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For Immediate Release

Theatre Royal Plymouth to co-produce Ontroerend Goed's *Every Word Was Once An Animal*

Ontroerend Goed's latest production *Every Word Was Once An Animal* is a co-production by Theatre Royal Plymouth, Perpodium, Kunstencentrum Vooruit and Richard Jordan Productions.

Directed by Alexander Devriendt, **the show comes to The Drum at Theatre Royal Plymouth from 14-27 July 2022**, before it heads to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in August.

The show starts when a person comes on stage, walks casually to the microphone, adjusts it and starts talking. The person who is going to do all of this is good at opening scenes. Everyone would have liked to play that part but fate has appointed just one of us. It's not easy to open a show. It's a big responsibility, because if the first lines are well done, if they land well, then it's magic. If you open the show, you set the tone of the whole show. And that's really, yeah... The beginning can't go on forever. The rest of the show has to happen, and no, we can't spoil it. But trust us, we're telling you stories.

*In *Every Word Was Once An Animal*, Ontroerend Goed dances on the thin line between truth and another truth. Forget what you just read. Just remember that half a truth is often a great lie.*

Tickets for *Every Word Was Once An Animal* can be booked through the [Theatre Royal Plymouth website](https://www.theatroyal.com).

ENDS

Images can be downloaded here – <https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjzV4qb>

Watch the trailer here – [youtube.com/watch?v=N3XteWURGHk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N3XteWURGHk)

For further information please contact the Media and Communications team on public.relations@theatroyal.com / 01752 230439

Notes to editors

Credits

Director: Alexander Devriendt

Actors: Aaron J. Gordon, Bastiaan Vandendriessche, Charlotte De Bruyne, Karolien De Bleser & Shôn Dale-Jones

Text: Alexander Devriendt, Angelo Tijssens & Charles Purcell & cast technicians (tour)
Pepijn Mesure & Koen De Wilde

Scenography and technic: Babette Poncelet, Pepijn Mesure & Thibault Annoot (intern)

Costume: Valerie Le Roy & Leentje Kerremans

Production: Marie Peeters, Fien Vandermeersch (intern)

Tour planning: Charlotte Nyota Bishop, Karen Van Ginderachter

Graphic design: Nick Mattanvideo, Angelo Tijssens (director) & Maxime Lahousse

(DOP)photography promotional image: Sanne De Wilde

Stage pictures: Mirjam Devriendt

General manager: David Bauwens

Financial manager: Wim Smet

About Ontroerend Goed

Theatre-performance-group Ontroerend Goed (a punning name, roughly translated as “Feel Estate”) produces self-devised work grounded in the here and now, inviting their audiences to participate as well as observe. They first emerged on the international scene in 2007, with ‘The Smile Off Your Face’, a one-on-one show in which the audience is tied to a wheelchair and then blindfolded. Their hit show ‘Once and For All...’ was an uncompromising celebration of raw teenage energy on stage. With every new piece of work, Ontroerend Goed provides an intense experience constructed in reality; life goes on during the performance. The company has won numerous awards across Europe and has hit New York, Sydney, London and Hong Kong to critical acclaim. Their work is currently being performed in countries around the world. Ontroerend Goed functions as a collective guided by the artistic director Alexander Devriendt. Convinced that every idea deserves its own brand of artistic expression, the company cherishes a sense of ownership for every single contributor to their work, from actors to light designers, scenographers to conceptual thinkers.

Ontroerend Goed fabricates possible realities that question how we as individuals position ourselves in the world today. Covering a history of the universe in one evening, turning spectators into voters who eliminate actors, guiding strangers through a labyrinth of mirrors and avatars to meet them-selves, the company has made it its trademark to be unpredictable in content and form. Ontroerend Goed has been touring the world for the last 15 years with their personal trilo-gy (The Smile Off Your Face, Internal, A Game of You), Audience, A History Of Everything (with Sydney Theatre Company), with their teenage hits Once And For All We're All Going To Tell You Who We Are So Shut Up And Listen, Teenage Riot and All That Is Wrong, the political game show Fight Night, the palindrome-trip Are we not drawn onward to new er A, the feminist manifesto Sirens and their most recent shows World Without Us, £¥€\$ and Loopstation. Ontroerend Goed is Alexander Devriendt, Charlotte De Bruyne, Charlotte Nyota Bischof, Aurélie Lannoy, Karolien De Bleser, Angelo Tijssens, David Bauwens, Wim Smet, Koen DeWilde en Karen Van Ginderachter.

About Theatre Royal Plymouth

Theatre Royal Plymouth is a registered charity providing art, education and community engagement throughout Plymouth and the wider region. We engage and inspire many communities through performing arts and we aim to touch the lives and interests of people from all backgrounds. We do this by creating and presenting a breadth of shows on a range of scales, with our extensive creative engagement programmes, by embracing the vitality of new talent and supporting emerging and established artists, and by collaborating with a range of partners to provide dynamic cultural leadership for the city of Plymouth.

Recent productions and co-productions include *Delicate* (with Extraordinary Bodies and Nordland Visual Theatre), *HAPPY MEAL* by Tabby Lamb (with Roots) *Today I Killed My Very First Bird* (with Voodoo Monkeys), *Sorry, You're Not A Winner* by Samuel Bailey (with Paines Plough), *MUM* by Morgan Lloyd Malcolm (with Francesca Moody Productions and Soho Theatre, in association with Popcorn Group), *NHS The Musical* by Nick Stimson and Jimmy Jewell, *Amsterdam* by Maya Arad Yasur (with Actors Touring Company and Orange Tree Theatre), *I Think We Are Alone* by Sally Abbott (with Frantic Assembly), *The Strange Tale of Charlie Chaplin and Stan Laurel* (with Told By An Idiot), *One Under* by Winsome Pinnock (with Graeae), *The Unreturning* by Anna Jordan (with Frantic Assembly) and *You Stupid Darkness!* by Sam Steiner (with Paines Plough).



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Theatre Royal Plymouth specialises in the production of new plays alongside the presentation of a broad range of theatre - including classic and contemporary drama, musicals, opera, ballet and dance. They have three performance spaces – The Lyric, The Drum and The Lab. TRP has a strong track record of presenting and producing international work from companies and artists including Ontroerend Goed, Big In Belgium at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, Robert Lepage and the late Yukio Ninagawa. In March 2019 TRP unveiled Messenger, the UK's largest lost wax bronze sculpture created by the artist Joseph Hillier.



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