

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL FRINGE 2004

James Seabright for Festival Highlights and The Drill Hall in association with New Greenham Arts Newbury presents

NINE DAYS CRAZY by CHRIS GOODE

TWO-TIME FRINGE FIRST WINNER RETURNS
IN A ROMANTIC COMEDY... WITH BELLS ON

Nine Days Crazy is the new show written and performed by Chris Goode, whose debut solo Edinburgh production *Kiss Of Life* won a Fringe First and an off-West End transfer.

*Just occasionally you come across a show on the fringe that you know is the real thing...
It expanded my mind and broke my heart into pieces.* Lyn Gardner (The Guardian) on *Kiss of Life*

This new show is inspired by Will Kemp's *Nine Daies Wonder*. By turns uproariously funny and bitingly sad, it tells the story of disaffected actor Chris, who clashes with the morose director of his latest project and walks out, claiming to be finished with theatre. Drowning his sorrows later with friends, he drunkenly accepts the challenge to recreate Kemp's journey.

The original journey took place at the turn of the seventeenth century, when Kemp was England's best-loved comic actor and morris-dancer. He then fell out bitterly with his colleague and friend William Shakespeare, sold his shares in the Globe and walked out of Shakespeare's company. As a sort of publicity stunt to divert attention from the opening of *Hamlet*, Kemp undertook to dance from London to Norwich over nine (non-consecutive) days.

Under the direction of Liam Jarvis and Ria Parry, **Nine Days Crazy** translates the details of *Nine Daies Wonder* into a contemporary setting, while retaining the incongruous idiom and costume of the morris. A very British road movie for the stage, it charts one man's journey from confusion into wisdom, via Thetford.

Chris Goode writes and performs with his usual brilliance Johann Hari (The Independent) on *Kiss Of Life*

2004 will be **Chris Goode's** eighth festival as a writer, director and/or performer. In 2001 he was awarded a Fringe First for *Neutrino*, his collaboration with Unlimited Theatre; and in 2002 he won another for his solo show *Kiss of Life*, which had an acclaimed run at the Drill Hall in autumn 2003. Last year saw his first piece at the Traverse: *Napoleon in Exile*, a devised show made with members of the resident company at Camden People's Theatre, where Chris is artistic director. Other recent work includes: for Unlimited Theatre: *Could It Be Magic?* (Sheffield Crucible); for the cpt company: *Past the Line*, *Between the Land*; for signal to noise: *The Big Room*, *his horses*; and *Weepie*.

Liam Jarvis is co-founder of Theatre Trash, a company dedicated to the staging of new writing, devising and contemporary live and digital performance. His directing credits include *Protect Me From What I Want* (Young Vic Studio, 2004), *Salt Meets Wound* (Hampstead Theatre, 2004), *Just* (also writer, at Pleasance, London), *Open mind* (Pleasance Edinburgh 2003) and *Battery Operated Birds* (Pleasance Edinburgh 2002). Liam has recently completed the Royal Court Young Writers Course and is currently participating in directing workshops with The Young Vic.

Ria Parry is currently assistant directing a production of *The Master and Margarita* (Lyric Hammersmith). She is also producing *Short Nyts*, a season of new work in the Lyric Studio. For the NYT Outreach Programme she has assistant directed *Deception.Com* and co-directed *Spirit Village*. Ria is co-Artistic Director of Theatre Trash, for which she has co-directed *Open Mind* and *Battery Operated Birds*, both at the Edinburgh fringe. Ria had her first play *My London* performed at Diorama Arts Theatre earlier this year.

he writes like a dream, in a deceptively simple but in fact deeply poetic style Joyce Macmillan (The Scotsman)

LISTINGS

NINE DAYS CRAZY

Written and performed by Chris Goode

Directed by Ria Parry & Liam Jarvis

Lighting by Katharine Williams

At Pleasance Queen Dome (Venue 23) 4 - 29 August 2004 (except Tuesdays 10, 17) at 7pm (1h30m)

Tickets £5 - £9.50

Box Office: 0131 556 6550

A Drill Hall Commission (London premiere at The Drill Hall in November 2004)

For further information and interview requests, please contact Guido Goetz

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