

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL FRINGE 2004
James Seabright for Festival Highlights presents

LOADED by Scott Capurro

EUROPEAN PREMIERE FOR KILLER CRUSH DRAMA

In this hilarious foray into misshapen lives and misguided love, Perrier-winning comedian and playwright **Scott Capurro** ponders the age-old question of why we fall for the wrong people.

Loaded is a new play about Scott's correspondence with Erik Menendez, who, together with his brother Lyle, was given a life sentence after brutally murdering their wealthy parents in Beverly Hills. While watching the trial on television, Scott developed a strange attraction toward the swarthy Erik, and felt compelled to contact the defendant in prison. Although Scott wrote sympathetically that *'we on the outside understand your pain'*, his motives were far from selfless...

He wasn't a common criminal, my boy. Arrogant, sure, but also fragile, like a flower. Erik wrote poetry. Screenplays too, about murdering one's parents. Maybe not the brightest of subject matter, considering his circumstances, but dumb is sexy, as we all know.

With the encouragement of Simon, an emotionally detached, yet strangely enticing co-worker, Scott continued his prison missives. He and his idol maintained contact throughout the trial. Soon, Scott's relationships with insular, isolated Erik, disconnected Simon, and Scott's distant father, began to blur. The result is **Loaded** - a unique script of deadly wit, which was first seen earlier this year in a sell-out run at San Francisco's ODC Theatre. It is performed in this European premiere by Capurro and **James Holmes** under the direction of **Owen Lewis**.

San Franciscan author/actor/comedian **Scott Capurro** won both the Perrier Best Newcomer and the Spirit of the Fringe Award for his 1994 show *Risk-Gay*, and was subsequently nominated for the Perrier for *Scott Capurro's Love and Affection Tour* a year later. Capurro has become a frequent performer in Edinburgh. In addition to numerous comedy club, TV and radio appearances, Capurro has also featured in films, including *Mrs Doubtfire* and *Star Wars: Episode 1*.

James Holmes has worked extensively in both the theatre and comedy worlds. James appeared at the Edinburgh Festival in 1993 and 1994 in the one man comedy show *Anorak of Fire: The Life and Times of Gus Gascoigne the Trainspotter*, which was a runaway success and led to a West End run and national tour. 1998 and 2002 saw James back in Edinburgh writing and performing his own solo comedies. His TV credits include *The Office*, *Spooks*, *Rhona* and *Comedy Nation*.

Owen Lewis is a well-established young director who has developed a strong reputation both in Edinburgh and across the UK for his work with new writing. At the last two Edinburgh festivals he directed Adam Bock's plays *Swimming In The Shallows* and *The Typographer's Dream*. Owen has also directed for the Bush Theatre (*Got To Be Happy*) and Soho Theatre (*How To Lose Friends And Alienate People*) as well as *Icons* and *Ever After* at the Stephen Joseph Theatre.

LISTINGS

LOADED

Written by Scott Capurro, Directed by Owen Lewis

Featuring Scott Capurro & James Holmes

At Pleasance Cavern (Venue 33) 4-30 August 2004 (except Tuesdays 10 & 17) **at 4.30pm** (1h10m)

Tickets £5-£9.50 Box Office: 0131 556 6550

For further information and interview requests, please contact **Guido Goetz**
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