

SPOTLIGHT ON THEATRE & DANCE

EPILOGUE: A DANCER
DIES TWICE/
SADIE/
INSIDE THE SPEAKER/
BODY POLITICS/
IMMACULATE/
THE SHEDDING OF SKIN/
THE GRIMM HOTEL/
DEPARTMENT STORY/
THE BORDER GAME/
DISTORTION/
TWO FINGERS UP/
EAST BELFAST BOY/
MY LEFT NUT/

FROM NORTHERN IRELAND

2021

SPOTLIGHT ON THEATRE & DANCE FROM NORTHERN IRELAND IS A SHOWCASE OF MAJOR WORKS BY SOME OF NORTHERN IRELANDS LEADING CREATORS OF THEATRE AND DANCE.

This showcase is delivered in collaboration with Theatre and Dance NI and Belfast International Arts Festival supported by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland and the British Council Northern Ireland.



SPOTLIGHT

This SPOTLIGHT ON THEATRE AND DANCE FROM NORTHERN IRELAND event includes a pre-recorded film featuring interviews with the artists plus an online live, interactive Q&A and will be presented in BSL with additional closed captioning.

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TITLE OF WORK

EPILOGUE: A DANCER DIES TWICE

Artists / Production Company
EILEEN MCCLORY AND COLLABORATORS CONAN MCIVOR, SANDY CUTHBERT, JANE MOONEY, AND MARIA MCMANUS. COMMISSIONED AND PRODUCED BY MAIDEN VOYAGE DANCE

Discipline
DANCE

Number in Cast
2

Number in Touring Company
3-4

Duration
FILM VERSION 25 MINS APPROX.
STAGED VERSION 45-50MINS

Premiere
OCTOBER 2021 AS PART OF THE BELFAST INTERNATIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL

Contact Details
NUALA@MAIDENVOYAGEDANCE.COM

Epilogue: A Dancer Dies Twice is inspired by the famous Martha Graham attributed quote, “a dancer dies twice – once when they stop dancing, and this first death is the more painful.” Created and devised from the lived experience and personal reflections of two exquisite and previously retired professional dancers, Jane Mooney and Sandy Cuthbert, it is a frank reflection of what ‘the dance’ took from and gave to the performers throughout their careers, and what happens when the curtain comes down and you are left by yourself long after the applause has faded.



A frank reflection of what ‘the dance’ took from and gave to two exquisite and previously retired performers throughout their careers

CREDITS
Choreographer: EILEEN MCCLORY / Collaborators: SANDY CUTHBERT, JANE MOONEY, CONAN MCIVOR, MARIA MCMANUS
Performers: SANDY CUTHBERT, JANE MOONEY / Commissioned & Produced: MAIDEN VOYAGE DANCE



TITLE OF WORK

SADIE

Artists / Production Company
DAVID IRELAND, A LYRIC THEATRE PRODUCTION IN ASSOCIATION WITH FIELD DAY THEATRE COMPANY, BROADCAST FOR BBC ARTS' LIGHTS UP FESTIVAL AS PART OF CULTURE IN QUARANTINE

Discipline
THEATRE

Number in Cast
5

Number in Touring Company
8

Duration
FILM VERSION 75MINS (NO INTERVAL)
STAGE VERSION 75MINS (NO INTERVAL)

Premiere
MARCH 2021 ON BBC4

Contact Details
KERRYFITZSIMMONS@LYRICTHEATRE.CO.UK

This searing new play from David Ireland centres on a Belfast woman reflecting on her turbulent life amidst the troubled past. Sharp-witted cleaner Sadie develops an intense, dysfunctional yet passionate relationship with a much younger man, triggering a psychological showdown with the remnant demons of her past. She confronts these ghosts, calling out their contribution to the path life took her down.



A searing new play from David Ireland centring around a Belfast woman reflecting on her turbulent life amidst the troubled past

CREDITS
Writer: DAVID IRELAND / Director: CONLETH HILL / Assistant Director: SEÓN SIMPSON / Cast: ABIGAIL MCGIBBON, PATRICK JENKINS, DAVID PEARSE, SANTINO SMITH, ANDREA IRVINE / Set Designer: STUART MARSHALL / Lighting Design: PAUL KEOGAN / Sound Design: CHRIS WARNER / Costume: GILLIAN LENNOX & ERIN CHARTERIS / Fight Director: LEMUEL BLACK / Voice Director: PATRICIA LOGUE / Head of Production: ADRIAN MULLAN / Deputy Stage Manager: LOUISE BRYANS



TITLE OF WORK

INSIDE THE SPEAKER

Artists / Production Company

HELEN HALL ARTS

Discipline

DANCE

Number in Cast

1

Number in Touring Company

2–3

Duration

STAGE VERSION 35 MINS

Premiere

SEPTEMBER 2017

BOUNCE FESTIVAL, BELFAST

Contact Details

HELENHALLARTS@GMAIL.COM

Inside the Speaker is a dance performance that will take you on a journey of the senses. It invites you to step inside the speaker to experience dance differently as it welcomes you to the world of the speaker, partially sighted dancer and choreographer Helen Hall. The work explores ideas around perception and negotiation of space and place, and it is these very negotiations that you will find yourself immersed in, as the work encourages you to examine what you see and sense when watching dance. An intimate, beautiful and provocative in-the-round performance that will challenge what dance is and what it means to dance.



CREDITS

Concept, Choreographer & Performer: HELEN HALL / Lighting Design: SIMON BIRD / Musical Composition: MARTIN DEVEK / Sound Design: ROBIN PRICE / Soundscape Voices: PAULA GUZZANTI & HELEN HALL / Dramaturg: HANNA SLATTNE / Audio Description Consultant: KATE INGRAM / Photos — JOE FOX



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TITLE OF WORK

BODY POLITICS

Artists / Production Company

JO EGAN AND MACHA PRODUCTIONS

Discipline

THEATRE

Number in Cast

3

Number in Touring Company

4

Duration

STAGE VERSION 100MINS WITH AN INTERVAL

Premiere

SEPTEMBER 2021

BRIAN FRIEL THEATRE, BELFAST

Contact Details

MACHAPRODUCTIONS2015@GMAIL.COM

Body Politics comprises of two radically different one-act plays with both relating stories linked to women's bodily autonomy. Whilst being rooted in the history and politics of Belfast and Northern Ireland, both pieces address international themes. A small exhibition of movement film accompanies the production with post-show debates offered nightly following the performances.



CREDITS

Directors: FINN KENNEDY & JO EGAN / Playwright: JO EGAN / Performers: Colette Lennon, Maria Quinn & Debra Hill / Choreographer: EILEEN MCCLORY / Dramaturg: TANYA DEAN / Projection & Sound Artist: CONAN MCIVOR / Set & Costume Artist: STUART MARSHALL / Lighting Artist: MARY TUMELTY



LOTTERY FUNDED



Belfast
City Council



A dance performance that will take
you on a journey of the senses

Two radically different one-act plays with
both relating stories linked to women's
bodily autonomy

TITLE OF WORK

IMMACULATE

Artists / Production Company
TINDERBOX THEATRE COMPANY

Written By
LOUISE MATHEWS

Discipline
DIGITAL THEATRE

Number in Cast
2

Number in Touring Company
5

Duration
FILM VERSION 37 MINS

Premiere
MARCH 2021
FÉILE AN EARRAIGH

Contact Details
MEG.MAGILL@TINDERBOX.ORG.UK

Immaculate is based on a true story about Louise Mathews who struggled to piece together the life of her uncle Anthony, who tragically died in the early 90s and whose cause of death has left many unanswered questions. Anthony was born in Belfast and later left for London to live his life as a gay man. As Louise began to find out about his life, the research took her on an immense journey of joy, elation and sorrow as revelations about his past highlighted deeply conservative attitudes and daily threats to gay men living in London at that time (especially during the HIV and Aids epidemic). Her journey to find his truth only led her further into mystery and shame as so many gay men were forced to live in complete isolation or in many cases, vanish into the periphery of society. Through her lyrics and incredible music composition by Stuart Robinson, Louise is determined to reclaim his life, get the justice he deserves and celebrate those who were forced to hide in the shadows of our society.

Based on a true story about Louise Mathews who struggled to piece together the life of her uncle Anthony, a gay man, whose cause of death has left many unanswered questions



CREDITS
Writer and Lyrics: LOUISE MATHEWS / Composer: STUART ROBINSON / Cast: LOUISE MATHEWS & RHODRI LEWIS / Director: PATRICK J O'REILLY / Producer: MEG MAGILL / Set & Costume Designer: DIANA ENNIS / Director of Photography & Editor: DAN LEITH / Lighting Designer: JAMES C MCFETRIDGE / Production Manager: RORY CASEY / Stage Manager: KERRI MCGIMPSEY / Animation: CIARAN HAGGERTY



TITLE OF WORK

THE SHEDDING OF SKIN

Artists / Production Company
VITTORIA CAFOLLA & KABOSH THEATRE COMPANY

Discipline
THEATRE

Number in Cast
4

Number in Touring Company
8

Duration
FILM VERSION 103 MINS
STAGE VERSION 103 MINS

Premiere
JUNE 2021 ONLINE

Contact Details
PAULA@KABOSH.NET

A powerful, epic play about women around the world as a tool of war. Three Furies, the voice of many women, meet to give rest to another. Through ritualistically sharing their stories of pain, abuse, resistance, and survival, the Furies strive to release this woman from the space between worlds. Out of unbearable pain comes inspirational strength. Sexual violence against women is a global and historical aspect of conflict, with post-conflict societies having higher rates of sexual violence. Violence moves from public to private - the only way we will bring about change is to discuss these issues openly and honestly. The Shedding of Skin is a challenging piece of theatre that bears witness to stories of violence and oppression, as well as celebrating the human spirit to survive.

A challenging piece of theatre that bears witness to stories of violence and oppression, as well as celebrating the human spirit to survive



CREDITS
Playwright: VITTORIA CAFOLLA / Director: PAULA MCFETRIDGE / Cast: VICKY ALLEN, LOUISE MATHEWS, CATRIONA MCFEELY, SHANNEN MCNEICE / Set & Costume Designer: TRACEY LINDSAY Intimacy & Movement Director: PAULA O'REILLY / Lighting Designer: CONLETH WHITE / Choral Director: KATIE RICHARDSON / Costume Technician: ERIN CHARTERIS / Dialect Coach: BRENDAN GUNN / Academic Partner and Dramaturgy Support: DR LISA FITZPATRICK / International Partner: RAMANJIT KAUR / Film & Audio Facilities: REDBOX CREATIVE LTD / Cameras & Sound Design Editor & Sound Mix: CORMAC O'KANE / Vision Mixer & Editor: RICHARD BROWN / Audio Engineer: RYAN O'NEILL / Producer: ZOE FOX / Production Manager: KERRI MCGIMPSEY / Project Manager: ALICE MALSEED / Stage Manager: CAITLIN HUNTER / Technical Stage Manager & Drone: STEPHEN QUINN / Technical Crew: JAMES KENNEDY / With Thanks To: ROSS MCDADE, MARK PHELAN, MARY TUMELTY at BRIAN FRIEL THEATRE, QUB / Intimacy On Set: ANNE MULLOY / International Committee of The Red Cross: STEPHEN MULLAN / Online Sharing Curated And Hosted By: RED BOX STUDIOS / Filmed in the BRIAN FRIEL THEATRE, QUB in line with current covid guidelines.



TITLE OF WORK

THE GRIMM HOTEL



Artists / Production Company
CAHOOTS NI
Discipline
IMMERSIVE THEATRE
Duration
75MINS
Contact Details
INFO@CAHOOTSNI.COM

The Grimm Hotel is an immersive theatre experience for children age 8+ and their families. Set in a purpose built ‘hotel’, audience members will have the opportunity to choose which rooms they visit upon check-in. Behind each of the doors at The Grimm Hotel lies a theatrical installation with live performances, based on a story by the Brothers Grimm. Featuring magic, music, cutting edge technology and some of the most recognisable characters from fairy tale folklore, Cahoots NI’s The Grimm Hotel takes inspiration from the much loved ‘Grimm’s Fairy Tales’ in this ground-breaking walk-through theatre experience.

CREDITS
Creator & Director: PAUL BOSCO MC ENEANEY / Writer: CHARLES WAY / Composer & Sound Designer: GARTH MCCONAGHIE / Installation Designers: DAVID MORGAN & DIANA ENNIS / Costume Design: DIANA ENNIS & MEL LYLE / Digital Media: BNL PRODUCTIONS / Artwork: KEVIN MCHUGH

TITLE OF WORK

DEPARTMENT STORY



Artists / Production Company
BIG TELLY THEATRE COMPANY
Discipline
SITE-SPECIFIC THEATRE
Duration
LIVE VERSION 75 MINS
Contact Details
CRISSY@BIG-TELLY.COM

Department Story is a unique experience where a remote audience can collude with a physical one and be part of a real-world experience in a way that has never been done before. It is a site-specific production which smashes together flash theatre and physical fiction in a killer spree through a department of stories, where everything returned has a tale to tell. Take stock, grab your shopping list and be sure to ask the staff for help. However, this is no ordinary Department Store. Customers have choice but alongside choice comes great responsibility and before long there are decisions to be made. When the in-store shoppers end up with more than they bargained for, their fate lies with those online - but can they deliver?

CREDITS
Co Creators: JACK HARDIKER & ZOË SEATON / Director: ZOË SEATON / Technical Director: JACK HARDIKER / Production Manager: DANIEL HOOLE / Designer: RYAN DAWSON LAIGHT / Sound: GARTH MCCONAGHIE

TITLE OF WORK

THE BORDER GAME



Artists / Production Company
MICHAEL PATRICK & OISIN KEARNEY
Discipline
THEATRE / NEW WRITING
Duration
90 MINUTES
Contact Details
UNA@PRIMECUTPRODUCTIONS.CO.UK

On a farm on the border, a fence needs repair after being destroyed by vandals. When Sinead finds Henry in her field, she ropes him in to help. But re-building a fence is more complicated than it seems. What begins as a simple task soon turns to talk of their past, a reliving of old memories, and a relentless competition to come out on top. From the award-winning writers Michael Patrick & Oisín Kearney (My Left Nut and The Alternative), and Irish Times Theatre Award-winning director Emma Jordan (Red and A Streetcar Named Desire); The Border Game is a timely and powerful reflection on 100 years of the border and how it has impacted those who live along it. Commissioned by Prime Cut Productions to mark the centenary of a border on the island of Ireland, the play is inspired by 100 testimonies collected by the writers with real people living all over the 300-miles of the border.

CREDITS
Playwrights: MICHAEL PATRICK & OISÍN KEARNEY / Cast: LIZ FITZGIBBON, PATRICK MCBREARTY / Director: EMMA JORDAN / Set Design: CIARAN BAGNALL / Lighting Design: ZIA BERGIN HOLLY / Sound Design: GARTH MCCONAGHIE / Costume Design: ENDA KENNY / Movement Direction: DYLAN QUINN / Technical Manager: PETER MILLOY / Co-Produced: THE LYRIC THEATRE BELFAST / Supported: ARTS COUNCIL NI, BELFAST CITY COUNCIL & JERWOOD ARTS

TITLE OF WORK

DISTORTION



Artists / Production Company
THE MAC, BELFAST
Written By
AMANDA VERLAQUE
Directed By
RHIANN JEFFREY
Discipline
HYBRID THEATRE / VISUAL MEDIUM
Duration
APPROXIMATELY 70 MINUTES
Contact Details
SIMONM@THEMACLIVE.COM

In a world of politics, nothing could be further from the truth. When a homophobic government minister resigns in disgrace, a brand-new political party fronted by a photogenic, yet shallow husband and wife team want his once-safe seat. However, to secure it they need a jaded electorate’s support. Out and proud PR guru, Jo Devine is hired for the polish and sheen, but when careers collide with ego and conscience clashes with lies, who wins? Distortion is a fictional take on PR spin, sexuality, and the personalities jockeying for position in a cut-throat political arena.

CREDITS
Writer: AMANDA VERLAQUE / Director: RHIANN JEFFREY / Cast: VALENE KANE, MARY MOULDS, MICHAEL CONDRON, LATA SHARMA, MARY LINDSAY, LEAH HAMILTON, PETER BALANCE, MARK CLANEY / Original Music & Sound Design: GARTH MCCONAGHIE / Set Design: CIARAN BAGNALL / Associate Set Designer & Costume Design: TRACEY LINDSAY / Lighting Design: SANDY MCALLISTER / Produced By: THE MAC, BELFAST

01

TWO FINGERS UP

Artists / Production Company
SKELPIELIMMER SUPPORTED BY TINDERBOX THEATRE
Written By
SEÓN SIMPSON & GINA DONNELLY
Contact Details
GINA.SKELPIELIMMER@OUTLOOK.COM

Remember when your religion teacher taught you about ridin?
And the school nurse told you to shave your pits? Or here,
discovering your clit for the first time? Wait, you haven't yet?
You don't wank? Women don't? My hole they don't. Stick two
fingers up and come with us on a journey back to your teenage
self, to being scundered, to self-discovery, to abstinence-only sex
education, to Northern Ireland: a country of wankers.



03

MY LEFT NUT

Artists / Production Company
PRIME CUT PRODUCTIONS & PAN NARRANS THEATRE COMPANY
Contact Details
UNA@PRIMECUTPRODUCTIONS.CO.UK

400 millilitres. That's how much liquid was drained from
Michael's left testicle when he was a teenager. That's more than a
can of coke. He should have told someone sooner, but who could
he turn to? His dad died ten years ago and besides, school is full
of rumours about what the giant bulge in his trousers actually is.
Who wants to stop that?



Details of these three shows can be found at
<https://tickets.edfringe.com>

SPOTLIGHT ON THEATRE & DANCE FROM NORTHERN IRELAND Film Credits

DIRECTOR & EDITOR _____ NICKY LARKIN
CAMERA OPERATOR _____ MICHAEL BOYLE
SOUND RECORDIST & SUPERVISOR _____ TERRY GREW
INTRODUCTION SCRIPTED BY _____ CAOILEANN CURRY-THOMPSON
PRESENTED BY _____ LEONIE MCDONAGH
PROGRAMME DESIGN _____ NONGRAPHIC
CAPTIONER _____ PAULINE MATTHEW
BSL/ENGLISH INTERPRETER _____ SALLY GILLESPIE

WITH THANKS TO _____ NIAVAC
_____ THE CRESCENT ARTS CENTRE, BELFAST
_____ THE LYRIC THEATRE, BELFAST
_____ THE MAC, BELFAST
_____ THE GRAND OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST

A huge thank you to Shona, Rachel, Ellinor and team at Edinburgh
Fringe Festival for their continued support.

02

EAST BELFAST BOY

Artists / Production Company
FINTAN BRADY & PRIME CUT PRODUCTIONS
Contact Details
UNA@PRIMECUTPRODUCTIONS.CO.UK

Pumping techno, pulverising movement and street sharp poetry,
East Belfast Boy is a cliché free zone. Meet Davy. The things he
sees. His streets. His mates. His girl and... The Boys. Originally
created by Partisan Productions through a collaborative process
with young men from Belfast's Beersbridge and Newtownards
Roads. In 2018 Prime Cut Productions developed it to become
an award-winning, critically acclaimed production.



SPOTLIGHT ON THEATRE AND DANCE FROM
NORTHERN IRELAND IS DELIVERED BY



Theatre and Dance NI

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WWW.THEATREANDDANCENI.ORG

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