

PENTABUS

The Nation's Rural Theatre Company

Media Alert
Date: 27 March 2020

Pentabus to Release Recordings of their Past Shows for Free

To celebrate World Theatre Day, Pentabus Theatre today announced that they are going to release recordings of their past shows on their website and social media channels to be streamed for free. These will remain live for the next three months and will be released weekly on a Friday at 2pm for anyone to access.

The first production to be released will be *Here I Belong* by Matt Hartley on Friday 27 March with other shows to follow including *Crossings* by Deirdre Kinahan and *Each Slow Dusk* by Rory Mullarkey. The recordings will be accompanied by social media Q & A's with cast and creative teams from the productions, details of which will be announced via social media.

Pentabus were the first company to live stream theatre directly from village halls into homes and community spaces across the world. All recordings are high quality and filmed during live streams or as part of a live capture over the past five years.

Pentabus Artistic Director Sophie Motley said:

'In these turbulent times, a lot of our audience are stuck in their houses in isolated rural communities. We'd like to give you all the chance to go to the virtual village hall, to experience some excellent theatre from the comfort of your own homes. All our shows are entertaining, funny, thought provoking, and have something deep to say about rural life. We are thrilled that the artists who created this work have allowed audiences to experience it for free, and we hope you enjoy our shows as much as we did making and touring them.'

To view the shows as they're released:

Pentabus.co.uk | Youtube: PentabusTheatre | Instagram: Pentabustheatrecompany
Facebook: PentabusTheatre Twitter: @pentabustheatre

All Press Enquiries: Catrin John | Email: catrin@pentabus.co.uk

Notes to Editors

About Pentabus:

'one of the most important theatre companies in the country, where it has led, other new writing theatres – such as the Royal Court – have followed' The Telegraph

Pentabus is the nation's rural theatre company. We are the only professional theatre company in the UK whose vision is singularly rural. We tour new plays about the contemporary rural world to new audiences in village halls, fields, festivals and theatres, telling stories with local relevance, plus national and international impact. We believe that every person living in an isolated rural community has a right to exceptional theatre. We are based on a farm in Shropshire, and to date all of our work has been made here. It then tours village halls and theatres locally and nationally. Over four and a half decades we've produced 171 new plays, reached over 550,000 audience members, won a prestigious South Bank Show award for our show about racism, a Fringe First for our play about climate change and were the first to live stream from a village hall. We have hosted a writer in residence since 2014 and they have gone on to be commissioned by the Royal Court, Birmingham Rep, Royal Welsh College and the Bush.

We are a champion for rural young people aged 16 to 25 and Pentabus Young Company is our new initiative offering workshops, masterclasses, work experience and mentorships, as well as the opportunity to join our Young Writers' Group, which has been running for five years. Previous participants of the Young Writers' Group have had their work presented at Ludlow Fringe, Latitude Festival and Hereford Courtyard. It is a springboard into further study and the arts industry, with over 50% of our Young Writers going on to be published and professional writers.

Pentabus would like to thank all our supporters including:



Pentabus is also supported by the Haystack Trust & the Millichope Foundation.