



# ***Girl from Nowhere***

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

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> – Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2015, 12.45pm**

*If you hear this from anyone else, they'll tell it wrong.*

Texas, 1969, is bursting with vibes of peace, love and rock 'n' roll, but disgraced hell-raising rock singer Jeannie Hogan is dragged back to the oppressive small-town values of a home she thought she'd outgrown. Where does a sweet Southern girl go if she doesn't want to be a sweet Southern girl?

But Jeannie has a confession to make. A tape recorder whirrs as she embarks on a volatile and furious account of lovers, lies and music. We hear of her teenage love for a Texan mechanic, her entanglement with the hippie, junkie drummer Chet Rivers, and her bitter rivalry with press girl Bobbie. Yet, all the while, she's eager to discover her own sound and craves an audience.

Jeannie fights tooth and nail for her right to be recognised by the rock musicians who accept her body but reject her voice. Examining the dark underside of celebrity culture, *Girl From Nowhere* resonates strongly today. Though Jeannie stumbles on her road to stardom, she is uncompromising as she quietly rebels against what the male-dominated world expects of her.

This breath-taking new play is written and performed by Victoria Rigby and directed by Whitney Mosery (*King Charles III* and *American Psycho* (Associate director, Almeida), *The Bonapartes* (ANT Fest 2015, NYC)). *Girl from Nowhere* stares straight at the collateral damage of a life led in search of a legacy.

Whitney Mosery comments, *What excites me most about the play is Jeannie's refusal to compromise her art for the sake of love or acceptance. That is such a brave stance for anyone to*

*take but especially for a Texan woman in the 1960s. Jeannie's unrelenting drive, her passionate need to find an audience for her unique sound... you can feel that energy pulsing through Victoria's writing. The production lives and dies with each breath Jeannie takes. She's our narrator, our guide, our scenic artist and our voice. That's the challenge and the beauty of directing a one-woman show.*

## Notes to Editors

Title	<i>Girl from Nowhere</i>
Performance Dates	Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> – Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> August, 12.45pm
Running time	1 hour
Location	Pleasance Courtyard (That), 60 Pleasance, Edinburgh, EH8 9TJ
Box Office	Tickets are available from <a href="http://www.pleasance.co.uk">www.pleasance.co.uk</a> Previews (5 <sup>th</sup> , 6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> Aug): £6 Monday/Tuesday: £9.50 (£8.50) Wednesday/Thursday: £10.50 (£9.50) Friday/Saturday/Sunday: £11 (£10)
Twitter	@GFN_Play, @VictoriaCRigby, #GirlfromNowhere, @ThePleasance
Trailer	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kbj_DTenk7I">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kbj_DTenk7I</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.arsalansattari.com/#!girlfromnowhere/c1di9">http://www.arsalansattari.com/#!girlfromnowhere/c1di9</a>
Notes	Ages 14+. Adult content with strong language.
Writer/Performer	Victoria Rigby
Director	Whitney Mosery
Assistant Director	Quentin Beroud
Producer	Arsalan Sattari

## Victoria Rigby

Victoria Rigby is a London-based actress and writer. She grew up in Lincolnshire and studied

at the University of Cambridge, graduating with a Double First in English. Victoria is an alumna of the Lyric Hammersmith Young Writers' Programme, led by Duncan Macmillan. She was shortlisted for the Lyric's Emerging Artists Prize for *Girl from Nowhere*. Theatre includes Beryl in *Flowers of the Forest* (Jermyn Street Theatre/Anthony Biggs); Hero in *Much Ado About Nothing* (University of Cambridge/Japanese Tour); Blanche in *A Streetcar Named Desire* (University of Cambridge); Marianne in *Sense and Streetcar Named Desire Sensibility* (University of Cambridge); Sister James in *Doubt: A Parable* (University of Cambridge); Cast in *Summertime* (Arts Theatre). Film includes Victoria in *Return* (Golden Lane Films); Grace Crowder in *Tell Them of Us* (WAGScreen); Lady of Shallot in *The Lady of Shallot* (WAGScreen). She holds a grade VIII in piano and viola and was a section leader for the Lincolnshire Youth Symphony Orchestra and Chamber Orchestra. While at Cambridge she sang soprano with the Pembroke College Chapel Choir and was on the Fletcher Players and CUMTS committee. She is trained in ballet and modern dance and sings mezzo-soprano.

## Whitney Mosery

Whitney is a theatre and film director, dividing her time between London and New York. She is currently Associate Director of *King Charles III* by Mike Bartlett (Almeida/West End/upcoming UK Tour) and *American Psycho: a new musical thriller* by Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa and Duncan Sheik (Almeida/upcoming Broadway). In 2012, Whitney was the first American ever to be admitted onto RADA's MA Theatre Directing course. After graduating with distinction, she became the first Director in Residence at the Almeida Theatre in London, under Artistic Director Rupert Goold. Directing credits include: *Sad Andy* (Theatre 503/Rapid Write Response); *Last Words You'll Hear* (Latitude 2014); *Faster Higher Stronger Straighter* (Dominion Theatre Studio); *Scratch Me, I Bleed* (Camden People's Theatre); *Bacchanalia* (Greece / USA); *M. Butterfly* (★★★★, PerformanceReviewed; MA Showcase); *Throwing Your Voice*; *Exit Johnny Clarke*; *Szin haz* (Williamstown Theatre Festival); *Bus Stop* (PST); *Stage Blood* (Princeton Shakespeare Company); *The Goat or Who is Sylvia?*; *Valentine at Bellevue* (Theatre Intime).

Whitney has also been a directing mentor at Naked Angels/The New School, and a guest lecturer at RADA. As associate or assistant director, she has worked with Moises Kaufman, Richard Nelson, Tom Hunsinger, Rob Icke, Paul Hunter, and playwright Steven Sater. BA Classics, Princeton University.

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