



menagerie

**HOTBED
THEATRE
FESTIVAL
2023**

AT CAMBRIDGE JUNCTION

New Writing · Productions · Workshops · Readings

FRI 14, SAT 15 & SUN 16 JULY

www.junction.co.uk



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

**CAMBRIDGE
JUNCTION**

DEBUT PLAYS BY MENAGERIE YOUNG WRITERS SCRIPT IN HAND PERFORMANCES

HOW TO WIN THE 2038 ELECTION

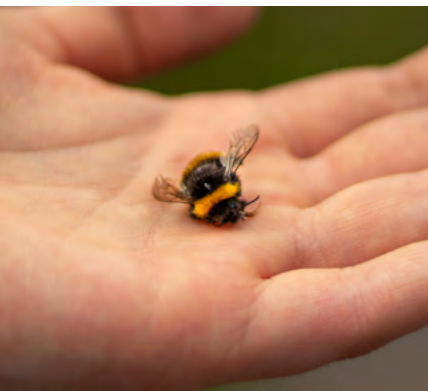
By Christopher Donovan

B is 12. His favourite YouTuber is Jay, a gamer and prankster. Jay sees the world for what it is – unfair and messed up by boomers. B agrees. As the years roll by, curiosity becomes fascination and then obsession. The pair find their lives increasingly intertwined and the future hurtles to meet them at the 2038 election.

Sat 15th: 12.45pm (60 minutes - includes talk with writer)

Venue: J3 | PWYF: £6-£8-£10

Age Guidance: 16+



STROKING BUMBLEBEES

By Maria Messias Mendes

A train station platform. Childhood friends Zana and Tai meet again after a long, unexplained silence. They'd once had a strong bond with the natural world, conversing with it as a friend. But life's struggles have broken that. *Stroking Bumblebees* explores how loneliness and connection intersect with our relationship to the environment.

Sat 15th: 2pm (60 minutes - includes talk with writer)

Venue: J2 | PWYF: £6-£8-£10

Age Guidance: 16+

CAT O' NINE TALE

By Daisy Miles

Pott Shrigley, Macclesfield. Population: 289. Helena and Eddie, recent retirees from the assassination industry, move to the countryside with their two cats, Mike and Tyson. Time to forget the past.

Pott Shrigley, Macclesfield. Population: 288. Tyson is nowhere to be found. Someone's got to pay.

Cat O' Nine Tale is a dark comedy about village life, ageing and murder – it's the cat's whiskers!

Sat 15th: 5pm (60 minutes - includes talk with writer)

Venue: J2 | PWYF: £6-£8-£10

Age Guidance: 16+



YOUNG WRITER'S PRODUCTION 2023

SHOREDITCH MUSE

*I s'pose paintings of pretty
women sell better than...
paintings of pretty...horses?
Or plums? Or...skulls?*

By Emma Zadow

Directed by Patrick Morris

Fanny Eaton needs money and the 'bad boys' of British Art, the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood, need new models. Fanny begins posing for the beguiling Dante Gabriel Rossetti. Both feel themselves to be outsiders in Britain – she hails from Jamaica, his family from Italy. But what do they see in each other? Who is in control as the paintings emerge? *Shoreditch Muse* is not a love story. It is a passion play. Uncovering powerful themes of race, beauty and identity, it explores what it means to look and be looked at – again and again and again.

(60 minutes - includes talk with writer)

Fri 14th: 7.30pm & Sun 16th: 5pm

Venue: J2 | PWYF: £8-£10-£12

Age Guidance: 14+

**RICHARD JORDAN PRODUCTIONS, 412, WITH LAWRENCE BATLEY THEATRE,
KETCHUP, IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE PLEASANCE**

LASH - A PULSATING NEW PLAY ABOUT GOING OUT OUT!



★★★★★

*'So beautifully written,
staged and acted, it takes
one's breath away'*

Sunday Telegraph
(on Heroin(e) for Breakfast)

Written by Philip Stokes

Performed by Jack Stokes

It's the weekend and time to hit the town, to go 'out out' and experience everything a Friday night has to offer a young man. Dodgy dealers, even dodgier workmates and the local hard nuts merge into a toxic mix that assaults the senses. *Lash* reflects a youth, at a time post-BREXIT and in the aftermath of covid, wasted in more ways than one.

Part gig, part theatre, *Lash* takes us on a booze-fuelled adrenaline rush, through bustling streets, bouncing clubs, where big tunes and mad characters collide.

Fri 14th: 6.30pm & 9pm (50 minutes) | Venue: J3 | PWYF: £10-£12-£15 | Age Guidance: 16+

HANNAH MAXWELL & PLOTNEK PRODUCTIONS

NAN, ME & BARBARA PRAVI

Written and performed by Hannah Maxwell

Directed by Len Gwyn

An epic tale of care, crisis and the Eurovision Song Contest.

"I wish I could say here our story starts. But this story starts later, and ended earlier. Is entirely fictional, and completely true. Voila."

In 2021, Hannah Maxwell moved back to the Home Counties to care for her terminally ill grandfather. But this show isn't about that. It's about France's Eurovision star Barbara Pravi, who's just lovely.

In between cooking, cleaning and Countdown, Maxwell escapes into an intensifying fantasy of ballroom dances, heartfelt ballads, Parisian cafés, fluent French and definitely-not-creepy plots to engineer a meetcute with a random foreign celebrity. It's *La La Land* meets *Mission Impossible* meets Hannah's nan.

Combining spoken-word, video and *chanson francaise*, *Nan, Me & Barbara Pravi* sits you down at the kitchen table to talk through grief and care, addiction and recovery, and hope and coping in unprecedented times.

Sat 15th: 7.40pm (70 minutes)

Venue: J2 | PWYF: £10-£12-£15

Age Guidance: 16+

★★★★★

*"A generation Z
Caroline Aherne!"*

**To Do List
(For I, AmDram)**





THE MANGO ENSEMBLE

NORTH STAR

By Tom Murray

Directed by Layla Chowdhury

North Star is based on real events from 1941, when Rudolf Hess flew a solo plane to Scotland to end the war and crash landed in a farmer's field. This new play from Tom Murray joins farm labourer, Davy, and his mother, Mol, as they take him in for tea. In a darkly comedic tale of myth and madness, the past begins to unravel.

It's a play about loss, colonialism and the myths we tell ourselves. It challenges the notion of British exceptionalism at the heart of our national identity, confronting the uncomfortable realities of our own history.

Selected as one of the "RSC 37 Plays" 2023

Sun 16th: 8pm (80 minutes)

Venue: J2 | PWYF: £10-£12-£15

Age Guidance: 14+

Peter Shaffer
Award winner
2023

FLADAM

Fladam are 'the most amazing
hilarious musical comedy duo'
(Harry Whittaker, BBC Radio)

GREEN FINGERS

By Adam Sowter, Flo Poskitt and Ben Tansey

A deliciously Dahl-esque treat from madcap musical duo Fladam (Flo Poskitt and Adam Sowter), about a boy born with bright green hands, but is he really rotten, or just misunderstood?

Green Fingers is a magical, musical storytelling show for children aged 5+ exploring ideas of accepting yourself, and engaging with the natural world.

Featuring live music, puppetry and plenty of humour, don't miss this BLOOMING marvellous musical for all the family!

Sun 16th: 11.15-12.05pm (50 minutes)

Venue: J2 | PWYF: £10-£12-£15

Age Guidance: 5+

**HOTBED
FOR KIDS
AGE 5+**



WORKS IN PROGRESS

HOARDE

By Angela Neenan and Rachel Harvey

The Chosen One presides over her treasures, waiting for a call to answered. The queue is long, and the journey home perilous. The runes are cast. The fridge defrosted. The storm is approaching.

All she needs now is sign from the Gods.

Sat 15th: 6.45pm (45 minutes)

Venue: J3 | PWYF: £6-£8-£10

Age Guidance: 16+



WORKS IN PROGRESS

DOUBLE-HEADER

THE HANDOVER

By Caroline Rippin and Kate Malyon

Beyond the papers and the heirlooms, what else do we find ourselves left with when our loved ones leave this world, and what on earth are we supposed to do with it now!?

MOTHER - CHORUS OF ONE

By Raphaëlle Collou

This liberating solo piece intertwining spoken-word and physical theatre might be the tonic you need to understand your mother better or realise other mums have felt this way too.

Sun 16th: 12.30pm (80 minutes as a double-bill)

Venue: J3 | PWYF: £6-£8-£10

Age Guidance: 12+

MST WRITING IN PERFORMANCE

ICE MONOLOGUES: GETTING HOME

Students from The MSt Writing for Performance programme at Cambridge University's Institute of Continuing Education present a series of original no holds-barred monologues.

Seven writers, seven actors, seven minutes, seven stories...

Each interwoven piece touches on, explores or explodes our theme: **Getting Home.**

[Script in hand performances](#)

Saturday 15th: 9.00pm (60 minutes)

Sunday 16th: 6.30pm (60 minutes)

Venue: J3 | PWYF: £8-£10-£12

Age Guidance: 16+



RISK, TRUST AND FAITH

Devised and presented by **Caroline Partridge**

Following on from her successful podcast series 'The Perception Podcast', Caroline takes us by the hand and invites us to step into the unknown. To be the first to witness the conception of... what exactly?... she isn't sure. What she does know is that it's going to be epic... and risky.

[Early stage work in progress](#)

Sun 16th: 2.15pm (60 minutes)

Venue: J2 | PWYF: £6-£8-£10

Age Guidance: 12+

SUAVE SQUIRREL

SELF EXCLUDED

Written and performed by **Lee Hunter**

Who are we behind the mask? What excites us? What helps us to escape from the mundane day to day? For Joe, it's putting it all on the line for that overwhelming injection of adrenaline, that buzz... but at what cost?

[Script in hand performance](#)

Sun 16th: 3.30pm (70 minutes with talk-back)

Venue: J3 | PWYF: £6-£8-£10

Age Guidance: 16+





READING

THREE GLORIOUS DAYS

By Vanessa Ackerman

Directed by Nir Paldi

A script reading

Paris, 2015, two students are about to go through the annual hazing ritual at their university. Mira is Jewish and Malik is Muslim and they're falling in love. But the roles they are forced to play in the ritual will challenge and complicate their budding romance and irrevocably alter the course of their lives.

Sat 15th: 3.15pm (90 minutes with talk-back)

Venue: J3 | PWYF: £6-£8-£10

Age Guidance: 16+

EVENTS

WRITERS' MEET-UP

Led by Jessie Anand

Join Menagerie Producer Jessie Anand to discuss and explore some of the current producing challenges and opportunities in new writing for the theatre. Including information about grants and support to develop work for Hotbed 2024.

Sat 15th: 11am (90 minutes)

Venue: J2 Mezzanine

Free Event – Just turn up!



THE REVIVAL OF HUNTLY CARTER

A Workshop for Playwrights, Artists and Researchers

With Ideas Stage Director Patrick Morris

The Ideas Stage is a programme collaborating with university researchers to create theatre from their research. This workshop introduces 'The Revival of Huntly Carter', a partnership with Oxford University. Explore how to nurture artistic/academic collaborations, and carry out some real-time responses to research.

Sun 16th: 11am (90 minutes)

Venue: Boardroom PWYF: £8-£10-£12

Age guidance: 16+

HOTBED 2023 FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

All performances take place at Cambridge Junction

Friday 14 July

6.30pm	Lash – A Pulsating New Play About Going Out Out!	J3
7.30pm	Shoreditch Muse	J2
9.00pm	Lash – A Pulsating New Play About Going Out Out!	J3

Saturday 15 July

11.00am	Writers' Meet-up	Mezzanine
12.45pm	How to Win the 2038 Election	J3
2.00pm	Stroking Bumblebees	J2
3.15pm	Three Glorious Days	J3
5.00pm	Cat O' Nine Tale	J2
6.45pm	Hoarde	J3
7.40pm	Nan, Me & Barbara Pravi	J2
9.00pm	ICE Monologues	J3

Sunday 16 July

11.00am	The Revival of Huntly Carter: Workshop	Boardroom
11.15am	Green Fingers	J2
12.30pm	Double-bill: Mother - Chorus of One & The Handover	J3
2.15pm	Risk, Trust and Faith	J2
3.30pm	Self Excluded	J3
5.00pm	Shoreditch Muse	J2
6.30pm	ICE Monologues	J3
8.00pm	North Star	J2

Booking Information and tickets: www.junction.co.uk

HOW TO BOOK:

TICKETS

All individual tickets are priced in ranges to suit your budget as Pay What You Feel (PWYF)

All ticket prices include a booking fee.

Day Passes:

Saturday or Sunday - £30/£25

will get you into every performance, reading, event or workshop on that day

BOX OFFICE

Cambridge Junction,
Clifton Way,
Cambridge CB1 7GX
01223 511 511

Ticket Sales:

online: www.junction.co.uk

or tickets@junction.co.uk

Hotbed Festival is produced by Menagerie Theatre Company in association with Cambridge Junction. Menagerie is one of the leading national and international theatre companies producing new writing.

www.menagerietheatre.co.uk

Supported by:



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