

**Arches Theatre Company presents
Beckett Double Bill: Krapp's Last Tape and Rockaby
Directed by Andy Arnold**

"A brilliant production...breathtakingly brave and memorable.★★★★"
- Joyce McMillan, Scotsman

The Underbelly Baby Belly
3rd-27th August (not Tuesdays)
Previews 3rd & 4th | 15.25 pm | £8/£7 Mon-Thurs | £9/£8 Fri-Sun | £5 previews
Underbelly Box Office 0870 745 3083 Underbelly Press Office 0870 745 3078

In celebration of Samuel Beckett's centenary, **Arches Theatre Company** presents a revival of their hugely acclaimed double bill of **Krapp's Last Tape** and **Rockaby**, two of **Samuel Beckett's** tragicomic monodramas examining the impossibilities of communication. **Andy Arnold's** direction, suffused with a real love of Beckett's words, peels back the text to reveal moments of genuine humour and pathos. This production premiered at the Arches in Glasgow in March 2005, and Arnold was nominated for Best Director in the Scottish Theatre Awards for his work.

"...powerful and atmospheric...these productions work so well because of their very recognisable humanity.★★★★"
- Mark Fisher, Guardian

Krapp's Last Tape resonates and pulses with sound - keys jingle, corks pop, hands rub, feet shuffle, a banana peel slithers to the floor and an old man remembers. Krapp listens to his own taped voice of forty years ago, 'that stupid bastard', digging out one spool after another to reminisce over a lost life with a mordant, often scatological humour. Renowned Beckett actor and three-times Edinburgh Fringe First winner **Andrew Dallmeyer**, last seen in the highly acclaimed Arches production of **Waiting For Godot**, performs this modern classic.

"...enthraling, affecting and exceptionally entertaining.★★★★"
- Mark Brown, Sunday Herald

Rockaby: A lonely old woman, enshrouded in a black dress and surrounded by darkness, lurches back and forth in a rocking chair as a disembodied narrative speaks over her, detailing the speaker's search for someone "a little like" herself. The interaction of live and recorded selves provides the dramatic crux of this austere, death-gripped vignette, performed by acclaimed Scottish actress **Kay Gallie**.

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Cast and Company Biographies

“Over Rockaby’s ten intense minutes, Kay Gallie is mesmerising...a haunting production. ★★★★★”
- Neil Cooper, Herald

Kay Gallie began her theatrical career in the 1960s, working at the National Theatre and the Old Vic alongside Franco Zeffirelli, Ian McKellan, Albert Finney and Maggie Smith amongst others. In Scotland she has worked extensively with Raindog Theatre and the Royal Lyceum Theatre Company, and won hearts as Mrs Cameron in the 2003 production of *A Happy Medium* with Dorothy Paul. Kay returns to Arches Theatre Company after her exceptional performances in *Boss Grady’s Boys* and *The Last Yankee*, and following the success of her performance as part of the ensemble in Tron Theatre’s *Ubu*.

“Intense...simply riveting. Dallmeyer is quite the best male Beckett actor we have. ★★★★★”
- Robert Dawson Scott, Times

As an actor, **Andrew Dallmeyer** has appeared at the Royal National Theatre, the RSC and the Royal Court, as well as every theatre in Scotland with the exception of Pitlochry. He has written 61 plays, notably *Hello Dali* and *Metaphysics and Strip*. In possession of three Fringe First awards and a BAFTA (Scotland), Andrew was most recently seen stirring up controversy off Broadway and on the Fringe with his play *Wanted - Dead Or Alive*, in which he played Osama Bin Laden, and as Virgil in Arches Theatre Company’s ground-breaking production of Dante’s *Inferno*. He has worked with the Arches Theatre Company more often than any other actor.

“Director Andy Arnold has a way with Beckett that allows a lightness of touch without detracting from the playwright’s seriousness of purpose. ★★★★★”
- Kenneth Speirs, Daily Mail

Andy Arnold formed **Arches Theatre Company** in 1991, as the in-house company of his venue The Arches. Located in a set of Victorian railway arches under Glasgow’s Central Station, the Arches is a theatre and exhibition space, live music venue and one of the UK’s biggest nightclubs. Over the past fifteen years, Arches Theatre Company have developed a reputation both for high-quality interpretations of 20th Century classic texts and large-scale promenade productions inspired by the unique space. This year the company have three productions at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. Artist in Residence **Al Seed** performs intense physical piece **The Factory** at the Underbelly Baby Belly; and a revival of the award-winning **Tone Clusters** by **Joyce Carol Oates** at the Traverse.

“Ingenious...this is a high quality production that rings true to the dilemmas of contemporary life, both funny and haunting, that comes highly recommended. ★★★★★”
- Steve Cramer, List

*the***arches at the fringe**

Press release

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