

PRESS RELEASE

shunt announce the opening of their first company show since 2006

The logo for 'shunt' is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The letters are slightly slanted to the right and have a distressed, hand-painted appearance with some white speckling and irregular edges.

# MONEY

## a shunt event

*What Napoleon was unable to do with his sword we shall do with our pickaxes and our gold.*

At 42-44 Bermondsey Street London SE1 (5 minutes walk from the shunt vaults)

Opens September 30<sup>th</sup> 2009. Booking until December 31<sup>st</sup> 2009

Tickets £20

Previews from September 15<sup>th</sup> 2009

All preview tickets £15

Booking – [www.shuntmoney.co.uk](http://www.shuntmoney.co.uk)

Tuesdays – Saturdays: 7.30pm

Also Late night shows on Fridays and Saturdays 10pm

Matinees to be announced; Performance lasts about 90 minutes.

**In a tobacco warehouse by London Bridge sits the giant centrepiece of our great industrial exposition – an abandoned relic of Victorian technology.**

The original purpose of the machine is unknown.

If it were built today it would probably fit into the palm of your hand but, in that Golden Age, colossal bulk was the plat du jour.

The future is behind us. The end of the empire is just around the corner

**MONEY** takes place in an extraordinary three-storey set built in the centre of an empty warehouse in Bermondsey Street. The audience are led inside, where the action unfolds around, above and below them.

But all is not well with the machine. It hisses steam; over-stressed gears throb and grind beneath our seats. The lights keep going out and the jukebox is on the blink. Meanwhile a strange, feral child is stalking the ventilation ducts...

Inspired by Émile Zola's novel L'Argent – which was in turn inspired by the events surrounding the collapse of the Union Générale – a nineteenth century French banking fiasco.

Dispensing with most of the text, Shunt reshape the work in their inimitable aesthetic of fractured narrative, electrifying imagery and all-out sensory assault.

**MONEY** is loud, disorientating and absurd - a unique theatrical experience that puts the audience in the thick of it.

*“speculation, why does the word frighten you?”*

*Speculation – why, it is the one inducement that we have to live; it is the eternal desire that compels us to live and struggle. Without speculation, my dear friend, there would be no business of any kind. Why on earth would you have me loosen my purse strings and risk my fortune, if you do not promise me some extraordinary enjoyment, some sudden happiness which will open heaven to me?”*

**Aristide Saccard**

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