

ALRIGHT MATE?

TOUR PACK 2018/9



WHAT IS IT?

Alright Mate? is an audio-visual installation that explores male mental health through presenting conversations with and photographs of individuals discussing their ideas and experiences around male mental health. It is a collaboration between Exeter-based playwright and mental health specialist Cally Hayes, and artist Hugh McCann. It has currently been installed at Roots Foundation barbershop and Wellcome Centre, Exeter.

With suicide being the biggest killer of men under 50 in the UK, we wanted to create a piece of work that shared and encouraged conversations where men can talk about their feelings.



The piece is made by inviting participants to chat with Hugh around the topic. These chats are recorded and mixed together into three looping audio tracks, and after the chat, wet plate photographer Stephen Raff takes portraits which are displayed next to the audio loops.

TOURING

The piece can tour in two different ways:

- We can install the existing piece made in Exeter in 2018. We are happy to send more images and audio of the piece. The piece can be configured differently to work in different spaces and is modular in design.
- We can create a new piece following the same method as previous with specific groups discussing mental health and emotional wellbeing, for example young people, new parents, or refugees.

Responses.

The quality time given on the interview day was impressive. The interview/discussion was well conducted, stimulating and relaxed. The photography session was fascinating and informative and again with quality time given. - Participant.

A fascinating insight into a very important and serious topic, but funny too at times! - Audience.



WHO IS IT?

Hugh McCann

Hugh is a multidisciplinary artist with training and experience in fine art and theatre. His recent work includes writing plays, delivering public art projects, dramaturging other artists, and introducing creative provocations to academic conferences. Hugh's work has been shown at venues including Theatre 503, BAC, Theatre Royal Plymouth and Arnolfini gallery, Bristol.

Cally Hayes

Cally is an Exeter based writer, producer and educator. She co founded Documental a Devon based theatre collective that makes theatre inspired by lived experience. Fundamental to her productions , is the process of research based writing and working with testimony. She collaborates with other artists to produce pieces for performance, audio drama and site specific installations. As an educator, she has been commissioned by NHS England and was a 2017 nominee for a NHS England Education Star award for Listening to the Patient's Voice. She is interested in the transformational nature of art and theatre in shifting perceptions about those whose stories are rarely heard.

Get in touch

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