



Mediocre White Male

Assembly Roxy (Central), 2 Roxburgh Place, Edinburgh, EH8 9SU

Wednesday 4th - Sunday 15th August 2021, 18:00

Going over ancient history...it's not healthy.

A tragicomedy about ancient history, recent past and present lies, *Mediocre White Male* follows the central character, aged 30, still living in the same town and trapped in a job where he can't open his mouth without offending a younger colleague. He longs for a simpler time of Pokémon cards, school nicknames and stable pronouns. But nostalgia is always dangerous... Everything seems to be changing but him. With his job under threat and a figure from his past returning to haunt him, it might just be time to face up to some uncomfortable truths.

First conceived in 2018, writers Will Close (Dave Comedy Award winner 2013; member of 1927 theatre company) and Joe von Malachowski were reflecting on the high school experiences and how, in a small-town ecosystem, no one challenged the behaviour of older men pursuing younger girls. They comment, *In light of the #metoo movement addressing historical and systemic sexist problems in our society, we wanted to investigate how one of these men, who had an age-unbalanced, illegal teenage relationship, would reflect on their past now. From the perspective of your 30s, can you admit to yourself and others that you abused your power over someone younger, even though you were barely an adult yourself? How much blame—and what consequences—do we want this person to face, as society's values slowly (too slowly, then all at once) modernise.*

Mediocre White Male also touches on wider themes about being left behind in a small community, feeling abandoned as the world changes, and feeling confused in the face of a

progressive agenda you don't fully understand. How do we handle the increasing anger and detachment felt across British society, where town is pitted against city, tradition against 'woke-ism' even at the extreme end, white against black?

As society grapples with how to deal with its wider history of abuse, colonialism and uncaring capitalism, the protagonist (a relatable, complex and conflicted character) must deal with his own historical misdeeds, mistakes and demons.

Notes to Editors

Title	<i>Mediocre White Male</i>
Performance Dates	Wednesday 4 th – Sunday 15 th August 2021, 18:00
Running Time	55 minutes
Location	Assembly Roxy (Central), 2 Roxburgh Place, Edinburgh, EH8 9SU
Will Close	Writer/performer
Joe von Malachowski	Writer
Zoe Robinson	Producer
Holly Piggot	Designer
Bryony Attwood	Costume Maker
Box Office	Tickets are available from www.assemblyfestival.com . Preview: £10 Peak: £14 (£13) Off peak: £13 (£12)
Age Guidance	Recommended for 14+
Social Media	@jovonmal, @Will2Close, #MWM, #MediocreWhiteMale

All enquiries, high res images and further information:

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