TOUR PACK

Because We Said We Would

Genre

Theatre, Comedy Drama, Stylised & Realism

Copy

Because We Said We Would is a dynamic working class story of friendship and music weaving through the decades in a white box theatre show where their world is drawn throughout.

Follow the lives of Jeanie and Tam, from the age of 7, as they bond over their love of music and watch as a childish promise leads to a life-long connection but not everyone's song plays out the same...

THE STORY

Fox and Hound Theatre Company are proud to present: Because We Said We Would.

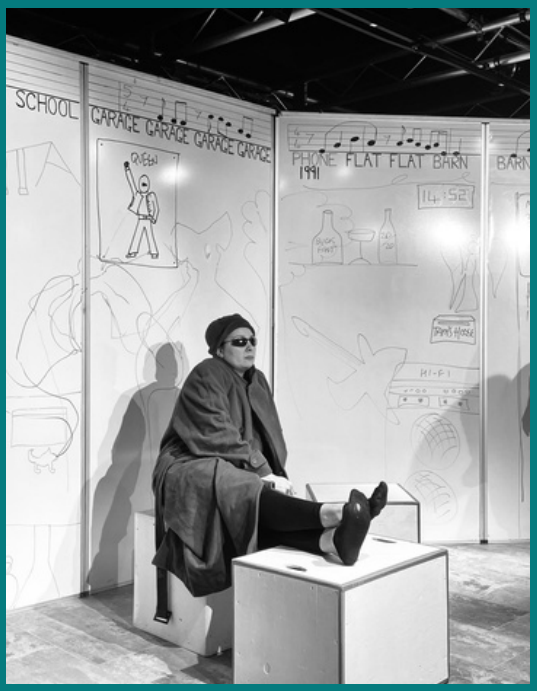
The scene opens in 1976 when Tam and Jeanie are 7 years old, they meet in an old barn which draws them back time and again to discuss their lives. We see Tam and Jeanie first when they are 7, then 12, 17, 22, 29 and up. We meet other people who affect their lives, Jeanie's bully, Tam's dad, their first bandmates and John, the drummer in Tam's band. The scene shifts from the barn to other spaces, Tam and Jeanie's houses, school, the park, Tam's flat but always they are drawn back to where they first met, because they said they would. The settings and characters are drawn by the pair throughout so that in the end the audience has a visual impression of their lives. Friendship is at the heart of the play, a kind of friendship that will never die.

Why did we make this show?

Helen wrote the play in lock down on request from a theatre in the region to perform new work. Codge Crawford suggested writing about friendship as during Covid, friendship and other relationships were pivotal in maintaining good mental health, especially being clinically extremely vulnerable like Helen.

The story started around music and play and evolved from there. As working class artists, being involved in the arts is not an easy pathway and for young men it could be seen as irresponsible and outside social norms, this was of particular interest. What if there was a little firecracker (Jeanie) who would blow through those norms for/with her best friend but who was attacked one night, derailing their journey together.

Unfortunately it is still commonplace for sexual violence against women to occur and the consequences quickly became an important part of the story. We want to engage with audiences about the things that really matter.



Setting

A Barn somewhere in Scotland, 1976-

Original song written by Codge Crawford.

Script Available to read.

Why are we touring it now?

We developed the play over the last couple of years and think that it is a really great show which we want to share with wider audiences. The issues in the play are still highly relevant and really important, encouraging people to talk, to speak out and encourage social change.

We have been given permission by the charity MIND to offer their leaflets, to support audiences that have been affected by the performance, in order that they can access the proper support.
Our audiences, from development performances through to bookings have all expressed a desire for work like this, that tackles the issues in a sensitive way but that gets people talking. They have also said how different and fun the performance was, which helps to counterbalance the serious side.

We can offer wraparound work for this based on a community's need/want. This would incur an additional cost.

PRODUCTION INFORMATION

Age Guidance - 14+

Team

Producer- Caron Lyon
Writer- Helen Fox
Director- Ellie Jay Stevens
Stage Manager- Codge Crawford
Technical Operator- Rowan Crawford

Cast

Codge Crawford
Tam Elliot

Helen Fox
Jeanie Brown

The show involves multi-roling and additional character swapping, played by both performers.

Additional Characters:
Fiona- Jeanie's Bully
Mr Elliot- Tam's Dad
Dan Stevens- Lead Guitar
Adam- Drummer
John- Drummer

TARGET AUDIENCE

- Fans of Storytelling
- 25+ Theatre goers
- Fans of New Writing
- Fans of Feminist and Working Class Theatre
- Fans of Disabled and/or neurodiverse led companies

Social Media and Contact

https://www.instagram.com/foxandhoundtheatrecompany/views

https://www.facebook.com/FoxandHoundTheatre

Email: foxandhoundtheatrecompany@gmail.com

Running Order

Act 1
Interval
Act 2

Running Time

95 Minutes, including interval
Optional Post Show Q&A (20 Mins est)
Formal or Informal format.

"...a warm and cordial Q & A session where Fox, Crawford and Stevens shed some light on the production. If you get a chance, this is compulsory viewing for both seasoned and novice theatre lovers..."

We like to offer a Q&A after all of our performances, it is a great opportunity to include the audience, letting them know how important they are to the experience and that their feedback is valued. It is informal and led by the audience. They are given time to leave should they wish and then we open up the floor.

Staging

The staging is made up of 4, 5 or 6 x 8ft x 4ft white boards, hinge pinned and stayed for additional support and, a roll of lino to demarcate the floor area. The scenery comprises of 3 or 4 white boxes. There are various small props, including white board markers and costumes. There are no stage exits except for the interval.

Setting

The play is set in a variety of spaces, identified on the time line, across the top of the white boards and drawn or highlighted in some way on the whiteboards before the start of the scene.

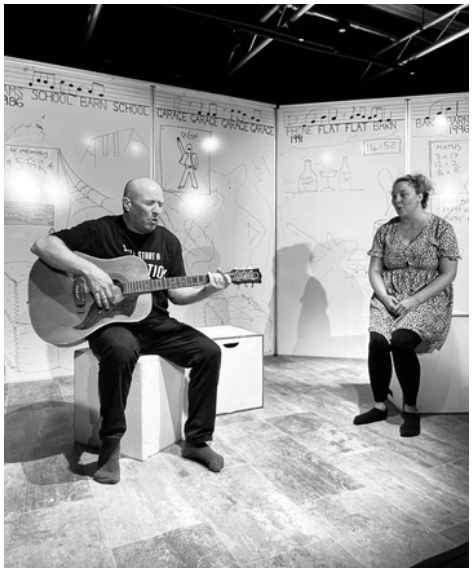
Barn, Park, Tam's Hoose, School, Jeanie's Garage & Tam's Flat

Content Warning

The play tackles themes of working class gendered expectations and issues of suicide (unseen) and SA (unseen but described in a perfunctory way.

Venues- Adaptable to size, best up to 300 seats.
Stage size- 4m Deep x 5m Wide (May be adaptable and preferably 5 x 5+).
Sound- SCS on company laptop via adaptor to venue system.
Lighting- flexible, but preferred minimum 7 lights of various types.

Costs- Happy to discuss splits and buy-ins.



As with the staging, all technical requirements are adaptable to the capacity of each venue. We have our own equipment so that we can perform in any space that you have.
Generally, we're looking at:
5 Lighting States, 1 special (Break up Gobo)

Our preference is for a get-in of no later than 12pm, but we are flexible.

Full Technical Rider Available

REVIEWS

From a variety of venues

"Such a brilliant show. Honestly at a loss for words in all the best ways! The use of a whiteboard really brought attention to the play. There was such a great hidden message about not noticing things until it's too late and it's so important to talk about so thank you for showing/telling it!"

"Evoked all emotions. Simple scenery & props but not a simple play. Excellent. Excellent.
Would watch it again".

"Brilliantly written and performed.
Very clever and tragic.
It had everything! Thank you".

"The writing was so sharp as was the humour. The soundtrack was excellent and the stage direction so clever and creative. From the beginning to the end we were completely absorbed in their story and from the laughter throughout, to the, my, tears at the end I was thoroughly entertained. Excellent!"

"An outstanding, intimate and engaging performance. Well done!
Congratulations!"

"Talented individuals who should be better known".

"AWESOME! Pretty amazing theatre. Inventive! Tracing the music of my childhood/youth, engaging in such important issues in a creative, fun, serious, comedic, illustrative ways- Thoroughly compelling. Brilliant work- Thank you!".

Press Review:

The bold and brilliant Because We Said We Would is a production both brimming with audacious invention, and poignant enough to reduce both the performers and the audience members to tears. This show from south west-based Fox n Hound Theatre deserves to be packed to the rafters for its brilliant writing, thoughtful direction and mercurial acting.
Milan Perera, Bristol 24/7

THE COMPANY

OUR STORY

Fox and Hound Theatre are a small disabled and or neurodiverse, female led touring company from Dumfries and Galloway, south west Scotland. We were founded in 2015.

The formation was borne out of a limited local arts scene and a desire to write and create work; which can be difficult when you face many barriers.

We undertake a variety of productions exploring comedy (script, stand up and sketch), site specific, promenade, musical, art, absurdist and realism, never shying away from strong themes and issues.

We are driven by a desire to communicate through theatre, to offer 'theatre for all' by keeping costs as low as possible and to work towards greater accessibility.

Audience Quotes

"An astonishing and thought provoking experience- such a privilege to have such amazing theatre in our wee village!!"

"Wonderful heartfelt, thought provoking play. The gentle humour + serious message worked so well. Local access to art in this format is so important".

"Amazing! The most innovative show I have seen in a long time. Thank you".

FOX & HOUND THEATRE COMPANY

2016 Sell out fringe run – 27 Wagons Full of Cotton by Tennessee Williams
·2016 Shortlisted for The Best New Scottish Play by The Scottish Arts Club – I'm Missing You by Helen Fox
·2019 EdFringe Winner of The Derek Award for Best Drama – Hindsight by Jill Franklin

Below: Company Founders
Helen Fox & Codge Crawford

THE COMPANY

Some of our previous work

- **A Trio of Tennessee Williams**, 2023-2025, London, Bristol -TfT & Redgrave, Oxford, Cheltenham, Hexham, Edinburgh, Marlowe
- **Because We Said We Would**- Aberdeen 2025; Craignish, Carradale, Birchvale, HAC, 2024; Alma Theatre, The Old Well, Quarrymans', Dundee Fringe, Catstrand 2020 – 2022
- **Hindsight** – Parliament, 2024 in assoc with Autism Scotland; D&G, 2024; Edinburgh, 2019.
- **Wherever It Lands**- Quarrymans', Kirkcudbright & The Stove, 2022
- **Lot 52** (In production with Buskers)- Stranraer & Annan, 2021
- **I'm Missing You**- Birchvale, EdFringe (Full Run), 2016 Theatre Royal, Catstrand, A' The Airts, 2019
- **The Two Character Play**- Theatre Royal, The Print Room, Summerhall, 2019
- **Alice Through the Shot Glass**- Castle Douglas, 2018
- **27 Wagons Full of Cotto**n- Brighton Fringe, Churchill Theatre, Birchvale, EdFringe (Full Run), 2016 – 2017
- **Ivan's Widow**- Brighton Fringe, Nairn, Oban, Skye, A' The Airts, Birchvale, Edfringe (Full Run), 2017
- **Talk to Me Like the Rain and Let Me Listen**- Brighton Fringe, Nairn, Oban, Skye, A' The Airts, Birchvale, EdFringe (Full Run) 2017
- **1in2 Chance**- Nairn, Oban, Skye, A' The Airts, Birchvale, EdFringe (Full Run) 2017

Top:
Hindsight
Parliament
Bear- Ellie Stevens
Laura- Sam Fox

Right:
Wherever It Lands
D&G
Kurt Schwitters- Codge Crawford

Below:
A Christmas Carol
Moat Brae
Scrooge- Codge Crawford
Marley- Helen Fox

THE COMPANY

Upcoming work

A Trio of Tennessee Williams-

Seeking a London Run
And additional possibilities

Glen of Echoes-

(A Culloden Rock Musical)
Seeking Funding
Development of the work and mini mount

Hindsight-

Seeking Funding
Scottish Schools and Open Tour, supported by Autism Scotland

Wherever It Lands:
A Hoch Schwitters Story-

Seeking Funding
National Tour and accompanying art workshops

Below :
Development image for
Glen of Echoes- A Culloden Musical
Mary Carroll & Codge Crawford

Top & Right:
A Trio of Tennessee Williams

<u>27 Wagons Full of Cotton</u>
Jake- Codge Crawford
Flora- Helen Fox

<u>The Fat Man's Wife</u>
Vera- Helen Fox
Dennis- Massimiliano Acerbi

Below Right:
Set for Hindsight, Newcastle