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For Immediate Release

TRP to showcase new and experimental work in The Lab this Winter

Watch the accompanying video: <https://youtu.be/sT8e8b2wddo>

Theatre Royal Plymouth is pleased to announce its winter season of shows in The Lab.

The Lab is Theatre Royal Plymouth's smallest space and a place for exploration and experimentation. TRP's Artists Development programme seeks to support the most exciting artists, companies and creatives in making the theatre of tomorrow.

Ben Lyon-Ross, Head of Artistic Development, Engagement and Learning at Theatre Royal Plymouth, said: *"The Lab is a space for work that is predominantly made here in the South West, and people will have a connection to it because it will tell stories that they're recognising."*

"The Winter Season should be rowdy, exciting and really good fun."

The Lab Winter Season is as follows:

HEDDA

6-7 December 2022

"I wasn't going to allow him to touch me. Not in front of you all."

Four actors are trying to perform Henrik Ibsen's Hedda Gabler. The male actors want the play to go ahead as planned, the actress playing Hedda does not.

HEDDA by Eve Allin is a reimagining of a story as old as time, of a woman trapped in her house, in her body, desperate to break out.

Who Cares Now?

8-9 December 2022

March 2020 happens and Izzy is back on the job hunt.

After navigating the dramas of temporary jobs at Amazon and Domino's, she eventually settles in a job working in domiciliary care. In keeping with her oblivious nature, she's surprised to find out it's a bit more than wiping bums and making your Nan a cup of tea in the morning.

From discussing the quality of the male anatomy on Naked Attraction with her favourite client 80-year-old Joan. To holding someone's hand through their dad's last moments. Join Izzy in her chaotic confessional of working in care over the last few years. Told through a mix of stand-up, visual storytelling and lairy voice notes sent to her housemates during her breaks. This explosion of energy is for anybody who has lost a job, found a job and cares for the vulnerable people in their life.

Charlotte Johnson: My Dad & Other Lies

10 December 2022

'Nepobabies' are unfairly vilified, but Charlotte Johnson (yes, THAT Johnson) is here to defend her tribe and share her talents with the world.

Her Dad is rapidly losing his relevance, but Charlotte Johnson is here to reclaim hers. In an hour of silly character driven comedy, Charlotte Johnson proves that she's more than just her good surname.

Made with support from Exeter Phoenix, Exeter Northcott Theatre, BBC New Creatives and Pleasance Fringe Futures.

"A delicious, multilayered platform of privilege" – The Scotsman

The Dissent

13-14 December 2022

Icarus, Ariadne and Phaedra are uniting to smash the patriarchy for a second shot at life.

A young woman has fallen from the sky to her death. In a trial to determine where she will spend eternity, Icarus is forced to examine the events which led to her flight and defend her choices. But how can she give her defence when history, the justice system and language itself is not designed for women?

Playful, provocative and poetic at times, *The Dissent* mixes Greek mythology with prose and parody to explore injustice, the language of the patriarchy and the role it plays in gender-based violence.

Contraband Sandwich

15-16 December 2022

In 1965, there was a hearing like no other. Astronaut John Young smuggled a sandwich into space. And NASA was pissed. Just like NASA, we will be asking why.

Contraband Sandwich playfully re-imagines the moments surrounding John Young's smuggling of a corned beef sandwich onto the Gemini 3 rocket and the consequences that followed.

Whilst exploring the inherent comedy of an official hearing revolving around a sandwich in space, the piece reflects on the manipulation of public focus and the distance between decision makers and the consequences of their policies.

This show is chaotic, comedic and historically accurate (ok... it's not exactly "accurate"). Be prepared to embrace the ridiculous, lots of space puns and a surprising amount of tin foil.

The Lab Double Bill

17 December 2022

A vibrant showcase of new work that is being developed right now by local theatre makers.

We will be presenting two brand new work-in-progress sharings from exciting artists who are based in Plymouth.

Tickets for all shows in The Lab can be purchased through the [Theatre Royal Plymouth website](https://www.theatreroyal.com).

ENDS

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

Theatre Royal Plymouth (TRP) is a registered charity providing art, education and community engagement in Plymouth and across the region. It engages and inspires with the aim of touching lives. Theatre Royal Plymouth presents a year-round programme of world class productions on all scales as the South West's principal centre for performing arts.

Theatre Royal Plymouth works with partners to understand the challenges people face accessing the arts, especially vulnerable and disadvantaged people. It creates pathways that are genuinely accessible to those who might otherwise never get to engage with the arts. They collaborate to co-create and co-author work that represents the community, creating the space needed for people to tell their story in their own way.

Theatre Royal Plymouth is the UK's largest regional producing theatre. With a focus on embracing the vitality of new talent and supporting emerging and established artists. It collaborates with a range of partners to provide dynamic cultural leadership for the city of Plymouth.