US/THEM BIOGRAPHIES

**CARLY WIJS (Writer)** has written and created plays, and has performed as a film and theatre actress with Wim Vandekeybus/Ultima Vez, Guy Cassiers, Josse De Pauw, De Roovers, KOPERGIETERY, Muziektheater Transparant et al. Her productions have toured internationally. She is regularly invited to be a guest lecturer at the RITS and P.A.R.T.S. (both in Brussels). Her first novel *The Doubtexperiment* was published in May 2016 and nominated for the Flemish debut prize: The Bronze Owl. Us/Them won her an Edinburgh Fringe First at the 2016 festival.

**GYTHA PARMENTIER (Performer)** recently graduated from the KASK in Ghent and has previously worked as an actress with het KIP, Luxemburg vzw and Alain Platel.

**ROMAN VAN HOUTVEN (Performer)** graduated from the P.A.R.T.S. dance school. During and after his studies, he worked on projects with fABULEUS, Impuls Company, Dancingkids (Rosas Education), DE studio, Galacticamendum and Daniel Linehan/Hiatus. In association with BRONKS, De Munt and Q-O2 he choreographed the music theatre production Frankenstein.

**STEF STESSELS (Scenery)** has worked as a designer on several theatre productions by HETPALEIS, de Roovers, Toneelhuis and other companies.

**MIEKE VERSYP** **(Dramaturg)** has previously worked with Carly as a dramaturge on the production De papa, de mam a en de nazi (KOPERGIETERY), as well as with Studio Orka and Ontroerend Goed. She has also written several children’s books (Linus, Soepletters, et al.).

**THEATRE ROYAL PLYMOUTH** is the largest and best attended regional producing theatre in the UK and the leading promoter of theatre in the South West. We produce and present a broad range of theatre in our three distinctive performance spaces – The Lyric, The Drum and The Lab – including classic and contemporary drama, musicals, opera, ballet and dance.

We specialise in the production of new plays and have built a national reputation for the quality and innovation of our programme. Our extensive creative learning work is pioneering and engages young people and communities in Plymouth and beyond. Our award-winning waterfront Production and Learning centre, TR2, is a unique building with unrivalled set, costume, prop-making and rehearsal facilities.

Recent Theatre Royal Plymouth productions include: *Monster Raving Loony* by James Graham, *The Man With The Hammer* by Phil Porter, *The Whipping Man* by Matthew Lopez, *After Electra* by April de Angelis, *Grand Guignol* and *Horse Piss for Blood* by Carl Grose, *Merit* by Alexandra Wood, *Another Place* by DC Moore, *Chekhov in Hell* by Dan Rebellato, *The Astronaut’s Chair* by Rona Munro, *Solid Air* by Doug Lucie, and *MAD MAN* by Chris Goode.

The Theatre Royal Plymouth also collaborates with some of the best artists and theatre makers in the UK and internationally. We have regularly co-produced with regularly with Richard Jordan and Ontroerend Goed (*World Without Us; Are we not drawn onward to new erA; A History of Everything; Sirens* and *Fight Night*). Paines Plough (*The Angry Brigade* by James Graham, *Love Love Love* by Mike Bartlett), Frantic Assembly (*Othello, The Believers* by Bryony Lavery, *Lovesong* by Abi Morgan) and Told By An Idiot (*My Perfect Mind, And The Horse You Rode In On*).

We have also co-produced with Complicite (*The Master* and *Margarita*, *A Disappearing Number*), Hofesh Shechter (*Sun, Political Mother*), Graeae (*The Solid Life of Sugar Water*) and David Pugh, Dafydd Rogers and Kneehigh Theatre (*Rebecca)*. Alongside our own productions we present a programme of quality and popularity and regularly launch national touring productions including *Swan Lake* and *Edward Scissorhands* (Matthew Bourne), *War Horse* (National Theatre) and most recently *Billy Elliot the Musical*.

**SUMMERHALL** presents engaging, challenging and exhilarating visual arts, theatre, dance, music, literature and education for people of all ages in the unique buildings of Edinburgh’s former Royal (Dick) Veterinary College. We host diverse programmes of visual and performance art throughout the year as well as events, parties, other festivals, workshops – even weddings. Summerhall provides workspaces for artists, innovators and community organisations as well as encouraging the creation and application of new technologies in our high tech hub - the TechCube. Summerhall is for everyone. Whether you are engaging with our exhibitions, catching the best in avant garde European theatre, grabbing something to drink in the Royal Dick bar or simply soaking up the atmosphere in our buzzy courtyard, there is something for you to explore, discover and most of all, enjoy, this Festival and all year round.

**BIG IN BELGIUM** Now in its fifth year, Big in Belgium provides a platform for Flemish theatre during the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. Every year a selection of Flemish plays are translated into English and presented, aiming to create a greater visibility for Flemish theatre on the international scene.

**BRONKS** is a Brussels-based art house with an accent on theatre for a young audience. The artistic guidance is in the hands of Veerle Kerckhoven and Marij De Nys. BRONKS aims with its artistic and art education activities to stimulate children, youth and their environment to discover and explore the possibilities in ourselves and in the world.

Each season, BRONKS invites several artists to make a production for children or youth. This results in three inhouse productions per year, presented not only in the BRONKS theatre, but also on tour. A new theatre text is written for many BRONKS creations. By offering both starting theatre makers and established names and artists from other disciplines the opportunity to create their first performance for children, BRONKS aims to generate enthusiasm for the performing arts for a young audience. In addition to its own work, BRONKS also presents guest productions from beginning and experienced companies and makers from Flanders, the Netherlands and sometimes from other countries. Moreover, BRONKS focuses not only on theatre, but also on music, dance, the visual arts and film.

BRONKS has developed extensive educational activities for schools as well as for children and youth who wish to pursue the performing arts in their free time. Students and teachers can come to BRONKS for school performances, introductions, post-performance discussions, workshops and long-term theatre projects. Via STUDIO BRONKS, the house organises workshops outside school hours in which children and youth can actively explore the theatre medium.

**RICHARD JORDAN PRODUCTIONS** is an Olivier and TONY Award-winning production company based in

London under the artistic leadership of British producer Richard Jordan. Founded in 1998, his company has

produced over 205 productions in the UK as well as 26 other countries, including 85 world premieres and 93

European, Australian or US premieres producing and collaborating with many of the world’s leading theatres. At the Adelaide Festival he has previously produced: *La Merda, Fight Night; The Smile Off Your Face; Internal; A Games Of You; Itsoseng; Dylan Thomas: Return Journey; BigMouth* and *SMallWaR*.

Described by *The Stage* newspaper as ‘one of the UK’s most prolific theatre producers', Richard Jordan

Productions has been at the forefront of developing and/or commissioning works often with a strong social and political agenda. The company has produced and developed a diverse range of established and emerging writers and artists from around the world including: Conor McPherson; Omphile Molusi; Alan Bennett; Cora Bissett; Athol Fugard; David Greig; Martin McDonagh; Alan Ayckbourn; Karla Crome; Valentijn Dhaenens; Charlotte Josephine; Ben Brown; Cristian Ceresoli; Danai Gurira; Nikkole Salter; Tim Crouch; Luke Barnes; Christopher Durang; Nick Steur; Stephen Sondheim; Robert Farquhar; the Q Brothers; one step at a time like this; Mike Cullen; Charles Hart; Heather Raffo; Stefan Golaszewski and Ontroerend Goed. A new writing specialist, Richard has enjoyed a long association with Belgium, producing and developing the work of some of its country’s most exciting new and leading contemporary artists and companies. Richard's past productions have won over 40 major awards including: the TONY Award for Best Play; Olivier Award for Outstanding Achievement at an Affiliate Theatre; Emmy Award for Best Feature Section; 14 Scotsman Fringe Firsts Awards; 3 Herald Angel Awards; 9 Total Theatre Awards; Amnesty International Freedom of Expression Award; Spirit of the Fringe Award; Off-West End Award for Best Musical; 3 Helen Hayes Awards; Adelaide Festival Award; US Black Alliance Award; Stage Award; Obie Award; John Gassner Award for Best New American Play; Jeff Award; Lucille Lortel Award and the Drama Desk, Drama League, New York Critics and Outer Critic Circle Best New Play Awards. In 1998 he was the first recipient of the TIF/Society of London Theatre Producers Award and in 2010 for his work in U.K. and international theatre he was selected for lifetime inclusion in A & C Black’s annual publication *Who's Who.*

For more information contact: info@richardjordanproductions.com