



by Cora Bissett, with Swimmer One & David Greig

Sell-out show: Arches, Glasgow 2012

Winner: Creative Scotland Award - Best Theatre 2012

Made In Scotland showcase, Edinburgh 2013

#### About the show:

Following the success of her highly acclaimed, award-winning Edinburgh Fringe hit *Roadkill, Whatever Gets You Through The Night* was conceived by **Cora Bissett**, and created with key collaborators including playwright **David Greig** (*Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Midsummer, Prudencia Hart*) and musicians **Swimmer One** (**Andrew Eaton-Lewis, Laura Eaton-Lewis, Hamish Brown**) as part of Creative Scotland's *Vital Spark* award, and was an original Arches production in 2012.

The stage show is accompanied by a downloadable album including recordings from the show by some of Scotland's most prolific song-writing talent. Additionally there is a souvenir book of the specially commissioned written texts included in the show.

Scotland's most distinctive writers and musicians - including Errors, Ricky Ross, Alan Bissett, Rachel Sermanni, Withered Hand, RM Hubbert, Emma Pollock and Stef Smith - and you: a nation of people, awake in the dark, waiting for the light to come. This ambitious multimedia performance consists of several pieces of writing, music, dance, movement and theatre woven together around the theme of Scotland in the wee small hours. Come and meet lost souls, party animals and dreamers in a snapshot of a country at its most vulnerable and revealing.



"A fiercely likeable evening of theatre, rich in talent and musical inspiration." "A terrific list of indie stars create a superb original score of more than 25 songs."

**The Scotsman** (Joyce Macmillan) - ★★★★

"Something new, intriguing and engaging"
"In amongst this fantastic noise are quieter moments of real beauty"

**STV** (Elaine O'Connor)

"There's real heart to this poignant and funny series of musical snapshots of how we live now" "Director Cora Bissett unveils a lo-fi compendium of after-hours confections which I would be prepared to bet reveals an altogether more fascinating and challenging understanding of contemporary musical theatre"

"Bissett has taken the musical back to its fringe roots in a glorious mix of domestic sentimentalism and old school grit."

**Herald** (Neil Cooper) - ★★★

"A major achievement"
"There are many moving moments here"

**List** (Allan Radcliffe) - ★★★★

"From the throwaway to the bittersweet, these fragments take us dreamily through the night"

Guardian (Mark Fisher) - ★★★★

# **Biographies:**

#### Cora Bissett:

Cora Bissett is a multi-award winning Director/Actor and Artistic Director of Pachamama theatre company. Cora trained with the RSAMD and has worked over the years with a number of theatre companies including: The Arches; NTS; Grid Iron; Traverse Theatre and Royal Lyceum in Scotland, and the Almedia and the Gate in London. Cora's TV and Film credits include STV 'High Times' BBC Scotland 'River City' and 'Rab C Nesbitt', and Andrea Arnold's Palm D'or winner 'Red Road'. Theatre credits include Oliver award winner 'Roadkill' (director), Carol Tambor award winner 'Midsummer' (director / performer), and the highly acclaimed 'Glasgow Girls' (writer / director). Cora has a rich history of musical collaborations, and has toured with artists in the past including Blur and Radiohead.

### Richard Jordan:

Richard Jordan is an Olivier and TONY award-winning theatre producer. Described by The Stage Newspaper as "one of the UK's most prolific theatre producers" he has been named seven times in their annual list of the Top 100 UK theatre professionals. In 2000 he was the first recipient of the TIF/Society of London Theatre Producers Award and in 2009 he was a finalist in the first-ever British Council Young Creative Entrepreneur Awards. His London-based production company, Richard Jordan Productions Ltd, enjoys relationships with many of the world's leading theatres and has produced over 180 productions in 18 different countries including 54 world premieres and 59 European, Australian or US premieres by both new and established writers winning a variety of major awards including: The Lucille Lortel Award; The John Gassner Award for Best New American Play; seven Scotsman Fringe First Awards; two Herald Angel Awards; four Total Theatre Awards, three Helen Hayes Awards; three Obie Awards; the US Black Alliance Award; the 2013 Drama Desk Award, Drama League Award, New York Critics Award, Broadway.com Award, Outer Critic Circle Award and TONY Award for Best New Play. Richard and Cora Bissett regularly produce together; their past coproductions include Roadkill which was recipient of the 2012 Laurence Olivier Award for Outstanding Achievement at an Affiliate Theatre and the new musical Glasgow Girls.

## The Arches:

The Arches, one of Europe's leading cultural venues, is both an arts receiving and production house with an international reputation as an exciting hub of ground-breaking creativity. Housed within seven Grade A listed Victorian railway arches in Glasgow city centre, the venue presents a year-round programme of theatre, performance, dance, visual art, live music and club nights. The arts programming team employs calculated risk-taking in all of its creative decisions, nurturing emergent talent and rewarding bold approaches with a supportive environment for further innovation – showcased each autumn at *Arches LIVE*, a two week long celebration of new, Scottish, contemporary performance talent. Alongside local artists, the Arches presents world-class international artists and companies such as **The TEAM**, **Derevo**, **Ann Liv Young**, **Mammalian Diving Reflex**, **Ontroerend Goed**, **Akhe**, **Taylor Mac** and **Tim Crouch** in the venue as part of its annual *Behaviour* festival of live performance. The Arches regularly wins awards at the *Edinburgh Festival Fringe* and tours work internationally – in recent years this has included taking shows to New York, Spoleto Festival, Sao Paolo and the National Theatre and Barbican in London.

#### www.thearches.co.uk



# Media:

## Trailer Hyperlinks:

Teaser 1: http://vimeo.com/63329580 Teaser 2: http://vimeo.com/63321060

Clips from show: http://vimeo.com/66145557

## Photo Gallery Hyperlink:

www.flickr.com/photos/thearches/sets/72157630530001728/



#### STAGE AREA DIMENSIONS

WGYTTN is a promenade piece and is best set in a venue with cabaret style seating. Podium stages are interspersed within the tables.

A traditional stage at one end of the space is required.

The size of the space is flexible but it should be technically equipped.

#### • LIGHTING REQUIREMENTS

WGYTTN requires a mixture on generic conventional lighting and moving lights depending on stage configurations. The ability to hang lanterns of either kind above the performance area is important.

#### • SOUND REQUIREMENTS

2 x PA

The venue should have a sound desk of at least 16 channels.

### VIDEO REQUIREMENTS

3 x projectors (hung) and 3 screens.

If the venue has a cyc behind the stage this can replace one of the screens.

The company would need to find suitable positions for all 3 projectors in the venue.

The show will run from a computer system provided by the venue (TBC).



Whatever Gets You Through The Night is available to tour from **October 2013.** It is a highly versatile production that can be accommodated in a variety of spaces.

The show's versatility and its party atmosphere make it ideal as a centrepiece to festivals and large scale events. The show has attracted large audiences, and in the right context could be programmed alongside a club night or gig, enhancing the footfall and bar sales at venues.

- The show requires flexible floor space, and the capacity to rig aerial performances is an advantage.
- The show can be put up in approx 90mins-2hrs on a nightly basis, or can be static.
- The show requires 2 days get in and tech rehearsal in order to adapt to new venues.
- The format of the show is negotiable, and can be created to cater to different venues and audiences around the world. Some examples include:
- 1. The full company can bring the show as seen at the Edinburgh Fringe- core cast and musicians, production team and guest musicians.
- 2. The show can consist of core cast and musicians and production team, and be enhanced by local musicians employed by the promoter performing the original compositions included in the show.
- 3. The show can consist of core cast and musicians and production team, and be enhanced by local musicians employed by the promoter performing their own specially commissioned (by the promoter) compositions for the show.

Various combinations of the above can be negotiated with the Arches production team.

## Please contact:

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