



Much Further Out Than You Thought

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

Thursday 6th – Sunday 30th August 2015 (not 17th), 3.20pm

Lance Corporal James Randall left tours of duty in Helmand six years ago. But as he's about to discover, Helmand is still very far from leaving him.

On Remembrance Sunday he delivers a birthday message to his young son from his living room in south London - a last-ditch attempt to reconcile their broken relationship. Surrounded by action figures and boyhood memorabilia, James unfolds a fragmented story in which the worlds of civilian Britain and front-line Afghanistan brutally, and catastrophically, collide.

Much Further Out Than You Thought (winner of a 2015 IdeasTap Underbelly Award) is a new one-man play which shines a different light on the very human cost of war. As we welcome back troops from Afghanistan, *Much Further Out Than You Thought* is a timely reminder of a soldier's life after the battlefield. It is a glimpse into the fictional life of a fictional soldier; Lance Corporal James Randall doesn't exist, but the traumas that live inside him most certainly do.

Writer/performer Giles Roberts comments, *I have no experience of fighting in a war, nor do I have an understanding of what it is to be given the permission and means to kill another human being. What I try to empathise with is how an act of killing must irreparably alter who a person has been up until the moment they squeeze the trigger. The last British soldiers were airlifted from Camp Bastion in Afghanistan in October 2014. For these men and women — many of whom will have seen and experienced more in their short time on the front-line than many of us will do in our whole lives — the war is officially over. But, as the statistics for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) among veterans in the UK demonstrate, leaving war behind is far easier said than done.*

Bethany Pitts returns to the Edinburgh Fringe after directing *Spine* (2014) and acting as assistant director on *Dark Vanilla Jungle* (2013).

Notes to Editors

Title	<i>Much Further Out Than You Thought</i>
Performance Dates	Thursday 6 th – Sunday 30 th August (not 17 th), 3.20pm
Running time	55 minutes
Location	Underbelly Cowgate (Big Belly), 56 Cowgate, Edinburgh, EH1 1EG
Box Office	Tickets are available from www.underbellyedinburgh.co.uk Previews (6 th , 7 th Aug): £6 Weekdays: £10 (£9) Weekend: £11 (£10)
Twitter	@molinogroup, @FollowTheCow, #MFOTYT, #IUAward
Website	www.themolinogroup.com
Notes	Recommended age 14+, strong language and some disturbing scenes
Writer/Performer	Giles Roberts
Director	Bethany Pitts
Producer	Dan Baker
Dramaturg	Edward Fortes
Sound Design	Jon McLeod

Giles Roberts

Giles Roberts trained as an actor at The Oxford School of Drama. Acting credits for the MolinoGroup include [*Roland : a collage*] (Bike Shed, Exeter) and *DESERT* (Latitude Festival & UK Tour). Other acting credits include: *Hamlet* (Harrogate Theatre/UK tour); *Babel* (WildWorks/BAC/Lyric Hammersmith); *The Taming of the Shrew* (Southwark Playhouse); *The Price* (Theatre Uncut); *Bingo* (Theatre Royal Haymarket); *Time of Your Life* (Finborough Theatre); *Punch & Judy* (Arcola). TV and Film includes: *The Invisible Woman* (BBC Films); *The Boat That Rocked* (Working Title); *Road to FA Cup* (Chancer Productions). As a writer, credits include: *Timeless Tales* (London Arts Orchestra); *Three Storeys Project* (People At Play); *Babel* (WildWorks/BAC/Lyric Hammersmith); *Jugular* (The Gung Ho-Down/Wilderness Festival). *Much Further Out Than You Thought* is Giles' debut play.

Bethany Pitts

Bethany Pitts is a director specialising in new work, both scripted and devised. She co-runs the MolinoGroup and has directed all of their previous productions, including *DESERT* (Bike Shed, Exeter / New Diorama / Latitude Festival / UK Tour). She has also recently directed *Spine* by Clara Brennan (Underbelly, Edinburgh / Soho Theatre London – Fringe First & Herald Angel award 2014) and *Free Fall* by Vinay Patel (Pleasance Theatre, 2014 – Nominated for 3 Off West End awards, including Best Director). She was the Assistant Director at Theatre Royal Plymouth from 2012 – 2013 and, prior to that, Resident Assistant Director at Theatre503. Other previous assisting credits include *Dark Vanilla Jungle* by Philip Ridley (Pleasance Edinburgh / Soho London – Fringe First award 2013) and *Theatre Uncut* (Young Vic, 2013). She has directed on a freelance basis for venues including The Arcola, New Diorama, Ovalhouse and Live Theatre, Newcastle. Bethany will also be directing *Tether* by Isley Lynn at the 2015 Edinburgh Fringe.

All enquiries, high res images and further information:

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