

## Why Not Theatre Company presents:

### VITA & VIRGINIA

VITA & VIRGINIA chronicles the briefly physical and emotionally enduring friendship of Virginia Woolf and the aristocratic Vita Sackville-West, two of England's most celebrated women writers of the 20th century.

They met at a dinner party in 1922. Virginia was 40, Vita 30. Both were happily married and Vita had two young sons. Vita was a "Sapphist" and had many female lovers both before and after Virginia. Her husband, the diplomat Harold Nicholson, also had numerous affairs with men. Virginia, married to Leonard Woolf with whom she started up the Hogarth Press, was sexually inexperienced, more or less frigid.

Vita and Virginia's affair lasted approximately 20 years until Virginia's suicide in 1941. Vita admired Virginia's wit, brilliant mind and writing skills while Virginia was most impressed with Vita's aristocratic standing. She wrote in her diary after her first meeting with Vita "She shines with a candle-lit radiance, pink glowing, grape clustered, pearl hung". Virginia's meeting with Vita marked her sensual awakening: "These Sapphists love women. Friendship is never untinged with amorosity. I like her and being with her."

VITA & VIRGINIA gives a fascinating insight into a lesbian affair at a time when there could be no public admission of one's sexuality and any deviation from the marital norm was unthinkable. The dialogue in this play is taken from the hundreds of letters written between the two women over the course of their long and extraordinary relationship.

The play is performed in English by Angela Heath-Larsen (Vita) and Sue Hansen-Styles (Virginia) and is directed by Barry McKenna.

Caféteatret [www.cafeteatret.dk](http://www.cafeteatret.dk)

March 15 – April 2 Tue – Fri 8pm, Sat 5pm

[www.teaterbilletter.dk](http://www.teaterbilletter.dk)