

# HIRAETH



***Hiraeth* by Buddug James Jones**  
**Underbelly Cowgate – Big Belly, 56 Cowgate, Edinburgh, EH1 1EG**  
**Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> July – Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2014 (except 13<sup>th</sup>), 4.50pm**

In the summer of 1989, a farmer's wife gave birth to a baby girl. In this moment Buddug James Jones became heir to her family's three hundred year old farming dynasty. Now as a modern young woman, Bud is desperate to change her destiny. Leaving five generations of tradition behind, she sets out alone into the big smoke encountering men, heartbreak, drama and hilarity along the way accompanied by live music and Welsh cakes.

*Hiraeth* is a Welsh word with no direct English translation; it is a mix of longing, yearning, nostalgia, wistfulness and desire – a pride you feel for your roots and a sadness for the loss of a way of life. The show rejoices in this universal emotion with which everyone can empathise even as Bud wrestles with the knowledge that her departure marks a time of change and sounds the death knell for the family farm. Through one woman's struggle to escape and let go, *Hiraeth* explores the decline of Welsh identity and tradition.

The show is a personal reflection on the wider contemporary issues currently affecting the UK countryside as younger generations leave behind rural life for more secure urban futures and feel the burden of the impact this has on the people and places they leave behind.

*Hiraeth* follows Bud's story, retelling her life with honesty, humour and integrity. *'It's a warm, comforting, cwtch of a show; where nostalgia, poignancy and laughter sit side by side'* (Gareth Lloyd Roberts, Artistic Director, Aberystwyth Arts Centre).

*Hiraeth* is a winner of the IdeasTap Underbelly Award 2014.

## Notes to Editors

Title	<i>Hiraeth</i> by Buddug James Jones
Performance Dates	Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> July – Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> August (except 13 <sup>th</sup> ), 4.50pm
Running time	1 hour
Location	Underbelly Cowgate – Big Belly, 56 Cowgate, Edinburgh, EH1 1EG
Box Office	Tickets are available from <a href="http://www.edfringe.com">www.edfringe.com</a> and <a href="http://www.underbelly.co.uk">www.underbelly.co.uk</a> Previews (31 <sup>st</sup> Jul, 1 <sup>st</sup> Aug): £6 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> , 12, 14 <sup>th</sup> , 18 <sup>th</sup> , 19 <sup>th</sup> , 20 <sup>th</sup> , 21 <sup>st</sup> Aug: £10 (£9) 4 <sup>th</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 15 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> , 17 <sup>th</sup> , 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 24 <sup>th</sup> Aug: £11 (£10)
Twitter	@budjamesjones, @FollowTheCow, @IdeasTap
Performer	Buddug James Jones
Performer	Max Mackintosh
Director	Jesse Briton
Producer	Sarah Jane Leigh

## Buddug James Jones

Buddug trained as a performance designer at Wimbledon College of Art. During her studies she worked with Bear Trap Theatre Company debut production *Bound* in 2010. Buddug has since worked as a designer for National Theatre Wales, Wales Millennium Centre's Blysh Festival and independent Welsh companies August013 and Crashmat Collective as a designer. She is a member of NTW TEAM panel, and is working with *Team* to develop future National Theatre Wales community projects in Rhayader alongside Carad.

## Jesse Briton

Jesse trained on East 15 Acting School's Contemporary Theatre course. Founder and Artistic Director of Bear Trap Theatre Company, his first play *Bound* toured the UK and Australia and was nominated for an Evening Standard award. Commissioned work includes *Movere* for Curious Detective, *Muddy Choir* for Theatre Centre and *Enduring Song* for Bear Trap. As an actor he has performed in theatres around the world including the Philippines, Singapore, Hong Kong, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Holland and the US. He is a visiting lecturer at the University of Essex and leads East 15's Debut festival of new writing.

## Max Mackintosh

Max trained at the Central School of Speech and Drama, and since leaving he has worked on many projects as an actor, assistant director, musician and collaborator. Max appeared in Angel Exit's *Secret Garden* in the role of Dickon, and more recently worked with Rachel Boulton's new piece, *The Good Earth*. He is currently helping to develop a new piece of writing with Big Brave Bear Theatre Company.

## Sarah Jane Leigh

Sarah Jane Leigh is a freelance Arts Producer and Promoter with a Master's Degree in Arts Administration from Goldsmith's College, University of London. In 2013 she was chosen to be part of Wales' first Digital Producers Lab, a development programme supported by Arts Council Wales and curated by Watershed and National Theatre Wales. She is currently Project Coordinator for good cop bad cop and Chapter Arts Centre's Dylan Thomas 100 project, Associate Producer for Teifi Emerald/ Acts of Beauty's production *WILD*, and Associate Producer with August012. Past projects have included: Producer for Dirty Protest's production of *Parallel Lines*, Creative Producer for Project Fio with Youth of Creative Arts and Assistant Producer for a National Theatre Wales research and development project called *Rrrrrriot! With PeeRGrouP*.

All enquiries, high res images and further information:

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