

**Teatr Polski Wroclaw in association with axis, Ballymun
present**

Smycz

by Bartosz Porczyk

**Wednesday April 23rd – Saturday April 26th
axis, Main Street, Ballymun, Dublin 9**

“Anyone with a love of theatre should get themselves to Ballymun...for the performance of an extraordinary one-man production by Polish actor and writer Bartosz Porczyk” **Noeleen Dowling, The Irish Times**

Following a hugely successful run at the 2007 Dublin Fringe Festival, the critically acclaimed **Smycz** makes a welcome return to axis theatre, Ballymun. With choreographic and choral genius (and a band in clerical garb!) Bartosz Porczyk, winner of the Best Actor Award at the 2007 Dublin Fringe Festival, performs **Smycz**.

His solo show, which translates as ‘The Leash’ is about the constraints upon individual identity. Addiction, mental health and sexual deviance are all too familiar captors. But where there is captivity, there must be freedom too. **Smycz**, a story about the search for freedom and one’s own identity, uses monologue, music and song to deal with the issues of globalisation, consumerism and fighting for personal freedom in an intolerant world.

Unflinchingly honest, **Smycz’s** endearing ‘freaks’ give their audience a glimpse into what drives their behaviour and, perhaps, a taste of what may lie beneath our own exterior. Porczyk assumes and discards wayward characters ranging from a priest to a prostitute as they try to break away from the leashes that restrain them. Featuring live music and a strong original score, this brilliantly staged piece challenges us to look at the leashes that restrain us all, and to decide the length of our own personal leash!

“Smycz is not just a remarkable performance it is the often attempted but rarely realised fusion of cabaret, experimental theatre and erotic revue that leaves people literally breathless. Just to watch the actor/performer singer interact with the band is enough to show the meticulous care and creativity poured into every moment. The material, a homage to the strangest behaviour of the least noticed people in our midst is an important message in an increasingly homogenised society.” **Ray Yeates, axis director**

“Porczyk is one of those triple-threat performers: He can act! He can sing! He can playfully anatomise the contemporary conditions of globalisation and ravenous capitalism while poignantly depicting the disheveled yearnings of the human heart!” * * * * * - **The Irish Times**

Teatr Polski Wroclaw in association with axis, Ballymun present:

Smycz

Written and performed by

Bartosz Porczyk

Directed by

Natalia Korczakowska

Lighting design by

Olaf Tryzna

Costume design by

Bartosz Porczyk

Sound design & music by

Łukasz Damrych

axis, Ballymun

Wednesday April 23rd – Saturday April 26th @ 8pm

tickets €15/€12

booking: 01 883 2100

Performed in Polish with English translation

Contains material of an adult nature

axis arts and community resource centre, Ballymun

axis is a centre for excellence with the community at its heart. It is also the working home to a range of highly active community development organizations.

axis is situated on Main Street, Ballymun beside the Civic Centre and is served by buses **4, 13, 13a, 17a, 220, 103, 104**. Free, secure parking is available to patrons and the building is accessible to those with disabilities.

For further information on this event:

Tel: 01 883 2100

E-mail: info@axis-ballymun.ie

Web: www.axis-ballymun.ie

For further media information please contact Kate or Niamh at Kate Bowe PR

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