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@starttofinnish

FROM START TO FINNISH

Ministry of Education
and Culture



Svenska
kulturfonden

starttofinnish.fi

Dear Friends and Theatre Lovers,

The key words for this year's From Start to Finnish lineup at Edinburgh Fringe are Love, Peace and Rock 'n' Roll.

Love, in all its different dimensions, is the essence of life. In the play *Helga – Life of Diva Extraordinaire* by Kallo Collective, one will be able to peek into another person's fabulous memories while *Dates - At the Speed of Sound!* by ACE-Production allows you to give love a chance by participating in high-energy, low-risk speed-dating. Even if you didn't find a soul-mate, you may find a great festival pal.

Peace means the absence of war, violence and degradation. In the Nordic countries, we have enjoyed peace for an extended period of time but there are many other places where this hasn't been the case. *Ramy – In the Frontline* by Viirus Theatre and protest singer Ramy Essam brings the harsh reality where so many people live in to the stage and reminds us that peace, obviously, is far from self-evident. *I am Faransis W.* by sadsongskomplex:fi deals with the same theme. The play is based loosely on Büchner's classic *Woyzeck* and asks us what it means if we define our neighbours on the basis of their colour, religion and nationality.

From Start to Finnish showcases at the Fringe, organized since 2010, are starting to bear fruit in the Finnish theatre scene. Finnish theatre is featuring more and more prominently internationally alongside the success that Finnish circus and dance have enjoyed. This is reflected in the increasing number of invitations to important festivals but also in the fact that many plays are more international than previously, both as regards their topics and production and creative teams. We are actually witnessing the emergence of professionals whose plays are not anymore tied to specific domestic venues. On the contrary, they work, create and perform where they want. They do indeed have the spirit of rock 'n' roll. From Start to Finnish is pleased to bring this attitude to the Fringe and rock with them and the Fringe audiences!

Katri Santtila (Counsellor for Cultural Affairs)

Kimmo Aulake (Ministerial Adviser)

KALLO COLLECTIVE

HELGA

- LIFE OF DIVA EXTRAORDINAIRE

13:30 (50 MIN) • AUG 3-27
C SOUTH MAIN THEATRE

Meet Helga, cabaret diva extraordinaire!

Tragedy and comedy meet as Helga invites us into her world, from the mundane details of her day to the fabulous memories of her life, skilfully performed by international circus artist Henni Kervinen and directed by Jenni Kallo, Artistic Director of the renowned Kallo Collective.

"Absurd comedy and sparkling wit..."

Lapin Kansa

Performer: [Henni Kervinen](#) • Director: [Jenni Kallo](#) • Sound design: [Sami Tammela](#) •

Light design: [Alice Leclerc](#) • Set design and costume: [Kirsi Manninen](#) •

Original music: [Hannu Oskala](#)

Previews: [Aug 3](#) • Days off: [Aug 14, 21](#) • Address: [St Peter's, Luton Place](#)



SADSONGSKOMPLEX:FI

I AM FARANSIS W.

17:45 (75 MIN) • AUG 6-27
SUMMERHALL OLD LAB

**Brand new from award-winning Finnish
playwright / director Jari Juutinen.**

Is the world out of joint? Who is torturing whom? How does it feel to be poor? Why is the water calling out? Where are you now, Woyzeck? A new play by award-winning Finnish playwright/director Jari Juutinen, based loosely on Büchner's classic Woyzeck. A theatrical kaleidoscope and a mixture of a TV game show, interrogation and a Kafkaesque nightmare, it asks where the world is going now as we define our neighbours by colour, religion, nationality – or just our day-to-day prejudices or intuitions.

"A Quiz from Hell"

Etelä-Suomen Sanomat

Writer & director: Jari Juutinen • On stage: Aleksi Holkko, Ani Aladashvili /
Outi Condit, Liisa Sofia Pöntinen • Light design: • Teemu Nurmelin •
Sound design: Jussi Matikainen, Jari Juutinen • Music: Jussi Matikainen,
Tomi Pekkola • Guitar: Tomi Pekkola • Video design: Aku Meriläinen

Days off: AUG 14, 21 • Address: 1 Summerhall PL

sadsongskomplex:fi
komplex:

Taiteen edistämiskeskus
Centret för konstfrämjande
Arts Promotion Centre Finland

ACE-PRODUCTION

DATES

AT THE SPEED OF SOUND

19:45 (75 MIN) · AUG 2-27
SUMMERHALL LIBRARY GALLERY

From Helsinki, a brand-new speed-dating concept for theatre lovers!

First relax, enjoying one of two sparkling comedies about first dates in restaurants from prolific Finnish screenwriter John Lundsten. Then participate in a session of super-sonic, high-energy, lowrisk speed-dating hosted by our actors. The perfect way to find that soul mate/casual partner/festival pal, or simply experience some encounters with random fellow humans in a congenial setting (delete where applicable!). Price includes show, speed-dating and fast-track notice of your mutual attractions. All genders and ages (18+) welcome!

Writer: [John Lundsten](#) • Director: [Julian Garner](#) •
Set design and costume: [Hanne Horte](#) • Cast: [Simon McCallum](#),
[Sarah McCardie](#), [Nicola Dale](#)

Previews: [AUG 2, 4](#) • Days off: [AUG 3, 14, 21](#) • Address: [1 Summerhall Pl](#)



A close-up portrait of Ramy Essam, a man with long, dark, curly hair and a beard, looking directly at the camera. The background is a red and black patterned fabric.

VIIRUS THEATRE

RAMY

- IN THE FRONTLINE

20:40 (75 MIN) · AUG 2-13
SUMMERHALL RED LECTURE THEATRE

A live report with the Egyptian protest singer Ramy Essam.

Tahrir Square, 2011. The Arab Spring. Twenty two-year old Ramy Essam stood singing battle songs with hundreds of thousands of other protesters, insisting on the resignation of President Mubarak. He became an iconic representation of the Egyptian people. Since then the violent events of the revolution have had a drastic impact on Ramy's life and values. Today, he is exiled in Finland and Sweden, where he was offered sanctuary. He now tours internationally with his songs about democracy and peace. This is a live report where the audience gets to meet Ramy and takes part in his story.

On stage: [Ramy Essam](#) • Director: [Maria Lundström](#) • Dramaturge: [Marina Meinander](#)
• Visual Designer: [Janne Vasama](#) • Music: [Ramy Essam](#)

Previews: [AUG 2](#) • Days off: [AUG 3, 7](#) • Address: [1 Summerhall Pl](#)





National Museum
of Scotland



George Square



The Meadows

SUMMERHALL

C SOUTH

Holyrood Park

Pleasance

Buccleuch St

Clark St

St. Leonard's St

Sciennes Rd

Sciennes

S Clark St



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