

Venue Pack

Rachel Mars

The Way You Tell Them



'Rachel Mars is electrifying. A love letter to comedy from someone who wants it to mean something.' *The Guardian*

Available for touring from Spring 2014

www.rachelmars.org

@rachelofmars

The Way You Tell Them

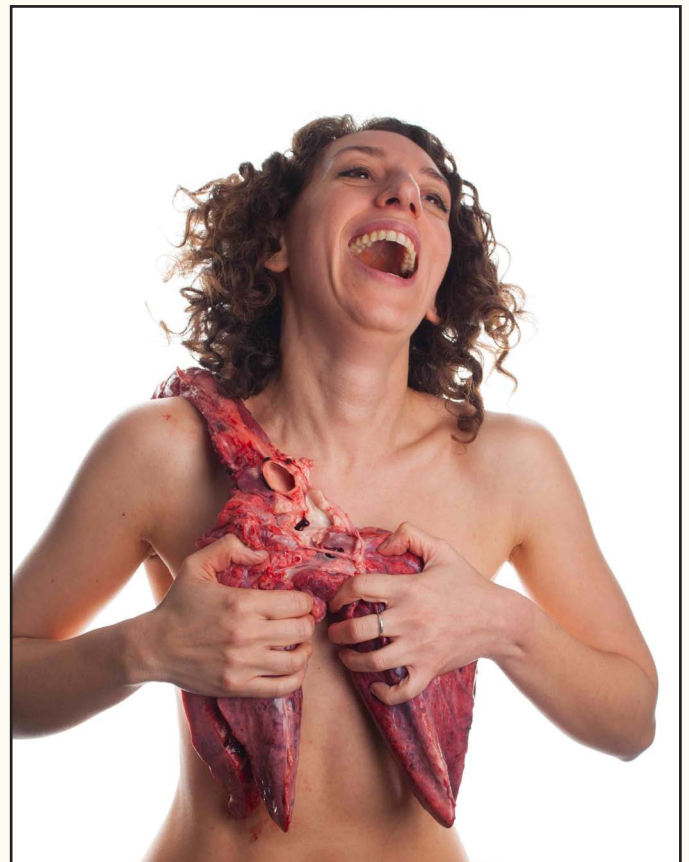
Rachel Mars has always relied on humour. In her latest solo performance, she goes in search of what is beyond the gags. Turning the spotlight on the inner workings of comedy, *The Way You Tell Them* interrogates the desire and - sometimes uncontrollable - compulsion to be funny. What are we scared of? Where does the responsibility lie when going for a laugh?

Using real-life material, classic jokes and a wolf suit, Rachel weaves a thoughtful and provocative story that questions how we use and abuse humour. Directed by Fringe First Winner Jamie Wood, this beautifully sad and funny show sold out in London and at the Brighton Festival, and had a very well received run at Summerhall, Edinburgh 2013.

The Artists

Rachel Mars (performer/writer) is an established theatre maker and performer who specialises in witty, uncompromising work about the idiosyncrasies of human interaction. Her performances are intricately layered, combining perceptive and powerful writing with unexpected visual images. With charisma and humour she naturally puts audiences at ease, enabling her to pull the rug away exposing uncomfortable truths.

She has recently been commissioned by Oval House Theatre, Fuel Theatre and Islington Exhibits. She has performed up and down the UK, including at Spill Festival, The Barbican, The BFI, Pulse Festival, The South Bank Centre and has featured on BBC Radio 2 & 4.



Jamie Wood (Director) is a Fringe First winning director. He has devised work for national and international tours with artists including Caroline Horton, Toby Park (Splymonkey), Guy Dartnel and most recently with The Belarus Free Theatre and Chris Thorpe. He is an Associate Artist with Chris Goode & Company. In 2013 he was nominated for a Total Theatre Award for 'Beating McEnroe'.

Documentation

Trailer of the show:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=2p02Jf-Z344

Footage of full show available on request

Venue Pack

Quotes from programmers

“Rachel’s research processes are in depth and multifaceted from which she draws rich and compelling material. This show is a very powerful piece of work that sold out at the Brighton festival.”

Helen Medland, The Basement

“The Way You Tell Them is a subtly moving journey that unpicks where the pain and sadness of life is all too often masked by ‘the joke’. As a joker herself, the brilliant Rachel Mars examines this phenomenon prevalent in her own family history with an inspired combination of humour, insight and sensitivity.”

Mimi Banks, Home Live Art

“We created a new festival ‘Beyond the Joke’ partly to showcase Rachel’s terrific show. Audiences found it enjoyable and provocative, its contentious and topical subject matter helped draw welcome attention to the theatre and our activities.”

Brian Logan, CPT

Quotes from press

‘Rachel Mars is electrifying..... A love letter to comedy from someone who wants it to mean something’ *The Guardian*

‘The rolling vibrancy of a stand up act but so much more, a brilliantly constructed beautifully performed piece of solo theatre’ - *Total Theatre*

‘The antidote to the endless reams of directionless stand-up we see everywhere’ Highly Recommended’ - *Fringe Review*

‘A talky, dancey, jokey piece that’s hilarious and uncomfortable in turns, about having the courage to own your position, and the integrity to atone when you don’t hit the mark’ *The Upcoming*

‘Eminently likeable Rachel Mars has created an undeniably charming piece. Clever, funny and endearingly informal. Profound and unexpected’ *Exeunt*

‘It’s tender and humorous, but incredibly human’ - *A Younger Theatre*

Quotes from audiences

“Fantastic, so unusual and so unexpected, the whole time I didn’t know whether to laugh or cry.”

“Really fell for this clever show. Laugh out loud and genuinely heartbreaking in equal measure.”

“It addresses some real issues that we don’t really want to talk about onstage or in an audience. She really pushed it out there on the edge, she really put herself on the line.”

“What a stunner. Brilliant, funny, sad as anything, clever and beautifully constructed show. Loved it! ”

“Seriously smart and funny show, Rachel Mars is an extraordinarily engaging performer”
Chris Goode

Venue Pack

General Information

The Way You Tell Them is a one-person show. It has simple set up, lighting, projection and sound. Available for touring autumn 2013 onwards.

- The show is 60 minutes with no interval
- The company are 2 on the road
- A stage area is a minimum of 5m wide and 4m depth
- Please note that venues are asked to provide a projector, one chair, and a raised platform for the production
- Other than this, the set consists of one coffee table and one mic & stand

Technical Information

Sound: Operated from 1 x company's laptop - (Qlab)

A/V: Projection from same laptop (Qlab) with sound

Lighting: Lighting plan available on request.



Education Work

Rachel leads performance workshops across the UK to accompany her shows.

She has taught performance at the Roundhouse, Camden and has led workshops on performance and confidence for Apples & Snakes and the Limmud Conference, UK. She is a mentor on the Chichester University MA in Performance, and for young women at the South Bank Centre, London.

Her areas of expertise are alternative performance, working from autobiography, memory, scientific research, comedy and unashamed lies. She can create bespoke workshops to accompany the performance according to your needs. Please contact abby@rachelmars.org for more information.

Contact

Producer: abby@rachelmars.org

+ 44 (0)7825 701393

www.rachelmars.org



Written and performed by Rachel Mars.

Directed by Jamie Wood.

Commissioned by The Basement, Brighton.

Developed at CPT, London.

Made with support from Grants for The Arts,
Arts Council England