



PRESS RELEASE | HOLDEN STREET THEATRES

Presented by Lion House Theatre, Joanne Hartstone & Holden Street Theatres

THE ARCHIVE OF EDUCATED HEARTS

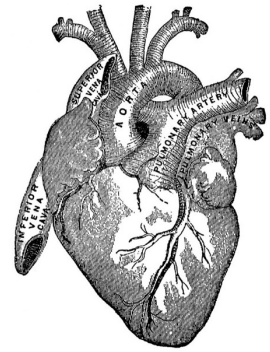
by Casey Jay Andrews

Venue: Holden Street Theatres

Dates: February 12th – March 16th 2019

Performance Times: Weekdays: 18.15 & 19.15

Weekends: 15.30, 16.30, 17.30



WINNER OF THE SCOTSMAN'S FRINGE FIRST AWARD 2018

Casey Jay Andrews brings her award winning immersive storytelling installation to the Adelaide Fringe. This unique and intimate play does not take place in a theatre, but a custom created Archive; a lovingly crafted haven filled with relics, keepsakes and photo albums. The show focuses on the impact that breast cancer can have on families; it features verbatim interviews with four women who have all been affected by breast cancer, as well as Andrews' own personal story of her family's experience of breast cancer.

"I have created this installation because cancer has had an unwelcome impact on my own life, and the lives of those close to me: my mum is one of four sisters who all have an unknown genetic form of breast cancer. I wanted to piece together a collage of the impact it has on the relationships of those affected by it, particularly the mother/ daughter relationship"

As the play was being made, just weeks before the 2018 Edinburgh Festival, the themes became devastatingly tangible. Emma Cairns, one of the four women interviewed to create the play, found out she had just weeks to live. Two weeks before the festival began Emma passed away, and her funeral took place on the day of the first ever performance.

Only weeks before this Karen Baker (Casey's Aunt; another one of the women featured in the play) found out that her cancer had progressed for the first time in ten years.

"The themes of grief, loss and the palpable finality of our short lives came incredibly close to home as I began the process of creating the play and crafting the interviews into a narrative. I have a close personal connection with all of the women I spoke to for the project, and so with each piece of bad news the process of writing took a new turn in direct response to the heart-breaking circumstances under which the show came together. These were not scenarios I had anticipated occurring during the creation of this show; cancer had sat at bay in the lives of my friends and loved ones for such a long time that I had almost forgotten how suddenly and heartlessly it could turn worlds upside-down."

Emma was a prominent campaigner for secondary breast cancer treatment; she tirelessly campaigned for women in her position to have access to the treatment that could afford those with life limiting diagnoses to have a good quality of life. The story Emma tells in the Archive about her travels with her daughter Molly is testament to the importance of campaigning for such rights: in the face of tragedy they took to the skies and explored the world together, building memories to last; fitting a lifetime's worth of memories into a finite amount of time. *"Emma also happens to be my old drama teacher; she set me off on the career that a decade later brought me to this project."*

REVIEWS:

"Show I really loved yesterday was 'The Archive of Educated Hearts' about families living with breast cancer. Empathy, sympathy and wisdom... A beautiful, exquisitely understated piece of storytelling" LYN GARDNER *Recommended show on StageDoor*

Featured in The Scotsman's "10 MUST-SEE THEATRE SHOWS" of the 2018 Edinburgh Festival Fringe

★★★★ "Her writing is so thoughtful and delicate... a show which is full of light, celebrating the rarest qualities of being human" THE SCOTSMAN

★★★★★ "A narrative masterpiece with a philosophical focus" FRINGE BISCUIT

★★★★★ "The language of her prose is extraordinary, illuminating and expressive... Casey Jay Andrews has crafted a truly unique experience" FRINGE REVIEW **featured as HIDDEN GEM of the 2018 Edinburgh Festival Fringe**

★★★★ "A show of quiet, fragile magic... [Andrews is] a disarmingly informal performer... Blending personal storytelling with philosophical reflections on the need for human kindness" THE LIST

To book review tickets for this show please contact caseyjayandrews@icloud.com



- ★★★★ "A profound place of vulnerability... completely enchanting" EDINBURGH GUIDE
- ★★★★ "Each centimetre is marked by the labour of love" ED FEST MAG
- ★★★★ "A unique experience that leaves one both heartbroken & incredibly privileged to have taken part" THREE WEEKS
- ★★★★ "Comforting and compelling... This quiet but powerful show is unlike most that you'll find at the Edinburgh Fringe" FRINGE GURU
- ★★★★ "Eliciting giggles as well as tears through poetic language and relaxed delivery" SPY IN THE STALLS

Featuring the voice of Michael Cochrane from BBC Radio 4's "THE ARCHERS".

The Show:

The Archive is an intimate storytelling installation crafted from true stories of families facing breast cancer. Scrawled diary entries, answer-phone messages blinking on an old landline, a shoebox of postcards and cassette-tapes winding stories across years and continents; The Archive is built on the remarkable moments that make up a lifetime. It is a mixture of poetic storytelling, verbatim interviews, and sprawling photo albums chronicling the lives of four women. The audience enter the bespoke installation and find themselves surrounded by relics and keepsakes that allow a glimpse into stories of kindness and courage; fragments of absolute joy, and incomprehensible heartbreak.

We are proudly working in partnership with Worldwide Breast Cancer to raise awareness of everything there is to know about breast self-examination; we want to empower people with the information they need to help catch breast cancer early. Alongside the show we have created the #KnowYourLemons booth in collaboration with Worldwide Breast Cancer: it is a step-by-step guide to breast self examination with a custom created voiceover from Worldwide Breast Cancer.

The Archive won The Scotsman Fringe First Award at the 2018 Edinburgh Festival and was long-listed for the Old Vic 12 in the writing category.

LISTING INFORMATION

Venue:	Holden Street Theatre - The Manse	
	34 Holden Street, Hindmarsh, SA, 5007	
Dates:	12 th February – 16 th March	
Performance Times:	Weekdays: 18.15 & 19.15	
	Weekends: 15.30, 16.30, 17.30	
Company Press contact:	caseyjayandrews@icloud.com	
Writer/ Director/ Performer:	Casey Jay Andrews	
Composer:	George Jennings	
Voice Over Artist:	Michael Cochrane	
Web: www.caseyjayandrews.com	Twitter: @WeAreLionHouse	Facebook: /LionHouseTheatre

CREATIVE TEAM

Biographies

Casey Jay Andrews and George Jennings have collaborated on a number of productions since 2012 with HookHitch Theatre, Lion House Theatre, South Hill Park Arts Centre and The Guildford School of Acting. They first worked together on "This was The World and I was King" (HookHitch Theatre) and have more recently collaborated on Lion House Theatre's mythological trilogy of plays "From Dust", "Night Creature" & "Every Wild Beast".

Casey Jay Andrews

WRITER, DIRECTOR, PERFORMER, DESIGNER

Casey is an award winning writer, performer and designer. In 2018 she won the Scotsman's coveted Fringe First Award at The Edinburgh Festival Fringe for The Archive of Educated Hearts, and was also long-listed for The Old Vic 12 in the writing category. Casey's previous work has been shortlisted and nominated for the Underbelly IdeasTap Award, The Charlie Hartill Special Reserve Fund, the MTN Awards, the NSDF

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Award, and the Scottish Daily Mail Award. She has written for HookHitch Theatre, Reading Between the Lines Theatre Co. London Contemporary Theatre, York Theatre Royal TakeOver Festival and South Hill Park Arts Centre. She is also an alumnus of The Edinburgh Festival Fringe Society's Emerging Producers Development Programme.

George Jennings

COMPOSER

George trained as an actor at The Guildford School of Acting from 2010 to 2013, writing music and songs for the in-house performances. Since then he has been working as an actor, voice over artist, composer and a musician on tour, at Shakespeare's Globe and on the West End.

Michael Cochrane

VOICE OVER ARTIST

Michael has played 'Oliver Sterling' in BBC Radio 4's THE ARCHERS since 2000. He has also recorded numerous plays, serials and readings for broadcast on BBC Network Radio. Michael's long and varied television career includes leading roles in: WINGS / LOVE IN A COLD CLIMATE / KING'S ROYAL / THE CITADEL / FORTUNES OF WAR / THE CHELWORTH INHERITANCE / MASTER OF INNOCENTS / PIE IN THE SKY / THE DARLING BUDS OF MAY / TAGGART / THE BILL / WYCLIFFE / HEARTBEAT / 99-1 / THE TWO RONNIES / SHELLEY / DEAR JOHN / JUST HIS LUCK / KEEPING UP APPEARANCES / NO JOB FOR A LADY.