

MEDIA RELEASE

Melbourne
Fringe



17 August 2011

Bluey by Phil Spencer **A father, a son, a three foot chimp**

Tin Shed Theatre Company and Tamarama Rock Surfers present...

BLUEY

By Phil Spencer

British writer/performer Phil Spencer's solo show Bluey is a poignant and revealing story of family and political conflict, inventively realised through a mixture of old letters, thrash metal and a monkey puppet called Alfred.

Written/Performed by Phil Spencer
Director Scarlet McGlynn
Music by Brett Pritchard

Bluey re-imagines the absurd, but true stories of Phil's father: an RAF sergeant who served in Iraq in 2003. With the help of a three-foot chimp puppet, Spencer stages his father's shocking and humorous tales from a summer spent in Basra.

Interspersed throughout the show are Spencer's own confessions of protesting the war, highlighting his knack for comedy and storytelling and marking the emergence of a thrilling and original new voice in contemporary theatre.

"So we were living in a circus tent, in the middle of the desert, with 24 rickety bunk beds. Yep that sort of sums Iraq up really...Half arsed."

Originally commissioned by the Arches Theatre (Glasgow), Bluey has had sold out seasons in both Glasgow (Arches Festival) and London (Battersea Arts Centre). Since arriving in Australia, Bluey has played at The Sydney Theatre Company, You Are Here Festival (Canberra) and The Old Fitzroy Theatre (Sydney).

Phil is a writer/performer and Associate Artistic Director of Sydney based Theatre Company Tamarama Rock Surfers. Phil's recent theatre credits include Boxing Day (The Old Fitzroy Theatre), Pelvis (Home Brew Festival) and Mike (ATYP).

"There's humour, a touch of sentimentality, and some genuine anger against a hopelessly mismanaged war."
- The Scotsman

"Bluey is a short, interesting show with something to say and a different, highly engaging way of saying it. Worth a look."
- Australian Stage

"Very very finny...deadly and touching anecdotes."
- Spalding Guardian

<http://www.tinshedtheatrecompany.com.au>

<http://www.facebook.com/tinshed>

<http://www.rocksurfers.org>

Bluey by Phil Spencer

VENUE

Fringe Hub - The Loft, Lithuanian Club

44 Errol St

North Melbourne, Victoria 3051

DATES: 1 - 2 Oct

4 - 8 Oct

TIME: 10.30pm, Sun 9.30pm (50min)

TICKETS

Full: \$18.00

For all media inquiries please contact Melbourne Fringe's Publicist:

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