

MEDIA RELEASE

Melbourne
Fringe



31 July 2011

The Long Divide

This is the Long Divide. A soldier appears at a new wall surrounding his home and starts a dialogue with a prisoner on the other side. But what happens when a hole in the wall appears? Physical theatre, music and spoken words performed by Company White Wolf director Damian Alexander Bernardo and writer Charles Mercovich. The play explores friendship, masculinity, sexuality and war. The Long Divide appears at Donkey Wheel House in the city.

In the basement of Donkey Wheel House in the city, Company White Wolf director Damian Alexander Bernardo and writer Charles Mercovich present a two-man show with punchy spoken word, physicality and atmospheric music in a one-act play called The Long Divide.

A bi-curious RAAFer with a wild 1950s hairstyle and a dewy-eyed prisoner-of-war in thick-rimmed glasses stand on opposite sides of a wall in a dystopian future, somewhere on the outskirts of Victoria.

They discover they are both from the same town. Arman, the pilot, is a blokish poet who rants in hip-hop about the triumphs of the male spirit. He returns from the battlefield to discover windfarms and a fortress around the place his friends and family live. Pat, the prisoner, is a passive-aggressive peace-monger who has hope for the future and sculpts artwork out of the garbage he finds.

As they share stories of childhood games, sneaking into burlesque clubs as teenagers and going to the sex rooms in the basement, they begin to share ideas of romance, abandonment and grief, as well as explore ideas of friendship, masculinity and the experiences of war.

Safe behind a wall, they share these feelings, but when a bomb destroys part of the world and they see each other for who they are, they cannot avoid the truth.

Damian Alexander Bernardo and Charles Mercovich collaborated on Beneath The Floorboards, which was part of the 2011 VCAA Drama Playlist and was produced for secondary students. This is their first collaboration as actors, sharing their respective skills in directing and writing to produce dynamic performance.

The Long Divide

VENUE

Donkey Wheel - Boardroom
673 Bourke St
Melbourne, Victoria 3000

DATES: 27-30 Sept, 1 October and 4-7 October
TIME: 7.00pm, 9.00pm 27 Sept (90min)

TICKETS

Full: \$15
Concession: \$12
Tightarse Tuesday: \$12
Preview: \$10
Group: \$11
TO BOOK visit melbournefringe.com.au or call (03) 9660 9666

SHOW PUBLICIST

Charles Mercovich
0450873783
charlesmercovich@hotmail.com

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

Katrina Hall Publicity

M 0421 153 046

E kathall@ozemail.com.au