

fringe

PRESS RELEASE

# 40 Watt Pearl (Australia) What Would Cathy Do? by Chris Aronsten



**Inspired by a true life encounter, this new work from an award-winning playwright and screenwriter will leave its audiences wondering where the truth really lies. Is Cathy a hopeless junkie... or brilliant actor?**

Bravura monologue written and directed by **Chris Aronsten** **What would Cathy do?** features film and television actor **Skye Wansey** in the title role.

When Cathy is thrown out of a supermarket for shoplifting, dishevelled and swearing, she explains to the audience: she's neither a thief nor a junkie; she's deeply immersed in the character she is creating for an up-coming feature film. But as she grows progressively more desperate, who's to tell if she's simply committed to method acting, or irretrievably lost inside the character she says she will portray?

**Chris Aronsten** described his work as '**Alan Bennett** meets **Sarah Kane** on the inner-city streets of Kings Cross, Sydney.' He said 'I'm very interested in the monologue and the way it can reflect people's interior lives – sparked in part by seeing Bennett's *Talking Heads* in my teenage years.' After the Fringe the show will appear at United Solo, the world's largest solo theatre festival in November 2017 and Chris hopes to tour further in 2018. Chris won Best Screenplay Award for his short film *Call Waiting* at the British Short Film Festival. His full-length play *Human Resources* was shortlisted for Australia's Premier Literary Award and the Philip Parson's Young Playwright's Award in 2006.

**'A warmly abrasive, deftly profane and strikingly truthful performance'**  
*Sydney Morning Herald*

**'The kind of performance that leaves indelible marks on one's psyche'**  
*Crikey.com.au*

**'A superb script and [an] incredibly kinetic and heartbreaking performance'** *Hi! Drama*

**'Skye Wansey shifts tones artfully down a humorous yet heartbreaking road to actor dedication'** *Theatre is Easy, Theeasy.com*

Playwright, composer and director **Chris Aronsten** is also a screenwriter who won the Best Screenplay Award for his short film *Call Waiting* at the British Short Film Festival. His TV credits for Australian television include *Going Home*, *David Tench Tonight* and *Comedy Inc.- The Late Shift*. His full length play *Human Resources* was shortlisted for Australia's Premier's Literary Award and the Philip Parson's Young Playwright's Award in 2006. His play *The Lunch Hour* was produced at Sydney's Darlinghurst Theatre in 2012. *What Would Cathy Do?*, originally part of the three monologue play *Malice Toward None*, was staged at the Old Fitzroy Theatre in 2012. Chris also spent two years writing a satirical column for the *Sydney Morning Herald*.

Performer **Skye Wansey** has played key supporting roles in many Australian films and miniseries including *The Silence*, *Rake*, *Chopper*, *Blue Murder* and Academy Award winning director Jane Campion's TV series *Top of the Lake* in the role of "Grishina" alongside Elizabeth Moss and Holly Hunter. Her stage work includes *Fences* for Urban Stage Projects. This year Skye will portray *Cathy* at the One Festival and United Solo festivals in New York.

### Listings Information

Venue	C primo, venue 41, Edinburgh Festival Fringe
Dates	3-28 Aug (not 14)
Time	14:55 (0h30)
Ticket prices	£7.50-£9.50 / concessions £5.50-£7.50
C venues box office	0845 260 1234 / <a href="http://www.CtheFestival.com">www.CtheFestival.com</a>
Fringe box office	0131 226 0000 / <a href="http://www.edfringe.com">www.edfringe.com</a>

For further information, images and interview availability please contact Chris Aronsten at 40 Watt Pearl in Association with Siren Theatre Company on +61 414558513 / [chrisaronsten@gmail.com](mailto:chrisaronsten@gmail.com) or the C venues press office on 0845 260 1060 / [press@cvenues.com](mailto:press@cvenues.com)

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