

Have I No Mouth

ABOUT AN HOUR

Ireland



Photo: Have I No Mouth © Jeremy Abrahams

"Gentle and forlorn, angry and yearning."
The New York Times

"One of the bravest shows I've ever seen... you should definitely go and see Have I No Mouth."
Huffington Post

★★★★★ "A unique insight into the eccentricities of a normal family that makes for compulsive viewing."
Three Weeks Edinburgh

"One of the country's most fearless and path breaking theatre companies."
The Irish Times

In this powerful new play, **Feidlim Cannon** and his mother **Ann Cannon** make their Sydney Festival debut as they take a brave, unflinching look at their past and attempt to piece together the truth.

Feidlim Cannon's father died 13 years ago and his death could have been prevented. The familial tragedy unfolds before the audience, exploring memory, family anecdotes and the different ways we heal ourselves in the face of tragedy. Each section of the narrative is guided and shaped by real-life experiences with psychotherapist **Erich Keller**, inviting elements of frankness, originality and humour.

Documentary materials, childhood photos, audio recordings and old videos are woven into the performance in search of a tangible answer, and at the heart of this theatrical search for truth and justice, a fatal misdiagnosis is uncovered.

Have I No Mouth deals with the process of reconciling death and loss. It is concerned with family life, causality and chance, good and bad dreams, broken promises and unanswered questions. The Cannon family mines through their painful experience to bring us a humorous and touching tale in the wake of great personal tragedy.

Feidlim, founder of the Dublin-based theatre company **Brokentalkers**, directs, acts and performs in the production. Approaching his mother to deconstruct and explore their experience on stage, his aim is to create an autobiographical piece that draws on their combined experience of loss: the death of his father in 2001, and the loss of his newborn baby brother the year before.

Brokentalkers is hailed for its fearless and honest productions, internationally acclaimed for their pioneering approach to theatre. Winner of the *Total Theatre Award* at Edinburgh Fringe for *Innovation, Experimentation*, and playing with Form, Brokentalkers has designed their own trademark style of mixing documentary material with breathtaking theatricality, establishing them as one of most important emerging theatre companies in Ireland in recent years.

Gentle, quietly painful and full of yearning for answers, *Have I No Mouth* is a journey that will continue to evolve with every performance. It is a conversation across temporal and spatial boundaries, and a challenging interaction with the memory those who have departed without warning or reason.

MEDIA RELEASE

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sydneyfestival.org.au

SYDNEY FESTIVAL 2015

8-26 JAN

Co-Directors
Performers
Sound design
Video design and production manager
Choreographer
Lighting design
Costume design
Production manager
Stage manager and props

Feidlim Cannon, Gary Keegan
Ann Cannon, Feidlim Cannon, Erich Keller
Jack Cawley
Kilian Waters
Eddie Kay
Sarah Jane Shiels
Emma Downey
Stephen Dodd
Francis Fay

Where York Theatre, Seymour Centre

When 15 January at 7.00pm
16 January at 9.00pm
17 & 18 January at 2.00pm
18 January at 8.00pm

Price \$35 General Admission

Duration 70minutes no interval

Bookings Sydney Festival 1300 856 876
Seymour Centre 02 9351 7940
sydneyfestival.org.au/mouth

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Contains strong language.



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