



Like Animals

Summerhall (Old Lab), Summerhall Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1PL

Wednesday 31st July – Sunday 25th August 2019 (not 1st, 12th, 19th), 14:15

A dolphin trying to speak English. A parrot saying ‘Be good, see you tomorrow, I love you’. A woman spending a lifetime proving it’s not a trick.

Like Animals is a funny and poignant investigation into love and communication in human (and not so human) relationships, directed by Herald Angel Award winner Ellie Dubois (*No Show*). Inspired by true stories of scientists working to communicate with animals, it blends surreal comedy with moments of tenderness and vulnerability to explore the impossibility of ever truly knowing someone else.

The show weaves together two stories of human-animal communication around a central narrative of performers Kim and Pete’s own real-life relationship, glimpsing some of their miscommunications, missed signals and crossed wires. Their story allows the audience to see the joyful and painful moments we all experience and offers counterpoint and comparison to the human-animal stories.

First, we see Alex the parrot who worked for thirty years with Irene the scientist. Each night they would say to each other ‘Be good, see you tomorrow, I love you.’ As their relationship moved between parent and child, teacher and student and husband and wife, Alex became manipulative, using the language he learned to challenge Irene.

We also meet Peter the dolphin and Margaret - the woman who lived with him in a flooded house to teach him English. Working together in a bizarre NASA-funded experiment, their relationship garnered attention in the press on the assumed sexual element of their association with headlines such as ‘*The Woman who lived in sin with a dolphin*’ (The Telegraph, June 2014).

Each of these true-life narratives explores a complex relationship within its own uniquely funny, strange and touching world. MJ McCarthy’s delicate score and Rachel O’Neill’s surreal, contemporary design draws audiences into the joy and heartbreak that happens when we try, and often fail, to understand another being.

Like Animals has been developed in association with Tron CREATIVE through their Scratch and Tron Lab opportunities, and with support from Creative Scotland's Open Project Fund.

SUPERFAN is a new Scottish performance company who create performances for adult and young audiences that blend theatre, live art, circus and dance. SUPERFAN won the 2019 Oxford Samuel Beckett Theatre Trust Award and will present a new intergenerational circus show at the Barbican in November 2019

SUPERFAN also present *Little Top*, their circus show for babies aged 0-18 months at the Fringe. It is a co-production with Starcatchers and is staged as part of the Made in Scotland showcase.

Notes to Editors

Title	<i>Like Animals</i>
Performance Dates	Wednesday 31 st July – Sunday 25 th August (not 1 st , 12 th , 19 th), 14:15
Running Time	60 minutes
Location	Summerhall (Old Lab), Summerhall Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1PL
Creators/Performers	Pete Lannon and Kim Donohoe.
Director	Ellie Dubois
Music/Sound Designer	Michael John McCarthy
Dramaturg	Xana Marwick
Visual Dramaturg	Rachel O'Neill
Lighting Designer	Benny Goodman
Producer	Nicola Lawton
Box Office	Tickets are available from www.summerhall.co.uk or 0131 560 1580. Previews: £5 Shows: £12 (£10)
Twitter	@wearesuperfan, #likeanimals, @summerhallery
Instagram	@superfanperformance, #likeanimals, @summerhallery

All enquiries, high res images and further information:

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