

MEDIA RELEASE

Melbourne
Fringe



31 July 2011

The Game

"What are my options? I pissed them up the wall... Why would I live?"

The Game is a macho love story.

After a big night out, John wakes up in a locker room with his late grandfather Max and his unborn son. John can't remember how he got there, but he's excited to see Max, his favourite grandad. Max wants John to experience the greatest gift he knows – fatherhood. What's the problem? John's dead and doesn't want to live; he has to make a decision – to live or die.

The boy wants a father he can look up to, someone like Max, and John is that man. John would rather be dead, his life's shit and he reckons he's got no future. Max wants John to be the man Max knows he can be and return to his life. Boy just wants a father who will love him and teach him how to be a good man.

The Game, set in an operational workshed, explores the relationships between men through the silences and communication that often take place instead of talking – the communication that happens in a nod, kicking a footy, an eye-to-eye standoff. This is the story of those silences: of three men who love each other dearly, but aren't good at showing it. Will they manage to articulate their feelings in a meaningful way? Will John choose to live or die?

Today we live in a world where the valid way of expressing emotions is verbal: Oprah-style. For many men, they're taught all their lives not to express their emotions in this way, or more often, at all. Emotions are buried until they explode in a fit of rage – the only acceptable emotion left for men to express. This isn't a good thing for our men or our society: in every age group, the number of suicide deaths for men is higher than women; the biggest killer of men 18-25 is the road; every week the news reports acts of violence (often under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol) by young men – fights, bashings.

The Game was originally performed in 2010 for Melbourne Short & Sweet Top 30 Melbourne and has been developed into a 60 minute play for the Fringe Festival.

The Game is written and directed by Fiona McQueen; stars Nick Cain (John), Rhys Hamlyn (Boy) and Drew Sargent (Max); with sound by Chris Wenn.

The Game is the first play for new independent theatre company Drawline Productions.

<http://www.drawlineproductions.com>

The Game

VENUE

The Workshed @ Ormond College
49 College Crescent
Parkville, Victoria 3052

DATES: 27-30 Sep and 1 Oct

TIME: 7.30pm (60min)

TICKETS

Full: \$25.00

Concession: \$20.00

Preview: \$18.00

TO BOOK visit melbournefringe.com.au or call (03) 9660 9666

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

Katrina Hall Publicity

M 0421 153 046

E kathall@ozemail.com.au