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**PRESS RELEASE**

BAC presents:

# THE BIG STORY

**BAC, 2<sup>nd</sup> March - 10<sup>th</sup> April 2009**

Pull up a chair, take a place beside the fire and get comfortable, as BAC begins a season of work devoted to the age old art of storytelling.

Spoken word artist **Polarbear** stages the world premiere of his new solo show, *'RETURN'*, a 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 has featured on BBC Radio 1,2,3,4 and 6, and has performed around the world, from Glastonbury to Kuala Lumpur and California.

**John Haynes** is one half of Ridiculusmus, the company behind critically acclaimed shows including *The Importance of Being Earnest* and *Tough Time, Nice Time*. In his one man show, *The Poof Upstairs*, John shares the story of what happens when Jeremy returns to live with his parents in adulthood.

**Little Bulb** will be taking over BAC's bar with performances of *Sporadical*, their new show that developed in front of delighted audiences at Edinburgh's Forest Fringe in 2009. Beginning at 9.30, audiences can catch this light hearted, musical history of the Welles-Ferry family following *'RETURN'* or *The Poof Downstairs*. There will also be bands and DJs playing following the performances.

*If That's All There Is* was one of the sell out highlights of Edinburgh Festival 2009 from **Inspector Sands**, the company behind Total Theatre Award winning *Hysteria*. Told through the eyes of a jaded therapist and an awkward teenage girl, the play is a case study of longing, envy, disappointment and violent urges, stamped with Inspector Sands' trademark surreal wit, eccentricity and movement sequences.

Other highlights of the season include **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**, sharings of true stories in a variety of rooms around BAC in *My Story* and new Scratch work from **Tassos Stevens** of **Coney** and **Andy Field**. **David Gale** continues his extraordinary 6 month theatre experiment *Dash Dash Dash* with the latest instalment of his original monthly plays.

BAC's Joint Artistic Director **David Micklem** said: "As our lives become increasingly complex and fractured, BAC is taking time out to celebrate our love of a great story well told. With artists as diverse as Polarbear, John Haynes, Little Bulb and Inspector Sands we are exploring new stories, new ways of telling stories and introducing new voices to Lavender Hill for one Big Story this spring."

[www.bac.org.uk](http://www.bac.org.uk)

Listings overleaf

Listings Information

**Polarbear**  
7.30pm  
*'RETURN'*

2-20 & 25 March (Tues-Sat),

Noah returns to a place he had to leave, a place in which he didn't belong. Now he has to fit back into a world where much feels the same, but where everything has changed.

Polarbear takes his audience on a spoken-word journey, visualising scenes and landscapes orally to conjure up our deepest imaginings of how to fit in a place we once called home. 'RETURN' is at once a film, a homecoming, a story of return, loss and memory; the ultimate campfire tale.

£12 (£7 concs)

Tuesdays Pay What You Can

**Little Bulb Theatre**  
9.30pm  
*Sporadical*

2-20 March (Tue-Sat, except Fri 5<sup>th</sup>),

Join Little Bulb Theatre (*Crocsmia*) and the young Welles-Ferrys for a delightful hour of arias, sea shanties, ballads, and beat poetry as they host this year's family reunion.

Be greeted by the quirky bunch, grab a drink, and enjoy this Epic Folk Opera where mermaids rot in brine, and sea captains sport beards and bravado. Raise your glass in a toast as the threads of family history meet up in a puppeted climax!

£5 (£3 concs)

Suitable for 12+

**Jon Haynes**  
8pm

4-20 March (Thu-Sat),

*The Poof Downstairs*

When Jeremy moves back into his parents' home he finds little has changed. He is still dominated by a nagging mother, and bewildered by a distant father who dreams of going fishing. In the conflict that follows Jeremy becomes the focus of his parents' struggle for supremacy.

A circuitous and ambiguous black comedy; this is the first play by the co-founder & joint Artistic Director of the award winning Ridiculusmus.

£10 (£6 concs)

*My Story*

5&6 March, 7pm

BAC is excited by the great stories that people have to tell about their own lives – funny anecdotes, tragic tales, painful separations and joyful reunions.

*My Story* brings some of these together, allowing audiences to roam the building encountering snatches of autobiography in unlikely places, told by those that lived it.

Have a story to tell? If you would like to apply to tell your story in *My Story* then please email [mystory@bac.org.uk](mailto:mystory@bac.org.uk)

£10 (£6 concs)

**Third Angel**  
*Class of '76*

5&6 March, 8.15pm

A fresh and funny live art performance revealing real stories behind the faces of a school photo from 1976.

£10 (£6 concs)

**Ryan Stevens (Nick Ryan and Tassos Stevens)**

9&10 March, 7.45pm

*SCRATCH: Jimmy Stewart, an anthropologist from Mars, analyses love and happiness in humans (and rabbits)*

Jimmy Stewart wants to know what love is. It happens between humans. And rabbits too, possibly.

£5 (£3 concs)

**a smith and Amund Sjølie Sveen**  
8.45pm

9 March,

*where are you?*

A special show about where we come from and what we do that has visited schools in Norway, Russia, and now Wandsworth as part of BAC's Schools Programme.

£5 (£3 concs)

**David Gale**  
7.30pm

**Unit 5: 11 - 13 March,**

***Dash Dash Dash***

*Dash Dash Dash* is a grand theatrical experiment consisting of six short shows and an omnibus, each having no apparent narrative links or, indeed, apparent narratives. Themes abound, however, in this fractured, startling, hilarious and blood-soaked tribute to the end of the world as we know it.

Written and directed by David Gale, alongside designers from Wimbledon College of Art.  
£5 (£3 concs)

**The River People**

**16 & 17 March, 8pm**

***Lilly through the Dark***

An intimate and macabre story inspired by real events using a unique style of puppetry, live music and poetic language.

£10 (£6 concs)  
Suitable for 12+

**Andy Field**

**16 & 17 March,**

8.45pm

***SCRATCH: This Show was Born at the End of The World***

A reconstruction of the end of the world as witnessed by the audience.

£5 (£3 concs)  
Suitable for 16+

**Dom Lawton**

**18-20 March,**

6.45pm

***The Raun Tree***

"There's a tree in the middle of my room and I can hear it singing. Or maybe it's me singing."

An apocalyptic fairy-tale with crunky banjos and haunted songs.

£5 (£3 concs)

**Ventriloquist**

**19 & 20 March,**

8.45pm

***The Lost Menagerie***

A peculiar, beautiful mix of poetry, science fiction, fantasy adventure and cinematic electronic score by Riaan Vosloo (*Nostalgia 77*).

£8 (£5 concs)

**Inspector Sands**

**29 March-10 April (except 4 & 5 April),**

7.30pm, Matinee April 2.30pm

***If That's All There Is***

A couple are teetering on the brink of marriage. As the happiest day of their lives approaches, the panic begins to rise. And everybody's watching. Through the eyes of a jaded therapist and an awkward teenage girl we witness a surreal and hilarious case study of longing, envy, disappointment and violent urges. Inspired by the Peggy Lee song *Is that all there is?* The award-winning Inspector Sands present their award winning sell-out hit from Edinburgh Fringe 2009.

'Brilliant, slippery. Deliciously sharp and witty' \*\*\*\* *Guardian*

£10 (£6 concs)

<b>Venue:</b>	Battersea Arts Centre
<b>Address:</b>	Lavender Hill, London SW11 5TN
<b>Dates:</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> March- 10 <sup>th</sup> April 2010
<b>Times:</b>	Various
<b>Price:</b>	Various
<b>Box Office:</b>	020 7223 2223
<b>Transport:</b>	Clapham Junction overground station