



Theatre Témoin presents  
***The Marked***

**Pleasance Dome (King Dome), 1 Bristo Square, Edinburgh, EH8 9AL**

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> – Monday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2016 (not 17<sup>th</sup>), 13:30**

After the 5 star sell-out success of *The Fantasist* (top 5 of the Fringe – Sunday Times) Theatre Témoin returns using mask, puppetry and physical theatre to navigate a haunting, mystical world inspired by real-life stories of homelessness.

As a boy, Jack was surrounded by monsters and invisible guardians, as he fought to protect the people he was destined to rule. Now grown up, his life on the streets of London is less fantastical. But when a ghost from his past turns up, Jack must harness the power of forgotten myths to defeat her.

At its heart, *The Marked* is a story about the link between trauma in childhood and homelessness in adulthood, exploring the vivid internal landscapes that we create and discover through pain and healing.

Since 2010, homelessness has increased nationwide by 55%, with an unprecedented 100% increase in rough sleepers in London. With ongoing cuts to services, this trend is expected to continue. Theatre Témoin feel that it is vital that the most vulnerable in our communities have a voice on stage.

*The Marked* was developed alongside community consultants with experience of homelessness from St. Mungo's Recovery College and Cardboard Citizens, who participated in Mask Theatre workshops delivered with the generous support of Big Lottery's Awards for All scheme. The piece will be shown in 10 London hostels in July and feedback from these will be incorporated into the final Edinburgh production.

Script consultant Sarah Macguire, a young artist with personal experience of homelessness, commented, *Working with Theatre Témoin on developing an authentic portrayal of homelessness has been a rewarding experience which has increased my desire to progress as an artist.*

Theatre Témoignage has an engagement-centred approach to devising, working with community partners and consultants at every stage of the process. Devising Director Ailin Conant comments, *While researching The Marked and listening to the stories of people experiencing homelessness, it became increasingly clear to me that for some people fantastical beliefs are a matter of urgency, of vital necessity. When you have lived through powerful experiences, you need an equally powerful language and framework to describe those experiences.*

*The Marked* has been developed in co-production with Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham, with support from The Wellcome Trust, Arts Council England, Awards for All, The Pleasance Islington, Queen Mary University of London, and Camden People's Theatre.

## Notes to Editors

Title	<i>The Marked</i>
Performance Dates	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> – Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> August, 1.30pm
Running time	1 hour
Location	Pleasance Dome (King Dome), 1 Bristo Square, Edinburgh, EH8 9AL
Box Office	Tickets are available from <a href="http://www.pleasance.co.uk">www.pleasance.co.uk</a> Previews: £7 Weekends: £12 (£11) Midweek: (£11 (£9.50) Early week: £9 (£8)
Twitter	@Theatre_Temoignage, @ThePleasance, #Marked
Notes	Ages 12+, contains some swearing
Devising Cast	Dorie Kinnear, Tom Stacy, Bradley Thompson
Director	Ailin Conant
Associate Director	Will Pinchin
Dramaturg	Patrick Collier
Assistant Director	Alfie Sowden
Mask Design	Grafted Cede Theatre
Puppet Design	Peter Morton

Puppet Development Alfie Sowden  
Set/Costume Design Zahra Mansouri  
Sound Design/Composition Filipe Gomes  
Lighting Design Pablo Fernandez Baz  
Scenic Painter Emily Adamson  
Costume Assistant Olwen Morrey  
Script Consultant Sarah Macguire  
Stage Manager Ina Berggren  
Production Managers Chris Montague, Ina Berggren  
Voiceover Artist Jack Veal

Creative Producer Patrick Collier  
Participation Officer Ciara Brennan

Future Dates 22<sup>nd</sup> September - Wirksworth Festival, Derbyshire  
13<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> October - Ovalhouse Theatre, London  
26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> October - Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham

All enquiries, high res images and further information:

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