



Edinburgh Fringe 2017—C primo (theatre) venue 41 19 Hill Street, Edinburgh EH2 3JP

3-28 Aug (not 14) at 14:55 (0hr30) Tickets £7.50-£9.50 / concessions £5.50-£7.50 Recommended 14+

What Would Cathy Do? by Chris Aronsten

Inspired by a true life encounter, this new work from Australia created by an award-winning playwright and screenwriter will leave its audiences wondering where the truth really lies. Is Cathy a hopeless junkie... or brilliant actor?

Bravura monologue written and directed by Chris Aronsten *What would Cathy do?* features film and television actor Skye Wansey in the title role.

When Cathy is thrown out of a supermarket for shoplifting, dishevelled and swearing, she explains to the audience: she's neither a thief nor a junkie; she's an actor, deeply immersed in the character she is creating for an up-coming feature film. At first, this explanation has the ring of truth about it. But the more desperate she becomes to convince us, the more unsure we become about where the real truth lies. Is she a method actor irretrievably lost inside the character she says she will portray, or a real life drug addict at the end of a tragic decline?

Chris Aronsten describes his new work as 'Alan Bennett meets Sarah Kane on the inner-city streets of Kings Cross, Sydney.' He says: 'I'm very interested in the monologue and the way it can reflect people's interior lives – sparked in part by seeing Bennett's Talking Heads in my teenage years.' After the Fringe the show will appear at United Solo in New York, the world's largest solo theatre festival in November 2017 and Chris hopes to tour further in 2018. Chris won Best Screenplay Award for his short film *Call Waiting* at the British Short Film Festival. His full-length play *Human Resources* was shortlisted for Australia's Premier Literary Award and the Philip Parson's Young Playwright's Award in 2006. His TV credits for Australian television include *Going Home*, *David Tench Tonight* and *Comedy Inc.- The Late Shift*.

'A warmly abrasive, deftly profane and strikingly truthful performance' *Sydney Morning Herald*

'The kind of performance that leaves indelible marks on one's psyche'

Crikey.com.au

'A superb script and [an] incredibly kinetic and heartbreaking performance' *Hi! Drama*

'Skye Wansey shifts tones artfully down a humorous yet heartbreaking road to actor dedication' *Theatre is Easy*, Theasy.com

LISTINGS INFORMATION

Venue: C primo, venue 41, Edinburgh Festival Fringe Dates: 3-28 Aug (not 14) Time: 14:55(0h30) Ticket prices: £7.50-£9.50 / concessions £5.50-£7.50 C venues box office: 0845 260 1234 / www.CtheFestival.com

Fringe box office: 0131 226 0000 / www.edfringe.com

Cathy's just been thrown out of the supermarket for stealing, but she's not a junkie, and she'll kill any cunt who says she is. Because she's an actress, OK? Rehearsing for a film role. Living the life of her character. Taking notes, making observations – and when the cameras start rolling, she's going to give the performance of a lifetime. Just as long as she's still around.

For further information, images and interview availability please contact Chris Aronsten at 40 Watt Pearl on +61 414558513 / chrisaronsten@gmail.com or the C venues press office on 0845 260 1060 / press@cvenues.com. Company website; www.40wattpearl.com, Twitter: @chrisaronsten, @WW_Cathy_DO Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/40wattpearl> Link to trailer: <http://bit.ly/WWCDtrailer>

Note to Editors:

Credits:

Written and directed by: Chris Aronsten

Music by: Chris Aronsten

Lighting design by Louise Mason

Produced by: Chris Aronsten

Stills by Rosie Smith

Bios:

Playwright and director Chris Aronsten is also a screenwriter who won the Best Screenplay Award for his short film *Call Waiting* at the British Short Film Festival. His TV credits for Australian television include *Going Home*, *David Tench Tonight* and *Comedy Inc. - The Late Shift*. His full length play *Human Resources* was shortlisted for Australia's Premier's Literary Award and the Philip Parson's Young Playwright's Award in 2006. His play *The Lunch Hour* was produced at Sydney's Darlinghurst Theatre in 2012. *What Would Cathy Do?*, originally part of the three monologue play *Malice Toward None*, was staged at the Old Fitzroy Theatre in 2012. Chris also spent two years writing a satirical column for the Sydney Morning Herald.

Skye Wansey has played key supporting roles in many Australian films and miniseries including *The Silence*, *Rake*, *Chopper*, *Blue Murder* and Academy Award winning director Jane Campion's TV series *Top of the Lake* in the role of "Grishina" alongside Elizabeth Moss and Holly Hunter. Her stage work includes *Fences* for Urban Stage Projects. This year Skye will portray "Cathy" at the One Festival and United Solo festivals in New York.