

WAR-TORN LOVE

R J J Hall's *Theatres of War* explores sacrifice and self-discovery through the 'forgotten' Italian campaign of WWII

On the landing beaches at Salerno in September 1943, two soldiers face the German bombardment together. But they come from different worlds. And when the war keeps them apart, their love of the same woman is their only link. She is happy with them both... until she has to choose.

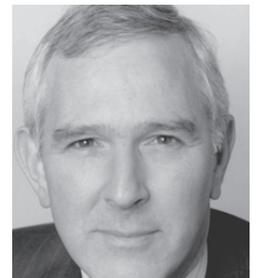
Theatres of War follows the contrasting fortunes of the two British soldiers. Frank grew up in the backstreets of London, whereas Edmund is a cricketer from a landed family. When Frank discovers an abandoned theatre and stages a successful revue, he is ordered to stay in Naples and put on more shows. Meanwhile, Edmund goes to fight in the bitter winter battles near Monte Cassino.

Hall cleverly maintains the link between the two soldiers through their involvement with Vermillion, who had fallen for Edmund in Cairo where she monitored German communications. But he wants to control her life. And when she joins Frank working in the theatre she experiences the independence she's longed for. Vermillion feels fulfilled, but a time is soon coming when she'll have to choose...

It is no coincidence that R J J Hall's new ebook (and paperback) is to be released this year, as September 2013 is the 70th anniversary of the landings at Salerno, at the start of the Italian campaign. "It was publicity about the 60th anniversary that led to my writing this novel," the author explains, "I read a book about the dreadful fighting at Monte Cassino, and an article about the re-opening of the San Carlo theatre in Naples during the war. Both of these stories moved me, and my feelings were heightened by the contrast between the events, which happened only fifty miles apart."

Theatres of War is a love story about sacrifice and duty, and a war story about self-discovery and love. Seen through the eyes of combatants and civilians, it evokes the convulsions of the 'forgotten' Italian campaign of World War II.

RJJ HALL was born in 1945 and still lives in London. After taking a degree at Oxford University, he became a Chartered Accountant and worked in the City for 30 years. For two years he worked in Milan and learnt Italian. He left the City to become the Finance Director of the Royal Opera House.



PUBLICATION DATE 1ST SEPTEMBER 2013



EBOOK EISBN: 9781783068623

PRICE: £4.99

PAPERBACK ISBN: 9781783060849

PRICE: £9.99

PRESS PACK

FOR AUTHOR INTERVIEWS, REVIEW OR COMPETITION COPIES, ARTICLES, PHOTOS OR EXTRACTS PLEASE CONTACT ROSIE GRINDROD

TEL: 0116 279 2299 EMAIL: ROSIE_GRINDROD@TROUBADOR.CO.UK
TROUBADOR PUBLISHING, 9 PRIORY BUSINESS PARK, WISTOW ROAD, KIBWORTH, LEICESTER LE8 0RX