



**HOTBED  
THEATRE  
FESTIVAL  
2019**

**FRI 19, SAT 20 & SUN 21 JULY**

[www.hotbedtheatrefestival.com](http://www.hotbedtheatrefestival.com) | [www.junction.co.uk](http://www.junction.co.uk)

# HOTBED 2019

Hotbed is now in its 18th year as a festival of new writing produced by Menagerie Theatre Company, supported by Cambridge Junction.

All Festival events this year are produced and presented at Cambridge Junction in the J2 and J3 theatres.

Hotbed 2019 once again promises to be a powerful and inspiring exploration of new writing...

From world premieres to works-in-progress plus workshops and happenings, Hotbed truly is a 'weekend of discovery' with powerful new writing experiences.

Witness ideas evolving, meet new playwrights and see tomorrow's productions today!

With ticket prices from just £3 there is something for everyone.

## **Why not get a day pass?**

Day Passes (for Saturday and Sunday) will get you into every performance, reading and workshop for just £20 (£16).

**See you at the festival!**

[hotbedtheatrefestival.com](http://hotbedtheatrefestival.com)

# HOTBED FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Click on a production title for details

## Friday 19 July

7pm	<a href="#">BLISS</a>	J2
6pm onwards	<a href="#">Only When its Feathers are Grown</a>	J3

## Saturday 20 July

11am	<a href="#">Only When its Feathers are Grown</a>	J3
11.30am	<a href="#">Love, No Country</a>	J2
12.30pm	<a href="#">Only When its Feathers are Grown</a>	J3
2pm	<a href="#">Two Comrades</a>	J2
2pm	<a href="#">Only When its Feathers are Grown</a>	J3
3.30pm	<a href="#">Fenland's Finest</a>	J3
4pm	<a href="#">One Way Chorus</a>	Boardroom
4.30pm	<a href="#">Voice-Over</a>	J2
5.30pm	<a href="#">One Way Chorus</a>	Boardroom
6pm	<a href="#">48/52</a>	J3
6.45pm	<a href="#">One Way Chorus</a>	Boardroom
7.15pm	<a href="#">POLYPHONIC II, A home the size of our planet</a>	J2
8.30pm	<a href="#">The Land of My Fathers and Mothers and Some Other People</a>	J3

## Sunday 21 July

10am	<a href="#">Playwriting Workshop with James McDermott</a>	Boardroom
12.30pm	<a href="#">Epyllion</a>	J3
2pm	<a href="#">Boulder</a>	J2
3pm	<a href="#">Playwriting Workshop with Fraser Grace</a>	J3
4.30pm	<a href="#">Two Comrades</a>	J2
5.30pm	<a href="#">Peregrine's Progress</a>	J3
7pm	<a href="#">BLISS</a>	J2

**Booking Information**

# BLISS

By Fraser Grace

In association with The Voronezh International Festival, Russia.

Based on *The River Potudan*  
by Andrey Platonov

Directed by Paul Bourne

*BLISS* tells the tragi-comic tale of a young couple trying to build a life against the odds. The shattered world they live in, and their own shattered identities, are just some of the obstacles Nikita and Lyuba must overcome – in order to find that elusive thing called BLISS.

Based on a short story by Andrey Platonov – a writer cruelly suppressed under Stalin's rule – this production comes fresh from Menagerie's world premiere of the play at the Platonov Festival in Voronezh. The play received a stunning reception in Russia, and Menagerie are proud to invite you to this, the UK premiere, at HOTBED.

Fraser Grace is an award-winning playwright whose work has been commissioned by The RSC, BBC and now by the International Platonov Festival in Voronezh, Russia. His play *Breakfast with Mugabe* was produced by the RSC at Stratford and the West End and in New York.

***"...such a simple, dynamic and amazingly 'Russian-style' production - stunning"***

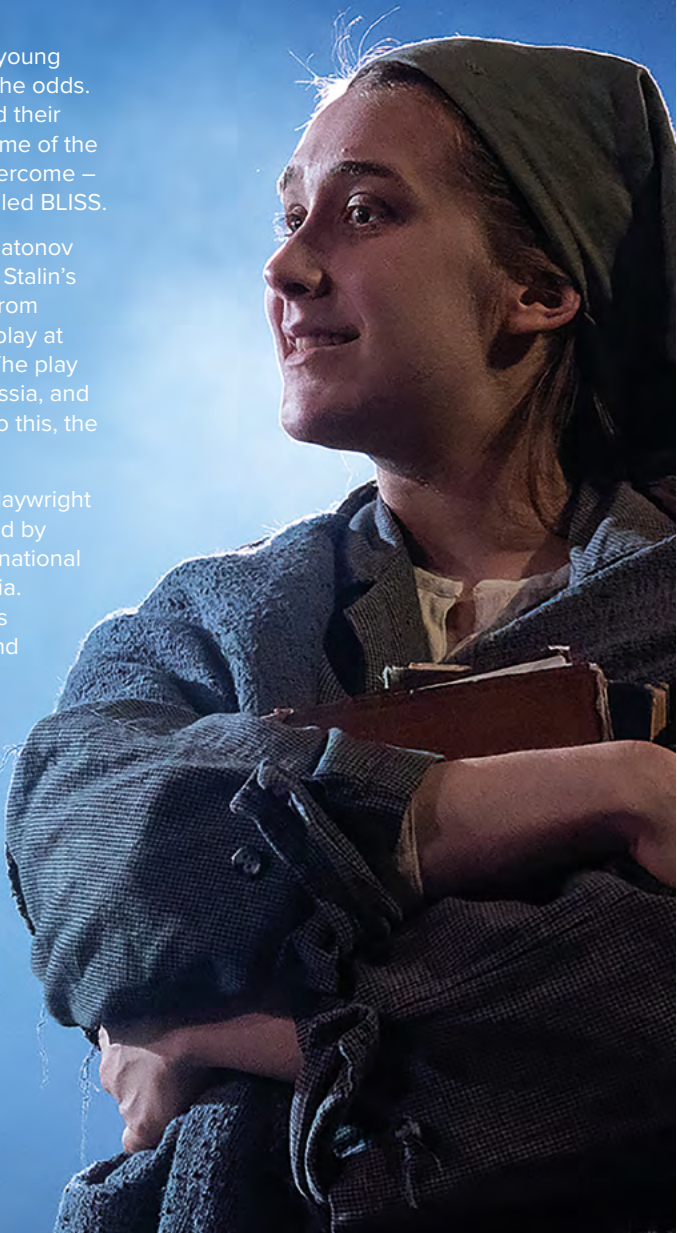
(Infovoronezh. Ru)

Fri 19th: 7pm (2 hours 40 minutes including intermission)

Sun 21st: 7pm (2 hours 40 minutes including intermission)

Venue: J2 | Tickets: £10/£9

*"It's good to see you're alive. Good to know not all the ghosts in the street are enemies."*



## ONLY WHEN ITS FEATHERS ARE GROWN

Produced by Fly No Filter, written and directed by Lucy Crowe.

*Only When Its Feathers are Grown* is a new performance-installation /interactive dance and visual art project, supported by Arts Council England. Researched in consultation with Menagerie's A Piece of Cake community group, and counselling psychologist Dr Michelle Nyangereka, *Only When Its Feathers Are Grown* combines B-boying, spoken word and photography to tell the intertwining stories of an adolescent and her mother.

**Fri 19th: Open Exhibition**

**Sat 20th: 11am, 12.30pm, 2pm (36 minutes)**

**Venue: J3 | Tickets: £5/£4**

*Full performance produced by Fly No Filter.*



## FENLAND'S FINEST

Work-in-progress produced by Fly No Filter, written and directed by Lucy Crowe

*Fenland's Finest* is a work-in-progress solo piece inspired by real events.

Everyone knows Abel, the dancer, the one who does the moonwalk, nights in town, Jack Daniels, a kebab and home to Fen Ditton. Everyone knows him, the dancer. He can do the robot.

Limbs greying, bolted to a body contorted in agony on a hospital bed. A nurse, uninformed, turned off his morphine drip eight hours ago. Under his faded Michael Jackson t-shirt, Abel's shoulder crumbles. Abel has sickle cell. Everyone knows Abel.

*Fenland's Finest* explores misunderstandings, bedside manners, and what happens when what you thought defined you, is taken away.

**Sat 20th: 3.30pm (30 minutes)**

**Venue: J3 | Tickets: £4/£3**

*Presented as a work-in-progress by Fly No Filter.*



# TWO COMRADES

Direct from Prague

Written and performed by Alexandr Lyutenskov

Directed by Ksenia Usacheva

Two unlikely friends share their daily life experiences with each other through letters until a revolution shakes their country and flips their fates. The formerly repressed worker Zacharovich becomes an influential officer of the Secret Police, and Valdshtein, a lover of music and opposer to the Revolution, has to face the consequences.

With original musical composition by Andrea La Rose, recorded live by Andrea La Rose and Navid Talebanfard.

**Saturday 20th: 2pm (60 minutes)**

**Sunday 21st: 4.30pm (60 minutes)**

**Venue: J2 | Tickets: £8/£7**

*A full production produced by Army of the Arts (Prague).*

# LOVE, NO COUNTRY

By Vanessa Ackerman

Presented as a script-in-hand reading/performance.

A young woman knocks on a stranger's door 'somewhere in Siberia' and opens up the untold story of her grandmother's escape from terror. A story about the inheritance of loss, how it's passed on, packaged and hidden away. And once discovered, what do we do with it?

**Sat 20th: 11.30am (80 minutes)**

**Venue: J2 | Tickets: £5/£4**

*Script-in-hand performance by Menagerie.*



## ONE WAY CHORUS

Lucy Sheerman and Bettina Furnée

Two singers perform statements gathered from the public about whether they could travel into space, who they would go with, what they would take with them and what they would regret leaving behind. A piece about love, loss, separation and space travel taking place on the weekend of the fiftieth anniversary of the first moon landing.

**Sat 20th: 4pm, 5.30pm, 6.45pm (20 minutes)**

**Venue: Boardroom | Tickets: £4/£3**

*Extraordinary interventions presented by Lucy Sheerman and Bettina Furnée.*



## VOICE-OVER

Produced by Vision

Diversity is frightening. The playful lives of some abandoned toys are suddenly disrupted by a Voice that forces them to act like empty vessels. Any potential threat to the system is uprooted, and all languages are forbidden. In a spiral of psychological and physical violence, the play explores the power of fear. When everything seems lost, nostalgic memories come back to reveal what has been forgotten.

This physical theatre performance is a metaphorical representation of the world we live in, where different identities and language diversity are seen as a threat rather than a strength. An invitation to think out of the box and speak up.

Featuring: Johanna Tuominen, Dea Rakovac, Anna Spiridonova, Emiliano Troiano.

**Sat 20th: 4.30pm (45 minutes)**

**Venue: J2 | Tickets: £8/£7**

*A full production presented by Vision.*





48 52

**48/52**

By Steve Waters

Performed by Michael Bernadin

It's the day after whatever Brexit might bring – a confused businessman is on a mission to Europe to save his career and make sense of how we got here.

This angry, comic and poignant monologue addresses head on the wounds of Brexit and brings the national divide uncomfortably close to home.

**Steve Waters** is an acclaimed playwright whose plays include *Limehouse* (2017) and *Temple* (2015) both at the Donmar Warehouse, *The Contingency Plan* (The Bush, 2009) and many works for Hotbed over the Years, most recently: *The Play About Calais* (2016). His nine-part drama for BBC World Service *Fall of the Shah* is available on BBC Sounds.

**Sat 20th: 6pm (35 minutes)**

**Venue: J3 | Tickets: £5/£4**

*Full production produced in association with Menagerie.*

## **POLYPHONIC II, A HOME THE SIZE OF OUR PLANET**

Acting Now and Polygon Arts, in association with the MEITS Research project

Acting Now (Cambridge) present an original theatre performance about the many ways we think of home. This 'Community Performance' has been devised by individuals drawn from different linguistic and cultural backgrounds.

Witness a collection of stories about stepping outside our comfort zone, searching and exploring, fitting in and falling out. An emotional journey about how we relate to the concept of home, about where we feel we belong or want to be. If home is not necessarily the place where we were born or grew up, then what is it?

**Sat 20th: 7.15pm (60 Minutes)**

**Venue: J2 | Tickets: £8/£7**

*A full production presented by Acting Now.*

## **THE LAND OF MY FATHERS AND MOTHERS AND SOME OTHER PEOPLE**

Presented by Rhys Slade-Jones

A wonderful all-singing, all-dancing re-enactment of what Rhys's Mam wrote down 40 years ago.

A one-man cabaret that mixes stand-up, dance and good old-fashioned sing-along to breathe life into his Mam's stories, and bring Treherbert rugby club back to life!

**Sat 20th: 8.30pm (60 minutes)**

**Venue: J3 | Tickets: £8/£7**

*A full pre-Edinburgh Fringe production in association with The Pleasance.*



# PLAYWRITING WORKSHOP

Led by James McDermott

Whether you're a new or experienced playwright, come and learn new tools and techniques to help you generate stories, create characters, write dialogue and structure scripts as well as tips on starting and sustaining a career as a freelance playwright.

This workshop will be led by playwright James McDermott. James's plays include *Fast Food*, starring Jude Law (Lyric Hammersmith), *Street Life* (Norwich Theatre Royal Stage Two) and *Rubber Ring* (UK tour) which has been published by Samuel French. James is currently writing new plays for Hampstead Theatre, HighTide, Eastern Angles, Norwich Arts Centre and Norwich Playhouse.

**Sun 21st: 10am (2 hours 30 minutes)**

**Venue: Boardroom | Tickets: £10/£9**

# EPYLLION

By Alona Bach

Produced by Night Train Theatre Co.

*Epyllion* is a modern adaptation of Vergil's *Aeneid* through the eyes of Aeneas' son, Ascanius (also called Jules).

"Jules has lost his mother. She disappeared during the fall of Troy and now she's haunting his dreams with cups of cold hot chocolate. After seven years as a refugee, Jules feels at sea in a world much bigger than himself: a world filled with storms, war, sailors, promises to the gods, and – of course – his father, Pious Aeneas."

**Sun 21st: 12.30pm (90 minutes)**

**Venue: J3 | Tickets: £5/£4**

*A script-in-hand workshop/reading and exploration of a new play.*

# BOULDER

Produced and Presented by Half A String

In this reimagining of the Greek myth, an intricate puppet struggles to move a colossal, burdensome stone. Doomed with the hopeless task of pushing the rock up a hill, he is condemned to watch it roll back each day. Trapped in an endless cycle, the man wrestles with his pointless existence cursing the futility of life.

Augmented by hand drawn, earthy animation *Boulder* fuses live and digital, all accompanied by live cello, atmospheric voices and original music. Within this intriguing blend emerges fluid transformations of set and scale as this trickster strains at the confines of his situation.

*Boulder* is supported by The Marlowe and co-commissioned by Warwick Arts Centre & ACE.

★★★★★ "Breath-taking" Edinburgh Guide

**Sun 21st: 2.00pm (60 minutes)**

**Venue: J2 · Tickets: £8/£7**

*A full Pre-Edinburgh Fringe Festival production presented by Half A String.*





## BLISS: PLAYWRITING WORKSHOP

Presented by Fraser Grace and cast members from BLISS

Join this playwriting workshop focusing on *BLISS*: a play by one of Menagerie's Associate Writers, Fraser Grace (*Breakfast with Mugabe* and *Always Orange* for the RSC, and for Menagerie: *Gifts of War*, *Frobisher's Gold* and *Tongues*).

Explore playwriting and adaptation techniques with Fraser and members of the cast of *BLISS*. Based on a gorgeous short story by the Russian writer Andrey Platonov (1899-1951), the new play *BLISS* is both a love story and a tale of souls, bruised perhaps beyond repair, that has gone from short story into a play.

**Sun 21st: 3.00pm (90 minutes)**

**Venue: J3 | Tickets: £10/£9**

*Workshop presented by Menagerie.*

## PEREGRINE'S PROGRESS

By Rachel Osborne

Directed by Naz Yeni. Produced by Liam High. Music by Fran Key.

Peregrine is turning 30. After a period of absence, she decides to return to her family home, a space where secrets and unspoken trauma swell and heave beneath the surface. As her private and public worlds collide, Peregrine is forced to take drastic action.

*Peregrine's Progress* is a play in development written by Rachel Osborne whilst studying Creative Writing at UEA.

*'I read it through in one session... I was gripped.'* - Juliet Stevenson

**Sun 21st: 5.30pm (90 minutes)**

**Venue: J3 | Tickets: £5/£4**

*A script-in-hand performance of a new play.*

# HOW TO BOOK:

## TICKETS

### Individually priced tickets:

£3-£10

### Day Passes (Saturday or Sunday)

Will get you into every performance,  
reading and workshop

£20/£16

All ticket prices include a booking fee.

## BOX OFFICE

In person:

Cambridge Junction,  
Clifton Way,  
Cambridge CB1 7GX

Ticket Sales: 01223 511 511

(10am - 6pm, Mon - Sat)

or [tickets@junction.co.uk](mailto:tickets@junction.co.uk)

or online: [www.junction.co.uk](http://www.junction.co.uk)

Please see online for full details including age restrictions.

Cambridge Junction is a fully accessible venue.

For further show information, please visit our websites:

[www.junction.co.uk](http://www.junction.co.uk)

[www.hotbedtheatrefestival.com](http://www.hotbedtheatrefestival.com)

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JUNCTION**