

The actors in *One Small Step*, like Kennedy and the American people, choose to land on the moon - when they could have chosen to do something else - specifically because it is hard. And out of that challenge we see on stage, as we do in the ongoing exploration of space, the full extent of human endeavour, persistence, energy and imaginative problem solving. It takes a whole collective of people willing it to happen to put a man the moon, both in reality and in the theatre.

Reviews

"What a life affirmingly brilliant piece of theatre this is."

TimeOut

**** *The Scotsman*, Scotland

**** *Sunday Times*, UK

**** *TimeOut*, London

Tim Key: The Slutcracker

The Invisible Dot

January 16-17, 19-23

Edinburgh Comedy Award Winner 2009

TimeOut Best Comedy Performer 2009

BAFTA Nominee 2008

Edinburgh Film Festival Best Short Winner 2007

Tim Key's new show is a confused procession of idiosyncratic poetry and prose arranged into a brittle, theatrical and precarious 55 minute performance. It is funny.

Two years after his debut (shambolic) solo poetry show, Key has matured, filled out and got a new suit. He thinks this show has more weight to it than the last, and it has a fridge. There will also be a little bit of physical stuff and some beautiful films. His poems oscillate between the heartbreaking and the pointless. One is about dew.

Tim Key is the winner of the 2009 Edinburgh Comedy Award for Best New Show. *The*

Slutcracker won Tim an invitation to perform at the Montreal, Toronto, and Chicago *Just For Laughs* Comedy Festivals.

Tim is also performing in *Party* as part of the Sydney Festival program.

Tim is a founder member of comedy group Cowards, alongside writer Tom Basden. They have enjoyed two successful radio series, and subsequently a television series for BBC4. His comedy quiz show *We Need Answers* aired late 2009 on BBC4 as did the third series of his critically acclaimed original comedy radio series *All Bar Luke*.

He has recently had his second book published by The Invisible Dot to rave reviews; the succinctly titled *Instructions, Guidelines, Tutelage, Suggestions, Other Suggestions and Examples Etc. An Attempted Book by Tim Key. (And Descriptions/Conversations/A Piece About A Moth)*

The Invisible Dot Ltd

The Invisible Dot is a multi-award winning production and publishing company based in Camden, London.

Reviews

"He's a genius plain and simple. Whilst he's definitely an acquired taste, once you have acquired it you'll agree with us that there isn't a better comic out there."

TimeOut, London

"The appeal of the show is in this off-kilter ambience, and in the beauty that peeps through the silliness."

The Guardian



sudney festival 2010

FREE PROGRAM

Downstairs at the Seymour

One Small Step
Isy Suttie

Tim Key: The Slutcracker
Hugh Hughes in... 360

ANZ
Principal Sponsor

Hugh Hughes in... 360

Hoi polloi

January 22-25, 27-30

Created and performed by Hugh Hughes.

Artistic Collaborators: Shôn Dale-Jones, Stefanie Müller, Jill Norman, David Ralfe and Alex Byrne

Artistic Director: Shôn Dale-Jones

Associate Director: Stefanie Müller

Producer: Simon Bedford

Finance Officer: Sylvia O'Dell

Marketing/Admin Assistant:

Marieke Audsley

Hoi polloi receive regular funding from Arts Council England.

Hoi polloi

We are committed to creating new work that imaginatively engages our audience and makes them laugh. It is these two things, imagination and laughter, that drives us. Since 1994, when the company was formed by Shôn Dale-Jones (Artistic Director) and Stefanie Müller (Associate Director), we have toured 15 new shows nationally and internationally.

Our work involves the creation of strong stage worlds that are unbound by the confines of reality. Our work is celebratory, colourful, and gleeful, full of physical energy and visual excitement. Most importantly, it is always our aim to appeal to a wide range of people - to entertain them as well as to playfully challenge their sense of reality.

Hoi polloi has received four Total Theatre Award nominations; a nomination for Best Actor from The Stage Awards, as well as winning a Total Theatre Award for *Floating* (2006), a Scotsman Fringe First award for *Story of a Rabbit* (2007) and a Three Weeks Editor's Award for *360* (2009).

Hoi polloi is now one of the leading, award-winning, critically-acclaimed British companies, both nationally and internationally, making innovative new theatre. In the past

year our work has been seen around the world including London's Barbican Centre, the National Museum of Singapore, the Spoleto Festival, UCLA Los Angeles and in Sydney.

An introduction from Hugh Hughes

It's been five years since I created my very first stage production, *Floating*. When I was invited to perform that show at Sydney Opera House last year I was delighted and I had a fantastic time meeting the audiences who came along.

I'm thrilled to be returning to the city with a new show, *360*, and to be part of Sydney Festival.

In *360*, I wanted to get to the heart of some big questions to do with honesty and friendship. I'm very grateful to my oldest friend Gareth, for giving me permission to share an experience that we went through together once.

I use this story to examine why certain things happen inside certain feelings. I hope the show will make people laugh and help shed light on some things which can be difficult to understand.

Isy Suttie

Love Lost In The British Retail Industry

January 16-17, 19-23

By arrangement with Dirty Work Comedy and Avalon Promotions.

British Comedy Award Nominee Isy Suttie revisits the wondrous world of shelf-stackers and checkout girls in this critically acclaimed show *Love Lost In The British Retail Industry*.

Described as Alan Bennett with an electric guitar, Isy weaves 'hilarious songs and stories' of dreams and heartbreak with character comedy that's at once haunting and joyful.

Suttie regularly appears on *28 Acts in 28 Minutes* and *Mitch Benn's Crimes Against Music* on BBC Radio 4. As well as appearing on TV panel show *8 Out of 10 Cats*, she has provided voices for animals in the BBC

show *Walk on the Wild Side*, and voiced the character of Josie The Dog in Kristen Schaal and Kurt Braunohler's *Penelope Princess of Pets*.

Suttie was nominated for Best Female Newcomer at the British Comedy Awards 2008 for playing Dobby in British sitcom *Peep Show*.

Reviews

"In *Love Lost In The British Retail Industry*, Isy Suttie has created a splendid character-fuelled debut solo show. When girl meets boy in the pet food aisle, all seems rosy. Yet dark storm clouds are gathering when an angsty American singer songwriter Mary Westenberger comes between them. This is an assured debut from a true rising star."

Brian Donaldson, *The List*

"One of the UK's brightest young comics."

Jay Richardson, *Edinburgh Festivals*

"Suttie has something of a contemporary Victoria Wood about her, being a talented musician with a canny eye for accents and the nuances of working folk."

Steven Armstrong, *Sunday Times*

"Isy Suttie is [finding] touching comedy in the world of the frustrated dreams of working folk, seeing art in the trials and tribulations of ordinary people, things that are mundane in the eyes of the world, but dramatic enough for them. It may be a romanticised view of life, but the affection makes for a feelgood hour."

Steve Bennett, *Chortle*

"It's bittersweet and charming, and her stock of unpredictable punch lines hint at the shrewd intelligence of a ruder Joan Shuttleworth or Victoria Wood."

Nicholas Barber, *Independent on Sunday*

One Small Step

Oxford Playhouse

January 12-17

Writer: David Hastings

Director: Toby Hulse

Cast: Robin Hemmings and Oliver Millingham

Design/Production Management: Tim Boyd

Costume Supervisor: Christine Boyd

Production and Company Manager:

Austin Lawler

A note from the Writer, David Hastings

One Small Step tells the story of the US/Soviet space race from Sputnik in 1957 to Apollo 11 in 1969. I was attracted to the subject for many reasons, most of them obvious: the scale, the spectacle, the drama. The space race is an archetypal story: humans leaving the familiar, venturing into the unknown to confront and, eventually, overcoming seemingly insurmountable odds before returning to the fold with newly gained knowledge.

The stubborn refusal of the human race to curtail its breeding (in this writer's lifetime alone we have doubled in number from three billion to six billion) and, as a result, climate change and the eventual exhaustion of the Earth's resources, have alerted us to the fact that to avoid self destruction we will - albeit, centuries from now - inevitably leave our planet. And where do we go? There's nowhere else except... out there...

A note from the Director, Toby Hulse

A defining feature of live theatre is that it can achieve the impossible. It is clearly impossible, in a literal sense, to re-enact the history of the space race, from the launch of the first Sputnik satellite to the splashdown of Apollo 11 twelve years later, on stage with only two actors and a pile of fifties and sixties junk. Yet, with the creative and transformative power of the imagination and the complicit and playful relationship between actor, audience and story that such imagination demands, anything is possible.