

Press Release | For immediate release

Ground-breaking theatre returns to the Bow Arts Courtyard, exploring art and its capacity to comment on the 2017 Political Climate.



Press Priority Night Friday 7 April, 7pm (for press tickets contact nunnery@bowarts.com)

Running Friday 7 April, Saturday 8 April, then Thursday 27 and Friday 28 April 2017, 7pm

Address: Bow Arts Courtyard, 183 Bow Road, London E3 2SJ

Tickets: £12, £10 concession, available to students, Bow Arts members and senior citizens (over 60s)

Rhino is a conversation with Eugene Ionesco's 1959 play *Rhinoceros*. Award-winning company LUXE will present Ionesco's classic Theatre of the Absurd text, reimagined into the political climate of 2017 as a series of live performances, videos, film and debates – directed by LUXE Founder and Artistic Director Cradeaux Alexander.

The play will be staged in Bow Arts' outdoor courtyard, surrounded by their Victorian warehouse studios, following LUXE's sell-out production of Picasso's *Desire Caught by the Tail* in the summer, as featured on BBC Radio 4's *Front Row* and the Evening Standard's *Going Out*.

Set around a sound stage, *Rhino* explores the aesthetics of televised political debate and behind-the-scenes intimacies. Its characters confront the impossible: is the whole world turning into a rhino?

Rhino expands the definition of a 'play'. Its locus privileges the real-time-space of performers within the immediate circumstances of their audience (we like to see and hear the audience breathe and whisper while we perform), while the play itself moves in and out of time and traditional narrative drama through mediated televisual spaces. *Rhino* will ultimately be accessible across the globe through online videos, documentation and film – with teasers released online in the weeks running up to the show.

Ionesco's original text is a hallmark of the Theatre of the Absurd; equal parts drama, romance, and a warning of the power and allure of Fascism. When your friends, lovers and colleagues switch sides and turn into rhinos, what can you do? In 2017, when your friends, lovers and colleagues get swept up in populist movements reminiscent of the 1930s, the situation remains equally as absurd.

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For press information, cast / director interviews and further images please contact:

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www.bowarts.org | www.twitter.com/BowArts | www.facebook.com/bowarts

Notes to editors

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Travel: Bow Road Tube Station, Bow Church DLR

Contact: +44 (0)20 8980 7774 / nunnery@bowarts.com

About Bow Arts

Bow Arts Trust was established as an educational arts charity in 1995 and supports a community of over 500 artists with affordable, secure and creative workspaces. Bow Arts also runs the Nunnery Gallery, a contemporary art gallery which supports a diverse range of local, national and international exhibitions and events.

www.bowarts.org