

THE LONG WAY HOME

A show devised by Ben Phillips

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NORTH WEST END ★★★★★

‘A touching complex and funny performance this evening to an appreciative and full house.’

UNITY THEATRE, LIVERPOOL

‘...a wonderful, complex, emotionally charged and highly affecting performance experience ...’

ARTS CENTRE, ORMSKIRK



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

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Every year, for the last 30 years an absent father has sent his son an empty box for his birthday. This year, following his absent father's death, the son decides to find out why.

Part autobiography, part exaggeration for comic and dramatic effect. The Long Way Home is a glorious, fantastical and absurd quest to come to terms with an absent father's inheritance.

A show devised by Ben Phillips
in collaboration with Mark Loudon and John Wright
(Told By An Idiot and Trestle)

Suitable for ages 14 and over.

[CLICK TO WATCH THE TRAILER](#)





THE INSPIRATION

My dad made wooden boxes and puzzles. Every year he would send my sisters and I one of those boxes for our birthdays. He died, four years ago. A fantasist, a dreamer and a largely absent parent.

On the anniversary of his death, I decided to create an absurd love letter to the strange times we did spend together, and my comic obsession about the times we didn't.

This final version has been 4 years in the making, and it would not have been possible without the extremely talented and generous collaborators who helped bring this show to life.

I have performed the piece twice, pre-pandemic, at the Unity Theatre, Liverpool, and the Arts Centre, Ormskirk, with many audience members wanting to share their own stories of absent fathers with me after the show.

AUDIENCE RESPONSES

‘A beautiful, funny and moving show’

‘Wonderful one man show’

‘Funny, emotionally poignant and thoroughly enjoyable’





‘This performance, borne from personal experience, brought audiences face to face with a wonderful, complex, emotionally charged and highly affecting performance experience and as a venue we’re privileged to be part of that?’

CATHY BUTTERWORTH
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, ARTS CENTRE, ORMSKIRK

‘The show is creative, bizarre and very funny whilst being incredibly simple. Ben Phillips is a truly fantastic performer. The audience is in the palm of his hands from the off.... It was a thoroughly enjoyable piece of theatre.’

NORTH WEST END ★★★★★

‘A touching complex and funny performance this evening to an appreciative and full house.’

GORDON MILLAR
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, UNITY THEATRE, LIVERPOOL

PAST WORK

The Long Way Home is my first solo piece, but alongside being a freelance actor and director, I have, for the last 15 years, been an associate artist with Periplum Theatre, co devising in some and performing in most of their shows around the world.

(www.periplum.co.uk)

I have also been co- artistic director of Fools Proof Theatre. With whom I co-created and performed in 3 new pieces of indoor ACE funded work: The Eagle Has Landed, Je Suis Dead and It's Uniformation

Press reviews for Fools Proof's Work:

‘...splendidly crazy and strangely life affirming.’

THE SCOTSMAN

‘Like a poem... Every movement, tone and syllable is packed with meaning...There is only a story, told with muscle and sinew and sweat. If that isn't theater, what is?’

THE BALTIMORE SUN

‘...a highly original concept, passionately developed. The play is thoughtful, provocative, demanding and funny.’

TOTAL THEATRE

‘...ambitious mad cap and inspired.’

THE STAGE



TOUR INFO

Touring company consists of 1 performer and 1 technician

Get in time: 5 hours

Get out time: 30 minutes

Running time: 55 minutes

Ideal playing space 7m by 7m (this is flexible)

I can also offer workshops as an addition to the show.

CONTACT

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