Dear English Teachers,

I hope this finds you all well and safe. Next season we have the pleasure of presenting 2 brilliant new plays by a resident Irish writer, Fergal O'Byrne.

\* The scripts and educational material are attached to this mail and on our website.

\* We would be happy to come to talk to you and your students at your school, or you can meet the cast and the writer for an informal question and answer session after a performance. Please contact me if you're interested.

\* The running time for our first production will be approximately 1 hour and 20 minutes without an interval.

## \* We are doing 2 extra matinee shows for *Extremophiles* every Tuesday and Thursday each week during the run at 13.00.

\* Reduced capacity of 40 people per show for the time being. This of course might increase over the course of the next 5 months.



Krudttønden, Copenhagen, Serridslevvej 2, 2100 Kbh Ø. Mon-Fri: 19.30 / Sats: 17.00 Matinees at 13.00: Oct: 27, 29 / Nov: 3, 5, 10, 12, 17 & 18 Tickets: <u>www.teaterbilletter.dk/forestillinger/extremophiles/</u> 7020 2096 (kr. 40 -195)

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*Extremophiles* centres around four members International Survey team, stationed at a research base in the frozen vastness of Antarctica.

of them have volunteered to "over-winter" keep the station ticking over. They will face long, dark winter in total isolation.

Extremophiles is a play for now; peppered humour & written before the world was by the Corona Virus. It is set in the deep environment of an Antarctic research station. researchers are fatigued and are becoming bedraggled and hallucinogenic; suffering the of poor rations and no natural daylight. are unsure when their supply ship will return to relieve them. They also pick up bursts of news that presage the end of the world – perhaps a nuclear Armageddon – they cannot tell from the scraps of data they receive. Into this world their former Base Commander reappears, after trekking solo across the vast ice sheet. Did he return to save them? Was he too cowardly to face his homeland, possibly descending into irrevocable chaos? Or is his there to face up to the newfound responsibilities?

Against this backdrop the snippets of news coming from the outside world is not encouraging. Global tensions have spiked and the planet is facing possible destruction. There is also another problem to deal with. Angela has to reveal to the others that she is pregnant. Bertram, teetering in and out of hallucinations due to the restricted rations, does not take the news well. The unflappable Lars takes it in his stride and makes a revised survival plan. The returning Fiskler is most likely to be the father, although Angela is admitting to nothing.

*Extremophiles* deals with themes around humanity's incredible ability to both destroy itself but also survive against seemingly insurmountable odds. How will the four souls deal with the isolation, the realisation that they are possibly humanity's last survivors? Is their base soon to be The Ark 2.0? *Extremophiles* is a play about humanity, climate change and the very meaning of our place in the universe. Everything is to play for in this tale of our times.

"This is a play of deep humanity as well as intelligence ... and flows beautifully ... the script skilfully tries to force the audience to realise that there are very few moral absolutes, particularly when survival is at stake."

Emer O'Kelly, Judge, Eamon Keane Playwriting Award Winner 2018

## Quote from Birgit Fiig: English Teacher Ordrup Gymnasium:

"We have worked with Ian and Fergal in developing class materials for our students. It is very beneficial to be able to talk to, and interact with, an actor in and the writer of the play. I strongly recommend engaging with That Theatre Company. My students and I look forward to seeing Extremophiles".

Ed. Material: http://that-theatre.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/EdMatExtremophiles.pdf



Three old friends meet to celebrate their collective birthdays, delayed by various health-related events. Neil has arranged the gathering at his country hideaway, as he has done for every significant birthday. He intends to tell his friends, Dan and Bobbi, that he plans to commit euthanasia in the next few month and this will be there final get together; effectively a last supper. The proceedings are watched over by Sisi, the sassy-voiced robotic search assistant. Rub-a-dub-dub is a comedy about technology, growing old and the endurance of friendship.

Running time: 1 hour 40 inc interval. (The interval can be optional)

Educational material for this production will be available after the summer break. Please find other PR information that you might find useful on our website.

All best wishes

Ian Burns That Theatre Company

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