



Flipping the Bird and D.E.M. Productions present

Torch by Phoebe Eclair-Powell

Underbelly Cowgate (Big Belly), 56 Cowgate, Edinburgh, EH1 1EG

Thursday 4th – Sunday 28th August 2016 (not 16th), 20:50

Girl. Woman. Bitch. Mother. Lady. Vixen. Virgin. Whore. We're all told we're looking for something, that some part of ourselves is missing, that somewhere we fall short – we're not political enough, not skinny enough, not sexy enough, not brave enough. The search is over. Stop looking.

Part gig, part refracted and reflecting stories, *Torch* explores what it means to be a woman. From *Flipping the Bird*, in collaboration with Channel 4 Playwright Phoebe Eclair-Powell (*Wink*) and actor Jess Mabel Jones (*Backstage in Biscuitland*), comes a show that looks at freedom and celebrates choice in the world today.

Songs from the likes of David Bowie and Pattie Smith to George Michael and Viv Albertine are interwoven with stories of contrasting female experience. *Torch* does not set out to solve feminism but provoke it, laugh at and with it, and detonate it.

Conceived and developed by an all-female creative team, *Torch* is inspired by material contributed to an anonymous online survey inviting women to share their experiences of gender. Writer Phoebe Eclair-Powell comments, *Torch is a show about being a woman now which is something I've always been too scared to write about. But this has become a liberating constellation of voices, looking at the brilliant and dynamic range of feminist thought - from the big to the exceedingly everyday and the beauty in our differences.*

Torch has been developed with the support of Old Vic New Voices and The Richard Dawkins Foundation.

Notes to Editors

Title	<i>Torch</i> by Phoebe Eclair-Powell	
Performance Dates	Thursday 4 th – Sunday 28 th August (not 16 th), 20:50	
Running time	1 hour	
Location	Underbelly Cowgate (Big Belly), 56 Cowgate, Edinburgh, EH1 1EG	
Box Office	Tickets are available from www.underbellyedinburgh.co.uk Previews: £6 Weekday: £10 (£9) Weekend: £11 (£10)	
Twitter	@FlippingTheatre, @PhoebeEclair, @FollowTheCow, #TORCH	
Developed with and directed by	Jessica Edwards	
Performer	Jess Mable Jones	
Writer	Phoebe Eclair-Powell	
Designer	Amelia Jane Hankin	
Sound Designer	Alexandra Faye Braithwaite	
Lighting Designer	Zoe Spurr	
Producer	Rosalyn Newbery	
Notes	Ages 14+	

Phoebe Eclair-Powell

Phoebe Phoebe Eclair-Powell, Writer, Channel 4 playwright for 2016 and Playwright in Residence at Soho Theatre. Theatre Credits include: *Fury* (Verity Bargate runner up 2015, Soho Young Company Award Winner 2015, Soho Theatre Upstairs 2016), *WINK* (Theatre 503, Nominated for four Offies including 'Most Promising New Playwright', published by Nick Hern), *BEATS* for NYT as part of their Epic Stages Course, *CARE* (Miniaturists at the Arcola), *Elephant and My Castle* (SALT Theatre at Southwark Playhouse), *The Box* (for Flipping The Bird Theatre at Theatre Delicatessen SPACED festival and Latitude Festival), *Coal Eaters* and *Glass Hands* (RWR for Theatre503), *Bangin' Wolves* (Courting Drama at The Bush Theatre Upstairs, published by Playdead Press, later with Poleroid Theatre for Wilderness Festival), *One Under* (Pleasance

Below), *Mrs Spine* (OUTLINES at the Old Red Lion). Other credits: Soho Alumni group, Channel 4 Screenwriting Course 2014-15, Soho Writers Lab 2014-15, RCYW 2013. Phoebe is represented by Ikenna Obiekwe at Independent Talent Ltd.

Jess Mable Jones

Jess is a theatre maker, performer and puppeteer. She makes work that incites change, investigates what makes us human and is really good fun. Her work spans physical theatre, improvisation, street theatre, burlesque, cabaret and community arts. She is an Open Space practitioner, creative enabler and relaxed performance advocate. Jess is co-founder of the Extra-Live movement and associate artist at Battersea Arts Centre. Upcoming: *Hardboiled* (Rhum & Clay, The Watermill/The New Diorama), *Backstage in Biscuit Land* (Touretteshero/national & international tour), *Madhouse: ReExit* (Access All Areas). Previous: *Broadcast From Biscuit Land* (Battersea Arts Centre/BBC4), *A Little History of the World* (Reading Rep/The Watermill), *Women Centre Stage* (Sphinx Theatre/Temporary Theatre), *Beauty and the Beast* (OneOfUs, Improbable/Young Vic), *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* (Little Angel Theatre), *The Table* (Blind Summit), *Ovid's Metamorphoses* (Pants on Fire).

Jessica Edwards

Jessica is a freelance director and Artistic Director of Flipping the Bird. She is represented by Camilla Young at Curtis Brown. Upcoming: *Bear* (Flipping the Bird/Marine Theatre 2016). Recent directing includes: *The Late Mr Shakespeare* (R&D with RSC); *White Hot & Weak* (Old Vic New Voices Festival); *The Box* (Latitude/Theatre Delicatessen/Flipping the Bird); *The Itinerant Music Hall* (Lyric Hammersmith/Watford Palace/GDIF/Latitude/Flipping the Bird); *Jekyll & Hyde* (Southwark Playhouse/Assembly Edinburgh/Flipping the Bird); *FOUND!* (Old Vic Tunnels/Flipping the Bird). She has also directed short pieces for the Arcola, Theatre503 and the Bush Theatre. Recent associate directing: *Doctor Faustus* (Jamie Lloyd Company/Duke of York's); *The Maids* (Jamie Lloyd Company/Trafalgar Studios); *Bull* (Young Vic); *King Charles III* (Almeida/Wyndham's/UK tour).

All enquiries, high res images and further information:

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