

fringe

PRESS RELEASE

V&O
(Belarus/Russia/UK)
A Hero of Our Time
by Mikhail Lermontov, adapted by
Oliver Bennett and Vladimir Shcherban



Sex, power, love, alienation and violence

Lermontov's classic novel **A Hero Of Our Time** has long been neglected in this country. It is a thrilling Russian dissection of the cruel and complicated games played between genders which lays intimate thoughts unflinchingly bare. We invite you into a man's mind, to peer into his diary and experience the dangerous world of nineteenth century Russian high society. We believe the time is right to explore these thorny issues and to ask what is a hero, who are the heroes of our time?

V&O are a collaborative theatre duo, comprised of **Vladimir Shcherban** and **Oliver Bennett**. They started working together five years ago at the Yard Theatre with the show *Countable/Uncountable*. Vladimir is the multi-award winning director of the majority of **Belarus Free Theatre** shows. **Oliver Bennett** is an actor and writer, winner of the 2017 Mercury Playwriting Competition and recipient of the Peggy Ramsay Bursary.

For our inaugural independent project we decided to make a show in the space where the idea was born - the play was conceived and rehearsed in **Vladimir Shcherban's** living room. This has created an incredible intimate show. It is a uniquely immersive experience where the line is blurred between spectators and performers, between our time and a literary masterpiece of the nineteenth century, and between different theatre systems and techniques. This show is created by artists from completely different social and political backgrounds; British and Russian actors and a Belarusian director, creating a cross-fertilisation of theatre cultures, of physical and experimental theatre, with classical text.

C venues

vibrant vivacious variety

general manager
Rosie Wake
artistic director
Hartley T A Kemp

year round administration

C venues London
5 Alexandra Mansions
Chichele Road
London NW2 3AS

during the Fringe in August

C venues Edinburgh
Adam House
Chambers Street
Edinburgh EH1 1HR
Ticket collection at any C venue

press office tel 0131 581 5550
box office tel 0131 581 5555

email press@cvenues.com
www.cvenues.com

Listings Information

Venue C royale, Royal Society of Edinburgh, 22 George Street, EH2 2PQ, venue 6
Dates 19-27 Aug
Time 17:45 (1hr10)
Ticket prices £8.50-£10.50 / concessions £6.50-£8.50 / under 18s £4.50-£6.50
C venues box office 0131 581 5555 / www.CtheFestival.com
Fringe box office 0131 226 0000 / www.edfringe.com

For further information, images and interview availability please contact Oliver Bennett at V&O on 07765 577864 / oliverbennett_24@hotmail.com or the C venues press office on 0131 581 5550 / press@cvenues.com

C venues

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