



Arty Kamikaze, Take 3 Management and Pleasance present

BACK TO SCHOOL

Wednesday 1st – Sunday 26th August 2012

Pleasance @ Braidwood Community Centre, 69 Dumbiedykes Road, EH8 9UT

Back To School is a site-specific, interactive experience where audience members are cast as students, premiering at the Pleasance for this year's Edinburgh Festival. Part-comedy, part-social experiment, this new show from Britain's modern day 'Mary Poppins' promises to delight and amuse.

Mixing comedy and masterclass, 'pupils' attending 'Saint Dumbiedykes' will study insect dissection with one of the country's most renowned entomologists, take sex education classes with flirtation expert Tracey Cox, hear their graduation speech given by Jonathan Ross as well as enjoying irreverent takes on the school assembly, school dinners (make sure to eat your greens) and the end of term disco. With a resurrected school hamster and a mystery celebrity playing the school bell, *Back To School* promises to be a rollicking good show, full of Fringe fun, dark surprises and extra-curricular chaos. Others who are involved include: David Baddiel and Felicity Montagu.

The show is the brainchild of 'Super Tutor' and comedian Clementine Wade (founder of Arty Kamikaze productions). Wade commented; *"Whether we loved or loathed school, we've all been through it! The nightmares, the celebrations, the trials and tribulations, all make up its theatre. Using this well-known format, normally the exclusive privilege of the young, the audience can relax from the responsibilities of adult life, enjoy the luxury of learning, whilst potentially exorcising a few demons."*

Developed in response to the renowned psychological experiments of Zimbardo and Milgram, *Back To School* and *Back To School Disco* are new theatrical experiences that play on the social

construct of the school. Arty Kamikaze aim to amuse and enliven, giving the audience another chance to be big kids and mess around in assembly, spicing up the educational debate and proving it is never too old to be young and never too late to learn.

Back To School is being showcased at the Braidwood Community Centre which currently faces closure. Arty Kamikaze chose to work in partnership with the Centre to raise its profile and support its work as a hub for the Holyrood community. Throughout August, the performance team will be running free, daily community events, from storytelling to CV surgeries, for local Edinburgh residents to raise funds to regenerate the Centre.

All enquiries, high res images and further information:

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Notes to Editors

Back to School will take place at Braidwood Community Centre, 69 Dumbiedykes Road, EH8 9UT from 1st – 26th August. The show lasts one hour and thirty minutes. Dumbiedykes Road can be found off Holyrood Road, running alongside Holyrood Park.

Tickets can be purchased from <http://www.edfringe.com/whats-on/comedy/back-to-school>.

More information about the show can be found at <http://www.backtoschooledinburgh.com>.

Previews: 1st – 2nd August, 4pm (£8)
 3rd August, 1.30pm and 4pm (£8)

Tuesday-Thursday: 7th-9th, 14th-16th, 21st-23rd August, 4pm (£10)

Friday-Sunday: 4th-5th, 10th-12th, 17th-19th, 24th-26th, 1.30pm and 4pm (£15)

School Disco: Every Friday and Saturday, 10pm – 1am (£10)

Back to School has been generously supported by Ex Why Zed, Brother, William Turner & Son, Scayles Music, Bibi's Bakery, The Party Shack, Barry M, The Consortium, Paperchase, Henleys, Scotmid Co-operative, Housebites and Pink Lady Apples.

About *Back To School's* Disco

As the schoolwork is packed away and the teachers go home, it's time to reward good behaviour with *Back to School's* hideously retro *School Disco*. By arrangement of Mrs Stoakes' Music Department, the best (or worst) in cheesy pop awaits, providing the perfect soundtrack for a truly rambunctious reunion and a cheeky snog with your schoolyard sweetheart.

As well as prizegiving, the voting of Prom King and Queen and pass the parcel, Father Giles' potent punch is sure to get things swinging. *Back to School's* Disco is a chance to let your hair down and make new friends outside the classroom - but beware, lewd conduct will not go unpunished! DJs to be announced.

About Clementine Wade

Clementine Wade is a modern day 'Mary Poppins'. A true 21st century polymath, for the last eight years, Wade has been building a career as an actress, presenter, writer and international homeschooler. After graduating from Cambridge (where she was voted Varsity 100 and awarded the PROMIS Prize for outstanding achievement), Wade studied European Classical Acting at The Drama Centre, London. She has appeared in numerous TV, theatrical and radio roles, with some of the biggest names in showbiz and will soon be seen in a new pilot comedy for Channel 4. In the last few years, Wade has fronted shows for some of the UK's most prestigious galleries, museums and institutions including the V&A and The Natural History Museum. She also writes and presents her own educational videos.

Alongside her performance career, Wade works internationally as a teacher, with families from the top echelons of celebrity, royalty and business. Having taught over 300 students from the ages of five to 65, Wade specialises in inspiring, motivating and empowering and relishes her pro-bono work in some of London's struggling schools.

"Clementine Wade hides an incisive brain and an encyclopedic knowledge of the education system behind a magnetic exuberance that keeps her audience enthralled" - Judy Friedberg, The Guardian.

