

stage@leedscompany

杀人 Murder

by Wan Fang

I'm thirsty. Water, I need water...

**Open Dress Rehearsal
and Sharing**

Wed 25 March

stage@leeds

Alec Clegg Studio

Leeds

5.00pm

£FREE ENTRY

Fri 27 March

Northern Stage

Newcastle Upon Tyne

5.00pm

stage@leedstouring present

Murder

by Wan Fang

Directed by Steve Ansell

Performed by the stage@leedscompany

Open Dress Rehearsal:

Wed 25 March, Alec Clegg Studio,

stage@leeds,

Leeds

5.00pm

Performance

Fri 27 March, Stage 3

Northern Stage

Newcastle

5.00pm

Following the success of the 2014 production 'Poison' at Northern stage, the stage@leedscompany returned with a second piece of contemporary Chinese theatre from the pen of writer Wan Fang, *Murder*, which was presented as a companion piece to 'Poison' was presented in an abridged form using a new script translated by Newcastle University students. This production, like 'Poison', was presented as part of a colloquium dedicated to the issues and challenges surrounding theatrical translation and working with translated texts. For *Murder* director Steve Ansell made the decision that cast and crew would be led only by the text and any information available in the rehearsal room. The cast were allowed to do research using the internet but were not allowed to email tutors or Chinese friends or colleagues. The aim was to see what happened if the translated script was used as the ultimate and over-riding guide. The reality was that internet research was hampered because many of the questions asked couldn't be answered via the internet or rather, they could if the cast or director could read Chinese characters.

The result was a piece of theatre that worked on one level but at the same time totally 'missed' some of the socio-cultural context within the play. These challenges were discussed by the stage@leedscompany and the attendees in a question and answer session directly following the show.