

# ISTHMUS THEATRE



The 40th Mystics & Scientists Conference, organised by the Scientific and Medical Network from the 7th to the 9th of April, at Horsley Park in Surrey, will be brought to a close on Sunday by Isthmus Theatre, who appeared in December at the International Conference of the Mystical Theology Network, hosted this year by Glasgow University. The Chair of the Conference, George Pattison, Professor of Theology at Glasgow and Canon of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, said of Isthmus Theatre's performance:

'Paul Finegan's and Anthony Mulligan's performance was a wonderful way to bring our international Conference to an end. It was funny, entertaining, thought-provoking, and beautiful by turn. The performance combined comedy with readings of some of the world's most poetic mystical texts, and responded to the intellectual content of the Conference in a way that reminded us of some of the human dimensions of what we had been talking about, and that a purely academic discourse can too easily gloss over.'

Isthmus Theatre comprises the actors and writers Paul Finegan and Anthony Mulligan, who have collaborated on a number of projects, which include: 'Vote! Vote! Vote! for Bert Braveheart Bogwhistle!' a spoof on the Scottish Independence Vote, written by Anthony and Paul, as part of a National Theatre of Scotland initiative. They also appeared for two years at the Edinburgh Fringe in a performance of 'Afghan Days, Babylon Nights', written by Paul. This production was recommended as: 'One of the top ten most creative shows to see on the Fringe' by the Huffington Post, and reviewed by Nobel Peace Prize Nominee, Scilla Ellworthy, who said of the CD version: 'Very fine! I was moved many times.'

Paul Finegan is on the Board of the Chisholme Institute, a Retreat and Study Centre in the Scottish Borders, and a long time student of the Beshara School. He studied at the Central School of Speech and Drama in 1960, and now lives in the Scottish Borders. Anthony Mulligan trained at The Guildhall School of Music and Drama in 1985, and worked extensively in the Theatre of Education and in voiceover work, as well as performing in Chekhov and Shakespeare. He became a student of the Beshara School at Chisholme House in 2006, and now lives in the Scottish Borders.

Paul and Anthony have formed Isthmus Theatre to continue to explore ways of presenting an understanding of the Unity of Existence and the mystical potential of humanity, through poetry and theatre pieces which may speak directly to the human heart, as the receptive place of spiritual inspiration and integration.