

Fringe Management and Epicworlds present

CACTUS

The Seduction

Written and performed by Jonno Katz
Directed by The Pajama Men's Mark Chavez
EDINBURGH PREMIERE

Assembly @ George Street 18.50hrs

Three characters walk through a desert encountering their dreams, flashbacks and fantasies. *Cactus – The Seduction* is an absurdist, surreal and comic depiction of the quest for love. It is an explosion of imagination; a cross between theatre and stand-up comedy. This is a stream-of-conscious tale about Phil who is searching for his soul-mate in a desert. He alternates between reality, walking through the desert with two weird characters, and fantasy where he talks directly to the audience spinning yarns and leaving them in hysterics

Cactus is a unique physically devised solo show which treads the line of comedy, theatre and performance art. It has been selling out in Ottawa, Toronto, Winnipeg, Edmonton, Victoria & Vancouver and has won the Patron's Pick award in Toronto and the Georgia Straight Pick of the Fringe in Vancouver.

Performed with manic comic zap and light abandon, this is highly original, hilarious, absurdist theatre. With a Mobius-strip storyline, it saunters between character comedy, stand-up and physical mania. The show is directed by Mark Chavez, one half of the multi-awarding winning double act The Pajama Men

Jonno Katz found his passion and life's work at the John Bolton Theatre School where he was trained in the LeCoq style of physically devised theatre. He has written, acted in and produced 5 solo shows (*Uber Alice*, *Cactus*, *Jolly Roger*, *The Spy & The Accident*) that have toured throughout Canada and Australia, winning awards and playing to sold-out houses. He has directed 4 full length solo theatre shows, *Bye Bye Bombay*, *In God's Bedroom*, *Manners for Men* and *The Sputniks* which have played in Australia, USA, Canada and Israel. At the end of 2007 he won the "Best Director" award at the Short and Sweet Festival in Melbourne for the piece *Bury Your Goldfish*. Jonno has acted in around 40 short films and has made 5 short films that he wrote, directed and edited. In 2009 he won "Best Actor" award at the Angry Film Festival. More recently Jonno directed 2 music videos of Die Roten Punkte, *Ich bin nicht ein roboter (I am a lion)* and *Rock Bang*.



LISTINGS INFORMATION

Assembly @ George Street

18.50hrs (1hr)

August 5th – 29th (not 16th or 23rd)

Box Office: 0131 623 3030

Preview: Aug 5th & 6th
£5.00

Aug 7th-12th, 17th-19th, 23rd-26th
£11.00 (£10.00)

Aug 13th-15th, 20th-22nd, 27th-29th
£12.00 (£11.00)

PRESS CONTACTS
CLOUT COMMUNICATIONS
020 7751 8625

David Burns
M: 07789 754089 E: david@cloutcom.co.uk

CLOUT COMMUNICATIONS LTD

79 Wardour Street London W1D 6QD tel: 020 7581 8625 email: info@cloutcom.co.uk www.cloutcom.co.uk

Awards

2003 *Uber Alice* won "Best of Venue" Ottawa Fringe

2004 *CACTUS* won "Georgia Straight Pick of the Fringe" Vancouver

2004 *CACTUS* won "Pick of the Fringe" Toronto

2007 Jonno won "Best Director" award Melbourne Short and Sweet Festival

2007 *Uber Alice* won "Georgia Straight Pick of the Fringe" Vancouver

2007 *Manners for Men* named in Top Ten Theatre Shows for 2007, Globe and Mail, Toronto

2008 *Manners for Men* won "Best of Fest" Winnipeg Fringe

2008 *The Sputniks* nominated for "Best New Text" Montreal English Critics Circle Awards

2009 *Manners for Men* won "Pick of the Fringe Holdovers" Edmonton

2009 *The Accident* nominated for Centaur Award, Montreal

2009 Jonno won "Best Actor" Award Angry Film Festival

2009 Jonno won "Outstanding Solo Performance" Ottawa Fringe

2009 *The Accident* won "Best of Fest" Winnipeg Fringe

2009 Jonno won "Best Male Performer" Victoria Fringe

Mark Chavez is an associate member of Albuquerque's Tricklock Company and co-founder with Shenoah Allen of the internationally acclaimed Pajama Men, a comedy double-act that recently won the Melbourne Comedy festival's coveted Barry Award and the London Times have described as "Pure joy...one of the most dazzling displays of comedy theatre I've ever seen".

With his work in The Pajama Men, Mark has appeared at the Assembly Rooms for the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, at the Just For Laughs International Comedy Festival, the Steppenwolf Theatre in Chicago, the Second City in both Toronto and Chicago, the Barrow Street Theatre in New York City, the as well as venues in Australia and New Zealand. Currently the Pajama Men are in London, England's Soho Theatre performing their latest show, "The Last Stand to Reason". Chavez and Allen are also currently working with their new CBS/Paramount backed animated series One Square Mile of Earth as well as a series for the BBC's Radio Four. Mark has directed three of Nicola Gunn's shows; *The Elephant Club*, *Tyrannus Rex* and *An Unfortunate Woman*.

CLOUT COMMUNICATIONS LTD

79 Wardour Street London W1D 6QD tel: 020 7581 8625 email: info@cloutcom.co.uk www.cloutcom.co.uk