

November 2009
PRESS RELEASE



Aberystwyth Arts Centre
Writers in Residence Project
Travelling Light II
7.45pm, Monday 16th & Thurs 19th November 2009

Travelling Light II presents a series of new short plays developed by a group of emerging dramatists.

For the past 9 months a selected group of new writers have been meeting at Aberystwyth Arts Centre as part of a Writers in Residence Project. The group have been working under the guidance of playwright and dramaturg Kaite O'Reilly.

Kaite O'Reilly has worked as a dramaturg and mentor for many companies, including Birmingham Rep Theatre, Soho Theatre, and Script, amongst others. She is also an award winning playwright and has recently been selected to take part in the long awaited launch of the National Theatre of Wales. The National Theatre will launch next March with a year long series of productions, including a play by Kaite O'Reilly in August.

The Persians is the worlds oldest know play, dating back to 472BC. Kaite O'Reilly will bring it to shocking new life in the heart of the Brecon Beacons Military Range, an area rarely seen by civilians. Aeschylus' play tells the story of the return home of defeated King Xerxes. It is a moral lesson on tyranny, designed to touch the conscience of every oppressor. The National Theatre's Artistic Director John McGrath says "This is a great stage set for a play about war. Audiences will arrive on army trucks. It's very timely because we are having that experience of being at war from a distance."

Kaite's current project – Travelling Light II - will run at Aberystwyth Arts Centre on Monday 16th and Thursday 19th November at 7.45pm. The plays will be presented as rehearsed readings with a cast of professional performers directed by Gilly Adams. Two plays will be shown on each night. A post show discussion about the plays and the process will take place on both evenings.

MONDAY 16th November

Use By Christina Katic

Four women in a caravan climbing the walls. Literally. They've met for a wedding – or is it a funeral...? How will they find out which...?

Feathering the Dark by Chris Kinsey

Gerda survived the War, but in a night of terror and revelation, she must now survive the present.

THURSDAY 19th November

The Wild, Wild Girls of Musical Terrace by Liz Jones

Two estranged sisters meet on a bench where their childhood home once stood. As they recall the night which drove them apart, two different versions unfold...But which one is true? A dark, tragicomic tale of abandonment, betrayal, and irrepressible hope.

Happy Birthday Ruth by Lisa Parry

Ruth is Ian's wife, David's grandmother and Mary's long-term secret lover. For years she has juggled all three roles, keeping her own life in a delicate equilibrium. But her deceit has consequences, not just for herself.

Tickets for Travelling Light II are £5 (£3) one night / £8 (£5) for two and can be booked by contacting the Arts Centre ticket office on 01970 62 32 32 or online at www.aber.ac.uk/artscentre

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Notes to editors:

Further information is available from Rachel Taylor on 01970 622894 email rst@aber.ac.uk

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