



2022

FEMIFRINGE

WORK LED BY
WOMEN, ENBIES, FEMMES + FEMINISTS
AT EDINBURGH FESTIVAL FRINGE

 **F-BOMB**
theatre

So, what's the deal with #femifringe? Well, there were some grumblings on social media about how the Edinburgh Festival Fringe has become outweighed by feminist work – hence the cute little hashtag, #femifringe.

But here's the deal. It's not always easy for historically marginalised genders to exist in the theatre industry. 90% of theatre critics are men, 0.64% of Arts Council England funding went to women's theatre companies between 2015 – 2018, and 60% of women are considering leaving the industry post-lockdown.

(Of course, these stats are far from intersectional and don't take into account the challenges faced by queer, non-binary and trans folk, people of colour, disabled people, working class artists... The research only shows a glimpse of how representation is sorely lacking.)

EdFringe is one of the only times where you can see a brand new show every single day, led by women, enbies, femme and feminist artists. This programme is a showcase of everyone who is proud to be on the #femifringe

[THE BEATLES WERE A BOYBAND](#) *link!*

Gilded Balloon Patter Hoose - Big Yin, 6-13 AUG, 20:00

Violet's scared walking home. Daisy fights to make the streets safer. And Heather? She's just over it. When women are threatened daily, how do you really make the change – and how do you stop male violence when you can't even see how far its roots go down? Scottish women's theatre company F-Bomb returns following their sell-out Fringe debut (Afterparty, 2021) with a radical new play by award-winning playwright Rachel O'Regan. The Beatles Were a Boyband is an urgent and unapologetically feminine response to misogyny. Bad vibes only.

F-BOMB xx

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ALL BY MYSELF

ZOO Playground – Playground 3, 5-14, 16-28 AUG, 18:25

POV: you're a vlogger. A productive (but chill!) DIYing vlogger. It's the end of the world. What do you do when everyone's left the internet? This is a show with no words about being your best self when no one will watch. Jessica Bickel-Barlow and Offie-nominated theatre company Part of the Main deliver a surprising, tension-filled peek into the off-camera life of an influencer who has no idea you are watching her. 'The clever ideas are a confrontation to the audience' (TheatreWeekly.com).



ALMOST ADULT

Gilded Balloon Patter Hoose - Snug, 3-16, 18-28 AUG, 13:40

Hope's leaving her home town up north for the bright lights of London. It's going to be mind-blowing. Attractive Tinder dates. Mature new friends. A job at a dinosaur-themed bar. Hell. Yes. Okay, her manager is a bit... unhinged. And her housemate seems to hate her. And it's possible that everything's falling apart. But, actually, it's far more likely that everything is, in fact, going brilliantly. Right? With a hilariously naive protagonist, Anne-Tilley's Almost Adult combines clown-style physical comedy with touching vulnerability. Come along for a good laugh and leave with a single tear rolling down your cheek..



ANTIGONE: THE MUSICAL

theSpace @ Surgeons Hall - Fleming Theatre, 22-27 AUG, 19:20

Ancient Greece. 441BC. Two dead brothers. One king. One girl. One shovel. Following the war in Thebes, both of Antigone's brothers are dead, and her uncle, Creon, is king. One of the brothers is given a proper burial, whilst the other is declared a traitor and forbidden to be buried. Anyone who disobeys is to be killed. But that's not going to stop Antigone. A radical and fun musical retelling of an Ancient Greek myth, about one young girl standing up to tyranny, packed with humour and super catchy tunes that'll have you humming all the way!



AUDREY'S ART CLUB

Fringe Online - YouTube, Watch onDemand (available from 5 AUG)

Expect sticky lips, foil dinosaurs and a whirligig of love in Audrey's Art Club. As Britain gets passionate for creativity, Art Teacher Audrey plays catch up. Discover what happens behind the zoom camera in this 30-minute drama of Art Club. Audrey wants to know what doodling's got to do with love and goes back to her lover's childhood home to find answers. Written by award-winning writer Lita Doolan. **** (WhatsOnStage.com) for Mary Blandy's Gallows Tree. Pick of Camden Fringe for Time for Tea. Lita's films have been commissioned by Burning Man, Dublin Pride, Glasgow University and more.



BAD TEACHER

Underbelly, Bristo Square - Daisy, 3-14, 16-29 AUG, 14:45

The Queens of Cups draw upon their years teaching, in OffFest nominee Bad Teacher. Evie, our titular teacher, takes you with her as she battles through the school day, confronting audiences with eye-opening truths about gender politics, mental health, and the outrageous expectations that our current educational system sets for students and teachers alike. 'The play is fast-paced and crude, but also allows us to see the person behind the job, and the vulnerability of the students. Both performance and direction are perfectly executed, and you couldn't ask any more from a performer' ***** (NorthWestEnd.com).



THE BEATLES WERE A BOYBAND

Gilded Balloon Patter Hoose - Big Yin, 6-13, 20:00

Violet's scared walking home. Daisy fights to make the streets safer. And Heather? She's just over it. When women are threatened daily, how do you really make the change - and how do you stop male violence when you can't even see how far its roots go down? Scottish women's theatre company F-Bomb returns following their sell-out Fringe debut (Afterparty, 2021) with a radical new play by award-winning playwright Rachel O'Regan. The Beatles Were a Boyband is an urgent and unapologetically feminine response to misogyny. Bad vibes only.



BENEATH

theSpace on the Mile - Space 3, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27 AUG, 11:30

Beneath is dark and absurd commentary on the effects of climate change. Four people: Tess, Jo, Kris and Dani are trapped under 100 metres of water after an environmental catastrophe. After months of just surviving, each character is forced to examine what their options are and what their futures hold while they wait for the world to heal.



BLANKET BAN

Underbelly, Cowgate - Big Belly, 4-14, 16-28 AUG, 17:00

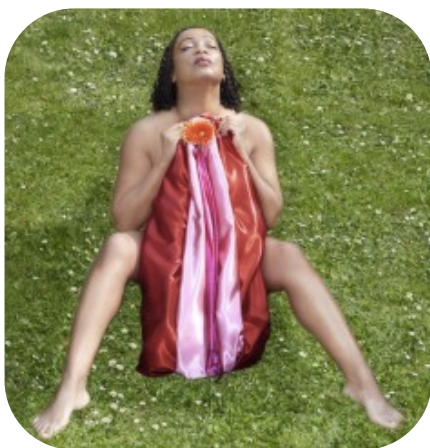
Winner of Underbelly, New Diorama and Methuen Drama's hit-making Untapped Award, 2022. 'Sometimes I'm afraid of this play.' Malta: Catholic kitsch, golden sun, deep blue sea, Eurovision - and a blanket ban on abortion. Propelled by three years of interviews with anonymous contributors and their own lived experience, actors and activists Marta and Davinia interrogate Malta's restrictions on the freedom of women. What does it mean for your home to boast the world's most progressive LGBTQIA rights, leading transgender laws - and a population that is almost unanimously anti-choice? A rallying cry from award-winning Chalk Line Theatre.



THE BLEEDING OBVIOUS

Underbelly, Bristo Square - Daisy, 6-9, 11-14 AUG, 22:15

What happens when you tumble out of the big pink closet and across the LGBTQ+ spectrum in a sprawling queer heap? Well, life is never quite as straight as it seems. Yorkshire lesbian Jessica Rowbottom (aka The Bleeding Obvious) endeavours to describe the experience with original songs and tales which are sometimes funny, occasionally poignant, frequently emotional, usually queer – and it's probably the only show with the lyrics 'demisexual panromantic polyamorous androgyne'!



BLOOD, SWEAT AND VAGINAS

Pleasance Courtyard - The Cellar, 3-15, 18-29 AUG, 12:55

A moving play about female sexuality and self discovery, told with a backdrop of hypnotic rhythms and original soulful melodies. Carolann's awakening is sudden and all-consuming. Perpetuating the strong black woman myth is no longer an option. She stumbles out of her super-woman bubble to discover her sexuality is fluid, soul music is the language of her soul and menopause has definitely arrived. Hypnotic melodies, searing honesty and humour will take you on a journey of discovery with Carolann.



BLOODY WIMMIN

The Royal Scots Club - The Hepburn Suite, 8-13 AUG, 20:30

'It is terribly easy to laugh at passion'. 1984. The women of Greenham Common are convinced the world is walking blindly into nuclear Armageddon. There is solidarity, shared purpose and much argument. Women grapple with their competing personal priorities, establishment rage and their dire living conditions with resilience, camaraderie and humour. Fast forward to 2009: do the rage, passion and flames of protest still burn as brightly? Lucy Kirkwood's powerful and hilarious commentary on the women's movement and the culture of protest as told by one of Edinburgh's most prestigious amateur theatre companies. By arrangement with Nick Hern.



BLUE CHAIR

Greenside @ Nicolson Square - Lime Studio, 6, 10, 12 AUG, 12:40, 18:30

What colour is the sound of a cello? How do you show the taste of an apple? A colourful, complex solo performance exploring autobiographical experiences of synaesthesia. Amy Linda Theatre was created by solo physical performer Amy Whittam. She focusses on collaborative, immersive physical theatre based around difference. Part of a showcase of work by graduates of the University of Worcester's Integrated Masters in Touring Theatre, which gives students the opportunity to develop the skills and experience to create and tour their own work.



BLUEWATER

Gilded Balloon Patter Hoose - Snug, 3-6, 8-20, 22-28 AUG, 23:00

London, 2008. Dizzee Rascal's Dance Wiv Me is playing on the radio. Our story is told through the relatable eyes of a 17-year-old girl. Funny and charismatic, we watch as she attempts to navigate her way from Bluewater shopping centre with the girls to the weekly party happenings on a Saturday night. Little does she know, tonight is the night she unexpectedly falls in love with a girl she's never spoken to and starts her journey to figuring out her sexuality. Conversational and nostalgic, Bluewater takes us on a comical trip down memory lane and teen struggles.



BRAVE SPACE

Underbelly's Circus Hub on the Meadows - The Beauty, 6-14, 16-21, 23-27 AUG, 11:00

Brave Space is the building of a blanket fort, sneaking under a hoop skirt, an impulsive congregation in the tiniest of tents. Starting as a puddle of fabric on the floor, it grows to encompass a wondrous world of circus. Intimate and low tech, the audience sits nose-to-nose with an all-female cast of bold physical artists to build the world we want to live in, even for only a few shared moments. 'Brave Space imagines a kind of dystopian utopia, in which peril is made present but survivable, even beautiful. Its living, beating heart remains constant' (Chicago Tribune).



BUBBLEGUM AND POP

Greenside @ Nicolson Square - Fern Studio, 23-27 AUG, 12:50

Bubblegum and Pop. It's the 1980s and two 14-year-old girls with a love for Wham! and George Michael meet through the pen pal section of a popular teen magazine. Set in their bedrooms, they write and chat about love and life as a teenager in the 80s and develop a relationship based on friendship and rivalry. Nostalgic show with an 80s soundtrack and fashions, where phone calls and letters were the only forms of communication and the Rubik's Cube was all the rage. Which of the two friends will ultimately marry George?



BUTCHERED

Greenside @ Nicolson Square - Lime Studio, 8, 10, 12 AUG, 12:40, 16:10, 18:30

A sausage-maker and an apprentice walk into a kitchen, but this is no joke. A bloodthirsty new absurdist drama about escaping the mundane and doing what has to be done. Expiat Atrocious are a West Midlands-based theatre company who create physical, unusual and absurdist work, exploring what it means to be human. On Hear Speak See: 'Packs an unexpected emotional punch' **** (FringeBiscuit.co.uk). Part of a showcase of work by graduates of the University of Worcester's Integrated Masters in Touring Theatre, which gives students the opportunity to develop the skills and experience to create and tour their own work.



BUT IT WAS JUST GETTING GOOD?!

The Merlin, 18-28 AUG, 22:00

Laura Thurlow was a promising young woman in 2019, when she started writing this show, and now she is something else. A funny, poetic storytelling evening about looking for love and meaning amid the collapse of the environment and most of our capitalist millennial ambitions.



BUZZING ANONYMOUS

Arthur Conan Doyle Centre - The Helen Duncan Room, 26-28 AUG, 16:30, 17:30, 17:45, 18:45, 19:00, 20:00, 20:15

This groundbreaking piece of theatre is based on an ADHD support group. It watches unlikely relationships form through the chaos and natural dramatic comedy that occurs when neurodivergent people try to navigate through day-to-day life. It sheds light on mental health issues such as ADHD, ASC, OCD, depression and anxiety through a comedic lens, while exploring the obscurity of these conditions.



CASSIE AND THE LIGHTS

Underbelly, Cowgate - Big Belly, 4-15, 17-28 AUG, 12:30

Can kids be parents? When Cassie's mother disappears, the teenager wants to care for her sisters on her own. Is she the right person to be a parent now, or should she let foster parents adopt her sisters and create a new family? Based on real-life events and interviews with children in care and with live music, Cassie and the Lights examines our ideas of what makes a family. Best Theatre winner, Adelaide Fringe. 'Something quite extraordinary' ***** (CreativeReviewsUK.blogspot.com). 'It is unmissable' ***** (TheatreGuide.com.au). ***** (StageWhispers.com.au).



CEILIDHKIDS AT THE FRINGE

Laughing Horse @ The Counting House - The Ballroom, 4-17, 19-24, 26-28 AUG, 10:00

Family workshop suitable for children aged 3-7 years with parents or carers, but everyone welcome. We involve everyone; skip, clap and march together to traditional Scottish music. Enjoy discovering very simple (often simplified) dances that you might find at a ceilidh or Scottish dance, celebrating the social aspects of dancing with a partner. Fun for all generations and hugely popular with local families. Now it's your turn. Bring mum or dad along to partner you under the chandeliers! Children should be accompanied by an adult willing to join in; one adult can dance with two children.



CHANSONS: SONGS AND STORIES FROM PIAF, BREL AND ME

C ARTS | C venues | C digital - portal, Watch onDemand (available from 25 JULY)

C ARTS | C venues | C aquila - temple, 4-14, 12:40

Bienvenue to Chansons, the musical intercultural cabaret. 'Soul-touching' stories performed in 'brilliant showmanship' (Audience Reviews) about life and passion, from Ne me quitte pas (Brel) to Milord (Piaf). Live life the French way. Experience joie de vivre. Created by award-winning musical theatre actress Stefanie Rummel. Spoken in English; sung in French, English. Accompanied by Bogdan Pieleanu, Tom Schlueter, Bob Egan. Inspires our own lives by looking at other cultures.



CLARA: SEX, LOVE AND CLASSICAL MUSIC

Pianodrome at the Old Royal High - Pianodrome Amphitheatre, 8-14 AUG, 17:00

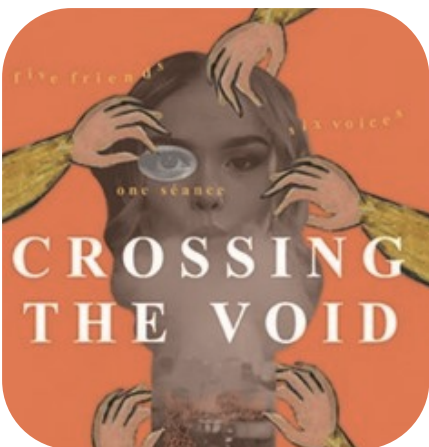
Clara tells the story of 19th century piano star Clara Schumann. The show might be set in the past, but it tackles issues that are relevant and topical with irony and sensitivity, posing questions we still haven't answered in the 21st century. Fusing words, music, irony and poignant encounters, Clara tells the story of a fascinating and yet complex artist, turning her relationships and life inside out; sometimes unpleasant, a little bit wicked, but with truth in every note. Warning: this show contains live music, love and an unusual, eye-opening look into the past.



CLEMENTINE

Just the Tonic at The Caves - Just Out of the Box, 4-14, 12:40

Meet Lady Clementine. From shipwrecks to guillotines, bad luck has plagued her love life from day one. When her latest beau, Sir Bradley, goes missing, she sets off on a quest to solve the mystery of her ill-fortune. Guided by the stars, she soon finds out she's been searching for love in all the wrong places. Set roughly "in the past", expect dashing dandies, sickly sisters and many, many, many letters. Not for men. (Unless you're a single Leo in possession of a good fortune). Vault Festival-selected show.



CROSSING THE VOID

theSpace on the Mile - 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26 AUG, 15:35

Sally MacAlister collaborates with upcoming theatre company koi collective to premiere a new comedy at the Edinburgh Fringe. Hannah has been dead for a year, and her pals are still struggling to find their feet. Hoping a seance will bring the group together again, the girls toast, celebrate and mourn over a bottle of Bucky. However, ghosts of many forms drift amongst them, secrets hang in the air and lines are crossed that unpick the stitches of their social fabric, revealing the ultimate truth - the group are now no more than strangers.



CUMTS: SLEEPOVER

Just the Tonic at The Caves - Just the Big Room, 4-14, 16-28, 16:30

Four immigrant teens. 12 hours. One suspicious box teeming with questions about sex. SLEEPOVER is a coming-of-age comedy musical about self-discovery (and self-pleasure!). Join Jenny, Anita, Nina and Ruth as they dive into the world of sex - discussing everything from monogamy to masturbation, dating preferences to penises. Top-class comedy delivered to you with a side of well-rapped bars in this spectacular piece of new writing. From the people who brought you Six, the Musical. Don't forget your toothbrush!



DEAR LITTLE LOZ

theSpace @ Surgeons Hall - Theatre 2, 5-13, 15-27 AUG, 12:00

Dear Little Loz is a poetic exploration of love - love for the scabby boys in Blackpool, dodgy dates with Dave and the desperate need for a daddy-daughter connection. Love comes at a price but what are we willing to pay for it? Could Loz be a mixture of all the men she's ever met and the love she's lost between them all. What we attach ourselves to as a child might be the connection we search for our whole lives...



DEATH OF AN AUTHOR

Greenside @ Nicolson Square - Lime Studio, 22-27 AUG, 11:30

What if your favourite characters didn't quite like the way they were written? What if they decided enough was enough? When an unnamed author is found dead, his characters are brought in for questioning. And they all have motive. Death of an Author is a celebration of untold female stories and a murder mystery like nothing you've seen before... come solve the crime in Edinburgh! Will you catch the killer?



DEFINITELY MAYBE ACTUALLY NEVERMIND

Underbelly, Cowgate - Belly Laugh, 23-28 AUG, 22:50

'What do Jamie, Mark, and Fitzwilliam Darcy all have in common? They're white, problematic, and played by Colin Firth.' Join drag artist Crystal Bollix as they take on their greatest enemy yet... romantic comedies. Fall in love with this new cabaret extravaganza all about the pitfalls of chick-flicks and Colin Firth. Watch as they navigate the tricky world of rom-com masculinity, femininity and beyond. Expect gorgeous costumes, dazzling lip sync, and maybe a surprise guest or two...



THE DIRTY THIRTY PLUS

Gilded Balloon Patter Hoose - Nip, 3-14 AUG, 16:15

A new valiant attempt to perform 30 plays in just one hour! Chaotic and courageous, gleeful and gamified, The Dirty Thirty PLUS is the live-est of live theatre exploding the conventions of performance. An ever-changing menu of theatrical delights performed against the clock, each play offers something different: games, gravitas, songs, dances, comedy, feats of strength and stuff beyond definition! Most excitingly of all? You get to decide the order the plays are performed. The New York Neo-Futurists and London's Degenerate Fox Theatre join forces for the first time ever!



DON'T TALK TO ME ABOUT LOVE

OmniCentre - Stage 1, 8-21 AUG, 21:25

After getting to grips with her BPD, Judy's desperate to find love and spends her time shagging, drinking, being cool and wallowing in a pit of self-loathing, wondering why no one will ever love her. Like an absolute LAD. A one-woman comedy show that gives an honest and hilarious look into sex, love, mental health and Vanilla Ice.



EARWIG

Assembly Rooms - Front Room, 4-9, 11-27 AUG, 14:10

After the success of Greyhounds (2018) and Clouds (2019), Time & Again roar into the 1920s with vintage flair! Marigold's research into beetles is unparalleled but as a deaf woman in 1927, her work is ignored. Earwig combines the weird, wonderful world of entomology with Marigold's fight to be heard amidst flappers, jazz and an overbearing husband. Funny and fast-paced new writing incorporating illustrated projections in the style of 1920s silent movies! Earwig explores what it meant to be deaf in the early 20th century against the art deco decadence of the inter-war years.



ELEANOR CONWAY: TALK DIRTY TO ME

Laughing Horse @ The Three Sisters - Maggie's Chamber, 4-28 AUG, 20:15

Following her first US tour and millions of views over lockdown for her blunt takes on dating and being a child-free badass, this award-winning stand-up is back with a sex-positive, high-energy banger. In a world where women in heterosexual relationships still do the bulk of housework and childcare, yet orgasm the least during sex, Conway asks: are we really that far along in the fight for gender equality? Who really benefits from marriage and babies? How can straight women finally negotiate equal pleasure in the bedroom?



ELEMENTA

Greenside @ Infirmary Street - Mint Studio, 5-13, 15-20, 22-27 AUG, 10:20

Presenting a one-woman show about a planet-saving superhero who's lost her mojo. Elementa was powerful. Is powerful. But now she's washed up and burnt out. The good old days of battling environmental supervillains like Fogzilla and Acid RainMan are long gone, as her time is now filled trawling trenches for litter and refreezing the ice caps, one cube at a time. This is an endearing and exasperated comedy with a refreshingly imperfect eco-warrior protagonist from writer-performer Sian Eleanor Green. Premiering at the Edinburgh Fringe 2022 then off to conquer the world... or... something.



ERYN TETT FINDS HER AUDIENCE

Just the Tonic at The Tron, 4-14, 16-28 AUG, 17:00

Volunteers needed for very important scientific research*. With a style that toes the line between straight stand-up and absurdism, classic misfit and newly proactive Eryn Tett (Funny Women Stage Award runner-up, 2021 and Cherry Comedy Breakout Act of the Year winner, 2020) is collecting important data in search of her "audience". A bizarre exploration of her own thoughts; expect word play, odd observations and surreal storytelling set to a charmingly uncomfortable rhythm, as Eryn takes an entirely literal approach to the sage advice: find your audience. *data may be collected for research purposes.



AN EVIL THING

Paradise in Augustines - The Sanctuary - 15-20 AUG, 13:10

In Tyneside during WW2, the sadistic tendencies of a 12-year-old bully, Betty King, take a deadly turn when she and her naive cousin Peggy are evacuated from South Shields. Containing some strong language, An Evil Thing is a dark, contemporary one-act play. It was the Progressive Players' entry into the 2022 Durham and Sunderland One Act Festival. An Evil Thing won the Allan Monkhouse Award for Best New Play, awarded by GoDA adjudicator Robert Meadows. Running time approximately 50 minutes. Not suitable for children.



THE FAHRENHEIT ALLIANCE III

C ARTS | C venues | C digital - portal, watch onDemand (available from 25 JULY)

C ARTS | C venues | C place - studio, 7, 14 AUG, 13:00

Original multimedia performance inspired by Kyle Yamada's play The Fahrenheit Alliance. Actors trapped in their room by COVID-19 organise a secret, invisible alliance on the cloud, transcending walls and distance. The play poses a secret way of gathering during an emergency time when we are forbidden to assemble in one place. One person records a voice for someone else. that someone listens and performs along with the recording. The performer then records their voice for another person, thus passing the baton. The 2022 Edinburgh Fringe sees the third iteration of this series, live-streamed from Tokyo!



FAT CHANCE

Pleasance Dome - JackDome, 3-7, 10-15, 18-21, 24-28 AUG, 10:30

Written and performed by Rachel Stockdale. Meet Rachel - a Northern, 20-something actress whose funny, celebratory and politically powerful one-woman play explores her true-life experience of weight gain from size 8 to 18. From audition nerves and throwaway comments to literally breaking a leg, this unconventional play is for: Anyone who's put on or lost weight; Anyone who had free school meals; Anyone who's tried to have it all.



FIRE SIGNS

Pleasance Courtyard - Pleasance Above, 3-8, 10-15 AUG, 11:45

'No, she's not my sister. Unless you're speaking astrologically.' Second year is going to be Bobbie and Emma's year. They're not Freshers anymore. They've decorated their flat. They've made resolutions. And Bobbie's in love. He's a poet. Well, he's an English Literature student with a substantial trust fund, but who wants to get bogged down in that? Following a sold-out performance at the Festival of New Theatre, the EUTC's Fire Signs follows Bobbie and Emma through a chaotic year, as new boyfriends and ghosts-of-Freshers-past test whether their friendship is really written in the stars.



FLAT AND THE CURVES

The Stand's New Town Theatre - Lower Hall, 16-28 AUG, 22:35

The New Act of the Year 2022 and Musical Comedy Award 2021 finalists debut their salacious cabaret of unbridled fun. In this late-night musical extravaganza, the divas explore femme empowerment with original songs about sex, scandal and sisterhood. Dressed tit-to-toe in sequins, they'll chat candidly about fertility, porn, anal sex, and more... no topic is off-limits. As one enlightened audience member put-it, 'they're like Fascinating Aida, meets Little Mix, meets The Inbetweeners'. Expect big voices and bold statements in this 'risqué night of hilarity and full frontal vulgarity' ***** (WestEndWilma.com). ***** (BNI Magazine).



FOUNDATIONS

Underbelly, Cowgate - Belly Button, 4-21 AUG, 11:05

A factory above. A factory below. Two separate worlds existing side by side, until someone crosses the barrier... MJ is a human who is sick of moving boxes around all day like a robot. Pins is a robot who's only heard of humans in stories. When they meet in the space between their worlds, they form a friendship that blurs the boundaries between human and machine. A Pixar movie brought to life on stage using physical theatre and puppetry, Foundations is a whimsical production that tackles what it means to be human in an age of technology.



FRANKENSTEIN

theSpace @ Venue45, 5-6, 9-10 AUG, 10:30, 11:45, 19:15

Victor Frankenstein is a wonderful student who believes completely that she is destined for greatness. Follow Frankenstein on her journey to gain new knowledge and nearly unlimited powers - the ability to command the heavens' great thunder, to mimic the earthquakes, and mock the invisible world with its own creations and shadows. See the joy of love and the tragedy of loss, the awe of growth and the sting of failure in this journey for power.



GASH THEATRE NEEDS SOME SPACE

Assembly Rooms - Front Room, 4-9, 11-16, 18-23, 25-27 AUG, 22:25

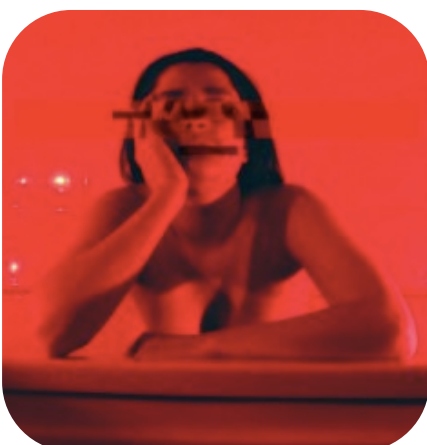
Boy, you're an alien. Your touch, so foreign. Wanna be your victim. Ready for abduction' (K Perry, 2011). Board Starship Gash for a voyage of interstellar sex-ploits! Do aliens have body image issues too? Is there a galaxy far-far-away enough from your ex? What's really at the centre of a blackhole? (Spoiler alert: It's Demi Lovato). Gash Theatre (Offies 2021 finalist) tackles interdimensional bodies and sexualities, speeding between astronaut striptease, himbo space-drag worthy of Flash Gordon himself, and waaaaay too many Rick and Morty references (one). Houston, let's get NASAy.



GERTRUDE AND OPHELIA IN HELL

theSpace @ Symposium Hall - Annexe, 15-20, 22-27 AUG, 19:20

In this dark comedy, Ophelia and Gertrude are in limbo and on their way to Hell. Both believe they have been wrongfully accused. Ophelia claims that the branch was to blame; Gertrude claims that the adultery accusation is specious at best. What if they could get a redo? What if Hamlet just takes the crown this time.



GIRLPLAY

theSpace on North Bridge - Perth Theatre, 5-13, 15-27 AUG, 17:30

Lucy is average, awkward and unassuming. And, when it comes to sex, what she lacks in experience, she makes up for in curiosity. That's all set to change. On a night of firsts, she opens the door to a world of relationships and sex that she had only ever dreamt about. But, is the reality all she had hoped it would be? GirlPlay is an exploration of love and sex spun out in slam. Reviews from audio version: 'A powerful examination of emotion, sex and the female body' ***** (TheWeeReview.com). 'Littered with firsts - and thirst' **** (Stage).



THE GIRL WHO WAS VERY GOOD AT LYING

Summerhall - TechCube 0, 3-14, 16-21, 23-28 AUG, 11:55

Catriona has a history of making stuff up. But she's getting better. When an attractive American tourist arrives, she decides to show him around her Northern Irish town. And she might blur the line between fact and fiction, just a little... Soon she's telling him about cannibal peasants, human roosters, and the largest orgy ever held on consecrated ground. A multi award-nominated show starring Rachael Rooney, about the stories we tell to escape. ***** (Stage). Originally produced: Jermyn Street's Footprints Festival, Omnibus Theatre.



GREEN KNIGHT

Scottish Storytelling Centre - Library at Fringe, 6-14 AUG, 17:00

Christmas at Camelot: a monstrous green warrior issues an unwinnable challenge to Arthur's finest knight. But what if the story was retold by the woman at its heart? A one-woman version of the medieval poem Sir Gawain and the Green Knight. Winner of Best Female Actor award at Buxton Fringe 2018. 'Superlative... storytelling theatre' ***** (FringeGuru.com). 'A captivating performance... storytelling at its very best' **** (AllEdinburghTheatre.com). 'Enthralling, spine-tingling' **** (BroadwayBaby.com). Performed and written by Debbie Cannon. Directed by Flavia D'Avila, with dramaturgy by Jen McGregor.



HEADCASE

Pleasance Courtyard - Beside, 3-8, 10-14, 16-21, 23-28 AUG, 15:35

Actor and writer Kristin McIlquham can't seem to finish a list. Get an agent. Tick. Get a therapist. Tick. Get a boyfriend... Call her dad. As Kristin approaches 40 she is forced to confront, kicking and screaming, some of the unfinished business in her life and work out why she just can't seem to tie up any of her loose ends. A funny and moving true story about the aftermath of her father's brain injury and the impact that it's had on their relationship, her life, and well... pretty much everything really.



HIGH FIVE!

The Royal Scots Club - The Hepburn Suite, 23-24 AUG, 15:30

High Five is an explosive, high energy, physical theatre production that explores the drug crisis with young people in Scotland. Filled with questions about identity, sexuality, addiction and friendship. Follow the drugs, the clues and the relationships to discover who murdered Astoria!



THE HIPPIE SHAKES

Greenside @ Infirmary Street - Forest Theatre, 5-13, 15-20, 22-27 AUG, 13:45

Based on a true story, this new piece of gig theatre is a distinctly female story of motherhood, survival and intergenerational cycles of abuse. Chickie is a woman divided. She is torn between her desire for freedom and her responsibilities as a mother. She wants her husband's undivided love, but must grapple with him pulling the family into the illegal drug trade of the hippie movement. Set during the turbulent 60s and 70s, this one-woman show combines intimate storytelling, dark humour and live music to tell a truly incredible story.



HOME IS NOT THE PLACE

Summerhall - TechCube 0, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27 AUG, 19:20

A powerful production telling the remarkable story of the short life and lost work of Kerala writer PM John, shortly before India's independence from British rule. John's story unwinds a tale of empire and migration across three generations in search of 'who we are, what we are, what we believe.' 'An autobiographical, poignant and beautiful account of lineage, identity and what makes home, home' **** (EdinburghGuide.com). 'One of Scotland's most powerful and interesting writer-performers' **** (Scotsman). 'The toying of language... is a masterclass in the spoken word' (TheReviewsHub.com). Supported by The Meadows Award.



HORSEPOWER

theSpace @ Surgeons Hall - Theatre 2, 15-20 AUG, 19:10

On the edge of a breakdown, Wilbert decides to confront the not-so-well-kept secret of his shadow self: Destructive Desmond, a provocative cabaret artist. This darkly absurd tale encapsulates the emergence of the authentic self and questions what is real and what is simply a performance? Inspired by the character in WH Auden's The Dog Beneath the Skin. This one-person show is edgy in nature, blessed with fervent choreography, excavating layers of raw emotional intelligence throughout.



HOW TO BUILD A WAX FIGURE

Assembly George Square Studios - Studio Four, 4-9, 11-15, 17-22, 24-29 AUG, 12:55

Girl meets anatomical wax sculptor. Anatomical wax sculptor meets girl. They fall in love. Or something like that. Bea's older neighbour was her first love, her first cigarette, her first prosthetic eye. When Bea is invited to the Wellcome Collection to speak about her expertise making glass eyes, she finds herself unable to untie Margot from all that she does. As she tries to unpack her mentor's effect on her work, Bea must dissect for herself what love really looks like.



HOW TO KEEP UP WITH THE KARDASHIANS

Underbelly, Cowgate - Belly Button, 4-14 AUG, 14:20

Following their sell-out shows in Manchester and London So La Flair make their Edinburgh debut with their cabaret campaign against keeping up culture. Based on interviews with women and non-binary people aged 5-60, this is a dance party protest about shaking our asses to the rhythm of our own drums, reclaiming power by redefining beauty and confronting the ugly truth of our obsession with perfection. Expect an epic playlist, belly laughs, brave truths and high vibrations. Sorry Kim, not this time.



IMAGINING RACHEL

C ARTS | C venues | C cubed - main space, 20, 22, 24, 26 AUG, 15:05

Explore environmental icon Rachel Carson's nature in this wildly inventive solo show from fellow Pittsburgher Elise Robertson, who uses puppets, found objects, and stage wizardry to interweave her own messy coming-of-age with Rachel's, as they struggle with their identities as artists, mothers, and truth-tellers. 'An act of performance and activism' (WellingtonReviews.co.nz). 'Robertson is a gifted storyteller' (LouReviews.blog). 'An Alice in Wonderland for nature exploration' ***** (Audience Review). 'This one will stay with you. A reflection on science, the fragility and vibrancy of the environment, sexism, parenting, and the complexities of human relationships' ***** (Audience Review).



IN PURSUET

Underbelly, Cowgate - Belly Button, 4-14, 16-28 AUG, 15:50

Woman is sat in a therapist's office. She's been sent there to deal with her drink problem. But she doesn't have a problem and she doesn't need help. She just needs Sue Perkins. They're meant for each other. If only Sue could see that too. But how can she? She's too busy being a celebrity. So Woman sets out in pursuit of her love. From following Sue's every move online to breaking in backstage at the BBC, there isn't anything she won't do. But can she keep it all together whilst battling her out of control drinking?



IT'S NOT ROCKET SCIENCE

theSpace @ Symposium Hall - Annexe, 15-20, 22-27, 15:10

'It's a man's world' they say, looking at Earth. But beyond that, the vast expanse we call 'space', is largely unknown, unclaimed; a free for all. At least, it could be if my boss stopped calling me 'sweetheart'. Eve always knew she belonged in the stars, but those on Earth keep bringing her down. Watch her grow up and grow wiser about how rocket science is the easy part, but being treated equally isn't. This piece of verbatim theatre uses interviews from over 20 female aerospace professionals, and presents their experiences navigating this male-dominated industry.



THE LAST WORDS

theSpaceTriplex - Studio, 22-27 AUG, 12:20

Rebecca has been labelled the miracle girl after waking from her own murder. There's just one problem. She can only remember the last words said to her before she died. Struggling with her loss of identity and the truth of what happened, these memories may just help piece it altogether. But memories can sometimes be twisted. Convinced her boyfriend has something to do with it, Rebecca learns some shocking secrets about her family and her own past self that challenge everything. Who should Rebecca trust and what if some things are best left forgotten?



LATE BLOOMERS' TALES: CHASING TIME THROUGH SONGS

theSpace @ Symposium Hall - Amphitheatre, 5-12 AUG, 20:00

Anna Vanosi's soulful voice transports you from jazz (Billie Holiday, Doris Day) to pop (Bob Dylan, Björk) tracing a comical, poignant path, as she feels out of step. Maybe she's not alone? Join this inspirational late-bloomer adventure. 'A beautiful melody of optimism and acceptance... eloquently poetic monologues and fantastical musical numbers' (The Student). 'We ride the emotional trail, hanging onto every word and song, and what a voice to savour: beautifully crafted entertainment' (International Times). 'Someone who can tell a story and sing with guts and gusto' (TheWriteAngleFV.blogspot.com).



LOOK, NO HANDS

Summerhall - Red Lecture Theatre, 3-14, 16-21, 23-28 AUG, 16:30

Cyclist Vee has no idea why she's woken up in hospital. Armed with only her medical notes and a surprise appearance on 24 Hours in A&E, she tries to piece together exactly what has happened to her. But the mystery she can't solve is why something so awful... has made her feel so fantastic! Inspired by a real-life cycling collision, this award-winning solo show by Scottish artist Lila Clements, is an uplifting story of hope and survival, made in partnership with female cycling club Velociposse. 'A genuinely exciting piece of theatre' **** (AYoungerTheatre.com).



LUCINDA SPRAGG: AN EVENING WITH

Underbelly, Bristo Square - The Dairy Room, 3-14, 16-29 AUG, 21:20

A one-woman parody, brought to you by Moon Loaf. Leader of the Regain Party. Freedom fighter/icon. Host of the TripadPfizer podcast. Professional feather ruffler. 'An appeaser is one who feeds a crocodile [the left], hoping it will eat him last' (Winston Churchill / Lucinda Spragg). Come and join Lucinda as she promotes her latest book: Jabbie Dodgers. Seeking the truth, fighting for decency, defying the liberal Vax Pushers. 'Entertaining, thought-provoking, controversial, brilliant' ***** (CamdenTownLondon.co.uk). **** (The-Crumb.com). **** (TheDeskboundDramatic.wordpress.com).



MAMA LOVE

Summerhall - Red Lecture Theatre, 3-14, 16-21, 23-28 AUG, 15:00

Mama Love is a one-woman show in which Lea Blair Witcher plays with the absurdities of the idealised and toxic images of motherhood in which she finds herself enmeshed. Against the backdrop of the 2020 Swiss vote on granting new fathers a whole two weeks' paternity leave (18 years behind the Brits' oh-so-generous offer), Witcher links lived experience with current discourses on motherhood, thrashing out a path through a jungle of everyday situations, social clichés and quizzical utopian models of life in a society beyond the bounds of patriarchy.



MEDEA THE MUSICAL

Paradise in Augustines - The Studio, 15-20, 22-28 AUG, 19:20

A rock concert in a courtroom... and you are the jury. Fresh from a sell-out preview run comes an original musical full of crackling dialogue, dark humour and killer tunes. Unwilling pawn, madwoman or psychopath? You decide. 'Anyone who doesn't see Medea the Musical will regret it' (TheTab.com). 'Funny, thought-provoking and gloriously mad creation' (Varsity). ***** (TCS.cam.ac.uk).



MORE THAN TRACY TURNBLAD

theSpace on the Mile - Space 1, 15-20 AUG, 22:05

theSpace @ Surgeons Hall - Theatre 3, 22-27 AUG, 12:45

In this cabaret exploring body standards in the entertainment industry, Abby Rose Morris details her experiences as a plus-size performer while dismantling the ever-present cultural stereotypes about fat people through jokes, media analysis and musical theatre favourites. You'll laugh! You'll cry! You'll sing along! You'll go on angry feminist tirades! Based on the popular podcast, this piece explores an issue of representation that is often ignored by the artistic community but is deeply felt by those who (literally) don't fit into the ideal.



MOTHERLOAD!

Summerhall - Red Lecture Theatre, 3-14 AUG, 19:30

A dark comedy for the end of days. Meet Mother Nature, the sexiest woman alive turned dumpster fire. She's doing a TED talk, a last chance bid to save her favourite creation. As the tech starts to glitch and her body gyrates with the fever of a morally confused echo chamber, she regurgitates our cultural trash into a lipsync of epic proportions. A hilarious and provocative clown show asking the question on every parent's mind... should we? Winner: Pulse Suitcase Prize and the Brighton Fringe International Touring Award. Supported by Stobbs New Ideas Fund and Arts Council England.



NASTY: "BIG" GIRLS BEING GROSS, MEAN AND SEXY

theSpaceTriplex - Studio, 22-27 AUG, 20:15

Remember that time you pooped yourself in public? Or when you swore at your mum for asking you to tidy your pigsty of a room? Maybe you're still blushing over the time someone pointed out your cellulite when you were getting changed for PE in year 11. The Nasty Girls are here to tell you about their most shameful moments in full, uncensored detail. This autobiographical, confessional piece of theatre explores the hidden side of what it means to be a woman. Surprise! We're just people. And people are pretty gross.



NOTFLIX: BINGE

Gilded Balloon Patter Hoose - Big Yin, 3-28 AUG, 17:00

The Spice Girls of improv return for a fifth triumphant year in their five-star, sell-out, totally improvised musical comedy. Inspired by audience suggestions, the all-female cast improvise the musical version of your favourite films, creating movies with 100% more singing, 99% more women and a full live band. Broadway World Best Comedy nominee. As seen on Sky TV, STV and BBC 5 Live. 'Notflix might very well be the best show you see this year, the year after that and hopefully forever' ***** (BroadwayBaby.com). 'A little piece of theatrical genius' ***** (NorthWestEnd.com).



NYMPHO

ZOO Playground - Playground 3, 5-9, 11-13 AUG, 14:40

'He's seen my Foo Foo. He's seen my cave of wonders. The hidden but not-so-lost city of Atlantis. I might need to get another therapist.' Nympho is trapped in the nostalgia of the 00s, afraid to confront her sexual past and the havoc it's unleashing on her life. Sex therapy, dildos and a booty call named Jake can't save her now. Martha May Markham's debut play unleashes itself on the Fringe this summer. Hold onto your pants, it's gonna be a bumpy ride.



OCD ME

Hill Street Theatre - Dunedin Theatre, 5-15, 17-28 AUG, 15:10

Sure, we all get a bit stressed sometimes. We all feel a bit isolated, ashamed and terrified; convinced that the most minute action may somehow have catastrophic effects on our loved ones... or is that just me? Sarah was diagnosed with OCD a decade ago. She wants to tell you her story and let you know that there's much more to it than the stereotypes we see on TV, like obsessive hand-washing (although in her case, that's definitely part of it). A one-woman comedy about what it's like living with OCD. Written and directed by Aisling Smith.



THE OXFORD IMPS

Gilded Balloon Patter Hoose - Nip, 3-16, 18-28 AUG, 13:40

Oxford's wittiest minds return with their spectacular smorgasbord of devastatingly funny improvised comedy! Attacking the stage with made-up-on-the-spot games, stories and songs, culminating in an improvised mini-play, which can vary from Shakespeare to Broadway-style musicals. Family-friendly imp-tastic hilarity from Oxford's premiere troupe, making for a show packed full of quick wit and boundless energy. Alumn-Imps include: Sophie Duker, Rachel Parris and Chris Turner.



PALIMPEST

Gilded Balloon Teviot - Balcony, 6-14, 16-21, 23-28 AUG, 11:40

Jess meets Jim. He thinks she's amazing; she thinks he's an idiot. Blah blah blah, here we go again. But what happens when a rom-com is entirely derailed and a play becomes possibly too meta for its own good? Will they return to the script? Are they getting enough vitamin C? Can the tech enjoy a nice cold pint? Some/all/none of these questions will/may/won't be answered over the course of a very silly show about free will, destiny and identity. From writer/actor Alex Lacey 'plenty of zany fun' (FringeGuru.com), with Rob Kemp 'Kemp is incredible' ***** (TheLatest.co.uk).



PASH

Gilded Balloon Patter Hoose - Snug, 3-28 AUG, 21:40

Sweet sixteen would've been alright. Twenty-four and never been kissed is just sad. Max is turning twenty-five in one week, and she's desperate to have her first kiss with someone (anyone) before she hits her quarter-life crisis. She's no longer waiting to pash Romeo, Rapunzel, or Rolf. It might end up being Davo from the local, but that's better than nothing, right? PASH is about making out with the back of your hand, studying the Top Ten Movie Kisses, and navigating the hellish underground of your early twenties when you feel just a bit... behind.



PAULINE

Pleasance Courtyard - Bunker Two, 3-14, 16-29 AUG, 12:20

A new comedy drama about finding your nan's suicide note by award-winning writer and performer Sophie Bentinck. Pauline is the brutally honest and joyfully hilarious story of three generations of women in one family - and of the writer who went digging in the secrets file in order to bring them all on stage. 'Captivating' (Phoebe Waller-Bridge). 'Storytelling at its finest' **** (AYoungerTheatre.com). Winner - Breakthrough Memoir 2022. Runner Up - Screenshot 2020. Directed by Fred Wienand (Twelfth Night, Yvonne Arnaud Theatre) and presented together with producer Emma Blackman (Bobby & Amy, Fringe First Award 2019).



PEOPLE ARE CATS, PEOPLE ARE DOGS

theSpace @ Symposium Hall - Annexe, 5-6, 8-13 AUG, 11:30

Which are you? Five darkly comic, Covid-era monologues can help you find out... Dark satire runs through these five new linked female monologues from Bristol writer Mark Breckon. From dystopian, Covid-haunted nightmares of dogs, cats and giant beetles to the excruciating cringes that sometimes come from working in theatre. Five female talking heads create a snappy, tightly woven, and occasionally hilarious rollercoaster. A show for everyone who loves theatre and wants to get back into a live audience and reflect on our collective year and a bit from hell.



PLAYING GOD

Greenside @ Riddles Court - Clover Studio, 5-13, 15-20, 22-27 AUG, 15:00

Meg lives a promiscuous, carefree life of hedonism, with little responsibility. Using substances and sex to self-medicate whilst living in a state of denial. Follow Meg as she discusses the problems of the world (she has all the answers) through an inebriated high and the all-encompassing crash. When the news of her mother's death hits, it forces Meg to examine her past to where she is, or isn't, today.



POLLY PECULIAR

Greenside @ Nicolson Square - Lime Studio, 7, 10, 13 AUG, 12:40, 16:10, 18:30

There's something peculiar about Polly. She's one spoonful short of a tea party with her staccato speaking, frantic physicality and tiny tea guests. But is trouble brewing in the teapot? Rose Wilson is a West Midlands and North West-based theatre-maker, director and writer who specializes in quirky, queer, and captivating performances exploring the lives of fascinating characters. Part of a showcase of work by graduates of the University of Worcester's Integrated Masters in Touring Theatre, which gives students the opportunity to develop the skills and experience to create and tour their own work.



POSEY MEHTA: I AM NOT A GORILLA

Underbelly, Bristo Square - Jersey, 3-14, 16-29 AUG, 22:00

After five years of living her best gorilla life, it's finally time for her to leave her cage and re-enter the human world. But before that, she's going on a date. This surreal, clowny character comedy about being othered and lonely marks the comedy debut of Posey Mehta, a Cambridge and Gaulier-trained big fat idiot whose career high remains making out with Emma Corrin in a play. 'Surprisingly inventive and blackly funny' (Scotsman). 'The gem of the collection' ***** (Varsity). 'Ceaselessly hilarious' ***** (TCS).



REMEDY FOR MEMORY

Dance Base - Studio 1, 23-28 AUG, 16:10

Beautiful people.... Have you been seeking, dreaming? Of something more, something less, something beyond? Well, you've come to the right place. Remedy for Memory is a divine feminine fantasy, a dance theatre experience that transcends the boundaries of our reality. Broadcast live from the abstracted realms of a TV talk show, tune in as four women explore healing, cosmic wanderings, corporate wellbeing, discovery and desire. Surprising, enchanting, comedic and honest, we'll take you through the highs and the lows. Join us in the search for the remedy.



THE RICHARD OSMAN FAN CLUB

Paradise in The Vault - The Vault, 6-13, 15-20, 22-28 AUG, 17:15

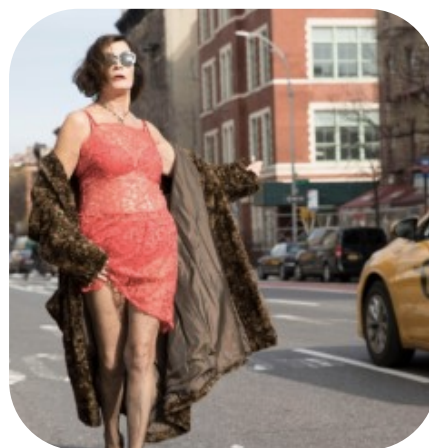
The Richard Osman Fan Club is a farcical comedy based around a park bench, where we find an elderly lady and Richard Osman fan Greta, supposedly writing a novel, joined by young jogger and Granny killer Adam who ends up making various futile attempts to end Greta's life.



RUCKUS

Summerhall - Cairns Lecture Theatre, 3-14, 16-21, 23-28 AUG, 15:30

In this one-woman thriller, we see how a loving relationship can sometimes be anything but. Ruckus explores coercive control, an issue not widely recognised... and yet its side effects kill up to three women every week in the UK. Each moment of the play has been inspired by real women and real stories. Through a visceral sound design, Ruckus will send a shiver down your spine and make you more conscious of the suppression caused by coercive control. Presented by the award-winning Wildcard.



RUNAWAY PRINCESS: A HOPEFUL TALE OF HEROIN, HOOKING AND HAPPINESS

Greenside @ Infirmary Street - Mint Studio, 5-13, 15-20, 22-27 AUG, 14:55

Once upon a time, there was a Princess born to a King and Queen who were banished from the island of Ériu and forced to flee to America in a coffin ship. Former New York City call girl Mary Goggin shares the true, award-winning story of her Irish Catholic trauma, alcoholism, drug addiction and prostitution. The multitude of characters she encounters in her journey from utter darkness to absolute joy, spring to life in this one-woman tour de force. Performed with dark humour, unflinching honesty and pathos.



SANDCASTLES

Assembly Rooms - Front Room, 4-15, 17-27 AUG, 12:50

Sandcastles by Steve McMahon moves back and forth in time and memory to depict the tumultuous lifelong friendship of millennials Hannah and Beth. Beth is moving to New York. Hannah should be happy for her. When Beth goes missing Hannah can't reconcile how she reacted with the fact that Beth might be gone. Sandcastles is an exploration of grief, millennial angst, friendship and growing up; a bold piece of storytelling that will stay with you for a long time. Assembly ART Award-winning piece from Fringe favourites Brite Theater (Deliverance, (Can This Be) Home, Richard III (A One-Person Show)).



SECOND SUMMER OF LOVE

Pleasance Courtyard - The Attic, 3-29 AUG, 15:20

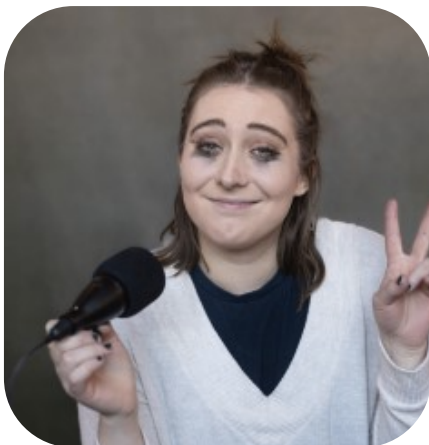
Carol Tambor Award winners Pants on Fire present one woman's first-hand nostalgia trip through the early 90s UK rave scene. Original raver Louise wonders how she went from ecstasy-taking, anti-establishment idealist, to respectable, disillusioned school-gate yummy mummy. A solo story of first love, teenage kicks, mother-daughter bonds, raising palms to the skies in fields and the ups and downs of recreational drug-taking. 'Pants on Fire are capable of the purest theatre' (Metro). 'A shining example of what theatre is' (BritishTheatreGuide.info). 'Happisburgh is mesmerising' (TheSpyInTheStalls.com).



THE SINGLE LADY

theSpace on North Bridge - Perth Theatre, 5-13 AUG, 14:05

As the daughter of Anne Boleyn, Elizabeth has witnessed, first hand, the consequences of when love goes wrong. But when the Queen falls into an unfortunate love triangle with her courtier and favourite Robert Dudley and cousin and confidante Lettice Knollys, she must reckon with the forces of history in an attempt to save her throne. Drake and Brewer's new musical offers a unique angle into the sacrifice and personal cost it takes to be a female leader in a man's world. Perhaps the Virgin Queen isn't all she seems in the history books...



THE SIX STAGES OF A BREAK-UP

theSpace on North Bridge - Fife Theatre, 22-27 AUG, 14:35

A world comedic debut, one-woman show written by and starring Anaïs Gralpois. The Six Stages of a Break-Up: follow Charlotte as she processes her break-up with Jamie by starting a podcast. Directed by Annie Kefalas who presents a comedic way to endure one of the worst heartbreaks you can experience... and there's a twist at the end.



SHATTERED

C ARTS | C venues | C digital - portal, watch onDemand (available from 25 July)

C ARTS | C venues | C place - studio, 25-28 AUG, 16:10

In third grade, Diana kicked her crush in the crotch and her love life didn't improve from there. What starts as an innocent look into her relationship past, turns into a comedic and heartbreakingly raw exploration of dating, dysfunction and sexual devastation told through the voices of 35 characters. Using comedy to take us through tragedy, Shattered ultimately tells of one individual picking up the broken pieces of herself and learning to live again.



SHE WOLF

Assembly Roxy - Downstairs, 3-14, 16-21, 23-28 AUG, 13:50

Winner of the 2022 Assembly ART Award and the Alpine Fellowship Theatre Prize. A fierce, ferocious monologue about getting f*cked over and fighting your way back. Spoken by a woman hiding out at the zoo, She Wolf tears open questions of gender and class in a capitalist world. What does it take to succeed when only the fittest survive? As Maggie's life falls apart, becoming animal is only human. 'A powerhouse on stage, Cowan's conviction in her performance is as strong as her writing' (TheReviewsHub.com).



SHEWOLVES

Pleasance Courtyard - Baby Grand, 3-7, 9-14, 16-21, 23-29 AUG, 12:45

Ever thought you should run the world, even though you're 'only fourteen and a girl?' Priya and Lou have. And they're ready to bite back against any adult who doubts them. Armed with a backpack full of Pop Tarts and a hunger to tackle climate change, they embark on a covert expedition into the wild. Somewhere between Booksmart, Little Miss Sunshine and Thelma and Louise, SHEWOLVES is an uplifting, funny and empowering play about forging friendships when you're a bit weird, the power of hope and the underestimated smartness of teens.



SH!TSHOW

Greenside @ Riddles Court - Thistle Theatre, 5-6, 8-13, 15-20, 22-27 AUG, 22:05, 23:15

Are you ready to be dumped on? Prepare to be caught with your pants down as six all-too-relatable characters celebrate their triumphs, lament their griefs and reveal their secrets in the most intimate and familiar of settings. From pregnancy scares and artistic revelations to Tinder date anxiety, what is it about that no man's land between the flush and the broken hand dryers that sends us spiralling? Following a sold-out run at the Northern Fringe Festival in Australia, this indie-rock comedy confessional will have you pissing yourself.



S.O.E.

Assembly Rooms - Front Room, 19-27 AUG, 11:30

The WW2 Special Operations Executive is tasked with espionage, sabotage and reconnaissance. As a wireless operator, life expectancy is six weeks. Madeleine is the codename for one such agent. Flown by moonlight to occupied France, her job is to keep her circuit connected with London. Gestapo Officer Josef Kieffer is on her trail and the net is closing. Now the war is over, Vera Atkins is trying to uncover the truth. Of all the 12 cases of missing women agents, one haunts her the most - Madeleine - the Indian princess, Noor Inayat Khan.



SOUND CISTEM

Pleasance Dome - 10Dome, 5-13, 23-29 AUG, 13:35

Two transgender performers say 'up yours!' to the gender binary and invite you to their radical dance party! Under disco lights, over pulsing music, a queer celebration takes place. Set in nightclubs, this exuberant verbatim show examines the cisgender gaze on the transgender body. Featuring recorded interviews from trans and non-binary people, a self-love manifesto is made through riotous, glittering disco. This duo keep moving to reject conformity and shame, despite the current transgender debate. See the beauty in these bodies, and your own. 'Revealing and emotional' **** (Guardian). Offies Winner 2021.



STANDING OVARIATION: THE REBIRTH

OmniCentre - Stage 3, 18-22, 24-28 AUG, 20:50

Fast, fresh and funny. **** Join MC Natalie Durkin (West End New Act of the Year Finalist) as she hosts a line-up of the best up and coming Women/Non-Binary Artists from around the world. Expect Stand Up, Music, Theatre and More.



STEFANIA LICARI: MEDICO

Just the Tonic Nucleus - Just the Sub-Atomic Room, 22-27 AUG, 14:35

Real-life doctor and award-winning comedian Stefania Licari brings her alter ego to the stage in Medico - a hysterical and moving exploration of the medical world, immigration and what it means to become British. Medico marries physical gags, ribald humour and true stories from the medical frontline with Stefania's own experience as an Italian doctor in the UK. You may laugh or cry, but one thing is guaranteed: you will never look at doctors in the same way again. Co-devised and directed by Chris Head.



STICKY DOOR

Pleasance Dome - AceDome, 3-14, 16-28 AUG, 16:00

The 2014 plan was a simple one, I would Casanova myself around our nation's capital looking for consenting heterosexual adult males. One no-frills lover-man for every month. I was the original calendar girl. Helen Mirren plays me in the film. A storytelling show with songs about sex, stigma and cystitis, by someone who has experienced all three. From the multi award-winning team that brought you the 'exquisite' (List) Sexy Lamp, and Bicycles and Fish. 'Arnstein is an incredible performer who seems primed for greatness' (Guardian). 'Plays as good as this are rare' ***** (TheReviewsHub.com).



STOKES AND SUMMERS: CAREERING

Gilded Balloon Teviot - Turret, 3-14, 16-29 AUG, 15:00

In the immortal words of Britney Spears: 'You want a Lamborghini? Sippin' martinis? Look hot in a bikini? You better work, bitch.' Stokes and Summers don't necessarily want Lamborghinis, they just want to pay rent.* Evening Standard TikTok Star and Funny Women Award nominees, Stokes and Summers, present a new show about the quirks and perks of the modern workplace. 'Two highly talented actor-comedians that have potential to take the world of comedy theatre by storm!' (FringeReview.co.uk on A Really Really Big Modern Telly). *They'd also like to sip martinis, but that's beside the point.



SUGAR

theSpace @ Surgeons Hall - Theatre 3, 5-13, 15-20, 22-29 AUG, 19:05

One girl. Five ages. Many morally ambiguous choices. 2021's online smash hit returns to Fringe reworked and for the first time, live! What critics called 'Witty, well observed and at times devastating; a must see!', Sugar follows Mae as she grows up an ambitious young woman in a world ready to see her fail. Sugar is a rollercoaster of laughs and poignancy, a piece that will leave the audience thinking. Everyone needs a serving size of Sugar to sweeten their Fringe.



SUGAR?

Greenside @ Nicolson Square - Fern Studio, 8-13, 15-20 AUG, 18:40

Sugar? is a brand new show exploring utterly hilarious, painfully relatable and beautifully told real life stories of homelessness through a blend of verbatim theatre, physical storytelling and live and recorded sound. Put yourself in someone else's steel, toe-capped boots and follow two journeys in parallel: one, a discovery of the people that live around us and the stories they have to tell, the other, the recognition that the world is bigger than ourselves. Through silent discos at sponsored sleep-outs, panic buttons in interview rooms and spontaneous rap battles, Sugar? was born.



SURFING THE HOLYLAND

Underbelly, Bristo Square - The Dairy Room, 3-14, 16-29 AUG, 14:55

'Oh, we have sharks here... but they're not in the water.' When a wide-eyed American moves to Tel Aviv, how does she navigate the wild waters of the Middle East? She learns to surf! With colourful characters, comedy songs and one woman's search for chutzpah, this classic fish-out-of-water tale blends big-hearted comedy, electrifying ukulele riffs and fearless physicality. A fast-paced solo show, exploring female empowerment, written and performed by Erin Hunter, one half of the award-winning comedy duo, Hunt the Vigan. 'A truly riveting performance...' (Audience review, Brighton Fringe). 'Creative and funny and brave.' (Keshet TV).



SWALLOWED

Gilded Balloon Patter Hoose - Coorie, 3-14, 16-28 AUG, 13:00

A young couple are separated by an outbreak they cannot speak of. Desire to connect meets fear of touch. Phone sex. Air kisses. Drunken voicemails. What if this is all there is? Frizz Theatre are an emerging Scottish theatre company, producing new writing with a refreshing take. Written and directed by Frances Colin and performed by Lori Stott and Sam James Smith, Swallowed is a new play presenting an intimate snapshot into the lives of a young couple as they navigate their relationship within a distorted reality.



SWEET FA

Tynecastle Park, 3-11, 19-23 AUG, 13:00, 19:45

1916. Women's football is fast becoming the most popular game in the land. One Edinburgh factory team fights to play the beautiful game. A play with songs exploring the remarkable popularity of women's football in the early 20th century. Performed on a specially built stage in the Main Stand at Tynecastle Park. 'The songs are grand, the music heart-warming, and the team spirit of the company a joy...' (Scotsman). 'The cast have the co-ordination and sparkle of Premier League Champions' (Guardian). 'The creators have the perfect venue for their musical lesson in footballing history' (Financial Times).



TAKE IT AWAY, CHERYL

Greenside @ Infirmary Street - Mint Studio, 5-13 AUG, 17:20

Carnival kissing booth: sometime, someplace. Cheryl is equipped to deal with anything... and good thing, since folks have stopped coming for kisses and started coming to tell her about some pretty heavy problems. Journey through this flirtatious, attention-deficit, tragicomic trip and discover the lengths one woman will go to to make you feel better. Developed at NYU Tisch School of the Arts under mentorship of Obie Award winner Heather Christian. Audiences rave: 'Warner is a masterful performer, creator and storyteller not to be missed' and 'Genuinely funny and absurd, precisely because of its truth'.



TALES OF VOMIT, TRASH AND BROKEN GLASS

theSpace on the Mile - Space 3, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27 AUG, 15:05

After an ecological disaster unleashes a neurotoxin into the air, two people are thrust into a series of emotionally-charged vignettes, where they are forced to confront both the nature of their relationships and their own paranoid monkey brains. As waste accumulates, themes are recycled and the rules of this hyper-realistic world grow increasingly absurd, the humans, monsters and cyborgs of this play attempt to chart a path forward. Ultimately, Tales explores the parallel between destructive relationships and environmental destruction, asking the question: in a world full of toxicity, how do we heal?



THIS MOMENT IN AMERICA

Underbelly, Cowgate - Iron Belly, 4-14, 16-28 AUG, 12:40

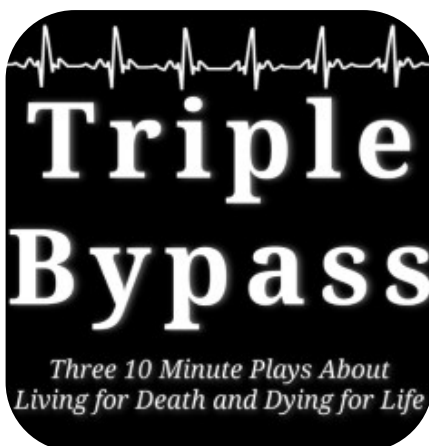
This Moment in America: America beyond the news. There's little room for nuance in tweets or slogans. Seeking a deeper conversation, this live audio drama features ever-changing vignettes drawn from real stories across the country, interwoven with transcripts of current events. Travelling America, gathering American stories, this show has been developed through workshops in writing and performance to promote community and personal healing, asking, 'what unites us, in these United States?'



TRANSHUMANCE

Laughing Horse @ The Counting House - The Lounge, 4-16 AUG, 11:45

Winner of Best Weekly Award for Circus and Physical Theatre at Adelaide Fringe in 2020. Transhulance takes a surreal journey across the landscape of gender. Award-winning clown Ania Upstill playfully explores what it means to be a trans human. 'A work of joy and playfulness - whimsical, witty and replete with wonder' (TheatreView.org.nz). 'Manages to be both a deeply personal story of self-identification and a universal experience of gender paradigms' (TheatreScenes.co.nz). Thinkery and Verse's four-star show, *Bride of the Gulf* (2019), was called an 'immersive tapestry of a fascinating place' (Scotsman).



TRIPLE BYPASS: THREE TEN MINUTE PLAYS ABOUT LIVING FOR DEATH AND DYING FOR LIFE

theSpace on the Mile - Space 1, 5-13, 15-20, 22-27 AUG, 16:00

Originally written for online festivals in 2021 and now recreated by an all-Scottish cast and crew for live performance, American writer/producer Deena MP Ronayne's award-winning trilogy takes audiences on a wide-ranging emotional journey - ranging from fear and hate (*Seeking Dignity*) to empathy and compassion (*Close To Black*) and delight and hilarity (*Tango-ed Web*). Winner of Best Producer and Spirit of Fringe / Never in a Box awards at Front Row Fringe 2021 and Most Viewed Show at Elgin Virtual Mini Winter Fringe.



TRUDY CARMICHAEL PRESENTS: THE IMPROVISED ONE-WOMAN SHOW!

theSpace @ Surgeons Hall - Haldane Theatre, 5-13, 15-27 AUG, 16:20

Forget your troubles and let Las Vegas lounge legend Trudy Carmichael (along with her astounding accompanist) entertain you in her daring one-of-a-kind immersive musical event! Every show features original songs, starry-eyed anecdotes, and stratospheric high notes - all improvised on the spot based on your suggestions. Taking full advantage of the unpredictability of the art of musical improv, Trudy tailors her performance to the whims of each individual audience. No two shows are the same, making for an unforgettable singular sensation! 'The best show of the festival' (Impro En Seine, 2019).



TWA

Summerhall - TechCube 0, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 24, 26, 28 AUG, 19:20

A twisted, memoiristic fairytale, blending theatrical storytelling, with Flore Gardner's animated and live (on-stage) drawings. A modern tale interwoven with the Greek myth of Philomela, tells of silenced women finding resistance through the creative act. Theatre and visual art combine to explore duality, identity and other ways of saying things that cannot be said. 'Excellent served by a storytelling skill and stagecraft... striking composition... visual impact that truly sets it apart' **** (AllEdinburghTheatre.com). '...A testimony to the creativity, strength and resilience of every woman' (Skinny). Supported by: The Meadows Award; National Theatre of Scotland; Queen Margaret University Edinburgh.



TWO FINGERS UP

Summerhall - Cairns Lecture Theatre, 3-14, 16-21, 23-28 AUG, 18:30

Two Fingers Up. Remember when your religion teacher taught you about ridin'? And the school nurse told you to shave your pits? Or here, discovering your clit 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.



WHEN WE WERE NORMAL

theSpaceTriplex - Studio, 15-20, 22-27 AUG, 10:55, 11:00

A brilliant piece of new writing that follows 17-year-old Max's awakening to her own voice and sexuality. When We Were Normal welcomes the complexity and joy of modern love, family and friendships.



YOUR AUNT FANNY: MUFF SAID

Assembly Rooms - Front Room, 4-14, 17-27 AUG, 21:05

Your Aunt Fanny are an all-womxn theatre company from the North East of England. Muff Said is their latest offering, a comedy sketch show that vividly captures a night out on the town with your wildest, oldest, filthiest friend. We will pull your leg then pat you on the back just like any trusty friendship group would. Your Aunt Fanny celebrate all things fabulous, ridiculous and thoroughly inappropriate using their satirical, uniquely clever voice.



ZIP IT

theSpace @ Niddry St - Upper Theatre (Thrust), 22-27 AUG, 14:45

How many voices must be taken before we are heard? Join the studio audience of this comedic and dystopian gameshow and follow the friendship of two young women and their experience of womanhood, sexual harassment and domestic violence. Created with an all-female cast and creative team, comprised of members of the National Youth Theatre of Great Britain. Follow the journey of a woman - brave, broken and not alone. A moving insight into many women's reality.

YOUR VOICE MATTERS

#femifringe