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FRINGE ENCORE SERIES CELEBRATES 10TH ANNIVERSARY
WITH 23 SHOWS FROM BOTH NYC AND EDINBURGH FRINGE FESTIVALS

SEPTEMBER 10 THROUGH OCTOBER 30 AT THE SOHO PLAYHOUSE

September 1, 2015 (New York, NY) – With over 200 shows presented at FringeNYC Festival and 2000 at Edinburgh Fringe, it’s hard to be in the know about what’s worth seeing. Even worse is having missed the show everyone is talking about post festival. Celebrating its 10th Anniversary, the Fringe Encore Series will present some of the most critically-acclaimed and crowd-pleasing shows from both festivals. But more importantly, it pinpoints and cultivates the theater talent of tomorrow.

From September 10th to October 30th, the Fringe Encore Series and SoHo Playhouse will present eighteen productions from the FringeNYC Festival and five from the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Split between the Main Stage and the Huron Club at the Playhouse, these two dozen shows have already received accolades from the likes of The New York Times, Metro NY, Time Out New York, The Scotsman, TheaterMania, among others. Highlight selections for the 2015 series include: a one-act drama based on real events surrounding the grey areas of consensual sex written by Kat Woods (Belfast Boy) and starring Will Merrick (Skins, About Time); a new musical about choosing the next Pope with Stephen Christopher Anthony (Book of Mormon), Alexa Green (Wicked), Jason Veasey (Lion King) and more; a moving drama about dealing with the aftermath of a loved one’s suicide, which received the of FringeNYC 2015 Overall Excellence in Acting award; a compelling one-woman show depicting Eleanor Roosevelt’s lesbian relationship; and many more.

The 23 productions were hand-selected by seasoned professionals in the NYC theater community including Britt Lafield (Founder and Producer of the Fringe Encore Series, overseeing the NYC selections), Darren Lee Cole (Producer Fringe Encore Series, Artistic Director SoHo Playhouse, overseeing the Edinburgh selections), Scott Morfee (Producer of the Barrow Street Theatre), Michael Sgouros (Owner and Producer of The Players Theatre), and Brenda Bell (Artistic Director of Literally Alive Theatre).

The series is particularly important to Lafield and Cole, who see it as more than just an opportunity to showcase the best of both festivals, but an opportunity to foster and develop emerging talent. Lafield explains:

"This city is full of amazing young theatrical talent. Unfortunately there are not a lot of resources for those individuals to access when it comes to the practical aspect of producing, moving and growing a show for a larger audience... This year's selections are as varied as they are talented. Where else can you see a brilliant one woman show about Eleanor Roosevelt's lesbian lover, an incredibly touching play about mental illness and suicide, a hilarious musical about picking the Pope in addition to amazing storytellers and some of the best
clowning you will see outside of a circus tent. These show's need to be seen by a bigger audience. We provide them with the theater and framework to discover more about their show, more performances to invite audience and industry and expert feedback on every aspect of the production process from our industry advisers... and by doing so, cultivate the next generation of professional theatrical talent in this city."

Cole concurs, “The series serves as a unique and needed development stage for emerging artists and ideas. It has become one of the finest ways to discover future hits. From edgy, funny, dramatic, and engaging, what I love about the Edinburgh shows is that they are original and each takes a risk in their own way. That's what Fringe is about and my involvement with the Encore Series has been one of the most rewarding experiences in my career.”

The Encore Series’ mission of creating a platform for sustainable theatre is evident in the amount of shows that have seen commercial viability after successful runs in the Encore Series. “Jamaica Farewell” was a selection in 2007, and is still performed internationally, with praise from *The New York Times, The Washington Post, Miami Herald, Chicago Sun Times, The Edinburgh Times*, among others. Others have earned Drama Desk Nominations including “Krapp 39” and “Rap Guide to Religion.”

A full schedule of shows can be found below.

All shows selected from NYCFringe will range in price from $18-$25, and those selected from Edinburgh Fringe will be $25. A three-show package will be available $45. Tickets will be available at: [www.sohoplayhouse.com](http://www.sohoplayhouse.com).

### EDINBURGH FRINGE ENCORE

**Josie Long: Cara Josephine**


**Writer/Director:** Josie Long

**Cast:** Josie Long

**Performances:** 10/14 at 9pm, 10/15 at 9pm, 10/17 at 5pm, 10/18 at 9pm, 10/20 at 9pm, 10/21 at 7pm, 10/22 at 9pm, 10/23 at 9pm, 10/24 at 9pm

**Location:** Main Stage

The three-time Edinburgh Comedy Award nominee and cult optimist is back with her new one-man show about love and being outdoorsy as a bear. This is by far her most personal show to date: with a new niece in the picture, Josie reflects on her own childhood and the resilience of an older sister. Oh, there are also some mentions about the Quakers and Walt Whitman too. Cara Josephine enjoyed a total sell-out run and was the overall best-reviewed comedy show at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2014.

**Wasted**

[www.noprophettheatrecompany.com/shows](http://www.noprophettheatrecompany.com/shows)

No Prophet Theatre Company

**Writer/Director:** Kat Woods

**Cast:** Will Merrick (Skins, About Time) and Serena Jennings.

**Performances:** 10/15 at 7pm, 10/16 at 9:30pm, 10/17 at 9pm, 10/18 at 7pm, 10/21 at 8pm, 10/22 at 7pm, 10/25 at 7pm

**Location:** Main Stage

Based on true events. An engaging and unsettling drama in one act. Wasted explores the grey area in consensual sex and how outside pressures can blur the lines of what did happen and what we think happened. This dark drama puts the audience in the jury seat and forces us to make a judgment on a crime which is based on feelings and emotions rather than fact and evidence. From the writer of *Belfast Boy*, a winner of the 2014 Fringe Review Outstanding Theatre Award.

**21st Century Jew**

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

**Writer/Director:** Daniel Cainer

**Cast:** Daniel Cainer
Performances: 9/26 at 3pm, 9/30 at 3pm, 10/2 at 7pm, 10/7 at 7pm, 10/11 at 7pm
Location: Huron Club
Brand new stories-in-song from this award-winning master songwriter. Fringe favourite Cainer explores the challenges and contradictions of being Jewish in 21st century Britain. A show for anyone who has ever wrestled with their heritage, their history, their home and their heart... Jewish or not. ‘At times heartbreakingly poignant, at others laugh out loud funny. Utterly charming, thoroughly recommended’ (Edinburgh Festivals Magazine). 'Does on stage what I do on the page' (Howard Jacobson). ‘Must see’ (Daily Mirror). 'Fast-paced, incredibly amusing, and even a little bit naughty. Genius... an unsurpassed storyteller’ ***** (ThreeWeeks). **** (Time Out).

Magdalen
www.magdalentheplay.com
Writer/Cast: Erin Layton
Director: Julie Kline
Performances: 10/4 at 7pm, 10/6 at 8pm, 10/8 at 7pm, 10/9 at 7pm, 10/11 at 5pm
Location: Main Stage
The little known stories of the women and girls who were sent to wash away their sins in commercial laundries run by orders of nuns in mid twentieth-century Ireland are revealed in a singular, compelling, multi-character performance. Erin Layton swiftly transitions in and out of time periods, voices and images that ‘breed anger, compassion, sorrow and mistrust’ (TheatreReviews.com), ‘embodying with ease all of these many disparate characters and making them all flesh and blood people in this one-woman show. The performance of the festival’ (HuffingtonPost.com). Magdalen was the recipient of the Best Documentary Script at the United Solo Festival in 2013.

Fable
The Flanagan Collective
www.theflanagancollective.com/fable.html
Writer: Alexander Wright
Director: Joe Hufton
Composer: Jim Harbourne
Producer: Brian Hook
Cast: TBC
Performances: 10/20 at 8pm, 10/23 at 7pm, 10/24 at 7pm*, 10/25 at 7pm, 10/27 at 7pm, 10/28 at 7pm, 10/30 at 7pm*
Location: Main Stage & Huron Club (Main Stage performances denoted above with an asterisk)
J runs so fast she bursts into a million tiny pieces, her atoms unknitting themselves and spreading across the universe. Blair stands on a broken pier with a glass of white wine in one hand and a pint of Guinness in the other, looking up at the stars. A story about two very different people who change each other profoundly. Following folk-hit hit Beulah (***** Scotsman) and Babylon (‘Ruddy gorgeous’ Guardian) we return with a tale of freedom, immortality and planting trees for those who come after us. A show wound from spoken word, storytelling, soaring live music and good, honest heart and soul. The Flanagan Collective are critically acclaimed, national company based ay York Theatre Royal, UK. They make work about people, about who and where we are and about how we can change each other profoundly. Their work is wound from live music and spoken word – taking influence from Kate Tempest to Tom Waits. They have taken their work to pubs, railway arches, empty warehouses and London’s West End.

FRINGE NYC ENCORE

The American Play
The Dirty Blondes
www.thedirtyblondes.org/the-american-play.html
Writer: Ashley J. Jacobson
Director: Darren Johnston
Cast: Michael DeBartolo, Jen Jacob, John Charles Nagy
Performances: 9/17 at7pm, 9/18 at 9pm, 9/20 at 5pm, 9/21 at 7pm, 9/25 at 9pm
Location: Main Stage
Two college students let their obsession with American Psycho and Patrick Bateman lead them down a rabbit hole of destructive and violent behavior. An in-depth look at modern masculinity, entitlement and false idol worship. Winner of FringeNYC 2015 Overall Excellence in Playwriting.

**Beware The Chupacabra!**  
Mind The Art Entertainment  
[www.mindtheartentertainment.com/current-production](http://www.mindtheartentertainment.com/current-production)  
**Writer: Music:** Christian De Gré, **Lyrics:** R. Patrick Alberty  
**Director:** R. Patrick Alberty and Christian De Gré  
**Musical Director:** Aaron Butler  
**Performances:** 10/1 at 9:30pm, 10/4 at 4pm, 10/10 at 9:30pm  
**Location:** Main Stage  
The award-winning production team behind the festival hits FATTY FATTY NO FRIENDS, and WHISKEY PANTS: THE MAYOR OF WILLIAMSBURG - is proud to announce the premiere of their brand-new musical, BEWARE THE CHUPACABRA. Seeking to impress his future father-in-law, innocent dressmaker Teddy Baskins embarks on a dark and musical journey from 1920's New York to the dangerous jungles of Mexico in pursuit of the legendary Chupacabra, a mythical, goat-sucking beast.

**The Boys Are Angry**  
Maineland Productions - Maridee Slater producing  
**Writer:** Jillie Mae Eddy  
**Director:** Sam Plattus  
**Producer:** Maridee Slater  
**Cast:** Jillie Mae Eddy, Nate Houran, and Xander Johnson  
**Performances:** 9/30 at 8pm, 10/1 at 7pm, 10/3 at 7pm  
**Location:** Main Stage  
AJ’s angry. Quinn’s in love. And The Girl might just be perfect. From a small, dark corner of a large, run-down compound, three young millennials try to make a connection. Through conversations both real and imagined, they confront on- and off-line communication; present-day American masculinity; and the violent hatred of women at the dark heart of the 'Manosphere'—all without ever leaving the living room. The Boys Are Angry is a warning against a growing and too often underestimated hate group. We are in the midst of an ongoing epidemic of violence against women "Woman is no better than an animal. Parasite and predator, she is Eve: born of Adam’s rib, or she is Delilah, Jezebel, Yoko: pirating our strength, perverting our faith, and breaking up the fucking Beatles." Winner of FringeNYC 2015 Overall Excellence in Acting.

**The Commedia Rapunzel**  
The Spaghetti and Meatball Players  
[www.thecommediarapunzel.com](http://www.thecommediarapunzel.com)  
**Writer: Sam LaFrage (Book and Lyrics)**  
**Director:** Sam LaFrage and Dennis Corsi  
**Choreographer:** Sam LaFrage  
**Cast:** Natasha Nightingale, Andy Dispensa, Conor McGuigan, Joe McGurl, Billie Aken Tyers  
**Performances:** 9/12 at 3pm, 9/19 at 3pm, 9/26 at 3pm & 7pm, 10/2 at 7pm  
**Location:** Main Stage  
Two sassy birds? A gossiping 80’s hairstylist? A Cobbler and his wife from the wrong side of the tracks? COMMEDIA DELL ARTE?!? BACK UP NOW! This ain’t yo mama’s Rapunzel! "The Commedia Rapunzel" follows the Spaghetti and Meatball Players, a troupe of poor traveling “Italian” actors, as they present a hilarious zany musical romp through a twisted re-telling of the fairytale “Rapunzel” done in the style of Commedia dell Arte! Expect the unexpected in this wild night of participatory theatre that is WACKY CRAZY FUN for the ENTIRE FAMILY! Douglas Carter Beane said, "As much for the parents as it is for the kids!" Jasper Magazine said, “It’s the funniest play I’ve seen in years.”

**Coping**  
Audra Arnaudon Presents
This August, the up-and-coming artists behind last year’s hit Chemistry return to the New York International Fringe Festival with Coping, a pitch black comedy about love, family and the absurdity of death. Coping follows the aftermath of 25-year-old Connor’s suicide, as his friends and loved ones try to piece together the smoking remains of his life. His girlfriend, Sarah, struggles with the guilt of inadvertently handing Connor the means to kill himself. His sister, Jessica, attempts to control every detail of the funeral and punish anyone who questions her, while her girlfriend plays peacemaker. His roommate, Lucas, wanders through life in a stoned haze to avoid the horror of what has happened. As each of them tries desperately to make things right, place blame, and confront their own battles with mental illness, they must find a way to come together and accept the unacceptable, or destroy the memory of the one person they all loved. Winner of FringeNYC 2015 Overall Excellence in Acting.

Far From Canterbury
Dana M. Lerner in Association with Far From Canterbury, LLC

Winner of FringeNYC 2015 Overall Excellence for Musicals.

Feelings: because why pretend the show is about anything else?

HICK: A LOVE STORY, The Romance of Lorena Hickok and Eleanor Roosevelt*

Loose Canon
No Refunds or Exchanges Co.
**LUCKY CHICK**  
[www.luckychick.nyc](http://www.luckychick.nyc)
Lucky Chick Productions  
**Writer/Cast:** Felicity Seidel  
**Director:** Padraic Lillis  
**Producer:** Danielle Gautier  
**Performances:** 10/15 at 9pm, 10/17 at 7pm, 10/18 at 7pm, 10/19 at 7pm, 10/21 at 8pm  
**Location:** Huron Club

Guys with guns. HOT! Plucked from the crowd by Bob Weir at a Dead show. CRAZY! On tour with the band: Lear jets, pythons, Hells Angels. WOOHOO! A pissed-off drug-kingpin boyfriend. UH-OH. Buckle up, sweetheart. It's one helluva ride.

**Maybe Tomorrow***  
The Poet Acts, Inc.  
[www.maybetomorrowtheplay.com](http://www.maybetomorrowtheplay.com)
**Writer:** Max Mondi  
**Director/Producer:** Tomer Adorian  
**Producers:** Danielle Bourgeois, Jessica Wanamaker  
**Cast:** Jennifer Bareielles, Harrison Unger  
**Performances:** 9/15 at 8pm, 9/17 at 9:30pm, 9/19 at 7pm, 9/20 at 5pm, 9/23 at 8pm  
**Location:** Huron Club

A woman chooses to live exclusively in her boyfriend’s bathroom. Their otherwise “normal” relationship is thriving until someone else enters the scene. Inspired by true events, Maybe Tomorrow is a tragicomical, meta-theatrical experience about love, fame, and a toilet. Winner of FringeNYC 2015 Overall Excellence for Plays.

**Naked Hamilton**  
Naked-On-the-Run Productions  
**Writer:** Sky Gilbert  
**Director:** Sky Gilbert  
**Cast:** Scott McCord and Suzanne Bennett  
**Performances:** 10/3 at 7:30pm, 10/4 at 5pm, 10/5 at 7pm, 10/6 at 8pm, 10/7 at 8pm, 10/10 at 7pm, 10/11 at 5pm  
**Location:** Huron Club

Naked Hamilton is about working class people – everywhere -- and about cities – everywhere -- cities that put massive corporate profits above quality of human life. The raw story of an aging sex trade worker (Tee) and her ex-lover (Tom) getting kicked out of their favorite bar. Hamilton is a small city just outside of Toronto — analogous to Queens. Who wins — real people or gentrification? They share a dialogue that is frank, and obscene. And what we realize after spending 40 minutes with them is that despite the yelling, swearing and manipulations they also share a kind of love.

**POPESICAL*  
Tilted Windmills Theatricals  
**Writer:** Adam Overett  
**Director/Choreographer:** Drew Geraci
**Cast:** Stephen Christopher Anthony (Book of Mormon), Alexa Green (Wicked), Jason Veasey (Lion King), Lucas Thompson (Cats), Rachel Coloff (Urinetown), David Perlman (Baby, It’s You!), and Susan Jacks (Forbidden Broadway)

**Performances:** 9/28 at 7pm, 10/5 at 9:30pm, 10/12 at 7pm, 10/19 at 9:30pm, 10/26 at 7pm

**Location:** Main Stage

The Pope is dead. The Cardinals gather in the Sistine Chapel to choose a new Pope. No one has ever seen what happens – until now. The backbiting. The sacrilege. The hilarious song-and-dance. An over-the-top musical comedy, POPESICAL suggests that love can be the most powerful form of faith. Winner of FringeNYC 2015 Overall Excellence for Musicals.

**SCHOOLED**

The All-Americans

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

**Writer:** Lisa Lewis

**Director:** James Kautz

**Cast:** Lilli Stein, Quentin Maré, Stephen Friedrich

**Performances:** 10/5 at 7pm, 10/9 at 9:30pm, 10/10 at 7pm, 10/11 at 7pm, 10/17 at 7pm

**Location:** Main Stage

From acclaimed storyteller Lisa Lewis comes SCHOOLED, a fiercely funny and gripping new play about privilege, ambition, and the lengths we’ll go to succeed. Two students and their professor find themselves in a taut threesome that tests their relationship and their ethics. Winner of FringeNYC 2015 Overall Excellence in Playwriting.

**The Submarine Show***

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

**Slater and Jaron**

**Writer/Director/Choreographer/Cast:** Jaron Hollander (Cirque Du Soleil) and Slater Penney (Emmy Award winner)

**Performances:** 9/21 at 9pm, 9/22 at 8pm, 9/23 at 8pm, 9/24 at 7pm, 9/25 at 7pm, 9/26 at 9pm, 9/27 at 5pm

**Location:** Main Stage

Two men crash their submarine on the ocean floor. You laugh as they cry, swim, fly and go insane, a madcap journey from the ocean to the sky.

**A Supposedly Fun Thing I’ll Never Do Again**

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

**Writer:** David Foster Wallace

**Director:** Suzanne Weber

**Cast:** Christopher Duva (The Elephant Man, Beauty and the Beast)

**Performances:** 9/13 at 7pm, 9/16 at 8pm, 9/18 at 7pm, 9/20 at 7pm, 9/22 at 8pm

**Location:** Huron Club

David Foster Wallace barely survives the “insanity-producing pampering” provided while on assignment aboard a 7-Night Caribbean Cruise. Meet solicitous fun-managers, Dickensian crewmen, beautiful Petra and Captain Video in this adaptation of his tragicomic tale of Americans adrift.

**Your Love, Our Musical!***

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

**Writer/Director/Cast:** Rebecca Vigil and Evan Kaufman

**Performances:** 9/14 at 8pm, 9/21 at 7pm, 9/28 at 9pm*, 10/1 at 9:30pm, 10/16 at 7pm

**Location:** Main Stage and Huron Club (those with asterisk denote Main Stage performance)

Rebecca Vigil and Evan Kaufman interview an unsuspecting couple in the audience and improvise a brand-new musical based on their love story! It’s adorable, romantic, and no two shows are the same! Winner of FringeNYC 2015 Overall Excellence in Acting.

**## \ ABOUT FRINGE ENCORE SERIES **
Fringe Encore Series (Britt Lafield- Founder and Producer) was created as a learning center and stepping stone for the young talent and amazing productions that are a part of The New York International Fringe Festival every August in New York City. Now having expanded to include the Edinburgh Fringe, Fringe Encore Series presents, promotes and educates the “best of” productions from each festival and allows more time for theater going public to catch the fresh new voices of today’s theater.

ABOUT SOHO PLAYHOUSE
SoHo Playhouse (Darren Lee Cole, Artistic Director) has been one of Off Broadway’s primary venues for new plays for the past 70 years. Formerly “Vandam Playhouse” the theatre has been home to countless dreams and movements. Many actors, directors, choreographers, production designers, theatre managers, technicians, and producers all received their start at SoHo Playhouse. Several of America’s leading writers have premiered their work at 15 Vandam Street including; Sam Shepard, Edward Albee, Tracy Letts, Charles Buch, Leroi Jones and Lanford Wilson. Award winning shows have included: “The Boys in the Band”, “Killer Joe”, “The Divine Sister”, “Mindgame”, “Krapp, 39”, “Piaf”, “Room Service”, “Jamaica Farewell”, “Belly of a Drunken Piano”, “Bukowski From Beyond”, “Simon Lovell’s Strange & Unusual Hobbies”, “The Emperor Jones”, “Triassic Parq”, “The Canterbury Tales Remixed”, “The Other Josh Cohen”, “Bill W and Dr Bob”, and “Rap Guide to Religion”. Mr. Cole has served as Artistic Director since 2004.