



YOUNG MINDS

A production by young people
for Young Minds

Theatre
Of
Minds

presents

buckets

by Adam Barnard

by arrangement with Nick Hern Books

Theatre of Minds presents buckets

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Theatre of Minds, a company set up by young people creating innovative theatre, telling honest and relevant stories of the modern world.



We are a group of young people, between the ages of 18 and 21, using our passion and enthusiasm for the arts to raise funds and awareness for the charity Young Minds.

For the last two months we have been rehearsing our latest production, 'buckets' by Adam Barnard which includes 33 interconnected scenes telling stories of time and how a lack of it affects our emotions and relationships. We follow the stories of seven characters who are all desperately trying to find ways to cope with the fact that time always runs out.

www.theatreofminds.wordpress.com

After 25 years, Young Minds have become the UK's leading charity for youth mental well-being. They work to support young people and their families when struggling with mental illness and strive to give all young people the resilience to cope with life's challenges. The charity focuses on giving a voice to young people as well as providing resources to those who are suffering.

www.youngminds.org.uk



Director's Note

After Base Layer I felt quite unsure about the direction that Theatre of Minds would head in. The piece had been so personal, with such a strong mission, that I felt like when we took on our next project I needed to have something to say – a story to tell. With the rather daunting prospect of three months break from university looming over me, I began researching plays that would have a similar vibe to Base Layer but also allow us to grow as a company.

Back in March, over a FaceTime call with Lucy and Tamsin, we quickly fell in love with the concept behind 'buckets' – 33 interconnected scenes with permission to make choices and create our own performance from the words written in to the pretext "Everything's an option". It was perfect. The more we worked on the piece, the more we have seen our own thoughts and feelings reflected in the characters we have created. It has been a fantastic piece to work on and shape and I am so proud of what we have created.

Thank you so much to all of the cast for committing so much time to us over the past few months. It was so lovely to have some many returning cast and creatives wanting to get involved again, and to welcome some new faces to the team. It has been such a rewarding experience to work with such thoughtful, articulate and hard-working young people – I only hope that we get the opportunity again soon. Thank you for coming to see 'buckets': I hope you enjoy the performance as much as we have enjoyed creating it.

Beth Wilson



Writer's Note

Why the lower-case title? Hard to explain except that it was a strong instinct from the off. The original plan for the play had been to write a more conventional character-led narrative called Bucket List (I didn't know there was a mediocre Hollywood film of the same name) about a girl called Melly who knows she's going to die young, and her family etc. I'd been given a bursary to write this play for a children's theatre but I realised early in the process I was writing the wrong play. It felt mawkish, sentimental, exploitative. Why had I even pitched it, I wondered? It wasn't a personal connection - I don't (mercifully) have any experience of a terminally ill child. I tried to uncover what had led me to this curious pitch for a play I couldn't write, and I realised I was interested in our relationship with time, in the different ways and rates at which we do or don't grow up, in mental health as well as physical illness... The life-limited child was really a metaphor for the things I wanted to explore - not a subject. I was furious with myself. To let off steam I started to write little scenes - vignettes - snatches of dialogue - that were more what I wanted to explore. Somehow these scenes took a life of their own. Each scene (and, I figured, each life) was its own little container - hence, buckets. I liked the everyday mundanity of the word and the image (and suddenly the object itself seemed to be everywhere I looked). The whole thing seemed less self-important with a lower-case b, less like a Proclamation or Answer, less final. A fragment of a thought rather than the beginning and end of one. Maybe a little more comical. The way I came to the play was pretty haphazard - it wasn't like I sat down with the title and a plan - if anything I was rebelling against my original pitch - and somehow decapitalising (is that a word?) reflected this. Maybe also a nod to the writer debbie tucker green, who I really admire, and who is basically allergic to capitals.

Adam Barnard



Cast and Creatives

Alex – Tamsin Sandford Smith

Angela – Hannah Crisp

Bea – Lucy Wilson

Eve – Bethan Hughes

Hazel – Flo Rowntree

Jasmine – Mae Lankshear

Sam – Anastasia Raymond

Special Guest as **The Voice** – Philip Raymond

Director – Beth Wilson

Lighting Designer – Jack Wills

Assistant Lighting Designer – Joe Vernon

Graphic Designer – Kirstie Childs

Visual Assistant – Tom Wilson

Photographer – Ruth Mestel

Also thank you to our lighting and sound teams.



Music

Watching the Storm – U137

Dance to the Beat – Moonwalk

Minecraft – C418

Cannon in the Key of Hip Hop – Young Mozart

Lose Yourself – Eminem

Norwegian Wood – The Beatles

The Garden – Take That

Immortalised – Disturbed

LVI Theme – Tamsin Sandford Smith

The Garden – arranged by Hannah Crisp and Mae Lanshear

Sparks – Mattia Cupelli

Tip Fill Carry Pour – Tamsin Sandford Smith

Where do we go from here? – from Amelie

Thank you to...

We greatly appreciate all the help we have had on this project, we couldn't have done it without all of the people listed below and many more.

Tina Swain, the tech team, front of house and everyone at the Abbey Theatre

Elena Dundjerovic and the staff at Beaumont School

The staff at EMMAUS in St Albans

Jill Taylor at the Odyssey in St Albans

Alan Davies and Matt Adam at the Herts Advertiser

Anyone who recorded any music for this production

Everyone who donated to our crowdfunding page

Adam Barnard for showing great support in our production



If you have been affected by any of the subject matter in this piece and would like some more information, Young Minds have kindly given us details of some organisations that may be able to help.

Young Minds:

Leading charity dedicated to improving the mental health of children and young people.

Parent's helpline: 08088 025544

www.youngminds.org.uk

Youth Talk:

Counselling services available to young people aged between 13 and 25 who live, work or attend school in the district of St Albans.

01727 868684

www.youthtalk.org.uk

Mind in Mid-Herts:

Experienced provider of mental health services in Hertfordshire with information and guidance for people of all ages.

01727 865070

www.mindinmidherts.org.uk



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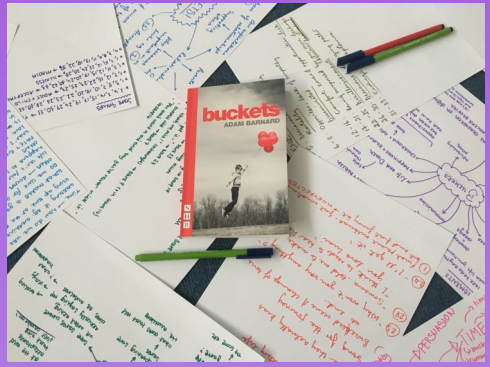
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