

*WILD GEESE PRODUCTIONS Presents...*

**Dear Annie,  
I HATE YOU**



# WILD GEESE PRODUCTIONS

Wild Geese Productions is a new multi-platform production company with a proclivity for the absurd. Our focus is to create quirky yet thought-provoking work that centers around social issues and dynamics, told via an imaginative lens. Our aim is to uplift and unite communities together with visceral storytelling that showcases the wonder, humour, terror, and breathtaking beauty of the human existence.

*Dear Annie, I Hate You* is the company's debut theatrical production which premiered at ZOO Playground, Edinburgh Fringe 2024 to rave reviews, 80% sold out run, and a smattering of accolades, including the shortlist for the BBC Writers' Popcorn Award. Following its successful premiere, we are seeking opportunities to tour the show to audiences nationally in Summer 2025, before returning to the Fringe with an upscale once more.





**POPCORN  
AWARD**

**SHORTLISTED  
2024**



**WINNER**  
SINNERS REVIEW  
**BEST SHOW**

**TOP PICK OF  
THE FRINGE**



**THE  
STAGEY PLACE  
WINNER**

**BEST NEW  
WRITING**



**THE  
STAGEY PLACE  
WINNER**

**BEST  
MULTI-MEDIA  
SHOW**



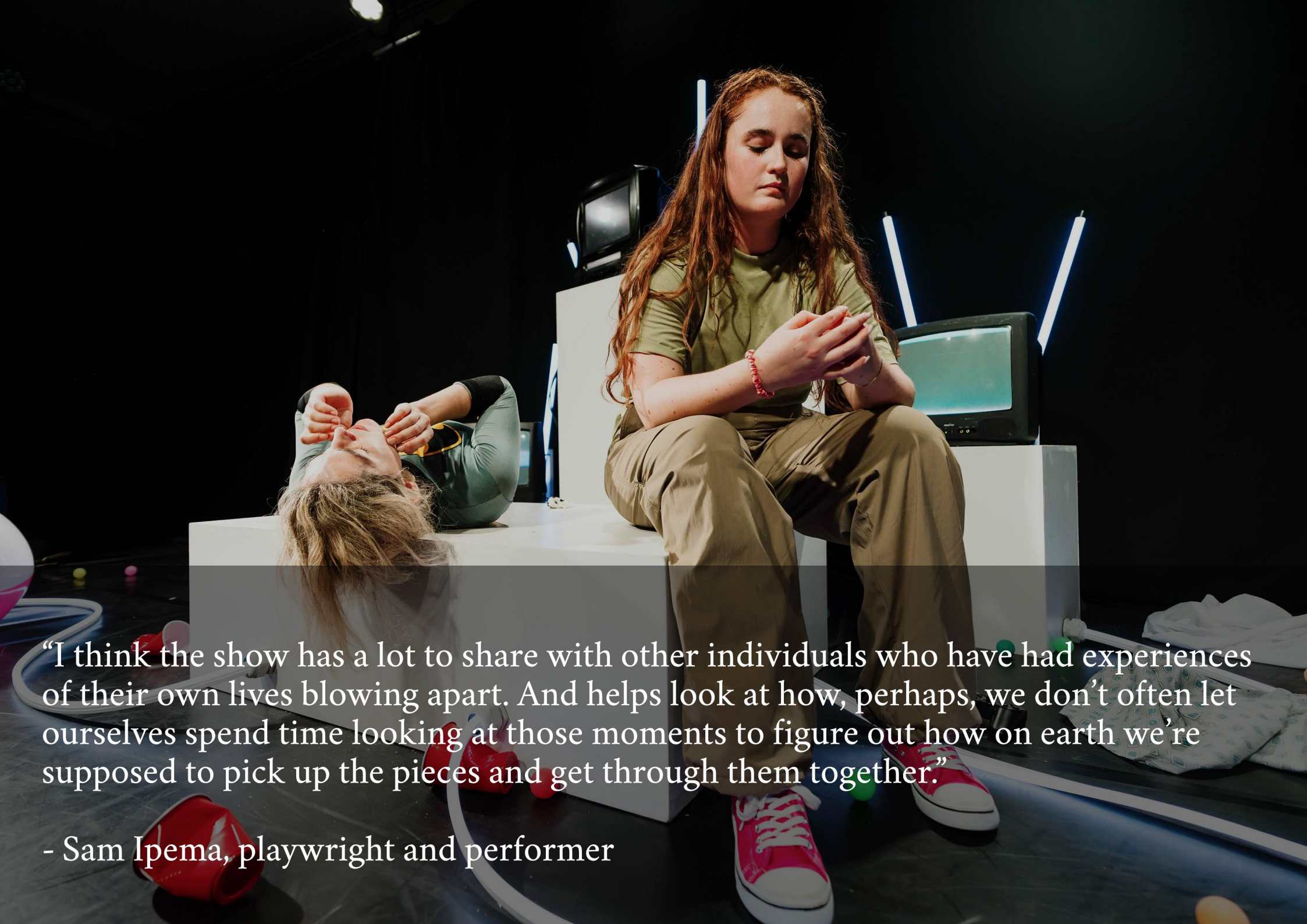
**THE  
STAGEY PLACE  
NOMINATED**

**BEST  
ENSEMBLE**

# ABOUT THE SHOW

At 20 years old, Sam was thriving: Her life was full of friends, fun, and most of all - possibilities. She could be anything she wanted to be. Until a fateful day when a hit in the head and a diagnosis changed her life forever: **the discovery of an aneurysm ticking silently inside her head.**

Suddenly, Sam's life spun from full of possibilities into a spiral of life-and-death decision-making that left her gasping for air. Trying her hardest to stay afloat above the water and live the life that was supposed to be guaranteed to her, Sam is now telling the tale with her aneurysm, 'Annie', nearly a decade later.



“I think the show has a lot to share with other individuals who have had experiences of their own lives blowing apart. And helps look at how, perhaps, we don’t often let ourselves spend time looking at those moments to figure out how on earth we’re supposed to pick up the pieces and get through them together.”

- Sam Ipema, playwright and performer

**Director** James Meteyard (*Electrolyte* WILDCARD, *Tempest* Pleasance)  
**Writer** Sam Ipema (WGP, *Founder*)  
**Performers** Eleanor House (*Annie*), Sam Ipema (*Sam*)

**Sound Design** Dan Balfour (Olivier-nominee *Dear England* NT/West End, *Vanya* West End/NYC, *Cherry Orchard* Donmar Warehouse)

**Set & Lighting** Hugo Dodsworth (*Nobodaddy* Sadler's Wells, *Sensory Cinders* @Sohoplacé, *French Toast* Riverside Studios)

**Stage Manager** Beatrice Galloway

**Video Design** Douglas Coghlan

**Lead Producer** Sarah Chamberlain

**Fight & Intimacy** Robin Hellier

**Movement Coach** Jade Hackett

# THE TEAM





“If I could give more stars, I would.”

The Lancet



“This will stay with us forever.”

Sinners Review



“More than anything...I’m impressed.”

Bouquets & Brickbats



“Just, incredible.”

Youngish Perspective



“Specific and universal”

The Stage



“Poignant. Dynamic. Slick. Funny.”

The Scotsman

“I saw loads of good stuff at the Fringe, but *DEAR ANNIE* was utterly exceptional.”

- Royal Court, Steven Atkinson

# TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

COMPANY SIZE: Two performers, one sound/lighting operator, and one stage manager.  
Venue tech support required.

MINIMUM STAGE DIMENSIONS: 3m deep x 5m wide

SOUND: We will require the use of one microphone and stand, sub and speakers.

LIGHTING: Full design plan available in advance of tour.

RUN TIME: 65 minutes

FOH: Latecomers welcome. Moment given for audience members to leave before video of surgery.  
Front of House will be required to standby to allow for readmittance following surgery.



# AUDIENCE LAYOUT

This show is designed for flexible, adaptable spaces. The piece was originally designed for a thrust layout, however the piece can be suited for any of the following: end-on, thrust, in the round, or cabaret.

A stage, set, & technical plan is available on request.

# WHAT AUDIENCES HAVE SAID

“Everything in this show is trying to get a clearer view of the big questions and carefully crafted to get you there. Just incredible. Go see it.” - Ian (Audience review)

“I cried, laughed, and marveled at the strong spirit and sincerity of this show. Sam is truly an incredible writer and magnetic performer. You have to see it.” - Becky (Audience review)

“This was so powerful. I can’t stop thinking about it.” - Anya (Audience review)

“I’ve never seen a show like this. Brought me back to the golden days of the Fringe.” - Peter Ranscombe (Journalist)

“Original, brave, and skillfully performed. Gripping and very very very moving. A MUST.”  
- John (Audience review)

“Can’t remember the last time I actually saw somebody pass out... the piece is brilliant and moving.”  
- Paul Cockburn (British Comedy Guide)

“The pace is fast and so electric...you feel immersed. Bold, free, and exciting. Absolutely must-see.”  
- Tony (Audience review)

CHECK OUT [OUR VOX POP](#) FOR MORE!

# WHAT AUDIENCES HAVE SAID

“I came in with high expectations and all of them were exceeded beyond what I could imagine.”  
- Dan (EMT Doctor)

“Enthralling, incredibly well written and produced piece of art. Visceral expressionism that turns something traumatic into such a well humored, well rounded performance. *Everyone must see this.*”  
- Henry (Audience review)

“Brilliant piece of theatre...brought me so much joy, as well as being really poignant and innovative.”  
- Sam Edmunds (Chalk Line Theatre)

“I am just FLOORED. Everything about this is unique. Make it your mission to go before it blows up.”  
-Alexis (Audience review)

“This is such an important piece of work.” - Tom (Audience review)

“One of the best things I’ve seen in tyears. The raw honesty...bless them.” - Lew Foreman  
(Marylebone Theatre)

“Brilliant.” - Zoe Weldon (Kings Head)

CHECK OUT [OUR VOX POP FOR MORE!](#)

# WHO IS THE PLAY FOR?

“The show’s purpose, and company’s mission always is - first and foremost - to make every audience feel seen. Feel heard. Feel as if the struggles on the stage are reflective of their own - even if they seemingly have nothing in common. And then it’s to give each person watching the encouragement to live their lives and confront the truth - the lightest and darkest parts of it - since that is really all that matters and the most interesting option every time.”

- Sam, founder and playwright

This show is for:

- For anyone who has experienced or knows someone who has experience of a life-changing diagnosis
- For lovers of new writing, solo storytelling with a twist, and dark comedy
- For lovers of body horror and the All-American college experience
- For anyone interested in current health, medical and social care issues
- For students in higher education making decisions about their future

Suitable for ages 16+

# MARKETING

Company:	Wild Geese Productions
Show Title:	<i>Dear Annie, I Hate You</i> Written by Sam Ipema   Directed by James Meteyard
Long Copy	<p><i>Dear Annie, I Hate You</i> by Wild Geese Productions</p> <p>Written by Sam Ipema Directed by James Meteyard</p> <p>“At 20 years old, Sam was thriving: Her life was full of friends, fun, and most of all- possibilities. She could be anything she wanted to be. Until a fateful day that a hit in the head and a diagnosis changed her life forever: the discovery of an aneurysm ticking silently inside her head. Suddenly, Sam's life spun from full of possibilities into a spiral of life-and-death decision-making that left her gasping for air. Trying her hardest to stay afloat above the water and live the life that was supposed to be guaranteed to her, Sam is now telling the tale and what she's learned nearly a decade later.”</p> <p>With humour, heartbreak, and a Spring Break with free tequila shots, <i>Dear Annie</i> navigates the ups and downs of 20-year old Sam and Annie's life.</p>

There will be post-show Q/A's and discussion available to share thoughts and experiences.

“This production turns something that must've been traumatic into such a well rounded, well humoured performance. In my opinion, everyone must see this.” - Ian (audience member)

“More than anything I'm impressed by Ipema's courage, the way she has met the daunting experience of an aneurysm full on and turned it into one of the most thought-provoking shows I've ever seen.” - Bouquets & Brickbats (5 stars)

“This show will remain with us forever.” Sinners Review (5 stars)

Short Copy

*DEAR ANNIE, I HATE YOU*

Presented by Wild Geese Productions

Directed by James Meteyard

Written and performed by Sam Ipema

A visceral navigation of writer/actor Sam's life when she was 20 and suddenly diagnosed with a fatal brain aneurysm..."Annie". Living and breathing inside the moments that make up the sum of who we are in these fateful decisions, Sam deftly attacks the question: what makes life worth living?

	<p><i>DEAR ANNIE</i> was originally performed at Edinburgh Fringe, ZOO Venues, in August 2024 and received rave reviews, sold out performances, and won Top Pick of the Fringe (Sinners Review), Best Multi Media Show (Stagey Place), and Best New Writing (Stagey Place). There is a Q/A afterwards available to discuss and ask questions.</p>
One Sentence Copy	<p><i>DEAR ANNIE, I HATE YOU</i> is the story of Sam and her brain aneurysm, 'Annie', as they share the rational, irrational, nihilistic and liberating experiences of what it's like to be told you're going to die aged 20.</p>
Running Time:	65 minutes (no interval)
Age Suitability:	Suitable for ages 16+ (guideline)
Content Warnings:	Contains distressing or potentially triggering themes; strong language/swearing; contains scenes depicting blood and live medical surgery; audience interaction.
Genres:	New Writing, Dark Comedy
Themes:	Mental Health, Wellbeing & Health, Grief

# POST SHOW

After each performance in Edinburgh, the performers of the show would sit with audience members outside, sharing stories of their similar and varying experiences. This provided the often needed 'catharsis' after the show was finished, to sit and talk through the rest of what the play is unable to cover in the short given time.

We as a company are keen to continue that throughout our run at Riverside and in the tour beyond, since the piece's intention is exactly this: to get people talking about their own experiences in groups and courageously sharing their own stories.

As a company, we are also keen to partner with local organisations and charities to promote mental health & wellbeing in all its forms to support our ambition of spreading awareness on brain and other severe diagnoses.





# TOUR & PARTNERSHIPS

Artistic Goals: The company's intention with the piece is to highlight life-altering diagnoses, and the disabilities, challenges, and freedoms that arise from them for affected populations. The intention is to develop the piece for various subsequent mediums (ie. film and television, etc.)

The piece has already garnered interest internationally and in film/tv development. The plan for the company currently is to upscale the Edinburgh production at Riverside Studios in May 2025, followed by a subsequent national tour, before bringing the piece back to Edinburgh a final time before setting their sights to stages overseas, to television, and beyond.



“We’ve all had the absolute best time working on this piece. I think, really, the team felt as though this piece somehow reflected each of us. And that’s exactly what we wanted audiences to feel when watching it. It’s comprised of the most amazing team, a beautiful and hilarious script, and two extremely talented performers. It’s been a dream to share with the world so far.”

- James Meteyard, Director





# WANT MORE?

Watch the full Edinburgh production [at our link here.](#)

Our website: [www.wildgeese-productions.com](http://www.wildgeese-productions.com)

Follow us on socials: @annieihateyou

Full script available upon request.

Contact:

Sarah Chamberlain

(WGP, Lead Producer)

Sam Ipema

(Founder)

[wildgeeseproductionsinc@gmail.com](mailto:wildgeeseproductionsinc@gmail.com)