

fringe

PRESS RELEASE

The Flanagan Collective and Dominic Allen **A Common Man: The Bridge That Tom Built** by Dominic Allen



Telling the incredible story of Tom Paine – who changed the world, twice – Allen picks apart history and weaves a tale that bites right into the complex contemporary political climate

A Common Man: The Bridge That Tom Built is the true story of **Thomas Paine**, born of humble stock in Norfolk, who went on to change the course of history. He ran away with pirates, formed the first trade union, incited the American and French revolutions and built the world's first iron bridge in a field in Paddington. Premiering in 2013, **A Common Man** gained critical acclaim at the Fringe before transferring to the VAULT Festival in Waterloo and touring the UK. Allen said 'I believe that Paine's story sings out with more relevance today than previous years. Trump is now in the White House, Brexit is an inevitability, the political landscape now seems as wild and unpredictable as it must have seemed in Paine's day. Sometimes when uncertainty on this scale threatens to engulf us, we need a hero and, for me, Paine shines forth.'

Dominic Allen is co-artistic director of award-winning **Belt Up Theatre**, for whom he wrote the hugely successful *Outland*, which toured internationally, and *Lorca Is Dead*. A consummate performer, he is a graduate of the **Bristol Old Vic Theatre School** and has worked with **Tom Morris** at the **Bristol Old Vic**, **Sally Cookson** and **Les Enfants Terribles**, with whom he has recently been touring internationally in their **David Walliams** adaptation for children, *The First Hippo On The Moon*. **A Common Man** is directed by **Joe Hufton** whose recent work includes *Scarlet*, **Southwark Playhouse**, *Back To The Future*, **Secret Cinema** and the Offie nominated *The Collector* at the **Vaults Theatre**.

The show is a co-production with **The Flanagan Collective**, who are associate company at **York Theatre Royal** across a number of projects, including the hugely successful international tour of *Fable*. **The Flanagan Collective's** previous work includes *Beulah*, *Some Small Love Story* and *Babylon*. At last year's Fringe, alongside **A Common Man**, the company created and produced *From The Mouths Of The Gods* and *Snakes & Giants*, both of which went on to tour the UK. They are currently co-producing with **The Guild of Misrule** and **The Immersive Ensemble**, a fully immersive adaptation of *The Great Gatsby* in London, which met with huge plaudits when it first appeared at **The Vault Festival** last year.

'Captivating' Scotsman

'A must see' *ThreeWeeks*

'Brilliantly written, cleverly staged, beautifully performed'

EdinburghSpotlight.com

'Held me spellbound'

FringeGuru.com

'Inspirational'

Stage

www.theflanagancollective.com @FlanCol

www.dominicallen.co.uk @DomJAllen

Listings Information

Venue	C royale, venue 6, Edinburgh Festival Fringe
Dates	2-28 Aug (not 15)
Time	19:30 (1h05)
Ticket prices	£10.50-£12.50 / concessions £8.50-£10.50 / children £6.50-£8.50
C venues box office	0845 260 1234 / www.CtheFestival.com
Fringe box office	0131 226 0000 / www.edfringe.com

For further information, images and interview availability please contact Dominic Allen at The Flanagan Collective on 07470 358356 / dominicjohnallen@gmail.com or the C venues press office on 0845 260 1060 / press@cvenues.com

C venues

vibrant vivacious variety

general manager
Shannon Steele
artistic director
Hartley T A Kemp

year round administration

C venues London

5 Alexandra Mansions
Chichele Road
London NW2 3AS

during the Fringe in August

C venues Edinburgh

Press office at C royale

22 George Street

Ticket collection at any C venue

press office tel 0845 260 1060

fax 0845 260 1061

box office tel 0845 260 1234

email press@cvenues.com

www.Cvenues.com

C venues

