



# ANATOMY OF A SUICIDE

We constructed the entire set for this production of Alice Birch's play at the Royal Court theatre in London's West End. The set contained various architectural and structural details that required precise aligning, finishing and deft carpentry.



Directed by Katie Mitchell, the play follows the parallel stories of three generations of women from the same family. Told simultaneously, the set is essentially segmented into three different time periods, indicated by back-lit dates above three doors in the rear wall. Action from each period takes place on stage in front of the relevant door, dialogue over-lapping in a triple-stream of narrative.



Architectural details: the seven fully functional doors required precise aligning and deft carpentry



The set was a timber construction comprising a flown ceiling over both upstage and downstage sections which were separated by a flown wall. Upstage, we recreated a traditional living room with pivoting bay window, skirting, moulding and a functional fully spindled staircase. The under stairs area included a secret access door for setting props. The entire upstage was painted plain white.



The downstage area included seven functional doors. Three of these were set into the flown wall which required extra stiffening to ensure each door functioned smoothly. This area was also painted white but given a distressed 'institutional' finish, a theme carried through with the harsh strip lighting of the design. Similarly, the floor was given a paint finish reminiscent of pre-cast concrete. This was built up in layers by our paintshop team and included rusted 'hole' details.



We manufactured and test built the entire set in our facility before installation at the Royal Court.

