

# BIRTH



Theatre Re in association with Glynis Henderson Productions present

## ***BIRTH***

**Pleasance Courtyard (Beyond), 60 Pleasance, Edinburgh, EH8 9TJ**

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> – Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2019 (not 12<sup>th</sup>), 12:00**

A poignant visual piece of theatre with incredible live music, *BIRTH* comes to Pleasance following a sell-out run at London International Mime Festival 2019. In the UK, it is estimated that 1 in 4 pregnancies end in loss during pregnancy or birth. *BIRTH* explores the bond between three women, their shared loss, their unconditional love and the strength they discover in each other.

Emily is eight months pregnant when she reads her grandmother's journal. As she delves into the depths of her family history, its pages trigger a shift in her sense of reality, unveiling a legacy of unspoken tragedies, courage and unconditional love. *BIRTH* is the story of Sue, Katherine and Emily, three generations of women from the same family who are part of an invisible web, weaved across the years. It traces their journey of self-discovery, acceptance and hope.

Over a 15-month development period, Theatre Re have collaborated with UCL Neuroscience Professor Kate Jeffery, as well as with Dr Graeme Forbes, lecturer in philosophy at the University of Kent, to explore the question, 'When does memory begin?' They have also conducted interviews and workshops with women and families who have experienced such loss, developing the work with strong links between science, philosophy, theatre and the real human experience.

Company director Guillaume Pige comments, *Pregnancy loss is experienced by a great number of women. What the parents go through is rarely discussed and often considered taboo. It is part of the realm of the 'unspoken', or the 'unvoiced'. It is buried. Throughout the development process, we explored the idea of secrets in families, unearthing the parallels between our own lives and the lives of our parents and grandparents.*

Established in 2009, Theatre Re is an internationally acclaimed ensemble creating thought-provoking performances. The company examines fragile human conditions in a compelling, physical style embracing mime, theatre and live music. Intimate collaborations with experts in different fields – such as science, philosophy and public health - and various community groups throughout the devising process play a crucial part in the development of the work. Previous productions have toured to sell-out audiences in the UK, Brazil, Peru, South Korea, Germany, Hong Kong, France, Taiwan, Switzerland and the USA.

## Notes to Editors

Title	<i>BIRTH</i>
Performance Dates	Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> – Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> August (not 12 <sup>th</sup> ), 12:00
Running Time	75 minutes
Location	Pleasance Courtyard (Beyond), 60 Pleasance, Edinburgh, EH8 9TJ
Box Office	Tickets are available from <a href="http://www.pleasance.co.uk">www.pleasance.co.uk</a> or 0131 556 6550. Previews: £9 Early Week: £12 (£11) Midweek: £13 (£12) Weekend: £14 (£13)
Twitter	@TheatreRe, #BirthTheShow, @ThePleasance
Conceived & Directed by	Guillaume Pigé
Devised by	The Company
Emily	Eygló Belafonte
Sue	Vyte Garriga
Katherine	Claudia Marciano
George & James	Charles Sandford
Sam	Andres Velasquez
Composer & Musician	Alex Judd
Lighting Designer	Dr Katherine Graham
Costume & Prop Designer	Malik Ibheis
Costume Maker	Amédine Bello

Dramaturg Tamara von Werthern  
CSM, Production Manager & External Advisor Josephine Tremelling  
Engagement Producer Hannah Bixby  
External Curator Reverend Professor June Boyce-Tillman  
Philosopher Dr Graeme Forbes  
Scientific Collaborator Professor Kate Jeffery

Devised by Louise Wilcox, Eycló Belafonte, Matthew Austin, Claudia  
Marciano, Stefanie Bruckner, Guillaume Pigé, Alex Judd, Andres  
Velasquez, Charles Sandford and Vyte Garriga

All enquiries, high res images and further information:

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