



present

Echo and Narcissus

Following sell-out success at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival 2002 with their production of Sarah Kane's *Crave* (**** Scotsman/List/Herald/Fest), Fail Better Productions present their new devised piece at the Time Out Award winning White Bear Theatre.

Echo and Narcissus is an original piece of theatre which revisits Ovid's ancient myth about transformation and desolation. Having been cursed to forever repeat the words of others, Echo develops an aching obsession with Narcissus, who after cruelly rejecting her, is cursed to fall in love with his own reflection. Exploring the interplay between desire and despair, this piece stages the metamorphoses of two tragic lovers and their eventual self-destruction. *Echo and Narcissus* has been influenced by the theatre of Samuel Beckett and is born out of a desire to retell classical stories through new and innovative performance.

Fail Better Productions is a growing collective of young theatre artists who produce total theatre that explores states of being and inner worlds by creating new work alongside experimentation with classical and existing texts. The company is committed to reaching new audiences who will be inspired by our unique style of intense and immediate theatre which is at once powerful and poetic, visceral and visually stunning. *Echo and Narcissus* marks the London debut for Fail Better Productions, who were founded in 2001, and have performed in Warwick, Cardiff, Stratford-Upon-Avon, Edinburgh, and Bratislava, Slovakia with their Pinter Double Bill (2001) and *Crave* (2002).

Press for *Crave*:

"Fail Better have created a well thought out production which is gut wrenchingly effective" Scotsman 12/08/02

"Fail Better's new production, delivered with well-drilled commitment by a young cast, gives [*Crave*] a renewed vigour" The Herald 14/08/02

"a young company do something that throws one back to the old fringe, where unhyped, first rate companies could be found in little out of the way spaces... a moving and beautifully timed exploration of the mind... go make the discovery"
"Sarah Kane's beautiful, spare and elegiac writing is set off skillfully by this young and enthusiastic company... timed and acted to perfection... a diamond of a show" The List 15/08/02 and 22/08/02

Listings Information

Venue: White Bear Theatre Club,
Kennington Park Road, SE11 9KN
Dates: 23rd June - 13th July 2003 (not Mondays)
Times: 7.30pm except Sundays 4pm
Tickets: £8 / £6 concessions

Press Night: 26th June 2003 at 7.00 pm