EDINBURGH FRINGE FESTIVAL
RETURNS TO NYC FOR 11th FRINGE ENCORE SERIES

August 29, 2016 (New York, NY) – There is no denying the wonder that can be found within the many Fringe Festivals around the world and the hundreds of productions that are selected each year. But there is nothing quite like the over 3,000 shows that are lucky enough to count themselves as part of the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Except for a lucky few, most New Yorkers don’t get the chance to see any of those productions. Fortunately, the Fringe Encore Series, held at the SoHo Playhouse, will be hosting some of Edinburgh Fringe Festival’s best productions for an extended run.

From September 8th to October 30th, the SoHo Playhouse will present seven pieces from the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Each show was chosen by seasoned theater experts, lead this year by Darren Lee Cole (Producer Fringe Encore Series, Artistic Director SoHo Playhouse).

Some of the amazing shows selected include We Live by the Sea (Pick of the Fringe 2016, The Times), 5 Guys Chillin’ (winner of the Brighton Fringe Award for Best LGBTQ Theatre 2016), All Quiet On The Western Front (5 stars, British Theatre Guide), and Yokes Night (5 stars from Broadway Baby and “Highly Recommended” by Fringe Review). These are just a few of the critically-acclaimed productions coming to NYC this season; everything from drama to comedy to children’s theatre is represented. A full list of shows and their performance schedules can be found below.

Fringe Encore Series was created as a learning center and stepping stone for the young talent and amazing productions that are a part of both Edinburgh’s and New York City’s Fringe Festivals. The Series presents, promotes and educates the “best of” productions from the festival and allows more opportunities for the theater-going public to catch the fresh new voices of today’s theater. For Lafield and Cole in particular, the series is critical to not only showcase the best works of each festival, but to give the artists involved a chance to grow and develop their talents. In Cole’s own words:

“SoHo Playhouse has had the great fortune to have long standing relationships with both FringeNYC and the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Once again hosting the Fringe Encore Series is a great opportunity to share some of the best emerging theatre talent in the world with our audience.”
The Encore Series’ dedication to providing resources for sustainable theatre is undeniable when one looks at the sheer volume of shows that have reached commercial success after their own run in the Encore Series. Jamaica Farewell was a selection in 2007, and is still performed internationally, with praise from The New York Times, The Washington Post, Miami Herald, Chicago Sun Times, The Edinburgh Times, among others. Others have earned Drama Desk Nominations including *Rap Guide to Religion* and *Krapp, 39*.

“Encore is a great opportunity and an amazing launch-pad for a show. The journey for *Krapp, 39* (6 months Off-Broadway, London, Dublin, Edinburgh) started with the Fringe and Encores.” - Michael Laurence, playwright/performer *Krapp, 39*

All shows selected from the Edinburgh Fringe festival will be $30. Tickets can be found at [www.sohoplayhouse.com](http://www.sohoplayhouse.com).

**ABOUT SOHO PLAYHOUSE**

SoHo Playhouse (Darren Lee Cole, Artistic Director) has been one of Off Broadway’s primary venues for new plays for the past 70 years. Formerly “Vandam Playhouse” the theatre has been home to countless dreams and movements. Many actors, directors, choreographers, production designers, theatre managers, technicians, and producers all received their start at SoHo Playhouse. Several of America’s leading writers have premiered their work at 15 Vandam Street including; Sam Shepard, Edward Albee, Tracy Letts, Charles Buch, Leroi Jones and Lanford Wilson. Award winning shows have included: “The Boys in the Band”, “Killer Joe”, “The Divine Sister”, “Mindgame”, “Krapp, 39”, “Piaf”, “Room Service”, “Jamaica Farewell”, “Belly of a Drunken Piano”, “Bukowski From Beyond”, “Simon Lovell’s Strange & Unusual Hobbies”, “The Emperor Jones”, “Triassic Parq”, “The Canterbury Tales Remixed”, “The Other Josh Cohen”, “Bill W and Dr Bob”, and “Rap Guide to Religion”. Mr. Cole has served as Artistic Director since 2004.
EDINBURGH FRINGE ENCORE

**We Live by the Sea**
www.patchofbluetheatre.co.uk
Patch of Blue Theatre
Writers: Patch of Blue Theatre
Director: Alex Howarth
Cast: Alex Brain, Alexandra Simonet, Lizzie Grace, Lloyd Bagley, and musicians Casey Jay Andrews, Robert Hughes and Tom Harford

**Performances:** 9/8 at 7pm, 9/9 at 7pm, 9/11 at 5pm, 9/14 at 7pm, 9/15 at 9pm, 9/16 at 7pm, 9/17 at 3pm

**Description:**
Katy, who is on the autistic spectrum, and her imaginary dog Paul Williams live with her sister, Hannah, in a sleepy coastal town. When lonely teenager Ryan moves there from the city, he and Katy make a connection that will shake their worlds forever. Playful visual storytelling fresh from a critically acclaimed, sold-out run at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, with a live electronic soundtrack about autism, friendship and a very big wave.

**All Quiet on the Western Front**
www.facebook.com/incognitotheatreSL
Incognito Theatre
Writer: Incognito Theatre
Director: Roberta Zuric
Cast: Angus Doughty, George John, Charlie MacVicar, Alex Maxwell, Edward Elliott

**Performances:** 9/13 at 8pm, 9/15 at 7pm, 9/17 at 9pm, 9/18 at 5pm, 9/22 at 9:30pm, 9/23 at 7pm, 9/24 at 5pm

**Description:**
In the centenary year of the Battle of the Somme, Incognito theatre revives Erich Maria Remarque's classic tale that exposes the mental and physical strain of trench warfare, All Quiet on the Western Front. Adapting the story in their trademark physical style, Incognito harnesses the tragic energy of Remarque's novel and creates a stunningly poetic, poignant and expressionistic theatrical experience in order to tell the breaking story of the German soldiers who fought on the Western Front during the Great War.
5 Guys Chillin’
www.peterdarney.co.uk
Em-Lou Productions
**Writer/Director:** Peter Darney
**Cast:** Elliot Hadley (Best actor, Dublin International Gay Theatre Festival), Cesare Scarpone, Adi Chugh, Richard De Lisle (+1TBC)

**Performances:** 9/27 at 9:30pm, 9/28 at 9:30pm, 9/29 at 9:30pm, 9/30 at 9pm, 10/1 at 5pm & 9pm, 10/2 at 5pm, 10/4 at 9:30pm, 10/5 at 9:30pm, 10/6 at 9:30pm, 10/7 at 9pm, 10/8 at 5pm & 9pm, 10/9 at 5pm

**Description:**
Award-winning graphic, gripping, funny and frank verbatim drama exposing the gay chemsex chill-out scene. From surgeons to students, couples to kink; guys that love it and lost guys longing to be loved. Made from interviews with guys found on Grindr, 5 Guys Chillin’ is an original look into a drug-fuelled, hedonistic, highly secret world of chemsex, Grindr and the search for intimacy and instant gratification.

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Yokes Night
www.facebook.com/StayUpLateArts
Stay Up Late Collective in association with Bear Trap Theatre
**Writer:** Scott Lyons
**Directors:** Jesse Briton & Dimitris Chimonas
**Cast:** Scott Lyons (+1TBC)

**Performances:** 10/13 at 7pm, 10/14 at 9pm, 10/16 at 3pm, 10/19 at 9:30pm, 10/21 at 7pm, 10/22 at 9pm, 10/23 at 5pm

**Description:**
Inspired by true events in Dublin, 11th March 2015, the night all drugs were legal for 24 hours. On this night of rebellion, young Harry finds himself under the influence of the mysterious Saoirse. Bound by the ecstasy of their union, secrets are shared, and the stench of bloodshed looms
**Gefilte Fish & Chips**
www.danielcainer.com
**Writer/Director:** Daniel Cainer
**Cast:** Daniel Cainer

**Performances:** 9/14 at 7pm, 9/16 at 7pm, 9/18 at 7pm, 9/19 at 8pm, 9/21 at 7pm

**Description:**
Master-songwriter and musician, Daniel Cainer returns to SoHo Playhouse for his third consecutive Fringe Encore season with a ‘best-of’ collection of deeply moving, smart and funny story-songs about his family and his roots. A sell-out show in Edinburgh 2016 Cainer’s unique perspective of growing up Yiddish and British will make you laugh and cry in a heartbeat. NB: No actual gefilte fish were harmed during the making of this show.

**Piaf and Brel: The Impossible Concert**
www.melaniegall.com
Melanie Gall Presents
**Writer:** Melanie Gall
**Cast:** Melanie Gall (vocals), Bennett Paster (piano)

**Performances:** 10/4 at 7pm, 10/6 at 7pm, 10/9 at 3pm, 10/11 at 8pm, 01/12 at 9pm, 10/14 at 7pm
**Description:**
Edith Piaf and Jacques Brel: Two French musical icons. They sang songs of romance, heartbreak, hope and love. They lived lives of drama and passion. This impossible concert, featuring internationally acclaimed vocalist Melanie Gall, relives the adventure and inspiration of their lives and music. With Amsterdam, Milord, La Vie en Rose and other French classics. ‘A bravura display of amazing colour and dynamic range’ (Edmonton Journal). ‘Gall has an astounding voice that leaves audiences breathless’ (Vue Magazine). ‘A beautifully rendered and loving homage’ (CBC.ca). ★★★★★ (Winnipeg Free Press). This show has just finished sell-out runs at both the Winnipeg and Edinburgh Fringes.

**Opera Mouse**
www.melaniegall.com
Melanie Gall Presents
**Writer/Director:** Melanie Gall/Erik DeWaal
**Cast:** Melanie Gall

**Performances:** 10/1 at 11am, 10/2 at 11am, 10/8 at 11pm, 10/9 at 11am

**Description:**
Tilly Mouse lives under an opera house, and she just loves to sing! Her dream is to perform on stage. But whenever anybody sees her, they scream and run away. With determination, imagination, and help from her friends, Tilly proves that even a mouse can be a star! Featuring songs and arias from several operas, including Gianni Schicchi, Carmen and The Magic Flute. 'Best kids show' (Winnipeg Fringe, 2013). 'Bravo to Melanie Gall for creating Opera Mouse, a Fringe show that's equally satisfying for kids and their accompanying adults' ★★★★★ (CBC.ca). ★★★★★ (FringeReview.ca). Opera Mouse has been performed in several countries, including: Morocco, Algeria and Sudan.