



Award winning Irish company Fishamble
presents

Maz & Bricks

(UK Premiere)

Summerhall, 1 – 26 Aug (17:55)



Marvellous theatre... perfect and unmissable... Sunday Independent
original... inspired...really enjoyable... Sunday Business Post
Particularly timely... excruciatingly funny... powerful... Irish Independent

Triple Fringe First and Olivier Award-winning, internationally acclaimed Irish theatre company **Fishamble** presents **Maz & Bricks** by **Eva O'Connor**. It tells the story of two young people who meet over the course of a day in Dublin. Maz is attending a 'Repeal the 8th' demonstration, while Bricks is going to meet the mother of his young daughter. As the day unfolds, the two become unlikely friends, changing each other in ways they never thought possible.

Maz & Bricks is set around events leading up to the recent historic vote on the Irish 8th Amendment, about the rights of women to have control over their own bodies. This 2-hander focuses on the issues and the characters, with the company's characteristic sharp theatrical sense, punchy dialogue, and sparkling satirical humour.

Maz & Bricks is written by award winning playwright **Eva O'Connor** (who is also one of the performers) who was last seen at Edinburgh Fringe with the highly acclaimed *My Name is Saoirse*, and directed by Fishamble's Artistic Director **Jim Culleton**.

Originally from Co.Clare, Eva studied at Edinburgh University and Rose Bruford College, London and has written for radio and TV. Her play *Overshadowed* was recently adapted for television by BBC 3, *My Name is Saoirse* was adapted for radio by RTÉ Radio 1 and her short story *The Midnight Sandwich* was recently aired on BBC Radio 4.

Bricks is played by **Ciaran O'Brien**, an actor with wide stage experience in London and Dublin, with film and television credits include *Pursuit* (An Post) *Misfits* (Channel 4), *Ripper Street* (BBC) and *Fair City* (RTÉ).

Fishamble recently premiered *Maz & Bricks* in Ireland to great critical acclaim.

Fishamble is an Olivier Award-winning, internationally-acclaimed Irish theatre company, which discovers, develops and produces new work. In 2018 the company celebrates 30 years of new plays through its productions and extensive development programme. Previous productions at Edinburgh Fringe include Jim Culleton-directed *Silent* by Pat Kinevane (Fringe First, Herald Angel, Olivier Award, Argus Angel), *Underneath* by Pat Kinevane (Fringe First, Adelaide Fringe Best Theatre Award) and *Little Thing Big Thing* (Stage Award) by Donal O'Kelly.

Maz & Bricks is supported at the Edinburgh Fringe by **Culture Ireland** as part of GB18: Promoting Irish Arts in Britain.

For more press information, interviews, hi res photos, press tickets etc,
please call **Morag Neil** on **0771 288 0965** (email info@scarybiscuits.com)

Fishamble website www.fishamble.com

Twitter @Fishamble

LISTINGS DETAILS

Fishamble – Maz & Bricks by Eva O'Connor
Summerhall (Cairns Lecture Theatre)
1 – 26 Aug (not 2, 6, 13, 20), 17:55

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EDITORS NOTES

Fishamble: The New Play Company

www.fishamble.com

Fishamble is an Olivier Award-winning, internationally acclaimed Irish theatre company, which discovers, develops and produces new work, across a range of scales. In 2018 Fishamble celebrates 30 years of new plays in Ireland through its many productions and extensive development programme.

Fishamble is at the heart of new writing for theatre in Ireland, typically supporting 60% of the writers of all new plays produced on the island of Ireland every year. Fishamble has told the story of Ireland over 30 years through daring new plays and award-winning productions. Awards for Fishamble productions include Olivier, Scotsman Fringe First, Herald Angel, Argus Angel, 1st Irish, The Stage, Adelaide Fringe Best Theatre, Dublin Fringe, Forbes' Best Theater, Stage Raw LA, and Irish Times Theatre awards, as well as Irish Writer's Guild/ZeBBie and Stewart Parker Trust awards for many of its playwrights. During 2013, to celebrate the company's 25th birthday, Fishamble donated its living archive to the National Library of Ireland.

Fishamble is committed to touring throughout Ireland and internationally, and does so through partnerships and collaborations with a large network of venues, festivals, and non-arts organisations. Fishamble has earned a reputation as 'a global brand with international theatrical presence' (Irish Times), 'forward-thinking Fishamble' (New York Times), 'acclaimed Irish company' (Scotsman) and 'excellent Fishamble...Ireland's terrific Fishamble' (Guardian) through touring its productions to audiences in Ireland as well as to England, Scotland, Wales, France, Germany, Iceland, Croatia, Belgium, Czech Republic, Switzerland, Bulgaria, Romania, Serbia, Turkey, Finland, USA, Canada, New Zealand and Australia. Fishamble typically produces over 200 performances in approximately 50 venues annually, touring from Ballydehob to Brisbane.

Eva O'Connor - Writer and performer

From Co. Clare.

She studied English and German at Edinburgh University before completing an MA in theatre ensemble from Rose Bruford drama school in London.

Her plays include *My Best Friend Drowned in a Swimming Pool*, *Kiss me and You Will See How Important I Am*, *My Name is Saoirse*, *Overshadowed*, *The Friday Night Effect* (co written with Hildegard Ryan.) and *Maz and Bricks*.

Eva runs her own company Sunday's Child, with Hildegard Ryan. Eva has won various awards for her work including Best Emerging Artist Award 2012 (Edinburgh Fringe), First Fortnight Award 2014 (Dublin Fringe), Argus Angel Award 2015 (Brighton Fringe), Fishamble Award for Best New Writing 2015, Best Theatre Award 2017 (Adelaide Fringe).

Her play *Overshadowed* was recently adapted for television by BBC Three and Rollem productions, directed by Hildegard Ryan. Eva has also written for radio. Her play *My Name is Saoirse* was adapted for radio by RTÉ Radio 1 and Eva's short story *The Midnight Sandwich* was recently aired on BBC radio 4.

Ciaran O'Brien – performer

Ciaran's credits include *The Plough And The Stars* (Lyric Hammersmith, Gaiety Theatre, North American Tour, Abbey Theatre) *The Playboy Of The Western World* and *Orson's Shadow* (Southwark Playhouse), *Of Mice And Men* (Birmingham Rep); *Translations* (The Rose Theatre, Sheffield Crucible and ETT); *Drum Belly*, *The Government Inspector*, *Curse Of The Starving Class*, *Arrah Na Pogue*, *Perve*, *Comedy of Errors*, *The Resistable Rise of Arturo Ui*, *Saved*, *Julius Caesar* (Abbey Theatre Dublin), *Travesties* (Rough Magic); *Between Foxrock and a Hard Place*, *The Shawshank Redemption*, *Philadelphia Here I Come* (Gaiety Theatre Dublin), *Observe The Sons Of Ulster Marching Towards The Somme* (Livin' Dred), *Elevator*, *This Is Our Youth*, *Fewer Emergencies*, (Project Theatre Dublin), *The Great Goat Bubble* (Galway Arts Festival), *The Magic Tree*, (Edinburgh Fringe), *White Rabbit Red Rabbit* (Dublin Fringe) and *Oliver Twist* (Gate Theatre Dublin)

Film and Television credits include: *Pursuit* (An Post) *Misfits* (Channel 4), *Ripper Street* (BBC), *The Last Security Man* (RTE Storyland), *The Tudors* (Showtime), *Fair City* (RTE),

Jim Culleton - Director

Artistic Director of Fishamble: The New Play Company. For Fishamble, he has directed productions which have toured throughout Ireland, UK, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the US. His productions for Fishamble have won over a dozen Irish and international awards, including an Olivier Award for *Silent* by Pat Kinevane. Jim has also directed for companies including the Abbey Theatre, Woodpecker/the Gaiety, 7:84 (Scotland), Project Arts Centre, Amharclann de hIde, Tinderbox, The Passion Machine, The Ark, Second Age, RTE Radio 1, The Belgrade, TNL Canada, Dundee Rep Ensemble, TCD School of Drama, CoisCéim/Crash Ensemble/GIAF, RTE lyric fm, *Fighting Words*, *Origin* (New York), *Vessel* (Australia), and *Symphony Space Broadway/Irish Arts Center* (New York). Jim has taught for NYU, NUIM, GSA, Uversity, the Lir, Villanova, Notre Dame, TCD and UCD.