

αΥΓΟΥΑ NOVA



A handpicked selection
of international dance, physical
theatre and circus

EDINBURGH FRINGE 2019

DEAR VISITORS & FRIENDS,

Welcome to Aurora Nova's selection of shows at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2019!

If you are searching for trustworthy recommendations of unique entertainment of the highest quality – look no further.

'For the past seven years, it's been worth heading to Edinburgh in August simply to see what's on at Aurora Nova.'

The Observer

We are proud to present the return of sell out hits such as Circa's *Humans*, Thom Monckton's *Only Bones*, Jo Strømngren's *The Hospital* and the unforgettable *Un Poyo Rojo*, as well as new works from Fringe favourites Gravity & Other Myths with their award-winning *Backbone* and Thaddeus Phillips with his new intergalactic piece *Inflatable Space*.

We also promote a much needed female take on contemporary circus with *Raven* by still hungry and *Contra* by Laura Murphy.

In case cutting edge acrobatics, sophisticated physical comedy or socio-political entertainment is not your cup of tea, then check out *21 – Memories of Growing Up* by Swiss artist Mats Staub who has interviewed people of different generations about their memories of growing up and what it was like when they turned 21.

We hope you have a great festival – enjoy!

Wolfgang Hoffmann, Director

PS: If you are late to the party and discover only at the end of the festival that our shows are exactly what you were looking for, please write to us to receive a sneak peak of our programme for 2020 by email – edinburgh@auroranova.org



Thaddeus Phillips, USA

INFLATABLE SPACE

Theatre / Physical Theatre

A visually stunning theatrical odyssey exploring space, time and our human condition, from internationally acclaimed theatre artist Thaddeus Phillips. In 1977, the Golden Record was launched on the Voyager probe in the hope of being discovered by alien life and showing them a visual and audible glimpse into life on Earth. *Inflatable Space* explores the impact of this – two NASA technicians of the Voyager satellite get lost in a universe of inflatables, vacuum cleaners, miniatures and microphones in this cinematic adventure. A playful and profound look at our culture, our dreams, our past, present and future.

'Phillips is a fluid, shifting storyteller, something of a conjuror. ... technically brilliant ... beautifully rendered.'

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

The Stage on 17 Border Crossings

'Phillips is one of the most creative theater artists in the country.'

Westword

Performed by Thaddeus Phillips & Ean Sheehy
Created by Thaddeus Phillips & Tatiana Mallarino
Video by Spencer Sheridan
Sound Design by Juan Gabriel Turbay

Dates	Time	Suitability	Address
Jul 31 Aug 1-6, 8-13, 15-20, 22-26	16:15	8+	Assembly Roxy Central 2 Roxburgh Place EH8 9SU (Venue No. 139)
	Duration	Tickets	
	1h	£13 - £14	



Gravity & Other Myths, Australia

BACKBONE

Contemporary Circus / Acrobatics

A high-octane spree of physical virtuosity, *Backbone* tests the limits of strength: physical, emotional, individual and collective. Staged with a deceptively DIY aesthetic and dispensing of trickery and distraction, this is circus that goes straight for the jugular and leaves no viewer unmoved. *Backbone* is the culmination of all that's gone before: a celebration of human connectedness and the meaning of strength, its athletic appeal is run through with a conceptual brilliance that elevates it to a new level. Sexy, sincere, raw yet disciplined, *Backbone* is proof you can't do the impossible without spending a little sweat.

*'Genre-defying, thought provoking ...
Circus as you've never seen it before, pushed
to its conceptual and cerebral limits.'*

InDaily

Underbelly and Gravity & Other Myths

Directed by Darcy Grant

Created by the Creative Ensemble of Gravity & Other Myths in association
with Triton Tunis-Mitchell

Performed by Jacob Randell, Jascha Boyce, Lachlan Binns, Alyssa Moore,
Jordan Hart, Rachael Boyd, Joren Dawson, Lachlan Harper, Lewis
Rankin, Jackson Manson

Music by Shenton Gregory & Elliot Zoerner, performed by Nicholas Martyn
& Alexey Kochetkov

Lighting Design and Scenography by Geoff Cobham

Dates	Time	Suitability	Address
Jul 31 Aug 1-6, 8-11, 13-18, 20-26	17:00	8+	Underbelly McEwan Hall, Bristo Square EH8 9AG (Venue No. 302)
	Duration	Tickets	
	1 h 10 min	£ 17.50 - £ 23.50	



Poyo Rojo, Argentina

UN POYO ROJO

Physical Theatre / Dance

Returning after their internationally acclaimed world-tour for six shows only: In an empty locker room, two men play with movement, an analogue radio and tiny shorts. The athletic bodies of Luciano Rosso and Nicolás Poggi move fluently from wrestling to dance, acrobatics to physical comedy in an irresistible distortion of the expectations of manhood. A funny, raw, playful hour interspersed with competitiveness and camaraderie as well as seduction and sabotage, showcasing the best of Argentinian contemporary dance.

★ ★ ★ ★

Sunday Times

'(A) hilarious, technically mind-blowing piece which calls itself physical theatre but defies genre.'

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

BroadwayBaby

'Truly joyful, brilliantly funny dance parody of athletic antics in a changing room.'

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

The Stage

An Un Poyo Rojo / T4 Production

Performed & Choreographed by Nicolás Poggi & Luciano Rosso

Directed by Hermes Gaido

Dates	Time	Suitability	Address
Aug 21-26	17:10	8+	Zoo Southside
	Duration	Tickets	117 Nicolson St
	1h	£11 - £13	EH8 9ER (Venue No. 82)



still hungry, Germany

RAVEN

Contemporary Circus

In this thrilling and humorous blend of circus and theatre, Berlin's all-female collective still hungry honestly confronts the challenges of modern motherhood. Made with creative support from award-winning director Bryony Kimmings, this contemporary circus piece uses stunning acrobatic skills and poignant storytelling to stage a captivating depiction of their own experiences. Warm, witty and deeply moving, *Raven* invites us to question any preconceived notions we might have about working mothers, women, and female circus artists.

'Artistic, spectacular and stirring.'
Kulturradio

still hungry

Chamäleon Productions in association with Aurora Nova

Co-Authors & Performers: Anke van Engelshoven, Lena Ries, Romy Seibt

Creative Support by Bryony Kimmings

Dates	Time	Suitability	Address
Jul 31 Aug 1-6, 8-12, 14-19, 21-26	17:50	8+	Assembly Roxy Central 2 Roxburgh Place EH8 9SU (Venue No. 139)
	Duration	Tickets	
	1h	£ 15 - £ 16	



Circa, Australia

HUMANS

Contemporary Circus/Acrobatics

Five-star Fringe favourites Circa (*Closer*, *Beyond*, *Wunderkammer*) return after their 2017 blockbuster season. This is thrillingly fearless, boundary-pushing circus at its best. Ten acrobats take us on a stirring journey of what it means to be human, and how our bodies, our connections, and our aspirations all form part of who we are. Created by Yaron Lifschitz, *Humans* asks how much can we take – how much weight can we carry? Who can we trust to support our load?

'The rock stars of the circus world.'

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

The List

Directed by Yaron Lifschitz

Technical Direction by Jason Organ

Costume Design by Libby McDonnell

Performed by Caroline Baillon, Jon Bonaventura, Marty Evans,

Piri Goodman, Keaton Hentoff-Killian, Nathan Knowles,

Cecilia Martin, Hamish McCourty, Daniel O'Brien / Kimberley O'Brien,

Lachlan Sukroo, Sandy Tugwood, Billie Wilson-Coffey

Dates	Time	Suitability	Address
Aug 2-6, 8-11, 13-18, 20-24	19:00	8+	Underbelly's Circus Hub on the Meadows Middle Meadow Walk EH99EX (Venue No. 360)
	Duration	Tickets	
	1h	£19 - £20	



Jo Strømgren Kompani, Norway

THE HOSPITAL

Physical Theatre

Years after its success at St. Stephen's in 2005, Norwegian Jo Strømgren Kompani is returning to Edinburgh with this extraordinary production: In a remote hospital, three nurses endure the lack of patients by injuring then treating each other, performing their duties on themselves as an alternative to the real thing. Not a healthy activity but it passes the time. A military chopper is constantly passing overhead, revealing a far simpler explanation for their problems.

'The Hospital is physical theatre at its very best: daring, dark, unpredictable and charged with compressed intensity. The skill and courage of the performers is breathtaking. A truly original vision ...'

The Guardian

'Samuel Beckett really couldn't have done it much better.'

British Theatre Guide

Jo Strømgren Kompani

Direction, Choreography, Script, Set Design by Jo Strømgren

Performed by Guri Glans, Gunhild Aubert Opdal, Ingri Enger Damon

Costume Design by Catrine Gudmestad

Sound Design by Lars Årdal, Ken Ruben Theodorsen

Lighting Design by Stephen Rolfe

Dates	Time	Suitability	Address
Aug 20-25	19:20	16+	Dance Base
	Duration	Tickets	14-16 Grassmarket EH1 2JU
	1h	£11 - £13	(Venue No. 22)



Kallo Collective, New Zealand / Finland

ONLY BONES 1.0

- Thom Monckton -

Physical Theatre

After its sell-out run at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in 2016, Thom Monckton returns on a tiny set lit by a single light bulb where endless possibilities are illuminated. Wordlessly using body manipulation, dance, circus and clownery, *Only Bones*' quirky low-tech aesthetic strips the stage down to one performer, one technician, one light, no text, and a stage area of little more than 1m². With head-juggling and jellyfish this is a hypnotic show about a lot, using very little.

'A glorious salute to one man's remarkable physicality.'

★★★★★
The Herald

'Mind-blowing.'

★★★★★
Across the Arts

'Enchanting, engaging and enthralling.'

★★★★★
Edinburgh Guide

'... extraordinary inventiveness created by a limitless imagination.'

Theatreview

Performed by Thomas Monckton
Light & Sound by Gemma Tweedie
Music by Tuomas Norvio

Dates	Time	Suitability	Address
Jul 31 Aug 1-11, 13-18, 20-22	20:20	8+	Assembly Roxy Upstairs 2 Roxburgh Place EH8 9SU (Venue No. 139)
	Duration	Tickets	
	45 min	£10 - £13	



Laura Murphy, United Kingdom

CONTRA

Physical Theatre / Circus

Drawing from circus and stand-up, *Contra* is a theatrical solo-cabaret of contradictions. Fierce, witty and uncompromising, this highly physical show interrogates personal, social and historical occupations of the female body and explores, literally, where such bodies are positioned and how we are meant to look at them. Expect scenes of nudity, aerial acrobatics, and explicit references to mythical reptiles and female sexuality. Laura Murphy is a genre-defying queer performance maker from Bristol who makes text-driven and dynamic physical work about things that she thinks need to be talked about.

'Fierce, courageous and unapologetic.'

Audience Testimonial

Written & Performed by Laura Murphy

Directed by Ursula Martinez

Dates	Time	Suitability	Address
Jul 31 Aug 2-11	21:10	16+	Summerhall, Demonstration Room 1 Summerhall EH9 1PL (Venue No. 26)
	Duration	Tickets	
	1h	£ 10 - £ 12	



Mats Staub, Switzerland

21 – MEMORIES OF GROWING UP

Exhibition

When did you turn 21? In this ambitious video installation, Mats Staub explores how world history is mirrored in personal memories. From Germany to South Africa, Australia to Scotland, he interviews more than 200 people from all age groups and backgrounds about their memories of the year they became an adult – then several months later, asks them to listen back to their words. With warmth, humour and poignancy, 21 is an urgent reminder that we have more in common than sets us apart. Part of the *Swiss Selection Edinburgh*, a programme presented by Pro Helvetia, the Swiss Arts Council.

'I spent four hours ... addictive.'

The Guardian

This is an installation – purchasing a ticket allows entry for a 2 hour slot.

Dates	Time	Suitability	Address
Aug 2–11, 13–18, 20–25	10:00	12+	Summerhall, Lower Cafe Gallery 1 Summerhall EH9 1PL (Venue No. 26)
	12:00	Tickets	
	14:00		
	16:00	£ 8	

aurora nova 

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Show		INFLATABLE SPACE	BACKBONE	UN POYO ROJO	RAVEN	HUMANS	THE HOSPITAL	ONLY BONES 1.0	CONTRA	21 - MEMOIRS OF GROWING UP
31 Jul	Wed	16:15	17:00		17:50			20:20	21:10	
01 Aug	Thu	16:15	17:00		17:50			20:20		
02 Aug	Fri	16:15	17:00		17:50	19:00		20:20	21:10	various
03 Aug	Sat	16:15	17:00		17:50	19:00		20:20	21:10	various
04 Aug	Sun	16:15	17:00		17:50	19:00		20:20	21:10	various
05 Aug	Mon	16:15	17:00		17:50	19:00		20:20	21:10	various
06 Aug	Tue	16:15	17:00		17:50	19:00		20:20	21:10	various
07 Aug	Wed							20:20	21:10	various
08 Aug	Thu	16:15	17:00		17:50	19:00		20:20	21:10	various
09 Aug	Fri	16:15	17:00		17:50	19:00		20:20	21:10	various
10 Aug	Sat	16:15	17:00		17:50	19:00		20:20	21:10	various
11 Aug	Sun	16:15	17:00		17:50	19:00		20:20	21:10	various
12 Aug	Mon	16:15			17:50					
13 Aug	Tue	16:15	17:00			19:00		20:20		various
14 Aug	Wed		17:00		17:50	19:00		20:20		various
15 Aug	Thu	16:15	17:00		17:50	19:00		20:20		various
16 Aug	Fri	16:15	17:00		17:50	19:00		20:20		various
17 Aug	Sat	16:15	17:00		17:50	19:00		20:20		various
18 Aug	Sun	16:15	17:00		17:50	19:00		20:20		various
19 Aug	Mon	16:15			17:50					
20 Aug	Tue	16:15	17:00			19:00	19:20	20:20		various
21 Aug	Wed		17:00	17:10	17:50	19:00	19:20	20:20		various
22 Aug	Thu	16:15	17:00	17:10	17:50	19:00	19:20	20:20		various
23 Aug	Fri	16:15	17:00	17:10	17:50	19:00	19:20			various
24 Aug	Sat	16:15	17:00	17:10	17:50	19:00	19:20			various
25 Aug	Sun	16:15	17:00	17:10	17:50		19:20			various
26 Aug	Mon	16:15	17:00	17:10	17:50					
Address		Assembly Roxy Central	Underbelly McEwan Hall	Zoo Southside Main House	Assembly Roxy Central	Underbelly's Circus Hub on the Meadows	Dance Base Studio 1	Assembly Roxy Upstairs	Summerhall Demonstration Room	Summerhall Lower Cafe Gallery
Venue no.		139	302	82	139	360	22	139	26	26