

Who will leave.  
Who will cheat.  
Who will die first.

Her. Her. Him.'

## ***Ross & Rachel* by James Fritz**

**Assembly George Square Theatre – The Box, George Square,  
Edinburgh, EH8 9LH**

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> – Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2015 (not 17<sup>th</sup>), 12.30pm**

*I can't stop staring at the couples. Who will leave. Who will cheat. Who will die first.  
Her. Her. Him.*

A dark and uncompromising new play about romance, expectation and mortality, *Ross & Rachel* tells the mind-bending, heart-breaking story of what happens when a couple that was always meant to be together, gets together. And stays together. In this disquieting duologue for one performer (Molly Vevers), Olivier-nominated playwright James Fritz (*FOUR MINUTES TWELVE SECONDS*, Hampstead) takes an unflinching look at the myths of modern love.

*Ross & Rachel* confronts what happens when two people are forced to handle the end of a relationship in the harshest of ways. It explores the idea of 'happy-ever-after' – sold to us by rom-coms and sitcoms, whether it's Ross and Rachel or Romeo and Juliet – and how this affects our real-life relationships. *Ross & Rachel* leaves audiences feeling bruised and shaken, thinking long and hard about endings of all kinds.

Fritz comments, *Challenging one person to embody two halves of the same relationship in a way that is confusing and all-consuming felt the perfect way to explore this idea. It's deconstructing something we're all sold all the time. I think we're long overdue a chance to unpick that myth.*

Fritz's first full-length play, *FOUR MINUTES TWELVE SECONDS*, was runner-up of the Soho Theatre's 2013 Verity Bargate Award, and then sold-out at Hampstead Theatre in autumn 2014.

## Notes to Editors

Title	<i>Ross &amp; Rachel</i> by James Fritz
Performance Dates	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> – Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> August (not 17 <sup>th</sup> ), 12.30pm
Running time	1 hour
Location	Assembly George Square Theatre (The Box), George Square, Edinburgh, EH8 9LH
Box Office	Tickets are available from <a href="http://www.assemblyfestival.com">www.assemblyfestival.com</a> Previews (6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> Aug): £6 Friday-Sunday: £11 Monday-Thursday: £9
Twitter	@jamesfritz, @AssemblyFest, #RossRachel
Writer	James Fritz
Director	Thomas Martin
Designer	Alison Neighbour
Producer	Andrew Hughes
Performer	Molly Vevers

### James Fritz

James Fritz's first full-length play, *FOUR MINUTES TWELVE SECONDS*, was produced at the Hampstead Theatre in Autumn 2014, where it had a sell-out run and was nominated for Outstanding Achievement in an Affiliate Theatre at the 2015 Olivier awards. His first play, *LINES*, ("a highly promising original debut" *The Stage*) was performed at the Rosemary Branch Theatre in April 2011. James has also written for Radio 4 comedy show *NEWSJACK*. He is currently under commission to Hampstead Theatre, and was selected for the 2015 Channel 4 Screenwriting Course.

### Thomas Martin

Thomas Martin is a London-based theatre maker, working across directing, writing, performance and live art. Aside from developing *Ross & Rachel*, he recently directed *Followers*, Stewart Melton's adaptation of Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*, at Southwark Playhouse. In 2011 he directed James Fritz's debut play *LINES*, and was a finalist for the JMK Award. He has shown

work across the country, at venues including BAC, New Wolsey, Forest Fringe and Cambridge Junction, and runs the feted videogames-and-performance night *Beta Public* at CPT.

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