

# FRINGE ARTS

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**Images available upon request**

## **Another Trip Around the Convent**

*No Face Performance Group is breaks new artistic ground with the second installment of their Abbot Adam series*

PHILADELPHIA – The Philadelphia-based **No Face Performance Group**, a creative partnership between artists **Jaime Maseda** and **Mark McCloughan**, premieres the newest installment in the Abbot Adam series at FringeArts **December 10-12**. This inventive exploration of medieval monastic life takes place at FringeArts' waterfront headquarters, 140 N Columbus Blvd. (at Race St.). Tickets cost between \$15 and \$20 and are available by phone at 215-413-1318 or online at [FringeArts.com](http://FringeArts.com).

*Abbot Adam* is a series of performances loosely structured after the Liturgy of the Hours. The first piece in the series, *Evensong*, premiered at FringeArts in March of 2015. The newest installment, *None*, refers to the ninth hour of the day since dawn, when work ends, granting the sisters safe passage into the night. As the sisters, played by Maseda and McCloughan, transition into night, they are offered moments of contemplation, which illuminate the joys and trials of monastic life.

While No Face Performance Groups' first exploration into the world of Abbot Adam was a punk-rock spectacle, McCloughan and Maseda are delving into deeper – and stranger – territory. *None* is a solemn, spare meditation on work and leisure in monastic life.

"Part of the reason we decided to make a large series of work as opposed to a single piece is to give ourselves permission to explore the topic from many different angles," explains Mark McCloughan. "I've begun to think of the cycle as akin to a giant medieval tapestry depicting a huge scene of humanity. In one corner might be a scene of reveling, in another, there might be a scene of mourning. Those two scenes might even be right next to each other."

Jaime Maseda agrees. "We're incredibly excited by engaging with these ideas as a way of transmitting and eliciting the enormous and untouchable, divine joy, terror, despair, ecstasy."

The duo that is No Face Performance Group has plenty of experience with the contemporary performance scene in Philadelphia. In addition to creating and producing their own work in and around Philadelphia, the company spent the summer of 2010 to the fall of 2011 apprenticing with the OBIE-award-winning Pig Iron Theatre Company. Members of No Face have participated in Pig Iron projects as actors, puppeteers, designers, and assistant directors. Maseda appeared in the Salinger-inspired piece *Holden* by George & Co. in October, and McCloughan's alter ego Ms. Teena Geist can be seen leading guided meditations all over Philadelphia.

This is the second FringeArts presentation of No Face Performance Group.

## **ABOUT NO FACE PERFORMANCE GROUP:**

**No Face Performance Group** is the collaborative project of artists Jaime Maseda and Mark McCloughan. Working as a duo and with a revolving group of associate artists, they make performance using a wide variety of process and sources. Since the group was founded in 2007, it has created 15 original works. Highlights include *Abbot Adam: Evensong* (FringeArts, Philadelphia), *Bastard Piece* (Philadelphia Fringe Festival), and *From the Swamp to the Stars* (Philadelphia International Festival of the Arts). Their current work-in-process, *THE TOP*, was recently supported through a guest artist appointment at the University of the Arts, Philadelphia.

## **ABOUT JAIME MASEDA:**

**Jaime Maseda** is an artist living and working in Philadelphia. A founding member and Co-Artistic Director of No Face Performance Group, he has also performed with other artists and companies in Philadelphia including Pig Iron Theatre Company, Melissa Krodman & Kelly Bond, Alex Torra and George & Co. Earlier this season, Jaime appeared in FringeArts productions of George & Co.'s Holden and Miguel Gutierrez's Age & Beauty Part 2. Most recently, he toured with Miguel Gutierrez's Age & Beauty series to the Festival d'Automne à Paris.

## **ABOUT MARK MCCLOUGHAN**

**Mark McCloughan** is a performer, writer, and a musician based in Philadelphia. As a founding member and Co-Artistic Director of No Face Performance Group he has performed in all of the company's original works. He has created and performed work with other artists and companies around Philadelphia, including Pig Iron Theatre Company, Team Sunshine Performance Corporation, New Paradise Laboratories, Spencer Sheridan/Public Trust, Gabrielle Revlock, and Jenna Horton. In 2014 he was dramaturg and rehearsal director for Eiko Otake's *Two Women* (River to River Festival, NYC) and *A Body in a Station*. His conceptual drag project Ms. Teena Geist has performed at venues around Philadelphia including the Institute of Contemporary Art and Vox Populi Gallery. His poetry has appeared in *Ostranenie*, *Lines + Stars*, and *The American Poetry Review*. Recently, he authored *No Harbor* (L + S Press, 2014), a chapbook of poems.

## **ABOUT FRINGEARTS:**

**FringeArts** is one of the country's foremost centers for contemporary performing arts, showcasing arts innovators from around the globe and cultivating world-class Philadelphia-based artists. FringeArts plays a vital role in Philadelphia's vibrant artistic community by presenting a year-round programming series of cutting-edge dance, theater, and music performances presented at its striking venue on the Delaware waterfront; the annual Fringe Festival which takes over Philadelphia with hundreds of artistically daring and socially engaging performances; and by providing opportunities for Philadelphia artists to develop and showcase new work. FringeArts believes in art making that tests boundaries—inspiring new ideas, passionate discussion and conceptual thinking, all essential for a healthy and vibrant society.

## FACT SHEET FOR *ABBOT ADAM: NONE*

### **PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE**

December 10 | 8:00pm  
December 11 | 8:00pm  
December 12 | 7:00pm  
December 12 | 10:00pm

### **CREDITS**

*Abbot Adam: None*

Performed and Co-Created by Jaime Maseda and Mark McCloughan

The *Abbot Adam* cycle was developed, in part, with assistance from The Orchard Project, a program of The Exchange ([www.exchangenyc.org](http://www.exchangenyc.org))

### **TICKET INFORMATION**

\$20 | \$14 for Members | \$15 for Students and Under-25

Call 215-413-1318 or visit [www.fringearts.com](http://www.fringearts.com) to purchase tickets.

### **CALENDAR LISTING (+/- 100 WORDS)**

*Abbot Adam* is a series of performances loosely structured after the Liturgy of the Hours. As the shadows lengthen, *None* is rung: a pause that grants sisters safe passage into the night. Created by No Face Performance Group, a partnership between performing artists Jaime Maseda and Mark McCloughan, *None* is a solemn, spare meditation on work and leisure in monastic life.

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**To request photos, interviews and more information please contact:**  
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