

PRESS RELEASE

Polarbear, mac and BAC in association with The Albany present:

'RETURN'

Written and performed by Polarbear
Designed by Marie Blunck
Directed by Yael Shavit

BAC, 2nd – 20th & 25th March (Tues-Sat), 7.30pm

PRESS NIGHT: WEDNESDAY 3RD MARCH, 7.30PM

BAC launches a season of work devoted to the art of storytelling with the world premiere of 'RETURN', a one man show by one of Britain's leading spoken word artists, Polarbear. In his distinctive Birmingham lilt, Polarbear unfolds his narrative of return, loss and memory, borrowing from the language of film-making to conjure a bold visual landscape in his audience's imagination.

Polarbear came to national prominence as part of Apples & Snakes' *Exposed* tour and through performances at the summer festivals. His work has featured on BBC Radio 1, 3, 4 and 6 and he has performed around the world from Glastonbury to Kuala Lumpur, Koko to California. He leads writing and performance projects up and down the country. His hour-long performance story, *If I cover my nose you can't see me*, toured nationally in 2008/09 and closed the London Literature Festival with a sell out two night run at The Purcell Room, Southbank Centre.

'RETURN' tells the story of Noah, who comes back home after realising that his new life in London does not feel right. The narrative follows him as he faces the people he left: dealing with each relationship in turn and discovering along the way that there are things he can control and just as many that he can't.

On Thursday evenings throughout the run, 'RETURN' will be performed in unusual spaces around the building- from a small room with a fire to the enormous grand hall- as Polarbear explores the changing dynamics of the piece and the possibility of creating intimacy in different spaces.

The Big Story is a season of work at BAC celebrating the art of storytelling. Other highlights of the programme include Jon Haynes' *The Poof Downstairs*, Little Bulb's *Sporadical*, Third Angel's *Class of '76* and The River People's *Lilly Through the Dark*, as well as *Something Quiet is About to Happen* by Deborah Pearson, *If That's All There Is* by Inspector Sands and sharings of true stories in a variety of rooms around BAC in *My Story*.

'You must go and listen to this man's work' John Hillcock, XFM

'His minimal style and unsettlingly straightforward and blunt lyricism make him shine'
Dazed & Confused

Developed at BAC. Commissioned by Live Literature Consortium.

www.homeofpolar.com/www.bac.org.uk/ Running time: 1 hr approx.

Company Information

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Designer Marie Blunck
Director & Script Development Yael Shavit

Listings Information

Venue:	Battersea Arts Centre
Address:	Lavender Hill, London SW11 5TN
Dates:	2-20&25 March (Tues-Sat)
Times:	7.30pm
Price:	£12 / £7 concs (Tuesdays Pay What You Can)
Box Office:	020 7223 2223
Transport:	Clapham Junction overground station