



#HATERS


ODD EYES
THEATRE

THE PLAY

A spoken-word narrative-theatre play with live music
touring small-scale venues, schools and universities
in Spring and Autumn 2017

#Haters

June 2014. A stab, a tweet and a social-media storm rip the sultriness of the hottest summer on record since 1976. Two young heroes worlds apart gravitate towards each other against the will of alluring internet chimeras. Two epic journeys set out in the storm of the housing crisis. Will their hands touch?

Inspired by a real stabbing incident and the spiteful tweet that followed it, **#Haters** looks at how “gentrification” in the name of urban regeneration is changing the cultural landscape in the UK.

The story, told through spoken words, live music and verbatim social media text, is structured as a classic Greek tragedy with strong symbolism and heightened dialectics. A chorus of three vocalists/percussionists introduces and accompanies the narration of two actors.

This classic canon is broken by the dual nature of the chorus: rather than supporting the heroes in their journey, the internet “chimeras” end up pitching them against each other.

Told with fairness and a good dose of humour, self-irony and compassion for all characters involved, **#Haters** is about knife crime and flat white, clashing communities and individualism. It’s about the way our identity is shaped by social media. It’s about opportunities, fate and values. It’s about a world that changed suddenly right before our eyes and we could only witness.

Trailer from the R&D: <https://youtu.be/ArnErfHy5KY>



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**





PROJECT HISTORY

#Haters first showcased in Autumn 2015 with a London tour of venues and universities. This stage of the research process, also supported with Arts Council England funds, was the result of a year-long research conducted by Odd Eyes Theatre.

The play is inspired by real events. In June 2014, a young victim of stabbing walked into a newly opened bar in an up and coming area of East London previously famous for its deprivation and high rate crime. After calling emergency services, the management shut down the business and tweeted a picture of the young man's blood on the floor with the caption *#welcometohackney*.

The tweet attracted abusive complaints and accuses of exploiting the event for publicity purposes turning the incident into the point in case for the repercussions of the regeneration in the area.

'The issue is real and present, brought to the stage with powerful intensity, humour, wonderful music and stunning set.' (Audience Member, 27)

Just after the incident, Emilia Teglia interviewed old and new residents and delved into a substantial research into the influence of social media in perpetuating stereotypes and fueling social hatred.

[Interview with writer/director Emilia Teglia on the genesis of #Haters](#)

'Heart wrenching'
(A Younger Theatre)



CREDITS

#Haters

Written and directed by Emilia Teglia
Music by Barbara Diana
Dramaturgic support by Adrian Jackson

Lighting design Leo Woolcock
Producer Liz Counsell
Produced by Odd Eyes Theatre

Cast Josh Okusanya and Greg Snowden
Vocalists Barbara Diana, Jennifer Jacobs and Lola May

#Haters is funded by ACE and supported by New Diorama Theatre, Queen's Theatre Hornchurch and London Metropolitan University.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Genre	Spoken words narrative theatre with live music
Company size / technical	5 performers, 1 SM, 1 TSM
Running Time	1 hour
Performing area	6 m x 6 m (flexible) / 2.5 m height
Age guidance	15+ contains swearing
Additional activity	Post-show Q&A. Workshops See programme below
Marketing support	Print/digital copy, Press release, promo trailer, production pictures.
Website	www.oddeyestheatre.net/projects/haters
Social media	FB/Twitter/IG Odd Eyes Theatre
BOOKING CONTACT	Liz Counsell, Producer, liz.counsell@icloud.com M.07849322708 Emilia Teglia, Artistic Director, info@oddeyestheatre.net M.07946347631

'I wait for someone to pick up #Haters by Emilia Teglia. Such a smart well written and directed piece of spoken word narrative theatre.'

(Adrian Jackson, Artistic Director Cardboard Citizens)



THE COMPANY

Odd Eyes Theatre

www.oddeyestheatre.net

Odd Eyes Theatre is an international and intra-cultural theatre company. We set out to break down cultural barriers with new plays that tell stories by and for people living on the threshold of established communities, those who don't belong and those affected by social change and globalization. We are one of six companies selected for the Emerging Companies Programme run by New Diorama Theatre in 2016/17. We have established relations with socially-minded theatre organisations that share our ethos and methodologies. New Diorama Theatre, Cardboard Citizens, Roundhouse, Vital Xposure and Mimbre amongst others.

Our plays tell stories that reflect back to new, unrepresented audiences and share their experience with all theatre goers. Odd Eyes Theatre' participation programme offers a creative hub to individuals who refuse to categorize themselves and allow them to express their diversity, share beliefs and build skills to assert their role in the social context in which they live. Odd Eyes Theatre nurtures beauty in diversity and bridges cultures.

BIOGRAPHIES

Emilia Teglia, Writer and Director

Emilia Teglia is Artistic Director and co-founder of Odd Eyes Theatre and Associate Artist at Cardboard Citizens. For Odd Eyes Theatre she has written and directed four new plays: *How Can I Help?* (2012); *Family Album* (2013); *Location Location* (2013) and *#Haters*. Emilia's latest freelance directing credits include AD to Adrian Jackson on Cathy UK tour 2016 –2017); *Hold the Hearse!* (Vital Xposure, 2016); *Content* (Theatre503, 2016); *Cooking with Elvis* (Theatro Technis, 2016). As an independent theatre maker and Lecturer Emilia collaborates with companies in the UK and abroad including Transport Theatre, Queen's Theatre Hornchurch, Gate Theatre, London Metropolitan University, Tower Theatre, Tyiatro Barbone (Turkey), Teatro Ricerche (Italy).

Adrian Jackson, Dramaturg

Adrian Jackson, Artistic Director and CEO at Cardboard Citizens theatre company, has supported the development of *#Haters* during its research. His writing and directorial experience includes Forum Theatre productions touring in unconventional theatre spaces up to large-scale site-specific productions in collaboration with the RSC amongst others.

Barbara Diana, Music Director and Composer

Barbara Diana, PhD, is an independent composer and music director working since 1998 with companies including Glyndebourne Opera festival and Glyndebourne Touring Company, English National Opera and Aldeburgh Festival. For ENO Studio she has written the libretto for *The Phone Call*, (ENO Studio and Tête a Tête - Bridewell Theatre and UK tour, 2012).



'Amazing performance, engaging and funny script, great direction, lovely set and the music absolutely stole the show!'

(Petia Tzanova, Clore Leadership Programme)

WORKSHOPS & WRAP AROUND ACTIVITIES

Workshops and post show discussions

Topics

- Practical workshop, workshop series or Q&As with writer/director Emilia Teglia or Associate Artist Nick Claridge about *cultural stereotypes, gang culture* and *gentrification*
For: A levels students; University students from Social Studies and Criminology department; community groups
- Practical workshop, workshop series or Q&As about using *social media* to create performance
For: students from year 6 to A Levels students, and for performing arts students on A Levels, community, FE and University programme
- Practical workshop, workshop series or Q&As about using *spoken word* to create characters from real life
For: students from year 10 to A Levels students, and for performing arts students on A Levels, community, FE and University programme
- Practical workshop, workshop series or Q&As with Emilia Teglia about *research and development methodologies*.
For: theatre makers, housing activists, housing counsellors and community stake holders
- Q&A with writer, composer and cast about the creative process
For: theatre makers and performing arts students
- Talks with the Composer about composing for verbatim text from social media
For: Students of music; theatre makers
- Debates about urban development and its effects on cultural identities and community
For: Council representatives; students of architecture; students of sociology (A Levels and HE)

Workshop structure

Numbers 8 to 20 participants

Age 15+

Duration 3 hour sessions, intensive weekend, 8 week programmes

Showcase of the original piece can be included in the package



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