

Press Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HUGH WHITEMORE'S "Pack of Lies"
How well do you REALLY know your neighbours?

No-one would have believed what was going on in the 1950s at 45 Cranley Drive in the sleepy NW London suburb of Ruislip. Helen and Peter Kroger, antique booksellers from Canada, were keeping a secret from their neighbours that would change all their lives for ever.

Hugh Whitmore's play takes its inspiration from **The Portland Spy Ring** - a Soviet operation in England from the 1950s until 1961 - one of the most famous examples of using illegal residents as spies who operate in a foreign country without cover of their embassy.

The plot centres on Bob and Barbara Jackson and their teenage daughter, Julie, who are good friends with the Krogers. MI5 arrive on the Jackson's doorstep and use their house as a surveillance post, keeping an eye on the activity of the Krogers.

In the nightmare months that follow, the Jacksons' decent, happy life is shattered as the truth about their much-loved friends is gradually revealed. Helpless in an alien and sordid world of deception and treachery, Barbara reaches breaking point with the agonising realisation that the Krogers have betrayed her and she, in turn, has betrayed the Krogers.

The production runs from 4-7 February 2015, 7.45pm, at The Mill Arts Centre, Spiceball Park, Banbury. Tickets are available from The Mill Box Office on 01295 279002 or www.themillartscentre.co.uk.

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