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**TRAVERSE THEATRE COMPANY CELEBRATES RECORD-BREAKING SPELL OF TOURING**

* **During March-June, Traverse Theatre Company tours five homegrown productions to 15 different locations, in four continents**
* ***Ulster American* in Australia, New Zealand, Ireland and Northern Ireland; *What Girls Are Made Of* in Scotland, Brazil, USA; *Black Beauty* in USA; *Mouthpiece* in England; *Locker Room Talk* in Scotland**
* **112 performances in 15 different locations over 51 days**
* **Plus, we continue our partnership with Rage Productions, Mumbai with an international exchange project**

The Traverse Theatre is excited that March-June 2019 will mark a record breaking spell of touring for the company – with five homegrown full productions touring to 15 different locations, in four continents, totaling 112 individual performances over 51 days. During that period, over one busy day – 17 April – we will have four productions playing in four different locations simultaneously.

Following a reprised sell-out run at the Traverse in February this year, and a follow-on tour to **Adelaide** Festival and **Auckland** Arts Festival during March, the award-winning Traverse Festival 2018 hit ***Ulster American*** continues its reign with dates in **Dublin** (The Abbey, 9-20 April) and **Belfast** (Lyric Theatre, 24-28 April). Written by David Ireland, it brutally and hilariously explores abuses of power, confusions of cultural identity and the silencing of the female voice, performed by the much-praised original cast of Darrell D’Silva, Robert Jack and Lucianne McEvoy. Directed by Traverse Interim Artistic Director Gareth Nicholls.

Meanwhile, ***Mouthpiece*** – Kieran Hurley’s gripping, provocative and critically-acclaimed smash hit exploring issues of class and culture – transfers to **London** (Soho Theatre, 2 Apr-4 May), following a sell-out run at the Traverse in December 2018. Produced in association with HighTide, it is reprised by the stellar original cast of Lorn Macdonald and Neve McIntosh, under the direction of former Traverse Artistic Director Orla O’Loughlin.

Another Traverse Festival 2018 sell-out, the award-winning gig theatre epic ***What Girls Are Made Of***, our co-production with Raw Material, tours to **Glasgow** (Citizens Theatre at Tramway, 9-13 April); **Edinburgh** (Traverse Theatre, 16-20 April); **Belfast** (The MAC, 1-5 May); **Kirkcaldy** (Adam Smith Theatre, 7 and 8 May); **Dundee** (Dundee Rep, 14 and 15 May); **Stirling** (Macrobert, 17 and 18 May); **Brazil** (Cultura Inglesa Festival, 24-26 May); and **Charleston, USA** (Spoleto Festival, 4-8 June). Made in association with Regular Music, it charts writer/performer Cora Bissett’s rollercoaster autobiographical journey from indie-kid hopeful to wised-up woman. Performed with live backing band actor/musicians Susan Bear and Simon Donaldson, plus the new addition of Harry Ward. Directed by Orla O’Loughlin.

Off the back of overwhelming response from previous performances including Traverse Festival 2017; Latitude Festival; and a one-off invited presentation at the Scottish Parliament, ***Locker Room Talk*** embarks on a Scottish tour to **Dundee** (Dundee Rep, 17 April); **Stirling** (Macrobert, 18 April); **Aberdeen** (Lemon Tree, 19 April); **Edinburgh** (Traverse Theatre, 23 and 24 April); and **Glasgow** (Tron Theatre, 25-27 April). Created by Traverse Associate Artist Gary McNair, it is a provocative piece of event theatre continuing a vital conversation about misogyny and masculinity, with four female actors performing, verbatim, the words of men. The cast will feature previous performers Jamie Marie Leary and Maureen Carr, plus two actors new to the piece – Nicola Roy and Gabriel Quigley. Each performance is followed by a post-show discussion. Directed by Orla O’Loughlin.

Lastly, the CATS award-winning ***Black Beauty***,produced with Red Bridge Arts, heads to **Los Angeles** (Wallis Annenberg Center for Performing Arts, 26 April-5 May), following last year’s acclaimed run in New York City, and follow-on tour of the UK and Ireland. Created by Andy Manley, Andy Cannon and Shona Reppe, this award-winning re-telling of the classic tale blends storytelling, music and puppetry to fun and poignant effect.

In addition to the bounty of touring productions, this April will also see the Traverse continue its international partnership with Rage Productions in **Mumbai** – where our flagship education project, Class Act, toured in 2018. We will be collaborating on a programme of activity exploring international exchange in creative process, kicking off with a creative residency in Mumbai during April, followed by an artist exchange project in summer 2019.

**The Traverse’s Executive Producer, Linda Crooks, says:**

‘*We’re extremely proud to have so many productions touring simultaneously around the world during such a short period. It is a great success story for the Traverse Theatre Company and everyone involved – the artists, creative teams and production staff who’ve contributed to making these productions the huge hits they have proved to be. The speed with which these shows have transferred internationally speaks of the Traverse Theatre Company’s ambition to create essential new plays which speak directly to important issues in global society, as well as resonate with, and thoroughly entertain, audiences wherever they are performed.*’

**Notes to Editors**

**Press requests:**

For more information, press releases or images, contact [anna.docherty@traverse.co.uk](mailto:anna.docherty@traverse.co.uk). The Traverse’s Executive Producer, Linda Crooks, is available for interview upon request.

**LISTINGS:**

***Mouthpiece***

Soho Theatre, London: 2 April-4 May

***Ulster American***

The Abbey, Dublin: 10-20 April

Lyric Theatre, Belfast: 24-28 April

***What Girls Are Made Of***

Citizens Theatre at Tramway, Glasgow: 9-13 April

Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh: 16-20 April  
The MAC, Belfast: 1-5 May  
Adam Smith Theatre, Kirkcaldy: 7 & 8 May  
Dundee Rep, Dundee: 14 & 15 May  
Macrobert, Stirling: 17 & 18 May

Cultura Inglesa Festival, Brazil: 24-26 May

Spoleto Festival, Charleston, USA: 4-8 June

***Locker Room Talk***

Dundee Rep, Dundee: 17 April  
Macrobert, Stirling: 18 April  
Lemon Tree, Aberdeen: 19 April

Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh: 23 & 24 April  
Tron Theatre, Glasgow: 25-27 April

***Black Beauty***

Wallis Annenberg Center for Performing Arts, Los Angeles: 26 April-5 May

**The Traverse Theatre is supported by:**

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