

# CANOLFAN Y CELFYDDYDAU ABERYSTWYTH ARTS CENTRE

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CANOLFAN Y CELFYDDYDAU  
ABERYSTWYTH ARTS CENTRE

Fuel presents  
Sound&Fury's

## Going Dark

Written by Hattie Naylor in collaboration with Sound&Fury

Monday 13 – Friday 17 February/Aberystwyth Arts Centre/ Ticket Office 01970 62 32 32 [www.aber.ac.uk/artscentre](http://www.aber.ac.uk/artscentre)

Following the critically acclaimed and hugely successful *Kursk*, Sound&Fury returns with an innovative and immersive new show that explores our relationship with the cosmos and contemporary society's lost connection with the night sky.

Following detailed research with experts in the fields of astronomy and visual perception, **Going Dark** tells the story of Max, an astronomer who works in his local planetarium, and who realizes he is losing his sight due to a rare eye condition. As he tries to re-evaluate his relationship with the world around him, his knowledge of space and the stars begins to take on a new meaning. *Going Dark* examines a man's separation from his world and that of our society from an awareness and appreciation of the cosmos.

Using the latest in projection, lighting and sound technology, Sound&Fury creates a truly immersive environment that takes audiences on Max's journey as his view of the world transforms.

*Going Dark* is co-written by Hattie Naylor who enjoyed recent success with *Ivan and the Dogs* (nominated in the 2010 Olivier Awards for Outstanding Achievement) and sound is designed by Dan Jones who was recently awarded the prestigious Prague Quadrennial Prize for sound design for *Kursk*.

Previous award nominations for Sound&Fury's *Kursk* include Best Off West End Production at the Whatsonstage Awards 2009; Best Design at the Evening Standard Awards 2009.

Performances start at 7.30pm and there will be a post-show talk on the Wednesday.

To book please contact Aberystwyth Arts Centre ticket office 01970 62 32 32 or go online [www.aber.ac.uk/artscentre](http://www.aber.ac.uk/artscentre)

**ENDS**

### Notes for Editors

#### Brief biog of artists

**John Mackay:** recent theatre includes: Sound&Fury's *Going Dark* (UK tour); *Little Eagles*, *Antony & Cleopatra*, *King Lear*, *The Grain Store*, *Julius Caesar*, *Winter's Tale*, *Henry V*, *Henry VI part one and two*, *Richard III*, *Richard II*, *Henry IV part one*, *Twelfth Night*, *Pilate*, *Hamlet*, *As You Like It*, *Macbeth* (RSC); Rupert Goold's *Six Characters in Search of an Author*; *Dark Earth* (Traverse). John Mackay's work in TV and Film includes: *Law & Order*, *Sheepish*, *Casualty*, *Trans-Atlantic Cable*, and *Doc Martin*. Radio includes: *Night and Day*, *Heart of Darkness*, *Soldier Soldier* and *The Illiad* (BBC Radio).

**Sound&Fury** is a collaborative theatre company directed by Mark Espiner, Tom Espiner and Dan Jones. Their artistic interest is in developing the physical and sonic elements of theatre offering the audience new ways of experiencing performance and stories in an immersive environment and by heightening the aural sense. Previous work includes *The Watery Part of the World* – where the audience were plunged into total darkness where they witnessed the thrill of a 19th century whale hunt – and *Ether Frolics*, which took the audience on a theatrical anesthetic trip, and the critically acclaimed *Kursk* saw Sound&Fury place its audience in the secret world of a Royal Navy submarine.

**Dan Jones** is an award winning composer and sound designer working in film and theatre. His extensive output includes scores for Channel 4's *Any Human Heart* (nominated for a Prime Time Emmy Award for Best Music Composition for a miniseries and Outstanding Main Title Theme Music. Winner Bafta for Best Television Music and Ivor Novello for Best Television Soundtrack); a co-founder and co-artistic director of Sound&Fury, he directed and sound-designed *Ether Frolics*, *War Music* and *Kursk* (2009 and 2010 UK tour). His other music and sound design credits include *A Prayer for My Daughter* (YV), *Greenland* and *The Kitchen* (NT).

**Mark Espiner** is a theatre director and freelance writer. He has contributed to the *Sunday Times*, *Independent*, BBC Radio 3, the *Guardian* and the *Financial Times* on music and the arts. As co-artistic director and co-founder of Sound&Fury, he has directed Christopher Logue's *War Music*, *The Watery Part of the World*, and *Ether Frolics*; *Names of the Dead*, a staged musical war memorial to the dead of the Iraq war and *Kursk* (2009 and 2010 UK tour).

**Tom Espiner** is a co-founder and co-artistic director of Sound&Fury with whom he has co-written, co-devised and performed in *Ether Frolics* (Shunt Vaults), *The Watery Part of the World* and *War Music* (BAC, This Way Up Tour), and *Kursk* (Young Vic, Edinburgh 2009, 2010 UK tour). Other theatre includes: *Peggy For You* (Hampstead, West End, Tour), *The Winter's Tale*, *Twelfth Night*, *Macbeth* (Shakespeare at the Tobacco Factory, Barbican Pit), *Anything Goes* and *Love's Labours Lost* (NT).

**Hattie Naylor** Recent theatre productions include *Ben Hur* and *The Nutcracker* (Theatre Royal, Bath). *Ivan and the Dogs* for Soho Theatre with ATC was nominated in the 2010 Olivier Awards for Outstanding Achievement. She is currently adapting *The Diaries of Samuel Pepys* for BBC Radio 4. The radio version of *Ivan and the Dogs*, directed and edited by Paul Dodgson, won the Tinniswood Award for Best Original Radio Drama in 2009.

**Fuel** are the producers of Sound&Fury's *Kursk* (Young Vic & UK tour 2009/10), Requardt & Rosenberg's *Electric Hotel* (Sadler's Wells & UK tour 2010), and Inua Ellams' *The 14th Tale* (National Theatre, Edinburgh Fringe & UK tour 2010). Founded in 2004 and led by Louise Blackwell and Kate McGrath, Fuel is a producing organisation working with contemporary theatre artists to develop, create and present new work for all.

### **Funding credits**

Commissioned by Warwick Arts Centre. Developed as part of Fuel at the Roundhouse and the Jerwood residencies at Cove Park which are supported by the Jerwood Charitable Foundation. Funded by Arts Council England, the Wellcome Trust, the Institute of Physics and the Science and Technology Facilities Council. Supported by the Linbury Prize for stage design.

### **Creative Team**

Sound&Fury: **Mark Espiner, Dan Jones and Tom Espiner** Performed by **John Mackay**  
Design **Aleš Valášek** Lighting design **Guy Hoare** Projection design **Dick Straker**

For further information, please contact Alice Massey at Fuel on 020 7228 6688 or [alice@fueltheatre.com](mailto:alice@fueltheatre.com)

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