

f @COLCHESTERFRINGE

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WELCOME TO OUR PROGRAMME!

The first ever Colchester Fringe Festival is a heady mix of theatre, comedy, dance, poetry, live music and much more. We are proudly independent and boast a programme of international, national and local acts – over half of whom are from Essex. We've even got a fabulous and fun programme aimed at young people and their grown-ups.

The festival is committed to using 100% wheelchair accessible venues, promoting under-represented voices, and keeping ticket prices as low as we can. Any profits we make will be reinvested into future events.

View the programme, find our venues and buy tickets online at **www.colchesterfringe.com**

We hope you enjoy what's on offer!

Cameron Abbott-Betts & Steve GoatmanColchester Fringe Co-Directors

What is 'Fringe'?

In 1947 eight uninvited theatre companies arrived at the Edinburgh International Festival eager to perform, only to be turned away. Feeling rejected, they decided to group together and stage their own festival. Thus, the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and a new premise of an artistic event was born.

What started out as an artistic protest has produced an estimated 50,000 artists participating annually in fringe festivals in the U.K alone! Also, 250 international fringe festivals draw in 19 million audience members every year to watch theatre, comedy, dance, circus, spoken-word, live art and all other types of performances imaginable. We're proud to be Colchester's first ever Fringe Festival!

Why the Purple Elephant?

The elephant connection to Colchester began around the Roman occupation of Camulodunum in AD43 when Roman reinforcements arrived in town with reserves of arms, provisions...and elephants. It must have been quite a sight for the ancient Britons when they saw these huge animals for the first time. We've adopted a purple elephant as our mascot and hope to bring some of that ancient awe and wonder with it.

TICKET BOOKING



We're really grateful to the Headgate Theatre who are handling our ticket bookings.

You can buy Colchester Fringe Festival tickets in the following ways:

- 1) Online: www.colchesterfringe.com
- 2) In Person From the Headgate Theatre (see map on the back of this brochure)
- 3) At the door of every Fringe venue (cashless only)
- 4) At our pop-up space The Tent, which will be situated in Lion Walk. Here you will be able to pick-up a programme, buy a ticket, grab a drink and watch some free live music.

Colchester Young Fringers

We're proud to have established our own development programme for local young people - Colchester Young Fringers.

Supported by Arts Council
England and accredited
by the national Arts Award
scheme, Young Fringers will be
participating in the festival

as reviewers and performers. For our premiere festival we have produced Ghost Therapy, the debut play by 17y/o Colchester Playwright Jaz Skingle which runs for 2 performances at the Headgate Theatre (Main Space).

Our Young Fringer's reviews and more information about the scheme will be posted online on our socials and website over the festival.





HEADGATE THEATRE

MAIN SPACE



SHOW TITLE: BACK TO THE ROARING 20'S // GENRE: DANCE

Artist/ Company: Movement Space (Colchester, England)

Dates/ Times:

Friday 22nd Oct @ 19:00 Saturday 23rd Oct @ 21:00 Sunday 24th Oct @ 18:00

Description: Movement Space presents a theatrical time warp. The year is 2021, we are teched up & tuned in. The pace is fast & the time is now... Or is it? The sands of time slip through the hourglass where prohibition rules. No beeps, 1920's beats.

Age Suitability: 16+ // **Audience Warnings:** Flashing Lights, Smoke & Adult Themes // **Duration:** 30 mins

SHOW TITLE: DRAG BINGO WITH SHAR COOTERIE // GENRE: DRAG

Artist/ Company: Shar Cooterie (Colchester, England)

Dates/ Times:

Friday 22nd Oct @ 22:00 Saturday 23rd Oct @ 22:00

Description: Join the Queen of the Deli, Shar Cooterie for an hour of the most chaotic bingo this side of that Butlins trip you took! With a few songs and a full game of classic bingo, this show is a sure-fire hit if you're looking for the lead-in to a good night out.

Age Suitability: 16+ // Audience Warnings: Strong Language // Duration: 60 mins





SHOW TITLE: ENTRÉE // GENRE: MAGIC

Artist/ Company: José Pedro Fortuna (Porto, Portugal)

Dates/ Times:

Saturday 23rd Oct @ 16:30 Sunday 24th Oct @ 13:30

Description: He's the master of Ceremonies: tall, dark and handsome. But what happens when the Master's props gain a life of their own? Entrée is a silent solo physical comedy/magic piece about the journey of an eccentric character through failure and unhelpful magical discoveries.

Age Suitability: All Ages // Audience Warnings: N/A // Duration: 45 mins

SHOW TITLE: GHOST THERAPY // GENRE: THEATRE

Artist/ Company: Jaz Skingle

Dates/ Times:

Saturday 23rd Oct @ 15:00 Sunday 24th Oct @ 15:00

Description: Ghost therapy explores the ghost world, and more importantly ghost problems... all from the view of ghost therapist Dr Soul. It is a comedic and fun play with a variety of different characters, I mean ghosts. So prepare to die of laughter muhahal

Age Suitability: All Ages // Audience Warnings: Flashing Lights // Duration: 30 mins



HEADGATE THEATRE



This show includes a 20-25 minute post-

show discussion with guest facilitator from

charity: **Gendered** Intelligence.

MAIN SPACE



SHOW TITLE: INK'D // GENRE: DANCE

Artist/ Company: CTC Dance Company (London, England)

Dates / Times: Friday 22nd Oct @ 20:30 Saturday 23rd Oct @ 18:00 Sunday 24th Oct @ 19:30

Description: CTC Dance Company presents a 40minute contemporary dance theatre show exploring the identity of a relationship between a Cis-Male and a Transgender Female. The show exposes an audience to the modern trials, tribulations and celebrations a transgender couple may combat within society.

Age Suitability: 12+ // Audience Warnings: N/A // Duration: 60 mins

SHOW TITLE: LOST DOLLS // GENRE: THEATRE

Artist/ Company: Headgate Young Company (Colchester, England)

Dates / Times:

Thursday 21st Oct @ 19:00 Sunday 24th Oct @ 16:30

Description: Year 11. Would you do it again? The notorious girls at Harcourt High, might not have a choice. Currently failing their GSCE'S, the girls are given a last chance to salvage their future. A one-week intensive course, scuffling with the "easiest subject" of them all. Drama.

> Age Suitability: 16+ // Audience Warnings: Strong Language & Flashing Lights // Duration: 60 mins





SHOW TITLE: THE MINER'S CROW // GENRE: THEATRE

Artist/ Company: Stage Write (Colchester, England)

Dates/ Times:

Thursday 21st Oct @ 20:30 Saturday 23rd Oct @ 19:30 Sunday 24th Oct @ 21:00

Description: Once upon a time there was a boy who grew...and grew... and just didn't stop growing! As if being born in a rain drenched Welsh village wasn't enough, Paul has to negotiate his way through childhood trauma, an abusive father, a burgeoning creativity and a confusing sexual awakening! There's a crow on his shoulder that digs its claws deep, but music offers a way through each crisis. Can The Greatest Single in the History of the World EVER save him? And it might, just might save you too!

Age Suitability: 16+ // Audience Warnings: Adult Themes & Strong Language // Duration: 60 mins

SHOW TITLE: SESKA: BULLINACHINASHOP // GENRE: CHILDREN'S

Artist/ Company: SESKA (Brighton, England)

Dates/ Times:

Saturday 23rd Oct @ 13:30

Description: Entertaining crowds from Mumbai to Trinidad. Do not miss a turbo-charged chaotic comedy magic show for all ages. Kids laugh out loud, dads fart out loud and mums faint at his feet! Buy tickets quick!

Age Suitability: All Ages // Audience Warnings: N/A // Duration: 45 mins





HEADGATE THEATRE

REHEARSAL ROOM



SHOW TITLE: CHASING FAIRY TALES: JAPAN // GENRE: CHILDREN'S

Artist/ Company: The Arts Business (Birmingham, England)

Dates/ Times:

Saturday 23rd October @ 15:00 Sunday 24th October @ 13:30

Description: It's time for a bedtime story with a difference. Experience the weird and wonderful world of Japanese Fairytales: see the magic rabbit trick the badger, the old man and his butterfly and the mysterious cloak of invisibility, told with masks and puppets!

Age Suitability: Family // Audience Warnings: N/A // Duration: 45 mins

SHOW TITLE: DRAGON // GENRE: MUSICAL

Artist/ Company: Fizz & Chips Productions (Dublin, Republic of Ireland)

Dates / Times

Thursday 21st Oct @ 20:30 Friday 22nd Oct @ 19:00 Saturday 23rd Oct @ 19:30

Description: Dragon is a new musical, telling the tale of a young man (but not that young). He is a serial-first-dater, Tinder Wizard, and a fantasy aficionado. As the cafés and girls change, the story he tells remains the same: the mythical tale of an all-powerful dragon.

Age Suitability: 16+ // Audience Warnings: Strong Language // Duration: 60 mins





SHOW TITLE: JUMBO & NUMBER ONE, THE NORTH SEA // GENRE: THEATRE

Artist/ Company: Radio Vision (Colchester, England)

Dates/ Times:

Thursday 21st Oct @ 19:00 Saturday 23rd Oct @ 16:30 Sunday 24th Oct @ 18:00

Description: Radio Vision was formed in order to produce audio plays as script in hand, live performances on stage, in front of an audience. With Sound Effects pre-recorded, the plays are best described as almost a hybrid, offering a unique experience for audiences, who get to "see" the audio plays as well as listen to the scripts. The structure means that audiences will often get to see at first-hand, the skills of actors, as they slip seamlessly from one character to another within the same play. The plays are performed with minimal set and maximum atmosphere!

Age Suitability: 16+ // Audience Warnings: Adult Themes // Duration: 60 mins

SHOW TITLE: LET'S TRY GAY // GENRE: THEATRE

Artist/ Company: i Birbanti (Milan, Italy)

Dates/ Times:

Friday 22nd Oct @ 20:30 Saturday 23rd Oct @ 18:00 Sunday 24th Oct @ 16:30

Description: Two friends agree to shoot a gay adult movie between two straight guys as an "art project", but they now feel very uncomfortable: the relaxed, goofy situation turns into a deep analysis of human nature.

Age Suitability: 16+ // Audience Warnings: Adult Themes & Strong Language // Duration: 45 mins



THE BULL



SOUNDHOUSE



SHOW TITLE: ACCIDENT AVOIDANCE TRAINING FOR CUTLERY USERS // GENRE: COMEDY

Artist/ Company: lan Crawford (Sutton Coldfield, England)

Dates/ Times: Friday 22nd Oct @ 20:30 Saturday 23rd Oct @ 19:30 Sunday 24th Oct @ 19:30

Description: Do you own a butter knife? Do you know how to minimise injury from an unsupervised fork? Do you have Spoon-Sense? Safety expert lan Crawford is here to deliver his deadly serious training workshop and to develop your cutlery confidence. What he has to share is deadly serious and you'd be forking mad to miss him.

Age Suitability: 12+ // Audience Warnings: N/A // Duration: 50 mins

SHOW TITLE: BAD MOVIES // GENRE: COMEDY

Artist/ Company: Luke Poulton (London, England)

Dates/ Times: Thursday 21st Oct @ 19:00 Friday 22nd Oct @ 19:00

Saturday 23rd Oct @ 18:00

Description: After doing his show "You Don't Look Autistic" for the past two years. Luke has decided to move on and do a whole show on one of his favourite things... Bad Movies! Get ready for a journey through the worst movies ever created, find out why Luke loves them so much and discover what is the baddest movie

Age Suitability: 16+ // Audience Warnings: Adult Themes & Strong Language // Duration: 60 mins





SHOW TITLE: FRIENDZY // GENRE: MAGIC

Artist/ Company: The Underdogs

Dates/ Times:

Thursday 21st Oct @ 22:00 Friday 22nd Oct @ 22:00

Description: The Underdogs laugh in the face of danger and death. These fabulous, fearless comedy magicians bring you drunken knife throwing, mind-blowing mindreading, life-threatening tricks, terrible dancing, unexpected lettuces and absurdly cool tricks with a hoover! Rising stars, go get tickets!

Age Suitability: 16+ // Audience Warnings: Strong Language // Duration: 50 mins

SHOW TITLE: HOW TO GET UP IN THE MORNING // GENRE: COMEDY

Artist/ Company: lan Lane (London, England)

Dates/ Times:

Thursday 21st Oct @ 20:30 Saturday 23rd Oct @ 21:00 Sunday 24th Oct @ 21:00

Description: The average Brit takes 49 minutes to get ready for work in the morning. In this work-in-progress stand-up comedy show, autistic multimedia comedian and retro video game speedrunner laboration.

Lane investigates how to cut this time down.

Age Suitability: 16+ // Audience Warnings: Adult Themes // Duration: 45 mins





CODA



SHOW TITLE: EVERYTHING I KNOW I LEARNED FROM EUROVISION // GENRE: COMEDY

Artist/ Company: Jo Fletcher-Cross (Colchester, England)

Dates/ Times:

Friday 22nd Oct @ 20:30 (no under-18's allowed) Saturday 23rd Oct @ 19:30 Sunday 24th Oct @ 19:30

Description: The Eurovision Song Contest is many things to many people. Glitter-fest, serious music competition, camp pop fun, a nonsensical waste of time. To Jo it's where she learned there was a big wide world beyond her grey little corner of Glasgow and made her want to travel to all those exciting places – France, Belgium, the Former Yugoslavian Republic of Macedonia... She's taken many important life lessons from Eurovision and wants to help others find their own message from her very favourite televised live event in the world.

Age Suitability: 16+ // Audience Warnings: Strong Language // Duration: 50 mins

SHOW TITLE: LIES, ALIBIS & FILTHY STORIES // GENRE: COMEDY

Artist/ Company: Paul Merryck (Chelmsford, England)

Dates/ Times:

Thursday 21st Oct @ 20:30 Saturday 23rd Oct @ 21:00 (no under-18's allowed) Sunday 24th Oct @ 18:00

Description: Come along for a hilarious lock-in session of top-quality gags, tales and anecdotes from the wrong side of the marshes. Or put more simply...Lies, Alibis and Filthy Stories

Age Suitability: 16+ // Audience Warnings: Adult Themes // Duration: 50 mins





SHOW TITLE: NICE TO MEAT YOU // GENRE: DRAG

Artist/ Company: Shar Cooterie (Colchester, England)

Dates/ Times:

Thursday 21st Oct @ 19:00 Friday 22nd Oct @ 19:00 Saturday 23rd Oct @ 18:00

Description: Join the Queen of the Deli, Shar Cooterie for 45 minutes of chat, songs and the odd game. One of Colchester's leading drag performers and international drag piglet, Shar hopes to see you at their Colchester Fringe debut for a show that promises to leave you full up on Honey Roast Glam!

Age Suitability: 16+ // Audience Warnings: Strong Language // Duration: 45 mins

BEST DAYS VINTAGE & THE TENT





SHOW TITLE: HYSTERICAL: THE HILARIOUS, HISTORY OF HYSTERIA // GENRE: THEATRE

Artist/ Company: Rebecca Buckle (Colchester, England)

Dates/ Times:

Friday 22nd Oct @ 20:30 (this performance is being performed at Best Days Vintage) Saturday 23rd Oct @ 18:00 (this performance is being performed at Best Days Vintage) Sunday 24th Oct @ 18:00 (this performance is being performed at Best Days Vintage)

Description: Hello, my name is Rebecca and I'm a hysterical woman. From Plato to Freud, witches to suffragettes, discover everything you never knew you needed to know about the history of hysteria. In a riotous digital lecture, join Rebecca (along with a puppet or two) for an eye-opening expedition into this fascinating 'diagnosis' and follow her own personal quest to shake off a label that has been placed on women for over 2,500 years.

Age Suitability: 16+ // Audience Warnings: Adult Themes & Strong Language // Duration: 60 mins

SHOW TITLE: MISERUS // GENRE: THEATRE

Artist/ Company: i.e. (Bideford, England)

Dates/ Times:

Thursday 21st Oct @ 19:00 (this performance will be held in The Tent) Friday 22nd Oct @ 19:00 (this performance is being performed at Best Days Vintage) Saturday 23rd Oct @ 19:30 (this performance is being performed at Best Days Vintage)

Description: Join the blind seer Tiresias and his mostly mute companion Vox Nihili as they recount a dismal selection of Classical Greek Myths through some traditional storytelling smashed to bits with live music.

Age Suitability: 12+ // Audience Warnings: N/A // Duration: 60 mins



SHOW TITLE: THE MASQUE OF ANARCHY BY PERCY BYSSHE SHELLEY // GENRE: POETRY



Artist/ Company: Dr Anthony Roberts (Colchester, England)

Dates/ Times:

Thursday 21st Oct @ 20:30 (this performance will be held in The Tent)
Saturday 23rd Oct @ 21:30 (this performance is being performed at Best Days Vintage)
Sunday 24th Oct @ 19:30 (this performance is being performed at Best Days Vintage)

Description: The Masque of Anarchy is a devastating poem, written in 1819 by Percy Bysshe Shelley following the Peterloo Massacre of that year. It is a bristling verse, full of outrage and anger but ultimately it is about strength and hope.

Age Suitability: All Ages // Audience Warnings: N/A // Duration: 25 mins

CULVER SQUARE SHOP



SHOW TITLE: DREAMBAG // GENRE: INSTALLATION

Artist/ Company: Abi Cunliffe (Colchester, England)

Dates/ Times:

Saturday 23rd Oct @ 12:00 to 16:40 Sunday 24th Oct @ 12:00 to 16:40

Description: Be Here Now is a gentle one-to-one installation, a collection of thoughts, memories and questions where the individual is taken on a journey via a dialogue through headphones. Participants are invited to add their own touch to a sculpture and to listen to a letter written just

Age Suitability: 12+ // Audience Warnings: N/A // Duration: 20 mins



FRINGE

FRINGE CLUB CODA

THURSDAY 21ST (11pm to 2am)

Late-Night Fringe Cabaret hosted by drag sensation Shar Cooterie

FRIDAY 22ND (11pm to 2am)

Live music and Fringe DJ

SATURDAY 23RD (11pm to 2am)

Live music and Fringe Disco

SUNDAY 24TH (10pm to 2am)

Fringe Closing Party

FRINGE





TITLE: A CREATIVE PATH with Eddie Summers

About: This workshop will help you to discover, create, design, and live a creative life. Surprise friends and family with your culinary skills, perform a cool mindreading magic trick for your friends, free your mind to write rap / poetry or doodle a better you. Inclusive light-hearted fun for all ages.

Where and When?

Saturday 23rd October 11am-12pm @ The Tent



TITLE: Drag Workshop

About: Benjamin Powell aka Shar Cooterie will guide you through some of the assorted aims and starting points when approaching drag artistry for the first time!

For beginners or those looking to build on existing skills, this workshop aims to leave participants enthused,

aims to leave participants enthused empowered and, most of all, excited about all that drag can be!

Where and When?

Saturday 23rd October 12pm-1pm @ The Headgate Theatre Studio



TITLE: Self- Identity: Inspired Workshop for the LGBTQIA+ Community by CTC Dance Company

About: A free 2 hour workshop to young people and young adults that are part of the LGBTQIA+ Community, exploring self-identity, mental health and self-confidence through movement and discussion.

Where and when? Sunday 24th October at

The Headgate Theatre (Studio) from 11am to 1pm



TITLE: Puppet Workshop

About: The Arts Business will be running a workshop alongside Chasing Fairytales: Japan where children will be given the opportunity to build puppets from everyday rubbish encouraging a reuse and recycle mentality and showing them how to make something from nothing. They'll also be able to play with their creations in our fully recycled puppet theatre!

Where and When?

Sunday 24th October 11pm-12pm @ The Headgate Theatre (Rehearsal Room)



TITLE: An Introduction to Magic! with José Pedro Fortuna

About: Have you ever wanted to learn magic? This introductory magic workshop will introduce the basic core concepts of magic, You will learn tricks to impress your friends and family with regular objects from a coin to a deck of cards. Open to all ages and skill levels.

Where and when?

Sunday 24th October 12pm to 1pm @ The Tent



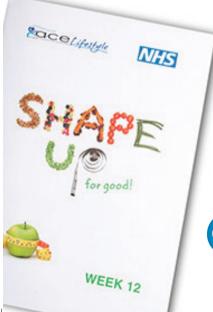




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WHAT'S ON

THURSDAY 21st OCTOBER

HEADGATE (MAIN)

19:00 ///// Lost Dolls **20:30** ///// The Miner's Crow

HEADGATE (REHEARSAL ROOM)

19:00 ///// Jumbo & Number One, The North Se **20:30**///// Dragon

CODA

19:00 ///// Nice to Meat You 20:30 ///// Lies, Alibis & Filthy Stories

THE BULL (SOUNDHOUSE)

19:00 ///// Bad Movies 20:30///// How to get up in the Morning 22:00///// Friendzy

THE TENT

19:00 ///// Miserus
20:30 ///// The Masque of Anarchy
by Percy Bysshe Shelley

FRIDAY 22nd OCTOBER

HEADGATE (MAIN)

19:00 ///// Back to the Roaring 20's **20:30**///// ink'd **22:00**///// Drag Bingo

HEADGATE (REHEARSAL ROOM)

19:00 ///// Dragon **20:30**///// Let's Try Gay

CODA

19:00 ///// Nice to Meat You **20:30** ///// Eurovision

THE BULL (SOUNDHOUSE)

BEST DAYS VINTAGE

19:00 ///// Miserus
20:30 ///// Hysterical: The hilarious,
history of hysteria



WHAT'S ON



SATURDAY 23rd OCTOBER

HEADGATE (MAIN)

13:30 ///// SESKA

15:00 ///// Ghost Therapy

16:30 ///// Entrée

18:00 ///// ink'd

19:30 ///// The Miner's Crow

21:00 ///// Back to the Roaring 20's

22:00///// Drag Bingo

HEADGATE (REHEARSAL ROOM)

15:00 ///// Chasing Fairytales

16:30 ///// Jumbo & Number One, The North Se

18:00 ///// Let's Try Gay

19:30 ///// Dragon

CODA

18:00 ///// Nice to Meat You

19:30 ///// Eurovision

21:00 ///// Lies, Alibis & Filthy Stories

THE BULL (SOUNDHOUSE)

18:00 ///// Bad Movies

19:30 ///// Accident Avoidance Training for Cutlery Users

21:00 ///// How to get up in the Morning

BEST DAYS VINTAGE

18:00 ///// Hysterical: The hilarious, history of hysteria

19:30 ///// Miserus

21:30///// The Masque of Anarchy by Percy Bysshe Shelley

CULVER SQ SHOP

12-16:40//// Dreambag





WHAT'S ON

SUNDAY 24th OCTOBER

HEADGATE (MAIN)

13:30 ///// Entrée

15:00 ///// Ghost Therapy

16:30 ///// Lost Dolls

18:00 ///// Back to the Roaring 20's

19:30 ///// ink'd

21:00 ///// The Miner's Crow

HEADGATE (REHEARSAL ROOM)

15:00 ///// Chasing Fairytales

16:30 ///// Let's Try Gay

18:00 ///// Jumbo & Number One, The North Se

CODA

18:00 ///// Lies, Alibis & Filthy Stories

19:30 ///// Eurovision

THE BULL (SOUNDHOUSE)

19:30 ///// Accident Avoidance Training for Cutlery Users

21:00 ///// How to get up in the Morning

BEST DAYS VINTAGE

18:00 ///// Hysterical: The hilarious, history of hysteria 19:30 ///// The Masque of Anarchy by Percy Bysshe Shelley

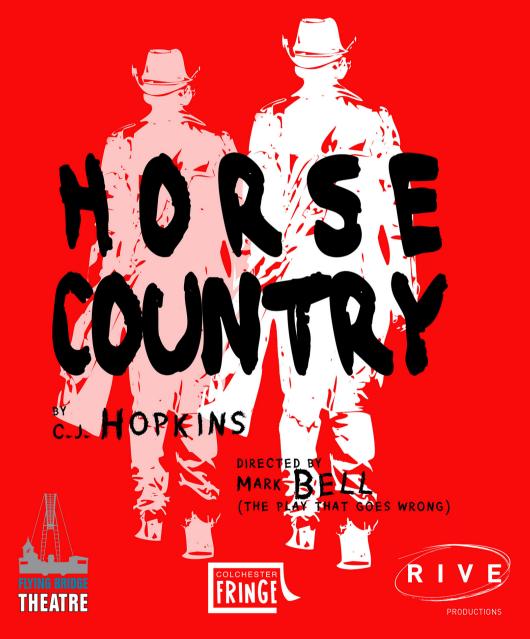
CULVER SQ SHOP

12-16:40//// Dreambag



COLCHESTER FRINGE & THE HEADGATE THEATRE PROUDLY PRESENT

TWO IDIOTS A GAME OF CARDS ARMAGEDDON



15th to 19th Feb 2022

@ The Headgate Theatre

