



## ***The Eulogy of Toby Peach***

**Underbelly Cowgate (Iron Belly), 56 Cowgate, Edinburgh, EH1 1EG  
Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2015 (not 17<sup>th</sup>), 2.50pm**

*I was born on 18<sup>th</sup> December 1988. I dressed up as a bandicoot once. I was diagnosed with cancer 2,102,000 minutes ago...*

One in three of us will experience cancer first-hand and now Toby Peach brings this universal issue to the stage. *The Eulogy of Toby Peach* (winner of a 2015 IdeasTap Underbelly Award) is the story of his journey with Hodgkin's Lymphoma, a cancer of the lymph nodes that he faced at the age of 19 and again at 21. Toby didn't know what cancer was, what happens when it's treated and the effects it can have. A Eulogy is a celebration of life - we will all need one; Toby is just delivering his now.

Join Toby as he enters the (not so) exclusive Cancer Club; sample chemotherapy cocktails, select the perfect funeral playlist and marvel at Willy Wonka's life-saving stem cell machine. From diagnosis to remission, relapse and treatment, experience a young man's journey with cancer in this honest, fascinating and inspiring exploration of modern science and the wonders of the human body.

*The Eulogy of Toby Peach* is a discovery of self-mortality and this original piece explores a true story and an important and difficult subject in a refreshing, insightful and humorous way.

Toby comments, *I was fascinated with the science of the disease that nearly killed me, and subsequently, the treatments that saved my life. My story with cancer is one of millions and everyone has their own unique journey with it, but I began writing as I hoped understanding cancer could help others who have endured a journey with it in the past or, unfortunately, in the future. The world of cancer is full to the brim with both fear and optimism, but it is the latter that humanity fuels as we attempt to thwart this disease. As I began to look back on my journey with*

*cancer I found that there were so many amazing people who were trying to save my life, from the day to day impacts to those from the past who had allowed me to make it this far. The story delves into the moments when a eulogy may have been a very real possibility for me and how those moments changed my life forever.*

*The Eulogy of Toby Peach* started life as a short story performed at the BAC, subsequently gaining developmental support from Old Vic New Voices.

## Notes to Editors

Title	<i>The Eulogy of Toby Peach</i>
Performance Dates	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> August (not 17 <sup>th</sup> ), 2.50pm
Running time	1 hour
Location	Underbelly Cowgate (Iron Belly), 56 Cowgate, Edinburgh, EH1 1EG
Box Office	Tickets are available from <a href="http://www.underbellyedinburgh.co.uk">www.underbellyedinburgh.co.uk</a> Previews (6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> Aug): £6 Monday - Thursday: £10 (£9) Friday - Sunday: £11 (£10)
Twitter	@EulogyofaPeach, @TobyPeach, @FollowTheCow, #TheEulogyofTobyPeach, #IUAward
Website	<a href="http://www.tobypeach.co.uk/eulogy">www.tobypeach.co.uk/eulogy</a>
Writer/Performer	Toby Peach
Director	David Jackson
Producer	Rosalyn Newbery
Designer	Kirsty Harris

## Toby Peach

Toby is a theatre maker who is currently the BBC Performing Arts Fellow in Community Theatre at the Old Vic, working on various projects with the OV New Voices team, including as Assistant Director on their Community Company's production of *Ages*. Toby trained in Community Theatre at East 15 and has subsequently worked with a range of companies to develop his

practice. He has worked extensively with interactive theatre-makers, Coney, where he is Associate Artist. He has created work for BAC, The Roundhouse, The Bush Theatre, The Roald Dahl Museum and has worked nationally and internationally with the National Youth Theatre.

## **David Jackson**

Dave Jackson trained at Middlesex University and the National Youth Theatre. He is currently artist director the Hungry Wolf Theatre company and an associate artist at NYT, as well as a guest lecturer at Chichester University. Dave is currently working on *A Little Respect* a project he has written and directed for the Hungry Wolf Youth Theatre and is about to start work on the Comedian Anna Morris' new Edinburgh show *It's Got to be Perfect*. David is also writing and performing at this year's Edinburgh Festival Fringe with the actor Ste Johnston. Dave has co-written for ITV2 and BBC Radio Four. He was recently commissioned to write a play for Rodean school and is a co-founder of and a regular director at the Petersfield Shakespeare Festival. He has directed everything from children's theatre to stand-up comedy to full scale plays at The Fringe and first performed there with the NYT in 1997.

All enquiries, high res images and further information:

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