

Marketing Pack

Who Wants To Live Forever?



By **Cheryl Martin**

Touring autumn 2017 / spring 2018

Contact **Jayne Compton** for bookings – **jayne@switchflicker.co.uk**

“It’s both intelligent and beautiful... A production that gets you deep down in your mind, heart and soul.” – Quiet Man Dave

“Darren Pritchard’s direction of the piece helps it flow smoothly... Who Wants to Live Forever [is] interesting and intriguing... Filled with heart.” – North West End

“Cheryl herself is captivating in the way she completely engages the audience in her stories of heart-break, scientific queries and personal passions. Who Wants To Live Forever is clever, insightful, powerful and entirely brilliant.” – Sincerely, Amy

Who Wants To Live Forever?

Who Wants To Live Forever? is about one woman's life-long love for Billie Holiday's music, for the stars, and for her lost baby brother. It's about camping holidays and friendship; about learning how to sing so that you can sing to the stars; about loss and memory, and turning memory into myths of Amazon princesses sailing the skies. About falling stars, and why we all love them.

"Images and concepts are layered one over the other to draw vivid parallels between ourselves, our idols and the universe in which we live." [Quiet Man Dave](#)

Who Wants To Live Forever? has been made by writer and performer Cheryl Martin and director/deviser Darren Pritchard, and premiered at HOME Manchester's PUSH Festival January 2017. Watch the footage here:

<https://www.cherylmartin.net/live-forever-information>



Developed as a Divergency micro-commission with support from hÅb + STUN.

Supported through the Black Gold Arts Festival, Arts Council England and an Artist Residency at Lawrence Batley Theatre Cellar.

Booking Information

Style of work:	Solo performer in studio theatre
Suitability:	Festivals; Studio spaces, Small-scale venues, including informal settings such as front rooms, community rooms, houses, libraries
Tech info:	The stage is separated into 7 areas of light A microphone on a stand in centre of the stage A mini jack input for QLab at the sound position DMX controllable Haze Machine to create beams of light
Availability:	From November 2017 to summer 2018
Duration:	60 minutes
Set:	7 disco balls arranged on the floor (See photo)
Get-In:	2 hours

To check availability and discuss booking **Who Wants To Live Forever?**, please contact: Jayne Compton jayne@switchflicker.co.uk | 07803 601 885.



Cheryl Martin

Cheryl Martin was born in Washington, D.C., grew up in nearby Maryland, and went to university at Williams College in Williamstown, Massachusetts in the States and Emmanuel College, Cambridge in England. She loves Manchester, her adopted city.

Cheryl Martin is a unique voice in today's theatre, both in her own performances and in the work she makes with others as a director. In both kinds of work, she examines experiences that most people are afraid to talk about, but approaches them with a humour, warmth, and raw honesty that draws audiences in and allows them to explore with her, fearlessly.

Whether directing a writer like Alan Bissett in unearthing Scotland's uneasy colonial history, or performing in her one-person show, **Alaska**, to unearth a personal history of hospitalisation and mental illness, she brings a lightness and wealth of imagery to create worlds audiences love to dwell in.

That relationship with the audience is always key, creating a bond, creating trust, carrying them with you into a world they may think they fear to enter. In many immersive shows created with refugees, she invites the audience to live, for a short

time, what other people's lives feel like. With the joy and the wonder and the beauty that entails, as well as the harsh edges.

Cheryl has won Manchester Evening News Theatre Awards as both writer [Best Community Production, **Heart and Soul** (Oldham Coliseum) and director, Best Studio Production, **Iron** by Rona Munro (Working Girls/Contact); an Edinburgh Fringe First as co-director and producer of Traverse Theatre's Breakfast Series **The World Is Too Much**, and in 2015, a Lloyd's Bank Regional Award for the immersive play she directed for Community Arts Northwest, **Rule 35**. She was longlisted for the 2015 Polari Book Prize for her collection of poems, **Alaska** (Crocus/Commonword) that was made into her critically acclaimed debut show **Alaska**.

'One cannot help but admire someone who displays such grace and charm' - [David Cunningham, Manchester Theatre Awards on Alaska](#)

'Exceptionally good... The poet delivers her material with such energy, charm, emotion and honesty... Food for the soul' - [British Theatre Guide on Alaska](#)

'A beautiful, brave show' - John McGrath, Artistic Director, Manchester International Festival, on **Alaska**

Audience feedback

“Charming is the word for @cherylalaska - #WhoWantsToLiveForever if you want to feel warm, stirred & shimmery” Keisha Thompson

“Insight and beauty” Nadia Molinari

“A star-burstingly brilliant show. Thoughtful, moving, funny and musical all at once. The staging is inspired, the lighting & movement so spot on. And at its core the star - and what a star! - Cheryl Martin.” Peter Kalu

“Velvet voice singer” Fereshteh Mozaffari

Creative Team

Director: Darren Pritchard -- www.darrenpritcharddance.com

Darren has a track record working with poets at Contact, as a performer with Quarantine [SUSAN + DARREN, GRACE], and the innovative interactive visuals on his own piece, BODY OF LIGHT.

Lighting and set design: Andrew Crofts - - www.imitatingthedog.co.uk

Andrew Crofts is a lighting, video, technical and gaming designer who's work is seen nationally and internationally with a variety of theatre, dance and pervasive gaming companies. Most notably he is the lighting and technical designer for the Leeds based theatre company, imitating the dog .

Dramaturg: Sonia Hughes

Sonia Hughes is an inimitable theatre-maker and writer, regular collaborator with critically acclaimed Manchester-based Quarantine -- <http://qtine.com/>