November. "The tasks have to be life-changing at some level," Carey explains, "and something people can realistically go out and do. They have to be thought-provoking and original. But if they're funny enough we'll ignore the rules."

Carey and Delehag are former advertising creatives who became disillusioned. "We made an ad for a new Hula Hoops product called 'Shocks', in which electric eels had been put in the water supply and would come out of toilets and shock people. We had hundreds of complaints from parents. The ad was taken off the air, and we decided to move on."

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## Pryce brushes up on his Pinter

BY JO CAIRD

●●● Jonathan Pryce has appeared in *The Caretaker* before – a BBC adaptation followed by a staging at the National Theatre in 1980 – but when veteran director Christopher Morahan asked him if he would consider doing it again, he was immediately interested. His one proviso? "If I do it I want to do it at the *Everyman*".

The Liverpool theatre, celebrating its 45th birthday this year, was the site of the star's first job out of drama school, a season in rep that culminated in his taking over as artistic director for five months in 1974. In the 35 years since then, Pryce has become a household name and won two Tonys and an Olivier.

Originally, Pryce played Mick opposite Kenneth Cranham as Aston and Warren Mitchell as Davies. "The beauty of the piece," he says, "is that the straighter you play it, the funnier

it's going to be." Now the character of Mick is in the hands of 31-year-old Tom Brooke and Pryce is taking on the "old man". "It doesn't get any easier," he says. "I have an absolute fear that someone is going to be in that night and they are not going to see a performance that was as good as it was the night before."

As the first professional staging of a work by Pinter since his death, this production of the 1960 play will find itself subject to a great deal of scrutiny. In the play, when Mick offers Davies the job of caretaker, he tells him "it's just that you look a capable sort of man to me". The *Everyman* should rest assured that the very same thing could be said of Pryce. To 31 Oct at Liverpool *Everyman*, then Bath Theatre Royal from 2 to 7 Nov

## Off the top of their heads

BY CHARLOTTE CRIPPS

●●● The UK's first major festival of improvised performance, Bristol Jam, opens today at Bristol Old Vic. It was the bright idea of the theatre's new artistic and executive directors, Tom Morris and Emma Stenning. Topping the bill is the god of improvised comedy, Phil

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