



**MEDIA CONTACT**  
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**Pub Theatre Festival hit *'Punkt Presents Penelope* returns to the stage March 2020**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

*'Punkt Presents Penelope*: the story of a woman who waited 20 years for her bloke to return.

London – After a successful run at the 2019 Pub Theatre Festival, 'Punkt Collective returns to The Lion & Unicorn Theatre with an extended version of their hit ***'Punkt Presents Penelope***. *'Punkt Presents Penelope* will return to the stage for a 5-night run from 10 March to 14 March 2020.

*'Punkt Presents Penelope* explores the untold dreams of a woman alone through an exciting 'play-within-a-play', mixing the classical story with shadow puppetry, live feed video, and pop culture.

*'Punkt Presents Penelope* takes audiences into the story of Homer's *The Odyssey*, but this time from the perspective of Odysseus's wife, Penelope. When Odysseus goes to war, Penelope sits at home and weaves for twenty years. Isolated, despite a flock of suitors, Penelope has no friend to confide in, until 'Punkt comes along to reveal what she dreamed about as the years passed her by.

Whimsical, witty, and irreverent, *'Punkt Presents Penelope* is a blend of classical and popular, a blend of perspectives, and a blend of mediums all in pursuit of an unsettling but fun night at the theatre.

*'Punkt Presents Penelope* is devised and performed by 'Punkt members **Abigail Hirsch, Aida Rocci, Antonia Georgieva, Oliver McFadden, and Talia Kracauer**, who reprise their roles from last year's Pub Theatre Festival run.

'Punkt is an international, non-hierarchical company with members from the United Kingdom, the United States, Singapore, Spain, and Bulgaria. The company has performed at various venues around London including Etcetera Theatre, The Yard Theatre, and Theatre Deli Broadgate for the N/A: New Artists Festival.

\*\*\*\*\* *'[Punkt's] inventive interpolation of Penelope's story was highly entertaining, the integration of live video streaming and shadow puppetry a bonus! A show not to be missed, a company destined for great things' Lucy Basaba (Theatre Full Stop) \*\*\*\*\**

## ENDS

Press images may be downloaded from

[https://drive.google.com/open?id=1GnyiiuL7CL3hjxMWEEEXA-dINZHizJi\\_j](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1GnyiiuL7CL3hjxMWEEEXA-dINZHizJi_j)

View trailers at:

<https://youtu.be/2UmtsSkiJF4>

<https://youtu.be/gx1dYlp1tU>

For more information, please contact Abigail Hirsch at [punktcollective@gmail.com](mailto:punktcollective@gmail.com).

## NOTES TO THE EDITOR(S)

### **'PUNKT**

#### ***'Punkt Presents Penelope***

Devised and Performed by **Abigail Hirsch, Aida Rocci, Antonia Georgieva, Oliver McFadden and Talia Kracauer**

**10–14 March 2020, 7.30 PM**

**The Lion & Unicorn Theatre**, 42-44 Gaisford St, Kentish Town, London NW5 2ED

Twitter @punktcollective | Instagram @punkt.collective | [punktcollective.com](http://punktcollective.com)

Tickets on sale to the general public from 14 January 2020

[www.thelionandunicorntheatre.com/whats-on#/event/punkt-presents-penelope-1](http://www.thelionandunicorntheatre.com/whats-on#/event/punkt-presents-penelope-1)

### **ABOUT 'PUNKT**

'PUNKT are a non-hierarchical company of creative collaborators who devise with a multimedial performative machine to uncover hidden narratives. Based in London, United Kingdom, they are multidisciplinary artists from international backgrounds, who started the company as postgraduate students of the MAMFA Advanced Theatre Practice course at the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, University of London.

The company uses a self-developed Origami Method of collaboration as an organising principle for their practice, where each company member builds on each other's ideas to come to a collective decision-making in the creative process. The company puts themselves at the centre of their work and draws on existing texts, classical and autobiographical, to explore the nuances of performance.

### **ABOUT ABIGAIL HIRSCH**

Abigail Hirsch is a London-based theatre-maker from New York City. She has worked as a producer and an assistant director for non-profit and fringe projects on two continents. She studied English at the University of Oxford and New York University, where her research focused on Shakespeare's plays in modern productions.

### **ABOUT AIDA ROCCI**

Aida Rocci is a London-based theatre-maker with artistic roots in Spain, United States, and Russia. She has worked as a dramaturg for artists such as Eve Ensler, Daniel Kramer, and Diane Paulus. On an unexpected turn upon arrival to London, she delved into the world of cabaret as the Entertainment Manager for an immersive dining experience, creating wacky shows with emcees, actors, musicians, and circus performers. She holds an MFA in Dramaturgy and Theatre Studies from the American Repertory Theatre/Moscow Art Theatre Institute for Advanced Theatre Training at Harvard University.

### **ABOUT ANTONIA GEORGIEVA**

Antonia Georgieva is a director and playwright with a particular interest in directing new work as well as innovative adaptations. She began her training as a director during her BA at Columbia University and has worked on a variety of productions for both theatrical and non-theatrical spaces involving a wide range of production sizes – from directing one-woman shows to heading a site-specific production of Hamlet with a cast and team of 80 people. As the founder of a new female-led collective Aslant Theatre Company, she has a keen artistic interest in reimagining the classical canon and challenging the way we remember history.

### **ABOUT OLIVER MCFADDEN**

Oliver McFadden is a collaborative theatre-maker and director based in London. After studying and living in Norwich for 5 years, founding and running a small Arts Council-funded LGBTQ+ theatre company, and pursuing a career in events management, he has moved back to join the struggling masses in London. He has a particular interest in staging Gothic classics and in examining queer experiences onstage through working with groups of collaborators to bring multi-layered narratives onto the stage.

### **ABOUT TALIA KRACAUER**

Talia Kracauer is an American performer and theatre-maker based in London. Originally from Colorado but educated in Berlin, Germany, her practice derives mainly from the postdramatic and Brechtian traditions. She has also trained in classical voice, contemporary acting, as well as movement-based performance. She has worked with the Berlin-based company Interrobang and with artists involved with She She Pop, and Gob Squad.