



12 October 2018

Chrysalis celebrates the fearless new works of young European theatre makers

Chrysalis Festival continues to showcase the boldest and best youth theatre talent with its fourth edition, at the Traverse Theatre in Edinburgh from 15-17 November 2018. For three days, the theatre will become a centre for all audiences to see what matters most to young European theatre-makers and what the future may hold for young people in the current and somewhat unknown Brexit climate.

Audiences will have their pick of brand new theatre work with a performance programme featuring World, UK & Scottish premieres and events including panel discussions and workshops. The festival is delighted to welcome artists from London and Germany, giving them a chance to experience what Scotland has to offer from a theatre perspective, and to hear the voices of their Scottish counterparts, beginning exciting cross-border collaborations. In turn, Chrysalis grants audiences of all ages at home, with a one-time opportunity to access the thought-provoking and groundbreaking works of the visiting theatre companies.

Performance highlights include Glasgow's Platform Young Company and their production 'Shaking the Habitual', an experimental physical performance which questions how we conform to the world around us and asks if we are brave enough to break away from it all.

Edinburgh based theatre artist, Ink Asher Hemp, presents their one person show '147 Hz Can't Pass', a celebration and introduction to the trans non-binary experience. The show highlights that whilst some communities choose to turn away, others will offer a hand.

The Scottish premiere of 'Noise' by London's Camden Youth Theatre merges a theatre and gig experience into one. Through storytelling and outstanding musical performances, the production pulls you into a world inside their headphones and

explains why young people sometimes escape their loud, everyday lives by connecting through music, in all its forms.

Then Junges Ensemble Marabu, from Bonn in Germany will shake things up with 'There is a Globe Stuck in My Throat'. This fun and vibrant show explores large global topics, including unjust global privilege, inequality and the frustration of feeling unable to make real change happen. This brave performance is a perfect representation of the creative and political work being made by young people across the festival.

A core part of the Chrysalis festival is supporting Scottish youth theatres to develop ambitious new work and 2018 sees the return of the scratch 'Emergence' performances. This year's companies include Little Red Ensemble with a new work that explores the work of the Greek poet, Sappho, as well as Macrobert Young Company piece, 'Mirror', a modern-day rework of Narcissus, probing the Instagram fame in today's world through shadow puppetry, visual and multisensory theatre. 'Lad[ies]' by RJ Morrison examines how feminist theatre practices evolve in a youth theatre setting, and the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and Ayr Gaiety Young Company will join together to present their intergenerational participatory piece 'Young Blood'.

Alongside the festival audiences and industry can take part in several workshops and events. 'In the Studio' will share the practice of the talented companies selected for the festival whilst networking events like 'Meet the Programmers' and 'Meet the Directors' will offer advice from curators and professionals in the field. Chrysalis will also host a Youth Panel on the ways young people are now using theatre to inspire positive political change.

This year, ticket prices for Chrysalis have been reduced to make the festival more accessible than ever. Rabbits Tours will also provide free travel to youth theatre companies across Scotland, bringing costs down once again, with match funding from Arts & Business Scotland through the Culture & Business Fund Scotland providing touring support for Scottish young companies and contributing to the costs of the festival workshop programme.

Tickets and festival ticket packages are available via the Traverse Theatre Box Office at www.traverse.co.uk or 0131 228 1404.

Kenny McGlashan, Chief Executive Officer of Youth Theatre Arts Scotland, said:

"The Chrysalis festival continues to highlight the quality and ambition of contemporary young theatre-makers across Scotland and Europe. We are proud that Scotland

continues to reach out and celebrate the commitment and creativity of young talent tackling large social and political questions. We hope audiences both new and old will join us to be moved, challenged, and inspired by their unique voice."

ENDS.

NOTES TO EDITORS

CHRYSALIS

Chrysalis is an international platform for ambitious performances by young theatre makers. Over three days you can join us at the Traverse Theatre in Edinburgh to celebrate bold and engaging work by young companies from across Scotland, as well as from London and Germany.

Thu 15 - Sat 17 November 2018. Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh. www.ytas.org.uk/chrysalis/

YOUTH THEATRE ARTS SCOTLAND

Youth Theatre Arts Scotland (YTAS) is the national development organisation and umbrella body for Scotland's youth theatre sector. www.ytas.org.uk

CHRYSALIS 2018 – THEATRE COMPANIES AND SHOWS

Junges Ensemble Marabu

[THERE IS A GLOBE STUCK IN MY THROAT](#) (*UK Premiere*)

THU 15 NOV (7PM), FRI 16 NOV (10AM),

SAT 17 NOV (8.15PM)

Complacent wealth versus abject poverty. Thousands of displaced refugees flee from war and hunger while Europe strives to put up borders. Junges Ensemble Marabu debates and illustrates these conflicts, gets wrapped up and searches for a way to escape them. Funny and sad, in equal measure, the production focuses on the inner turmoil experienced by carefree and fun-loving youth in a world that can no longer tolerate looking the other way.

Platform Young Company

[SHAKING THE HABITUAL](#) (*World Premiere*)

FRI 16 NOV (7PM) & SAT 17 NOV (6PM)

This ambitious, brand-new devised performance, uses movement, text and sound to interrogate and interpret our current political and social climate. A powerful and stylish production, from one of Scotland's most exciting young companies, Shaking The Habitual questions the ways in which we conform to the world around us. They challenge the audience to look at themselves, their habits and routines, and ask if they are brave enough to break away from it all?

Camden Youth Theatre

NOISE (*Scottish Premiere*)

THU 15 NOV (8.15PM), FRI 16 NOV (11.30AM),

SAT 17 NOV (7PM)

NOISE is a sonic explosion, merging theatre and gig. As the city gets louder there seems to be no getting away from the relentless noise nor the constant stream of information. Camden Youth Theatre pull us into a world inside their headphones, sharing their inner thoughts, rebellions and the playlists they use to escape from the everyday Noise.

Activising For Change

147Hz CAN'T PASS

FRI 16 NOV (8.15PM), SAT 17 NOV (3.30PM)

In life you face options. Some communities choose to turn away, others offer their hand. Using movement, poetry and projection 147Hz Can't Pass is a celebration of queer experience, an honest, unapologetic and relatable introduction to a trans non-binary experience in 2018. Emerging theatre maker, Ink Asher Hemp has developed this piece as part of Scottish Youth Theatre Making Space programme, which supports young artists to develop their own theatre projects.

EMERGENCE

SAT 17 NOV (2PM)

Join more young companies as they present brand new works in development on stage and around the venue for the first time:

Little Red Ensemble

Daniel Livingston & Macrobert Young Company

Rachel Jane Morrison

Ayr Gaiety & RCS Young Theatre Companies.

WORKSHOPS, TALKS & EVENTS

Full events programme online at <https://www.ytas.org.uk/chrysalis/>

Further information and images are available from James Coutts, Press Office on 07510 011

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