

**A TALE OF HOUSING SCHEME HEROES PURE MENTAL CHAVS*
& GRAFFITI DREAMS!**

FIERCE

AN URBAN MYTH...

WINNERS OF:

3 FRINGE FIRSTS
2 STAGE AWARDS
2 HERALD ANGELS
1 HERALD DEVIL
1 DAILY MAIL AWARD



FIERCE... LIFE CAN BE EPIC WHEREVER YOU ARE

***Chav n: ned, radge, ham, townie, charver, scally, spide.**

15

**NOT SUITABLE
FOR UNDER 15'S**

"There's a beauty in simplicity. I think it's a bit like maths, in that you have a right answer and every other answer is wrong. If you've got an idea about a picture you want to make there is a perfect picture for it and every other picture is wrong. I haven't got there yet, but I want all my pictures to be like - Bang on. No unnecessary colour, not a single unnecessary line on the whole thing. Just perfect."

Banksy, Graffiti Artist



CREW

PRODUCER
JUDITH DOHERTY
DIRECTOR
JANIE ABBOTT
WRITER/CO-DIRECTOR
JUSTIN YOUNG
COMPOSER/SOUND DESIGNER
PHILIP PINSKY
CHOREOGRAPHER
ALLAN IRVINE
PRODUCTION MANAGER
FIONA FRASER
TECHNICAL MANAGER/LIGHTING DESIGNER
PAUL CLAYDON
DEPUTY STAGE MANAGER
SHANE THOM
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER
MAIRI MCGREGOR
GENERAL MANAGER
CLAIRE ROBB
ACTING GENERAL MANAGER
KATE QUINN
SINGING VOCAL COACH
MARION MCNEILL
SET DESIGNER
BECKY MINTO
COSTUME DESIGNER
JESSICA BRETTE
COSTUME ASSISTANT
KATHRYN SMITH
COMIC/GRAFFITI PROJECTION
ILLUSTRATIONS
THE 16K DESIGN WORKS
GRAFFITI ARTIST
NICO MAJOR
ADDITIONAL MUSIC
ARRANGERS/PRODUCERS
LOPHONICS
SOUND ENGINEER
JOE PEAT
DRAMATURG
ZINNIE HARRIS
LITERARY ASSISTANT
RACHAEL RAYMENT
PROJECTION
FIFTY NINE LIMITED
OFFICE DUG
HECTOR

CAST

POKEY
ROSS ALLAN
FINLAY
MARK ARENDS
ANNIE
CORA BISSETT
CHAV BARRY
GARRY COLLINS
CHOONZ
STEVEN CREE
WEE BABZ
TOMMY MULLINS
EDIE
HELEN MCALPINE
GERI
CATHERINE WHITEFIELD

WRITERS NOTE

What you see today is the result of an amazing amount of work and input from a large number of people. Although I did the filling in, the piece itself belongs to my crew and I need to give some props and shout outs. My friends and collaborators on fierce know how much I appreciate them and have their own space in this programme, but I'd like to give credit to the following people. Some of these people were directly involved. Others, just as importantly, acted as inspiration.

All the young people around Scotland who gave us their time, opinions, and ideas, all the actors who took part in the script development week, Da Boyz, Banksy, Aaron and Nico, Nancy Macdonald's The Graffiti Subculture, Stephen Powers's The Art of Getting Over, Henry Chalfant's Spraycan Art, Duncan Cumming, Zinnie Harris, Jonathan Larson, Beat Street, Ken Loach, Feltham Sings, John McGrath, Mike Skinner, Caryl Churchill, Yard Emcees, Eminem, Irvine Welsh, Small Faces, Luke Jackson's My Family & Autism, John Byrne, City of God, Ms Dynamite, Sugababes, Goldie, Patrick Neate's Where You're At, Willy Russell, Black Eyed Peas, De La Soul, Urban Species, Audio Bullies, Chris n Spesh, Goldie Lookin' Chain, the late Professor Steve Baldwin, Caroline Ormerod and my ever-supportive family.

JUSTIN YOUNG



DIRECTORS NOTE

"If you have ever walked down the street, seen a name, and wondered what that marking meant, I'll tell you: it means someone is telling you a story about who they are and what they are prepared to do to make you aware of it. Every time a name is written, a story gets told. It's a short story. "I was here." Who is telling it and where they are telling it will determine how the story ends. Some stories will be adventures, some tragedies, and some courtroom depositions. But every single one has a star, a stage and an audience, and that's all a growing youth needs to have fun." Stephen Powers, *The Art of Getting Over*.

fierce is hard to categorize. We've always considered it to be an opera, but we don't want to scare people away. I suppose it could be described as a "garage operetta" or an "urban opera", "hip hop singspiel"...make up your own term.

At the end of the day, what it is is a story. That's why we decided to call it "an urban myth", although we're aware it's not technically what most people would define as such. It's urban both because of its score and setting. And it's a myth because, well...the dictionary defines myth as "an ancient, almost universal, tale of gods and heroes, sometimes with a veiled meaning." If fierce has a meaning, it's not for us to judge. We hope it'll mean something different to everyone who sees it. But it's certainly about heroes. Not about epic acts of heroism, but about the many daily acts of heroism that go into living our lives, being parents, making decisions, taking stands, risking everything to find out who we really are. And it deliberately echoes another myth about a young man who uses his talent to gain entry to the underworld....

JANIE ABBOTT
AND
JUSTIN YOUNG

GLOSSARY

ALL CITY A WRITER WITH VERY GOOD COVERAGE OF GRAFFITI, I.E. ALL OVER A CITY

BACK IN THE DAY A LONG TIME AGO

BEEF A GRUDGE. (AS IN "YOU GOT BEEF WITH")

BITCHING EXCELLENT

BITE TO STEAL ANOTHER WRITER'S STYLE

BLING BLING OSTENTATIOUS GOLD JEWELLERY, AS WORN BY GANGSTA RAPPERS

BOMB TO HIT AN AREA WITH A LARGE QUANTITY OF GRAFFITI

BOOST TO STEAL

BUCKIE SHORT FOR BUCKFAST (A FORTIFIED WINE)

BUMP TO STEAL

CAP FAT OR SKINNY NOZZLES WHICH MAKE THE SPRAY WIDTH WIDE OR NARROW, SOMETIMES THESE ARE HIJACKED FROM DOMESTIC PRODUCTS

CHAV SIMILAR TO "NED", A CHAV IS AN AGGRESSIVE YOUNG MALE WHO TENDS TO FAVOUR BURBERRY CAPS (WORN AT THE BACK OF THE HEAD, WITH THE PEAK STICKING UP) AND SPORTS CLOTHING. TRACKSUIT BOTTOMS ARE OFTEN WORN TUCKED INTO THE SOCKS AND TRAINERS ARE GENERALLY GLEAMING WHITE

CHEDDAR MONEY

CHEESE MONEY

CHIB A BLADE, CAN BE USED AS A NOUN OR A VERB

COURVOISIER LIQUER PARTICULARLY FAVOURED BY RAPPERS (SEE ALSO CRISTAL)

CREW A GROUP OF WRITERS WHO WORK TOGETHER

CRISTAL EXPENSIVE BRAND OF CHAMPAGNE FAVOURED BY RAPPERS

DIG APPRECIATE, LIKE

DISS SHORT FOR "DISRESPECT"

DOPE VERY GOOD

DUB A QUICK OUTLINE OF A WRITER'S TAG COLOURED IN IN ONE COLOUR, USUALLY SILVER, OR WHITE

ECCIES ECSTASY TABLETS

FEEL UNDERSTAND

FLEX SHOW HOW WELL YOU CAN DO SOMETHING

GETTING UP TO COVER AN AREA WITH YOUR TAG

GRAFF ABBREVIATION OF "GRAFFITI"

GREEBO SIMILAR TO GOTH

HITTING TO COVER AN AREA WITH YOUR TAG

HO PROSTITUTE (FROM WHORE)

I'M A I'M GOING TO

INKEYS FELT-TIP PENS

HOMEY ABBREVIATION OF "HOMEBOY". CLOSE FRIEND OR PERSON FROM THE SAME BACKGROUND

JIGGY HAVE SEX (TO GET JIGGY WITH)

JIMMY PENIS

KING THE WRITER CONSIDERED THE BEST OR MOST ACTIVE IN THEIR AREA

LATERZ AN ABBREVIATION OF "SEE YOU LATER(Z)"

LINE OUT TO PUT A LINE THROUGH ANOTHER WRITER'S NAME. THE WORST CRIME YOU CAN COMMIT

MENCHIES POOR QUALITY GRAFFITI, USUALLY OF THE "BARRY WOZ HERE" VARIETY. ALSO SOMETIMES ASSOCIATED WITH "GANG" INSIGNIA

MO-FO ABBREVIATION OF "MOTHERFUCKER"

PIECE SHORT FOR MASTERPIECE (A FULL COLOUR PAINTING)

PHAT VERY GOOD

POONTANG VAGINA/ ATTRACTIVE WOMAN

PROPS ABBREVIATION OF "PROPER RESPECT". TO GIVE PROPS TO SOMEONE IS TO WRITE THEIR TAG NEXT TO YOURS AS A SIGN OF RESPECT.

RACK TO STEAL PAINT

SHELLTOES CLASSIC ADIDAS TRAINER STYLE

SLAMMING FANTASTIC

SOVVIE SHORT FOR SOVEREIGN RING (SOMETIMES CONSIDERED A SIGN OF CHAVINESS)

TAG A WRITER'S NAME OR SIGNATURE

TAGGING TO WRITE YOUR TAG

THROW-UP A QUICK OUTLINE OF A WRITER'S TAG COLOURED IN IN ONE COLOUR, USUALLY BLACK, WHITE, OR SILVER (SIMILAR TO A DUB)

TOP TO BOTTOM A PIECE COVERING THE ENTIRE HEIGHT OF A TRAIN CARRIAGE

TOY A YOUNG AND USUALLY VERY BAD WRITER

WACK BAD

WHOLE CAR A PIECE COVERING THE ENTIRE SURFACE OF A TRAIN CARRIAGE (THE HOLY GRAIL FOR A GRAFF WRITER)

WILDSTYLE A COMPLICATED GRAFFITI STYLE WITH INTERLOCKING LETTERS

WINDOW DOWN A PIECE OR DUB PAINTED BELOW THE WINDOWS OF A TRAIN

WRITER SOMEONE WHO WRITES GRAFFITI

YARD A PLACE WHERE TRAINS ARE REPAIRED AND BERTHED

YO YOUR

BIOGRAPHICS/crow

Judith Doherty / Producer

Judith is Producer and Chief Executive of Grid Iron, which she founded in 1995 after completing an MA in History of Art and English Literature at Edinburgh University and a Foundation Course in Art and Design at Trent Polytechnic. Both she and Theatre Director Ben Harrison are the artistic creative team behind Grid Iron's programme of work. Judith is a member of the Board of Directors of both the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and the Independent Theatre Council. In 2001 she was awarded a TIF/SOLT Producer's Bursary and in 2003 she was given the Jack Tinker Spirit of the Fringe Award by the Daily Mail.

Janie Abbott / Director

Janie trained at the Central School of Speech and Drama. Previous work for Grid Iron includes Assistant Director for Fermentation and Variety, and re-directing Decky Does a Bronco by Douglas Maxwell (Dublin, 2002). Other directing credits include Wake, Swamp Baby and other Tales for Organic Carrot Theatre Company and Gogol's Gamblers, BAC. Janie has also worked as a director for a number of Community Arts Groups, which include Ardaghessa, Chats Palace, Clean Break Theatre Company and Millennium Circus. Janie would like to say a special thanks to Ben Harrison and Judith Doherty.

Justin Young / Writer and Co-director

Justin read English at the University of St Andrews and was Artistic Director of W11 opera for four years, directing four new commissions for them – Birthday, Rip, Deep Waters, and Flying High at the Royal Opera House Linbury Studio. Freelance directing work includes A Conor McPherson Double Bill (Citizens Theatre Glasgow, Soho Theatre, and Cultura Inglesa Sao Paulo); St Nicholas (Assembly Rooms and Soho Theatre); Sweeney Todd (Bridewell Theatre), The Bear (King's Head Theatre) as well as The Magic Flute and Cyrano de Bergerac. He was also Assistant Director on the West End production of Art. Work as Writer/ Director includes Who the Hell Needs Reality?, Uncle Bobby's Croft, and - for Grid Iron - The Houghmagandie Pack (Burns and a'that Festival 2003).

Philip Pinsky / Composer and Sound Designer

Founder member of electro-acoustic group Finitribe, releasing five albums and touring in Britain and abroad over a period of fifteen years, Philip Pinsky now composes for film, theatre, TV and radio. He has worked on a number of productions for Grid Iron including the award winning Decky Does a Bronco (2000), Fermentation (2002), the Edinburgh International Festival show Variety (2002) and The Houghmagandie Pack (2003). Other work includes Ninewells, a six part documentary for BBC1 Scotland and a Sony Radio Award winning program Extraneous Noises Off for BBC Radio 3. He has been employed by the Almeida Theatre Company and the Scottish Chamber Orchestra to work in education, has composed for multimedia projects and DJs frequently around Europe.

Allan Irvine / Choreographer

Allan studied at Northern School of Contemporary Dance, Leeds. He is currently Youth Dance Worker for Dance Base, Scotland’s national centre for Dance, and is Artistic Director of Freshmess. Allan has previously been Dance Artist in Residence at macrobert, Stirling and Outreach Worker for Dundee Rep Community Dance Team. He has also taught for Youth Clubs Scotland, Scottish Youth Dance, Jazz Art UK, Ballroom Blitz (London), Dance City (Newcastle), City Moves (Aberdeen) and The British Council in New Zealand. His choreographic and performance experience includes Combo 1998 (Herald Angel Award), Tables 1999 and Maintain 2003 (Freshmess), Cois Ceim (Dublin), Santa and Nicholas (Macrobert), Helmet (Traverse Theatre) and Dance Base Royal Opening.

Fiona Fraser / Production Manager

Since graduating from Queen Margaret University College, Fiona has worked for Perth Rep, Vanishing Point, Scottish Dance Theatre, The Happy Gang, Mull Theatre, Andrew Treasgus Associates, Pitlochry Festival Theatre, The Citizens, Unique Events and Giant Productions. This is Fiona’s fifth production with Grid Iron, the most recent being Those Eyes That Mouth.

Paul Claydon / Technical Manager and Lighting Designer

Graduating from Queen Margaret University College Paul’s first job was with Opera North in Leeds as a Production Electrician. He has since returned to Scotland and has worked for The Edinburgh International Book Festival, EICC, Universal Arts, The Traverse Theatre, The Byre Theatre, Paines Plough, Huddersfield Contemporary Arts Festival, Suspect Culture and Dragonfire. This is Paul’s sixth production with Grid Iron as Technical Manager and his first Lighting Design for the company.

Shane Thom / Deputy Stage Manager

After graduating from Queen Margaret University College in 2001, Shane spent two years as Assistant Stage Manager at the Stephen Joseph Theatre in Scarborough. He worked on many Alan Ayckbourn premiere plays including the original productions of the Damsels in Distress trilogy. Shane then went on to work at York Theatre Royal as Deputy Stage Manager for the opening season of the new studio theatre. Shane returns to Grid Iron after working at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield where he has just finished working on PIAF. He is delighted to be back with Grid Iron with whom he worked on Those Eyes, That Mouth last summer.

Mairi McGregor / Assistant Stage Manager

Since studying at the University of Glasgow, Mairi has been involved in many community, outreach, education and theatre projects throughout Scotland. Her versatile skills and abilities, in sound and light operation, props management, PR and devising and leading workshops, have developed through positions in stage management, musical direction and assistant project management. Mairi has worked as a freelance stage manager for Glasgow based theatre companies such as Fable Vision, Impact Arts and Theatre Modo.

Claire Robb / General Manager

Claire embarked upon her arts career in 1997 when she joined Theatre Sans Frontieres in Hexham, Northumberland. In 2000 she moved to Scotland and worked for Edinburgh-based Universal Arts, before joining Grid Iron in April 2001 thanks to a Company Development Grant from the SAC. She is also studying part-time for a MBA in Cultural Management at QMUC. Claire is currently on maternity leave working on a little production of her own.

Kate Quinn / Acting General Manager

Kate’s previous credits include being a waitress, a temp, an usher and an administrator. She can almost juggle. Kate is extremely happy to be working with Grid Iron.

Marion McNeill / Singing Vocal Coach

Marion trained at RSAMD and London College and divides her time between Musical Direction, performing and Vocal Coaching. She is currently employed as principal Singing Lecturer and MD for the School of Creative Industries at the Gateway (QMUC) and most recently worked on Beach with boilerhouse, Godspell, Into the Woods and the Irvine Welsh musical Blackpool. Marion is also MD for Cutting Edge Theatre and is on the collaborative writing team for Blude Red a new Scottish musical, which is currently in early production. She is in her second season as Vocal Coach for Dundee Rep Theatre and most recently worked with them on Flora the Red Menace. As a freelance coach she has worked with Susannah York for her performance in Picassos Women and for the Scottish tour seasons of Evita, Barnum, The Sound of Music and Joseph. Marion is also currently employed as Musical Theatre Director at Stewarts Melville College Junior School where she is working on Brilliant the Dinosaur and Honk Junior. She also sings for the Burns Federation, and does many corporate concerts and events. Having worked on Variety she is delighted to be with Grid Iron a second time and has loved the challenge of learning a whole new "chav" language and adding "Rap" to one of her skills.

Becky Minto / Set Designer

Becky trained in Interior Design at Liverpool College and in Theatre Design at The Welsh College of Music and Drama. Recent productions include Six Black Candles, Royal Lyceum Theatre; Pinocchio, The Byre Theatre; Arthur, The Story Of A King, Wee Stories; The Houghmagandie Pack, Grid Iron; Educating Rita, The Byre Theatre and Perth Theatre. Other theatre credits include Kes, Talking Heads, Quartet, A Passionate Woman, A View From The Bridge, Run For Your Wife, The Silver And The Red and Phoenix, Perth Theatre; Come On Feel The Noise, Teechers, Quelque Fleurs, Beauty And The Beast, Sleeping Beauty and Cinderella, Brunton Theatre; Krapp’s Last Tape, In Company; Merman, Birds of Paradise; Breadmakers, Theatre Works; Oklahoma, The King’s Theatre, Edinburgh. For The Byre Theatre, The Firebird, The Odd Couple, Into The Woods, Whistle Down The Wind, A Passionate Woman, The Princess an’ The Puddock, Hansel and Gretel, Romeo and Juliet, The Slab Boys, While The Sun Shines, Dames at Sea, Adrian Mole, The Ideal Gnome Expedition, Phoenix, Aladdin, Shirley Valentine and The Open. Future projects include The Lost Ones for Vanishing Point and Beauty and the Beast for The Byre Theatre.

Jessica Brettle / Costume Designer

Jessica worked as Wardrobe Supervisor and Costume Designer for the Brunton Theatre Company, Musselburgh for 12 years. Most recently as Wardrobe Supervisor for Pitlochry Festival Theatre and Wardrobe Cutter for The Citizens Theatre, Glasgow. During this time she has also worked freelance for several touring companies including Happy Gang, Singing Kettle and Wee Stories.

Kathryn Smith / Costume Assistant

Kathryn is currently in her final year of study at QMUC specialising in Costume Design. While at QM she has had the opportunity to design for many different styles of show, most recently working on the movement and ensemble piece Beach directed by boilerhouse. Back home in Kent she has worked at The Orchard Theatre, Dartford and The Churchill Theatre, Bromley, as a member of the dressing, maintenance and costume construction teams gaining valuable experience. This is Kathryn’s third time working with Grid Iron and she has enjoyed every minute of it!

Nico Major / Graffiti Artist

Nico was introduced to the elusive arts of Writing (graffiti) and Bboying (break dance) in 1997. He has since been continually developing his knowledge, skills, and styles of these art forms. Nico works as a freelance Visual Artist and Dancer after spending two years at Edinburgh College of Art and completing the foundation course at the Leith School of Art in 2001. He teaches break dance, aerosol arts and video workshops across the country as well as many other commissions. During 2004, EDGE 23 will develop his ideas through Animation, Aerosol Art, Graphics, Painting, Photography, Video and Web Design.

LoPhonics / Chris Maloney and Chris McGill Additional Music Arrangers and Producers

For over 10 years this duo has created and produced exciting original scores, recordings and sound designs for theatre, Internet and films. Their blend of live instrumentation and contemporary sounds has evolved into a distinctive and popular style that has proved successful in a variety of productions. Credits include: Island Records, Universal Records, the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art, Virgin Holidays, the Brighton Festival, Playbox Theatre and now Grid Iron! Maloney studied at the Academy of Contemporary music and is a graduate of the University of Brighton. He is a multi-instrumentalist and experienced engineer. McGill trained at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts and is a talented musician and DJ.

Joe Peat / Sound Engineer

A native of Edinburgh, Joe is a sound engineer and musician who has supplied his expertise to innumerable live music acts and events. He engineered on previous Grid Iron productions Fermentation and The Houghmagandie Pack. His role as a musician has seen his band Mystery Juice become popular in Russia and Ukraine where this year they performed a tour of Moscow and Kiev.

Zinnie Harris / Dramaturg

Zinnie is a playwright and director. Her work as a dramaturg includes Cracked (Fringe First 2001), Gilt, 7:84; The Interrogation, Puppet State and Those Eyes That Mouth, Grid Iron (Fringe First 2003). Her plays include Further than the Furthest Thing, NT/Tron, Nightingale and Chase, Royal Court and Midwinter for the RSC. She was recently awarded an Arts Foundation Fellowship Award for Playwrighting.



BIOGRAPHICS CAST

Ross Allan / Pokey

Ross Allan trained at Queen Margaret University College and graduates in July 2004. Theatre credits include: Once a Catholic, Sleeping Around, Fear and Misery of the Third Reich and The Mystery of Irma Vep. Ross has also had the pleasure of working with Theatre Babel and Theatre Slava.

Mark Arends / Finlay

Mark graduated from the London Academy of Music and Drama in July 2003. Theatre includes: Tamburlaine the Great, Rose Theatre; Dealing, Etcetera Theatre. TV includes: Hollyoaks (recurring character).

Cora Bissett / Annie

Cora has worked extensively in Scottish theatre and music. Credits include Chris Guthrie in Sunset Song for Prime Productions ; The Breathing House, Miseryguts, A Streetcar named Desire, The Comedy of Errors, Royal Lyceum; Speedrun, The Tron; I licked a Slag's Deodorant, The Arches; Red, Boilerhouse; Electra, The Gate; Little Red Riding Hood, Theatre Royal Stratford East; Caledonian Road, The Almieda. Cora has mounted three of her own productions; Hanging Stars; "Horses, Horses, Coming In In All Directions" with Ben Harrison at the Arches; and Citizone (performed in living rooms across Glasgow). She has released two albums with her alt-folk band Swelling Meg and played cello for various Grid Iron productions and for Scottish bands Mogwai and Arab Strap.

Garry Collins / Chav Barry

Garry trained at RSAMD. Theatre includes Romeo and Juliet, Cinderella, Comedy of Errors, Beauty and the Beast, Royal Lyceum Edinburgh; Cave Dwellers, 7:84; Dr Korczak's Example, TAG; Decky Does a Bronco, Grid Iron; Mr Placebo, Traverse Theatre; Houghmagandie Pack, Grid Iron; Measure for Measure and Much Ado About Nothing, Glasgow Rep Theatre; Venice Preserved, Queen of Spades and Snow White, Citizens Theatre; Dr Dog, Dogdaze Theatre Company. Play Readings – 15 Seconds, Traverse; Men in White Suits, Traverse; McNation, TAG. Television credits: Life Support, BBC; Witchcraze, BBC; The Book Group, Channel 4; Young Person's Guide to Becoming a Rockstar, Channel 4. Film: Natural History and On a Count of Three.

Steven Cree / Choonz

Steven trained at RSAMD where he completed a BA in Acting. His theatre credits include: Aladdin, Brunton Theatre; Poor Ted, ONO Theatre Company, Sussex tour. TV includes: G4CE (Children's BBC), Doctors (BBC) and Bad Girls (ITV).

Tommy Mullins / Wee Babz

Tommy trained on the hard granite streets of Aberdeen and practiced the fine art of skateboarding in a car park where he spent most of his days chillin' it, maxin' it, coolin' it, relaxin' it and shootin' some B-Ball outside the school. When he realised he was as coordinated as a one legged outer Mongolian Yak on a skateboard he decided to take up acting. Theatre credits include Snow White, Citizens; Dealer's Choice, Damaged Goods, Tron; Decky Does a Bronco, Grid Iron; Helmet, Paines Plough/Traverse; King of the Fields, Traverse; Just One Last Dance, Tramway; Dr Korczak, TAG; Sunset Song, Prime Productions and The Reader, Borderline. Film/TV credits include Doctors, BBC; Inspector Rebus, Clerkenwell Films and The Acid House, Film on Four.

Helen McAlpine / Edie

Helen trained at Queen Margaret University College, graduating in 2001. Theatre includes: The Chrysalids, Complete; Dr Korczak's Example, King Matt, TAG; Word For Word, Magnetic North; The Happy Prince, macrobert; The Good Woman of Setzuan, TAG; Farmland, Grey Coast; Blooded, Boilerhouse. Television includes: Intergalactic Kitchen, BBC; Stacey Stone, BBC; The Angry Brigade, BBC; Taggart, STV. Radio includes: Taglines, BBC/TAG.

Catherine Whitefield / Geri

Cath trained at the University of Hull and Lecoq in Paris. Whilst in France she was fortunate enough to work with Jos Houben (Theatre de Complicite) and Ariane Mnouschkine (Theatre du Soleil) as well as several international theatre companies (Incauda, Dear Conjunction, Kilometer Zero) with whom she toured France and Europe. Fierce marks Cath's first show on her return to Britain and she is delighted to be working with Grid Iron.

THE BIRTH OF FIERCE

fierce is the result of an 18 month research and development process undertaken with the advice and assistance of many arts and youth workers, teachers, artists, practitioners, b-boys and young people all over Scotland.

Most invaluable has been the inspiration we took from the groups of young people we worked with.

In June, Grid Iron's fierce team workshopped with the following young people in Easterhouse, Inverness, Keith, Livingston and Muirhouse. The names in bold are the people who joined us again for a work-in-progress performance and graffiti/breakdancing workshops on 15 November 2003 at Howden Park Centre in Livingston. They will be guests of Grid Iron at their nearest performance of fierce.

Kerry Allison

Kevin Annis

David Baird

Alex Barnes

Craig Barron

Laura Barton

Kerry Black

Adam Bond

Charlotte Bourret-Nyffeler

Sarah Bow

A Brown

Lisa Diana Brown

Terri Cameron

Laura-Anne Canning

Wendy Carr

Jamie-Lin Coggs

Thomas Crighton

Gail Cunningham

Leanne Davison

Jonathon Dawson

Claire Dickson

Eilidh Dillon

Toni-Anne Dunbar

Amy Duncan

Angela Ellis

Kirsty Ewen

Michael Ewen

Laura Fairley

Lauren Fitch

Kyleighann Flynn

Nicola Fraser

Emma Gillon

Stephanie Gorman

Ed Hart

Finlay Harvey

Charlotte Henderson

Sharon Henderson

Beth Humphrey

Amy Johnston

Ryan Johnson

Mica Kinghorn

Ryan Livingstone

Laura MacDonald

Morrighan MacGillivray

Stuart Mackenzie

Andrea Mackenzie

Kayleigh Macrae

Rachel Main

Kevin Matthews

Laura Mayberry

Rosie McBride

Steven McMullan

Jenna Mitchell

Caitlin Murray

Chloe Nicolaou

Lynsey Patterson

Colin Ross

Danielle Samuel

Lauren Scott

Lynsey Shand

Craig Smith

Louise Smith

Lisa Stewart

Thomas Thomson

Scott Walker

Amy Webster

Michelle Whyte

Morven Wilson

Steven Wilson

Robert Winton

Caroline Woods

Also instrumental in the development process were the performers who worked with us on script development from 10 – 15 November 2003:

Umar Ahmed

Peter Maniam

Jordan Young

Angela Bradley

James Pearson

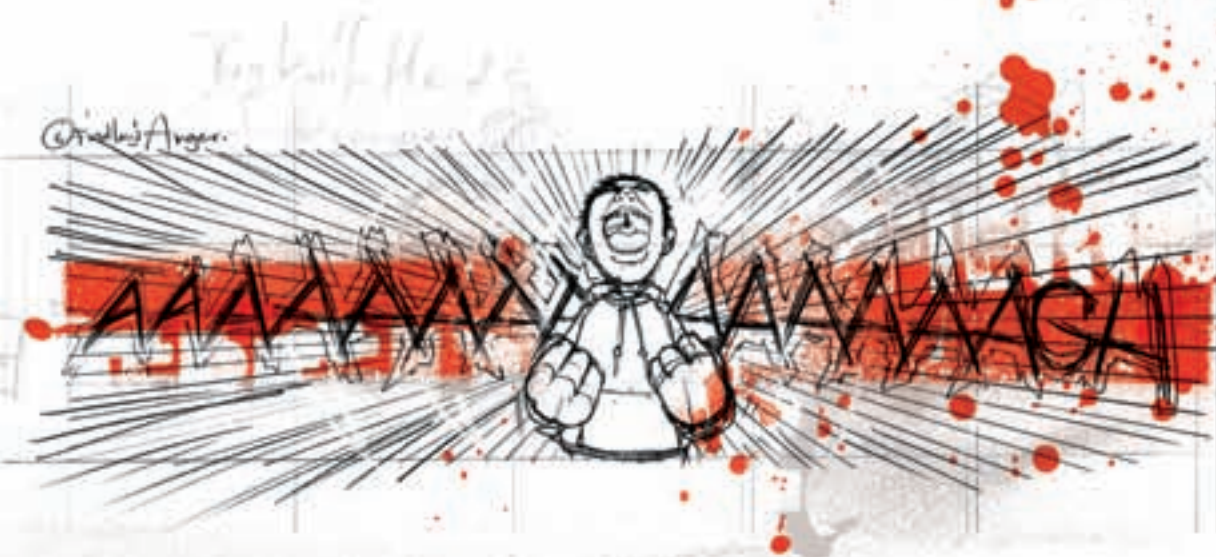
Nicola Jo Culley

Michael Stewart

Nicol Hay

Catherine Whitefield

We'd like to say a big thank you to all these people for helping us make fierce happen.

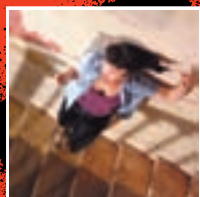


BACK CATALOGUE

Since 1995 Grid Iron have been creating award-winning site-specific and touring theatre all over Scotland and beyond. We endeavour to produce exciting new ensemble work in a wide variety of spaces and locations with a special commitment to accessibility, entertainment and innovation.

"A truly splendid young company, Grid Iron has produced among the most startling theatre we have witnessed over the last five years. Concentrating on site-specific promenade theatre, the company has brought audiences to new spaces and confronted their expectations about theatre. Joint artistic directors Judith Doherty and Ben Harrison delight in playful and surrealistic visions with a high entertainment factor." The List

In recognition of their work Ben Harrison was given a NESTA Fellowship in 2001 and Jusith DOherty a TIF/SOLT Producer's Bursary (2001) and the Jack Tinker Spirit of the Fringe Award (2003).



THOSE EYES, THAT MOUTH (2003)

Awards: Scotsman Fringe First. Stage Award Acting Excellence – Best Actress. Herald Angel – Best Actress. Herald Devil. Tron Theatre Awards - nominated Best Production by a Visiting Company and Best Actress in a Visiting Production.

"one of those perfectly-sculpted theatre events in which every element seems to glow with with a deep sense of beauty and meaning... as rich, beautiful and completely satisfying an 80 minutes as you are ever likely to experience." The Scotsman

"Those Eyes, That Mouth provides evidence of Grid Iron's leading role in the movement to redefine our understanding of the theatrical... this is contemporary theatre at its very best." Scotland on Sunday



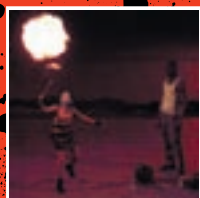
THE HOUGHMAGANDIE PACK (2003)

"the personal passion Justin Young brings to the telling of the tale fuels some tremendously purposeful and vivid writing... and inspires a string of fine, well-focused performances. The production... is something of a technical triumph, with a series of simple, lovely fragments of set by Becky Minto (lit in the gathering dusk by George Tarbuck) materialising among the woods and fields. This special combination of conventional drama and outdoor setting finally acquires an almost magical force." The Scotsman



VARIETY (2002)

"Grid Iron utilises the full workings of the Proscenium Arch to the max in one of the most heart-breaking elegies to emanate from Scotland for some time. Ben Harrison's production is ambitiously and exquisitely realised, scaling new theatrical heights." The Herald



FERMENTATION (2002)

Fermentation was one of the Sunday Herald's 5 theatre highlights of 2002

"Grid Iron has done it again. In another thrillingly intelligent site-specific production the company has crafted an astonishing piece of theatre. Every detail is perfect, each performance is extraordinary." The Guardian



DECKY DOES A BRONCO (2000-2002)

Awards: Scotsman Fringe First. Stage Award Acting Excellence – Best Ensemble. Barclays Stage Awards – nominated Best Touring Production

"Utterly convincing and utterly brilliant – I'd run away and join Grid Iron tomorrow." Irish Times

"Grid Iron is unsurpassed in its ability to create site specific work in which there is a perfect marriage of site and subject." The Guardian

"The brilliantly inventive Grid Iron company once again manipulate a living environment, to produce theatre that effortlessly breathes straight from the heart." The Times



GARGANTUA (1998)

Awards: Scotsman Fringe First. Stage Award Acting Excellence – nominated Best Ensemble

"Grid Iron's Gargantua is a rich, fruitily, gorgeous, uninhibited celebration of the senses, greedily gastronomic, pungently scatological, and filthy or lusciously sexual, depending on your taste." The Scotsman

"a banquet of theatrical delights. What one remembers is relentless invention, raucous humour and quirky melancholy..." The List



THE BLOODY CHAMBER (1998)

Awards: Herald Angel for Outstanding Achievement in Theatre. Total Theatre Awards – nominated Best Newcomers and Best Use of Design

"Grid Iron has led hundreds of people into thrilling close proximity with theatre of a very physical, poetic and immediate kind." The Herald

OTHER PAST PRODUCTIONS:

Monumental (1999)
Clearance (1996)

FUTURE PRODUCTIONS:

Spring Awakening (2004), **Tryst** (2005),
Roam (2005), **The Devil's Larder** (2006)

If you would like further information about Grid Iron please log on to our website www.gridiron.org.uk

If you would like to join our mailing list or become a Friend of Grid Iron please contact us at:

Grid Iron 85 East Claremont Street, Edinburgh EH7 4HU
T: 0131 558 1879 F: 0131 558 8048 E: admin@gridiron.org.uk

Patrons: Christopher Cazenove, Jim Haynes
Board: David Black, Deborah Crewe, Judith Doherty, Ben Harrison, Chris Hunn
Friends: Mary Doherty, Deborah Crewe, Owen and Bonnie Dudley Edwards, Mary Paulson Ellis, Niamh Troy.



WITH THANKS

Amanda Chinn & Amanda Barnett from SCOTTISH DANCE THEATRE, Mrs. Macdonald, John Gunn & Phil Haldane from THEATRE WORKSHOP, David Nicholson at ST. STEPHEN'S CENTRE, SUSPECT CULTURE, PERTH THEATRE, David Bain – ENVIRONMENT AND CONSUMER SERVICES, CEC; CARPHONE WAREHOUSE; ARGOS; SCOTSMAN PUBLICATIONS LTD; DAILY RECORD and SUNDAY MAIL; Ruth Crichton – LYCEUM THEATRE; Neil Murray and all at THE TRON; Catriona McKay - harp; Betty Offerman - piano; Deborah Crewe; Mary Doherty; Ben Harrison; Martin Reynolds; Simon Girdler; GATEWAY THEATRE; QMUC; Fiona Herd; Nancy Douglas; Kenny Lomond, Stuart Younie; Nick Fearne; Jaine Lumsden; Helen Jamieson; Judith Aitken; Laura Tyrell; Linda Macdonald; Laura Tyrell; Maggie Singleton; Martin Ayres; Joey Burns; Paula Aldin-Scott; Rebecca Peppiette; Rose Johnston; Rosie Lewis; Seonid Clark; Shona Arthur; Frances Austin; Catriona Scott; Ron Ballantyne; Laura Edwards; Andrew Usher and SCOTMID; Stephanie Thorburn – TRAVERSE THEATRE, KIRSTY STEELE; BOOTS THE CHEMIST; WICKEDPAINT.COM; Stuart Nairn; Karen Magan; Kate Ferry; Dreph; Ros Coward; Chris Hun; Ninan Jerome; Kate Browning; Luke Jackson and family, especially his Mum; Nicola Harrison; Kate Bailey; Lorne Campbell, Cait Davis; Madge, Jonjo, Benchours, TAG, Hilary Claydon, Tinbum and Pusscat.

FOR WORKSHOPS AND PROJECT DEVELOPMENT:

TYPE DIE CAST; DANCE BASE; SCOTLAND YARD DJ/MC COLLECTIVE;
THE SCOTTISH SKATEBOARDING FORUM; ARTS DEVELOPMENT – CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL;
ARTS AND SOCIAL INCLUSION – CAPITAL CITY PARTNERSHIP; YOUTHLINK SCOTLAND; EDINBURGH YOUTH SOCIAL INCLUSION PROJECT
ARTS DEVELOPMENT - MIDLOTHIAN COUNCIL; CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S
ARTS – GLASGOW CITY COUNCIL; ARTS DEVELOPMENT – MORAY COUNCIL;
ARTS DEVELOPMENT – ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL ARTS DEVELOPMENT – HIGHLAND COUNCIL;
ARTS DEVELOPMENT – FIFE COUNCIL; MORAY YOUTHSTART
NORTH EDINBURGH ARTS; SCOTTISH YOUTH DANCE.

FRESHMESS

Freshmess was established in 1996, by Allan Irvine, as a project dance company to give Scottish based dancers an opportunity to perform. Since then the company has grown and went from strength to strength. Freshmess use a unique and humorous blend of Hip Hop and contemporary dance styles that is delivered with raw energy and intricate choreography. Along the way collecting Herald Angel and Herald Devil awards. Previous shows have included work by Allan Irvine and Frank McConnell and music by Seany B, Phil Bancroft and Martyn Bennett. After a sell out run at the 2003 Edinburgh Festival Fringe, Freshmess return to Dance Base: Venue 22, with a new triple bill by Allan Irvine, Paul Joseph and Christine Devaney, with music by Paul Joseph, Quee McArthur and Dolphin Boy. For more information on Freshmess and their October 2004 tour check out www.freshmess.dk3.com

"Freshmess makes the rest of the contemporary dance world seem very dull indeed." Sunday Herald

Aug 12 - preview	15.00-16.30	£5.00
Aug 13, 18, 22	17.30-19.00	£9.00 (£6.00)
Aug 14, 19	20.00-21.30	£9.00 (£6.00)
Aug 15, 20	12.30-14.00	£9.00 (£6.00)
Aug 17, 21	15.00-16.30	£9.00 (£6.00)
Dance Base, Venue 22, 14-16 Grassmarket, Edinburgh EH1 2JU		

FIFTY NINE LIMITED

Fifty Nine Limited is a young design and media agency with offices in York and Edinburgh. Now in its third year of operation the company continues to pioneer new techniques and technologies, and produce high quality work for a diverse range of clients, from the Tate Modern, The National Trust and The Royal National Theatre, to Amnesty International, The New Internationalist and a growing number of environmental and energy saving organisations.

A special interest in the theatre has led 59 to specialise in providing reduced-rate services to the arts, particularly integrating new-media with the stage. As well as Grid Iron, 59's collaborators in the last six months have included Tag, Stellar Quines and Wee Stories Theatre companies. Fifty Nine regularly supports such theatre and arts production work by donating or subsidising equipment hire and personnel time. Most recently, 59 has been awarded joint-funding from Scottish Arts and Arts Council England to develop a cross-disciplinary project with schools, community groups and creative professionals: a multimedia production of Judith Adams' play Sweet Fanny Adams in Eden.

THE 16K DESIGN WORKS

Established in 1998, 16K have grown from their humble beginnings designing club flyers, to now encompass all aspects of graphic design. Their varied portfolio ranges from websites (including sites for The Edinburgh International Film & Book Festivals and Channel 4) to pop music videos, record sleeves to T-shirts, shop identities to illustration.

Refusing to be categorised or pushed into one style or another gives their work a unique freshness and originality that has ensured the company's rise. Check out their online portfolio [disbelievers www.16kdesign.com](http://www.16kdesign.com).

16K's in-house illustrator Brian McFeeley aka "Elph" was first introduced to street graffiti in 1989, and has since actively participated in Scotland's graffiti scene as part of the Many Styles Crew. With recent exhibitions of his illustration work at The Bongo Club (Edinburgh) and Mono (Glasgow)

"The graffiti, the vandalism, the burnt out cars, the street corner drug dealers, the teenage mugger just graduating from the minor school of crime: we're not old fashioned or right - wing to take action against this social menace. We're standing up for the people we represent, who play by the rules and have a right to expect others to do the same."

Tony Blair, Labour Party Conference, October 2, 2001

"The great thing about the hip-hop folk is that they are fearless and culturally blind.

Their ability to steal from culture without judgement, without a decision about what is right or wrong or good or bad, it's just does it affect you emotionally or not, that blindness to pretension gets me going.

I would like to think that... that's the road we're going down."

Baz Luhrmann

"See the problem is I speak to suburban kids/
Who otherwise woulda never knew these words exist...
And they were instantly hooked right in/ And they connected
wit me too cuz I looked like them/ That's why they put my
lyrics up under this microscope"

Eminem, White America

"Graffiti is a pernicious bane on modern society
that affects us all."

Statement from the British Transport Police

“Next time someone sits down here they’re gonnae think ‘Who’s this dude? Whit’s he got tae say?’ This is how we make them listen. The writing’s on the wall, bro.

Welcome tae the Underworld.”

fierce... an urban myth



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