

September-December 2021 at the Finborough Theatre

The UK Premiere

# HOW TO SURVIVE AN APOCALYPSE

by Jordan Hall.

Directed by Jimmy Walters.

Designed by Ceci Calf. Lighting by Adam King. Music and Sound by Julian Starr.

Presented by Proud Haddock in association with Neil McPherson for the Finborough Theatre.

Cast: Kristin Atherton. Christine Gomes. Ben Lamb. Noel Sullivan.

*"You start planning for the end and you have to start thinking— if you wind up trapped in a 300 square foot fallout shelter, is this really the guy you want to see every day?"*

In a production commissioned by the Finborough Theatre, the UK premiere of Jordan Hall's hit play *How To Survive an Apocalypse* opens at the Finborough Theatre for a four week limited season on Tuesday 28 September 2021 (Press Nights: Thursday, 30 September and Friday 1 October at 7.30pm).

A romantic comedy for the end of days.

Jen and Tim are a young and successful millennial couple who become convinced that their urban party lifestyle is coming to an end. They start preparing for the end, hoarding supplies and learning to hunt. But their obsession takes its toll, and both are forced to imagine the apocalypse without the love of their life.

A tender, hilarious, and touching story about dreams, love and the desire to survive.

Another in the Finborough Theatre's acclaimed discoveries of new plays from Canada, *How To Survive An Apocalypse* premiered at the Firehall Arts Centre, Vancouver, where it broke all box office records. It was shortlisted for a Tom Hendry Award in Comedy, was an official selection of the La Mama International Playwrights Retreat, and was the winner of the 2016 Flying Start Competition.

As an intimate theatre venue, we are taking extra precautions to ensure the safety of performers, staff, and audience members during the current pandemic. We have reduced our audience capacity to 80% and temporarily increased our ticket prices to reflect this. Due to the size of our auditorium, we will ask audiences to wear a face covering throughout their visit including during the performance. We will also be asking audience members to provide the following evidence on arrival at the venue of either double vaccination, negative test results, or a recent infection. We will be reviewing these protocols every month and will lift them as soon as it is safe to do so. For full information, please see our website.

Playwright **Jordan Hall** is an award-winning playwright and screenwriter. She has been an Associate at Playwright's Theatre Centre, Vancouver, as well as Playwright-in-Residence for both Pi Theatre and Up in the Air Theatre. Her first full-length play, *Kayak*, won Samuel French's Canadian Playwrights Competition, and has been produced to critical acclaim across North America. Other works include *A Brief History of Human Extinction* (Mind of a Snail Puppet Theatre), and the forthcoming *The Cupertino Effect* with support from the British Columbia Arts Council. As a screenwriter, Jordan co-created *Carmilla: The Series* which won the Canadian Screen Award for Digital Fiction, and was lead writer for three seasons and the subsequent movie. She has been a finalist at the LA Comedy Fest, a winner of the Crazy8s Short Film Production Competition, and a 2019 recipient of a Corus Writer's Apprentice Fellowship at Banff World Media Festival. She teaches screenwriting at Capilano University.

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e-mail [admin@finboroughtheatre.co.uk](mailto:admin@finboroughtheatre.co.uk) [www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk](http://www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk) Artistic Director Neil McPherson

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Director **Jimmy Walters** returns to the Finborough Theatre following his acclaimed productions of two plays by Tony Harrison – *Square Rounds* and *The Trackers of Oxyrhynchus* – as well as John Osborne's *A Subject of Scandal and Concern*. Other direction includes *Billy Bishop Goes To War* and *The Dog Beneath The Skin* (Jermyn Street Theatre), *Mrs Orwell* (Southwark Playhouse), *Julius Caesar* (Saatchi Gallery), *A Naughty Night With Noël Coward* (Old Red Lion Theatre) *Improbable Fiction* (Courtyard Theatre), *Hamlet* (Bedouin Shakespeare Company), *I the Jury* (Hen and Chickens Theatre), *Breaded Butler* (Troubadour) and *Dear Ray* (Edinburgh Festival). Assistant Direction includes Young Shakespeare Company tours of *Twelfth Night* and *Romeo and Juliet* (Bloomsbury Theatre), *Othello* (Riverside Studios) and *Knock Yourself Out* (Courtyard Theatre).

### **The Canadian press on *How To Survive An Apocalypse***

"The wisecracks and one-liners come fast and furious...a entertaining, romantic comedy decked out in camouflage."  
*Vancouver Sun*

"Slickly presents some much-needed perspective on the times we live in" *Vancouver Theatre.ca*

"Extraordinarily clever, charming, and thoroughly modern" *The Georgia Straight*

"The play is filled with nods to our distraction-prone, screen-addled culture...Hall has tapped into a powerful modern undercurrent with *Apocalypse*." *Daily Hive*

"A funny and frank exploration of a young couple who become end-of-the-world "preppers" when faced with financial hardship" *The Georgia Straight*

### **The press on playwright Jordan Hall**

"Gripping, heartbreaking." Lynn Slotkin, *CBC Radio*

"A trio of vivid, memorable characters." Jon Kaplan, *NOW Magazine*

"Stellar, insightful writing." Dave Deveau, *Plank Magazine*

### **The press on director Jimmy Walters' productions of Tony Harrison's *The Trackers of Oxyrhynchus* and *Square Rounds* at the Finborough Theatre**

★★★★ "Jimmy Walters's expressive production" Michael Billington, *The Guardian*

★★★★ "The real strength lies in the performances by the six-strong female cast, who bring these troubled characters to life with passion and chemistry." *Everything Theatre*

★★★★ "Jimmy Walters' inventive production." *Jewish Renaissance*

★★★★ "A resounding success." *Close Up Culture*

★★★★ "The all-female cast were exceptional under the direction of Jimmy Walters." *North West End*

★★★★ "Timely relevance." *Breaking the Fourth Wall*

"Vibrant, heartfelt and provocative." Sam Marlowe, *The Times*

"Even if the mock penises in this revival tend to dangle, there is nothing limp about Jimmy Walters' production." Michael Billington, *The Guardian*

"A joy to hammer in the New Year." Sarah Hemming, *Financial Times*

"I loved this. I enjoyed it enormously." *Saturday Review BBC Radio 4*

**PRESS NIGHTS: THURSDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 2021 AT 7.30PM and FRIDAY, 1 OCTOBER 2021 AT 7.30PM**  
**PHOTOCALL: TUESDAY, 28 SEPTEMBER 2021 AT 1.30PM-2.00PM**

Finborough Theatre, 118 Finborough Road, London SW10 9ED

Book online at [www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk](http://www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk)

Box Office 020 7244 7439

No booking fees

**Tuesday, 28 September – Saturday, 23 October 2021**

Tuesday to Saturday evenings at 7.30pm. Saturday and Sunday matinees at 3.00pm.

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e-mail [admin@finboroughtheatre.co.uk](mailto:admin@finboroughtheatre.co.uk) [www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk](http://www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk) Artistic Director Neil McPherson



## PRESS INFORMATION

**Prices until 10 October 2021** – Tickets £23, £20 concessions, except Tuesday evenings £20 all seats, and Friday and Saturday evenings £23 all seats. Previews (28 and 29 September) £14 all seats.

£10 tickets for Under 30s for performances from Tuesday to Sunday of the first week when booked online only.

£14 tickets for residents of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea on Saturday 2 October 2021 at 7.30pm booked online only.

**Prices from 12 October 2021** – Tickets £25, £23 concessions, except Tuesday evenings £23 all seats, and Friday and Saturday evenings £25 all seats.

Performance Length: Two hours including one interval of fifteen minutes.

For more information, interviews and images, please contact

**Livvy Perrett** on e-mail [press@finboroughtheatre.co.uk](mailto:press@finboroughtheatre.co.uk) or **07889 794858**

Download press releases and images at <http://www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk/press-resources.php>