

WORDSMITHS OF WONDER BANG SAID THE GUN ANNOUNCE LEICESTER SQUARE THEATRE SHOW WITH SPECIAL GUESTS JOSIE LONG AND JOHN OSBORNE FOLLOWED BY THEIR SOHO THEATRE DEBUT

POETRY FOR PEOPLE WHO DON'T LIKE POETRY.

Following a triumphant UK tour, spoken word impresarios and poetry collective **Bang Said The Gun** announce a new line-up of London shows throughout autumn starting with a poetry extravaganza at Leicester Square Theatre on Friday 13th October. Their return to the Theatre will feature performances from special guests **Josie Long** (BBC R4, BBC One, BBC Two, CH4, and three time *Edinburgh Comedy Award* nominee) and **John Osborne** (creator of BBC Radio 4's *John Peel's Shed* and Sky 1's *After Hours*). The poetry pioneers will then make their Soho Theatre debut on Friday 3rd November and Friday 1st December, repelling the dreariness of the cold winter months with their celebration of spoken word, comedy and performance. Winter is coming. And so is some cracking poetry.

Rebelling from the norm since their inception, co-founders **Dan Cockrill** and **Martin Galton** established the spoken word club in a pub in Soho before it transferred to Borough. Since January 2016, the raw, fast-moving and highly-energised night has continued its rise with a completely sold out monthly residency at the Bloomsbury Theatre, various one-off shows including an Underbelly Festival performance and a UK tour. The collective feature a rich mix of new talent and some of the most established names in poetry, with special guests including **Roger McGough CBE** (BBC Radio 4's *Poetry Please* presenter), **Kate Tempest** (*Ted Hughes* award winner), **Tim Key** (star of *The Alan Partridge Movie*), **Sir Andrew Motion** (ex Poet Laureate), and **Hollie McNish** (*Ted Hughes Winner 2017*).

Cockrill says: "*we have dragged poetry kicking and screaming into the 21st century*"

Galton says: "*the night is a rollercoaster of emotion...It's loud and raucous, as political as it's trivial as serious as its funny*"

Bang Said The Gun has had 15 films broadcast on Channel 4 and an anthology, *Mud Wrestling With Words* published with Burning Eye Books. The show has also played to audiences in the North-West with *Bang Said The Gun: Manchester* and across the Atlantic with *Bang Said The Gun: New York*. Additional Bang members include **Rob Auton** (shortlisted for *Arts Foundation Spoken Word Award* and former Glastonbury poet in residence) and **Laurie Bolger** (shortlisted for *Young Poet Laureate for London* and former Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park poet in residence).

What has been said about BSTG:

A raucous combination of poetry and comedy **The Telegraph**

Grabs poetry by its shoulders and shakes it until dirty, funny words fall out **Londonist**

Like all the best things in life, BSTG is done with belief and passion **Phill Jupitus**

There has never been a show quite like this before. It's time is now **Murray Lachlan Young**

It's like mud wrestling with words **Kate Tempest**

LISTINGS INFORMATION

Bang Said The Gun – Leicester Square Theatre

Date & Time: 13th October, 19:00

Tickets: www.bangsaidthegun.com/

Bang Said The Gun – Soho Theatre

Date & Time: 3rd November & 1st December, 23:30

Tickets: www.bangsaidthegun.com/

For more information and press tickets, please contact: Florrie Sheehan: fsheehan@avalon-entertainment.com / 0207 598 7222