



Media release

****STRICTLY EMBARGOED UNTIL 10AM SATURDAY 5 NOVEMBER, 2016****

HOW TO KEEP AN ALIEN

ROUGH MAGIC (IRELAND)

VENUE: Q Theatre, Loft

DATES: 22-26 March, 2017

WRITER: Sonya Kelly

PERFORMERS: Sonya Kelly and Paul Curley

DIRECTOR: Gina Moxley

SET AND LIGHTING DESIGNER: Sarah Jane Shiels

SOUND DESIGNER: Carl Kennedy

In a story about falling in love and socking it to the Government, Edinburgh Fringe winner Sonya Kelly presents a tearfully funny and tender theatrical memoir about securing an Irish visa for her Australian partner, Kate. *How to Keep an Alien* opens at Auckland Arts Festival 2017 from 22-26 March.

Kelly meets a stage manager, Kate, while working together on a play being performed in an Irish castle. The attraction is mutual and eventually their “fling becomes a thing.” But it’s a tricky business having a relationship when you hail from opposite ends of the earth. It takes an Olympian will and the heart of a whale but, above all else, it takes paperwork. A hell of a lot of paperwork.

The winner of the 2014 Tiger Dublin Fringe Best Production award is a hilarious and madcap odyssey from the stony townlands of Ireland to the tropical depths of the Queensland bush as Sonya and Kate take on ‘the visa people’ and travel the long and winding road of bureaucracy to prove their love.

Clever, open-hearted and with just the right amount of TMI, *How to Keep an Alien* should be on every theatre-lover’s Auckland Arts Festival 2017 to-do list.

★★★★★ *This show is simply “beautiful” and you won’t want to miss it – The Public Reviews*
a very, very funny show full of wry, laugh-out-loud moments. – The Guardian, UK

Unflaggingly hilarious...the funniest, most touching of love stories, its open-heartedness a rarity in this cynical age. – Sunday Independent

‘Funny’ is an incomplete word to describe Sonya’s unique blend of truth, pathos and hilarity...enough to bring a tear to even the most jaded of eyes. – Meg.ie

Truly affecting, warm and witty this is one of the best new works I have seen in a long time. – No More Workhorse



PERFORMANCE DETAILS

TICKETS	GA \$55 GA Conc / Group \$49
WHEN	Wed 22 Mar 7.30pm, Thur 23 Mar – Fri 24 Mar 6.30pm, Sat 25 Mar 1.30pm & 7.30pm, Sun 26 Mar 5.00pm Talk: 23 March
WHERE	Loft, Q Theatre
BOOKINGS	qtheatre.co.nz 09 309 9771 ticketmaster.co.nz 09 951 2501
DURATION	1 hour 15 minutes, no interval
MORE INFO	Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/RoughMagicTheatreCompany Trailer: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fJPIEXMSv0 Rough Magic: https://twitter.com/RoughMagicIRL Sonya Kelly: https://twitter.com/sonyakelly06 Rough Magic Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/rough.magic/?hl=en YouTube: Rough Magic TheatreYouTube: https://www.youtube.com/user/RoughMagicIreland/featured
FOLLOW	@aklfestival #aklfest
ABOUT THE AAF	<p>Taking place annually in March, the Auckland Arts Festival is a globally recognised event that celebrates people and culture, and showcases the unrivalled location, cultural diversity and vibrant energy of New Zealand’s largest city.</p> <p>Over 1.6 million people have attended the Festivals to date.</p> <p>Auckland Arts Festival is governed by the Auckland Festival Trust. Trustees are John Judge (Chair), Rick Carlyon, Evan Davies, Sarah Judkins, Tarun Kanji, Margaret Kāwharu MNZM, Jim Moser, Ben Taufua and Fred Ward.</p> <p>The Trust receives core funding from Auckland Council through the Auckland Regional Amenities Funding Act, and Creative New Zealand through the Toi Tōtara Haemata programme.</p> <p>Significant support for AAF 2017 is received from Foundation North, Pub Charity, NZ Community Trust and The Lion Foundation.</p>