



ABOUT BELLOW THEATRE

Bellow Theatre are a new-writing company rooted in brave and stirring stories. We often present work in unusual spaces, so far including a pop-up restaurant, under an oak tree, in a club, and a carpark.

Bellow always try to champion the downtrodden, forgotten, excluded or silenced. The work we make is intimate, moving and celebrates DIY aesthetics, usually with a nod towards open landscapes and the smell of cut grass. Sometimes bringing live folk music into the mix, Bellow leave audiences with a feeling of empowerment.

Led by Maureen Lennon and Tabitha Mortiboy, Bellow are Supported Artists of Hull Truck Theatre; our 2015 show *Billy Through the Window* was nominated for the Brighton Fringe Award for Excellence. Bellow have recently been invited to become a New Diorama Theatre Emerging Artist 2017/18.

Born and bred in Hull, our artists are committed to living and working in this brilliant coastal city. We make our work here and the stories we tell are about what it's like to be a young person living in Hull.

www.bellowtheatre.com

ABOUT THE SHOW: *Bare Skin on Briny Waters*

Annie finds herself on a clifftop. She says she's fine but can't get her story straight.

Sat by her side, Sophie covers the bruises on her neck. She thinks everything might be alright, because it's amazing what you get used to, isn't it?

Underscored with live folk music Bare Skin on Briny Waters is a story about survival and escape. It's about two young women standing on a cliff edge steadily being blown on an unexpected course.

Following the survival stories of two young females in intertwining monologues, *Bare Skin on Briny Waters* fuses beautiful storytelling with strong female energy. Defining the pressure on young people to succeed and 'do well' today, the show is a delicate unravelling of two characters at odds with other people's expectations.

A nod towards ambition and self-assurance, *Bare Skin on Briny Waters* is rooted in the city of Hull, with references to landmarks and the sea. In a city where people often feel downtrodden and forgotten, the story champions two Hull-born women struggling to find room for their ambition.

We write all our own music and perform with live guitar to underscore the text, which is also written by ourselves. We are the only theatre company in Hull make work with original live score.

This production embeds narrative centred on Hull's location by the sea; with endless facts about fish (did you know: "Sharks are the only fish that have eye-lids"?) woven throughout the script *Bare Skin on Briny Waters* spins a yarn about the sea and it's capacity for renewal and regeneration.



THE OPPORTUNITY: Edinburgh Fringe Festival during Hull UK City of Culture 2017

This year all eyes are on our home town, with the crown of City of Culture 2017 shining a light on artists making work here.

The Edinburgh Fringe Festival is a landmark event in every theatre-makers year planner, taking place in August. Artists travel from all over the world to perform and see theatre. The festival receives vast coverage in the media, as do those companies associated with it.

With the British Council showcase taking place this year, along with the City of Culture spotlight – this is the opportune time for Bellow to take work to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. The festival will be a massive platform and links to Hull City of Culture 2017 will considerably promote the show and everyone associated with it.

Bellow Theatre is made up of four young artists, and are a non-for-profit company.

This is an opportunity for Hull businesses to join with a local theatre company taking work to the biggest Fringe Festival in the world.

We invite you to meet with us and talk further about supporting Bellow on this exciting journey to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

Thank you for taking the time to read our proposal.

Contact: Maureen Lennon

Email: bellowtheatre@gmail.com

Phone: 07568184078