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TRP Press Contact: Chris Baker, [chris.baker@theatroyal.com](mailto:chris.baker@theatroyal.com)

**For Immediate Release**

## **Theatre Royal Plymouth to co-produce *Still Floating* by Shôn Dale-Jones**

Theatre Royal Plymouth, SDJ Productions, Pontio, Bangor and Cairde Festival, Sligo are co-producing a brand-new show, *STILL FLOATING*, written and performed by Shôn Dale-Jones.

*STILL FLOATING* is a new piece of warm-hearted comic storytelling. When an unnamed narrator, played by the real Shôn Dale-Jones, starts telling us a story about his friend trying to persuade him to remount an old show called *Floating*, we find out why it's almost impossible to return to the past. Especially now - 2022 is radically different from 2006. As the story of a real life starts to weave in and out of the story of the Isle of Anglesey floating away from mainland Britain, we feel a strong desire to escape the present day and drift away with the island. *STILL FLOATING* is a warm-hearted appeal to our resilience and ability to imagine ourselves out of the darkest places.

***STILL FLOATING* comes to Theatre Royal Plymouth from 14 – 17 September 2022.**

Over the last 25 years, Shôn Dale-Jones has written 27 theatre plays, five BBC radio dramas and a variety of short films and site specific work. His work has been translated into seven languages and been presented in 20 countries across six continents. He has co-produced worked with BBC Radio 4, Royal Court, Barbican, Sydney Opera House and National Theatre Wales. He has won several awards including the BBC Audio Drama Award, two Fringe Firsts, a Total Theatre Award and a nomination for the Prix Europa.

Shôn Dale-Jones is renowned for creating theatre that addresses inequality and the divisions in our society between the haves and have-nots - he has told stories about refugees and the importance of acknowledging that opportunities shape individual lives and the shape of our society. He raised £100,000 for charities working with vulnerable children by performing *THE DUKE* and *ME & ROBIN HOOD* as fundraising performances between 2016 - 2019.

Continuing this commitment to diversity and opening up opportunities, 10% of all tickets for the show will be given away for free. Working with Theatre Royal Plymouth's Our Space and other organisations within the local area, the initiative will act to remove cost as a barrier to attendance as supporting the production company's mission for affordable theatre.

## ENDS

Images can be downloaded here: <https://flic.kr/s/aHBqizX1y7>

For further information please contact the Media and Communications team on [public.relations@theatreroyal.com](mailto:public.relations@theatreroyal.com) / 01752 230439

## About Theatre Royal Plymouth (TRP)

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).

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.

### About SDJ Productions

SDJ Productions is Shôn Dale-Jones' new company, founded post-pandemic. Over the last 25 years Shôn was founding director of Hoipolloi and Hugh Hughes Productions. He has written 27 theatre plays, five BBC radio dramas and a variety of short films and site specific work. His work has been translated into seven languages and been presented in 20 countries across six continents. He has co-produced worked with BBC Radio 4, Royal Court, Barbican, Sydney Opera House and National Theatre Wales. He has won several awards including the BBC Audio Drama Award, two Fringe Firsts, a Total Theatre Award and a nomination for the Prix Europa. Between 2016 – 2019, he performed *THE DUKE* and *ME & ROBIN HOOD* as fundraising events, raising £100,000 for charities working with vulnerable children. *STILL FLOATING* premieres at the Edinburgh Fringe in August 2022 before beginning its autumn UK tour in September at Theatre Royal Plymouth.

*"It's a show that makes you cheerfully aware of the temporary community with whom you sit in the theatre, sharing laughter and a sense of wonder" ★★★★★ The Guardian (on Floating, 2006)*

*"Perfectly judged, unabashedly authentic and vulnerably autobiographical" ★★★★★ The Guardian (on Possible, 2021)*