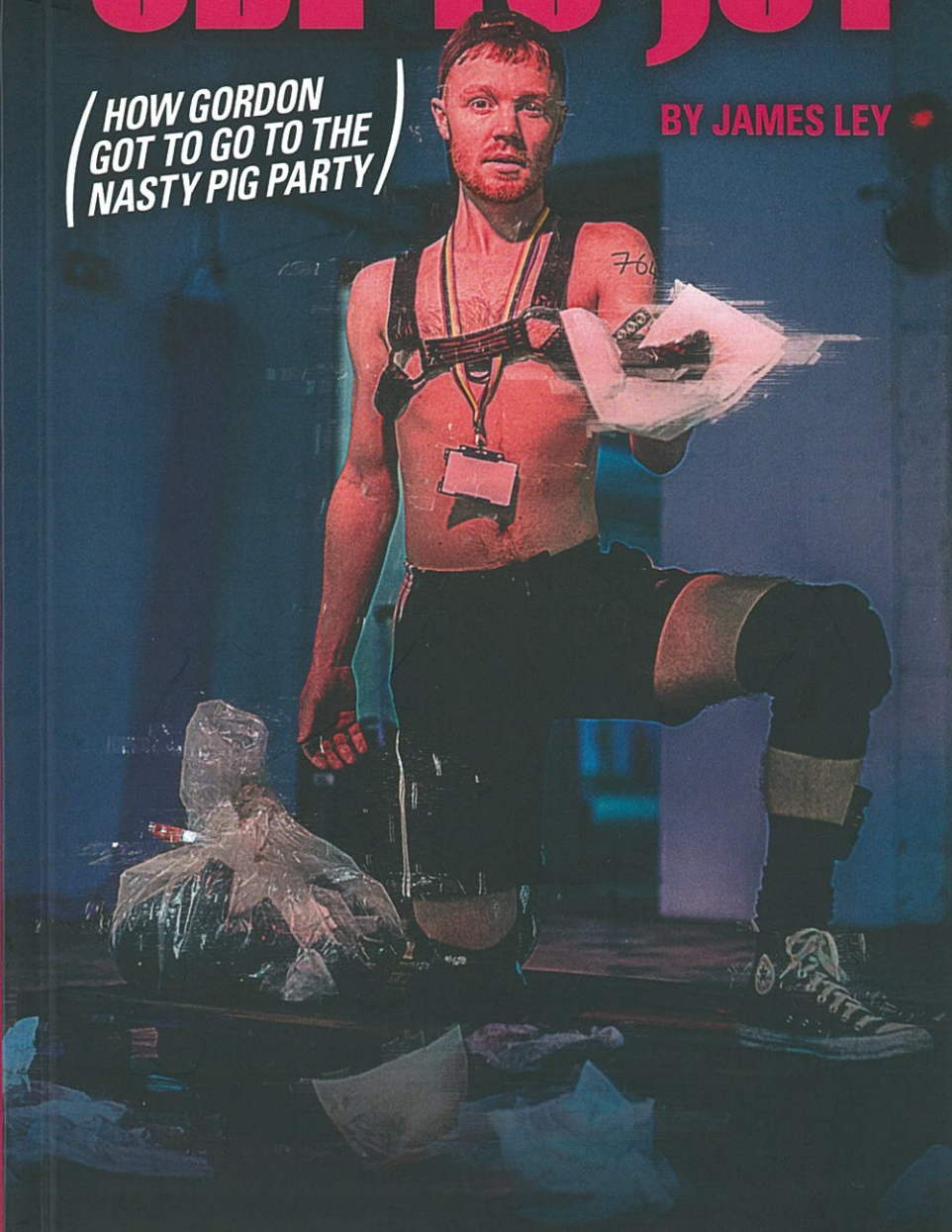


STORIES UNTOLD PRODUCTIONS

ODE TO JOY

HOW GORDON
GOT TO GO TO THE
NASTY PIG PARTY

BY JAMES LEY





platform

Stories Untold Productions presents

ODE TO JOY

(How Gordon got to go to the nasty pig party)

by James Ley

*Jan '24.
for Centre 42,
Thank you for having
me!
James Ley
😊*

First preview at Platform, Glasgow on 21 July 2022

First performance at Summerhall for the Edinburgh
Festival Fringe on 3 August 2022

Company List

Cast

Gordon	Brian Evans
Cumpig/ Marcus	Sean Connor
Manpussy/ Tom	Marc Mackinnon

Creative Team

Writer / Director	James Ley
Dramaturg	Rosie Kellagher
Assistant Director	Matt McBrier
DJ	Simon 'Simonotron' Eilbeck
Movement Director	Craig Manson
Sound Designer	Susan Bear
Lighting Designer	Emma Jones
Costume Designer	Cleo Rose McCabe
Wardrobe Assistant	Hana Eggleston

Production Team

Production Manager	Simon Gane
Stage Manager	Jordan Alsoudani
Show Technician	Chris Gorman

Produced by Stories Untold Productions Ltd

Producer	Robyn Jancovich-Brown
Assistant Producer	Kirsten McPake

Created with support from Creative Scotland and Platform, Glasgow. Written on attachment to National Theatre of Scotland. Part of the 2022 Made in Scotland Showcase at Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

Company Biographies

Brian Evans – Gordon

Brian Evans trained in Drama and Performance at Queen Margaret University in Edinburgh and graduated in 2021. With a passion for queer theatre, Brian is proud to be making his professional Fringe debut as Gordon in *Ode to Joy (How Gordon got to go to the nasty pig party)*. Brian's recent stage credits include: *The Gathering* (Beacon Arts Centre), *Widows*, *Blue Stockings* (West College Scotland), *Animal Farm* (City of Glasgow College).

Sean Connor – Cumpig/Marcus

Sean Connor is an actor based in Glasgow, Scotland. He graduated from New College Lanarkshire with a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Acting in 2017, and has since appeared in numerous film and television projects, including *Schemers* (Black Factory Films, 2020), *Still Game* (BBC1, 2019), *Anna and the Apocalypse* (Vertigo Films, 2017). He also played series regular Dylan Christie in the hit BBC Scotland show *River City*, and most recently made his debut theatre performance playing the role of Paul in the critically acclaimed *Moorcroft* at the Tron Theatre.

Marc Mackinnon – Manpussy/Tom

Marc is a Scottish actor based in London and Edinburgh. He completed his undergraduate at University of Glasgow before training at Mountview, graduating in 2017. Recent credits include: *Four Play* (Above The Stag); *Peter Gynt* (National Theatre); *Blithe Spirit*, *Measure For Measure* (Changeling Theatre Company); *Metropolis* (Old Rose & Crown Theatre); *Daisy*, *Like the Flower* (Theatre N16).

James Ley – Writer/Director

James is a playwright living in Glasgow. *Ode to Joy (How Gordon got to go to the nasty pig party)* is his directorial debut. As a writer, his plays include *Wilf* (Traverse Theatre), *Love Song to Lavender Menace* (Royal Lyceum Theatre Edinburgh, Summerhall, SoHo Playhouse/New York), *Emma and Gill* (Catherine Wheels, Lung Ha), *I Heart Maths* (A Play, a Pie and a Pint) and *Spain* (Glasgay!, Citizens Theatre). James was Writer on Attachment to National Theatre of Scotland in 2022 and he was selected for the 2019 Edinburgh International Film Festival Talent Lab and the 2019 Stowe Story Labs in Vermont, USA. His feature adaptation of *Love Song to Lavender Menace* is in development, produced by John McKay/Compact Pictures, funded by the Scottish Film Talent Network.

Rosie Kellagher – Dramaturg

Rosie Kellagher is Dramaturg at National Theatre of Scotland and has previously worked as Literary Associate at the Traverse, Liverpool Everyman and Playhouse and Live Theatre in Newcastle. As a freelance dramaturg and award-winning director she has made work for both theatre and radio with companies across the UK and beyond including Traverse Theatre, Soho Theatre, BBC, Vanishing Point, The Arches, Dance City, Live Theatre, Arcola Theatre and Riksteatern, Sweden.

Matt McBrier – Assistant Director

Matt McBrier is an Edinburgh-based queer, working-class Scottish theatre artist. He holds a BA (Hons) Performance from Mountview, and a Masters of Fine Arts in Directing from Edinburgh Napier University, tutored under former artistic director of The Lyceum, Mark Thomson. Matt is interested in socially motivated projects, new writing, facilitating performance education and participation. Projects Matt has

directed include *Crossing Care* by Kirin Saeed and Sara Garcia Pereda, a Creative Scotland-funded production for World Vision Day 2020, and performance art piece *Anuna* by Elise Steenackers at the Talbot Rice Gallery.

Simon ‘Simonotron’ Eilbeck – DJ

Simon has been a radio and nightclub DJ for 26 years. In 2010, he started Hot Mess, the longest-running queer dance party in Scotland, which takes place every month at Sneaky Pete’s in Edinburgh and the Poetry Club in Glasgow. His monthly Hot Mess radio show can be heard on Clyde Built Radio. Acting credits include Alasdair Gray’s *McGrotty and Ludmilla* (HATS), *The Idiot at the Wall* (Stoirm Òg) and *Blackadder Goes Forth* (Edinburgh People’s Theatre). In 2019, Simon’s essay ‘Let’s Go Swimming: One Man’s Reflections on Being Gay and Bisexual’ was published in Monstrous Regiment’s *The Bi-ble: New Testimonials*.

Craig Manson - Movement Director

Craig Manson is a performance artist and performer whose work spans theatre, live art, dance, film, cabaret and club performance. His work uses humour and movement to explore contemporary queer themes, often working in collaboration with other LGBTQIA+ artists to create exhilarating experiences for an audience. In 2022 he was selected to be part of the Made in Scotland showcase for his show *GAYBOYS* at Summerhall from 16–28 August. Previous work has been presented in association with Tramway, Southbank Centre, CCA, Buzzcut, The Yard, Camden People’s Theatre and Scottee.

Susan Bear – Sound Designer

Susan Bear (she/her) is a multi-instrumentalist, sound designer, composer and artist working across the mediums of music, theatre, games and advertising. Bear has a proven track

record of excellence and versatility in composition, production, mixing and musical arrangement through a variety of projects for both commercial and grassroots organisations.

Recent composition and sound design projects include *Wilf* (Traverse Theatre), the Scotgov NHS 'Roll Up Your Sleeves' advertising campaign, composition and sound design for mobile game *Journey to the End of the Jelly World*, composition and musical arrangement for Civic Digit's *Big Data Show*, as well as audio for the accompanying mobile app; sound design and composition for *Hope & Joy* (Stellar Quines); sound design for National Theatre of Scotland's *Dear Europe*, as well as various other compositional work for other Scottish theatre companies.

Bear has toured internationally with bands such as Tuff Love, The Pastels, Malcolm Middleton, Pictish Trail, Tracyanne & Danny, as well as performing in and touring the Fringe First-winning production of *What Girls Are Made Of* (Cora Bissett/Orla O'Loughlin) as an actor and musician. Her second solo album, *Alter*, entirely written, played, produced, recorded and mixed by Susan was released June 10th 2022 on Lost Map Records.

Over the last year Susan has been songwriting and producing music with Scottish all-female & non-binary collective Hen Hoose. She has previously been involved in organising, teaching and mentoring at Girls Rock Glasgow, a DIY rock camp for young girls teaching confidence, music-making and creativity.

Simon Gane – Production Manager

Simon is a freelance Designer and Production Manager based in the beautiful North East of Scotland. He trained in his hometown at the Bristol Old Vic as a Technician a few more years ago than he now cares to remember. He worked as a venue-based Technical Manager for many years, notably at TIC TOC in Coventry and The Lemon Tree in Aberdeen, where he was also

resident Lighting Designer. He then toured with a number of bands as Sound Engineer. Since leaving the world of a secure salary to forge a more creative path, Simon has been realising productions nationally and internationally; inside, outside, and site-specific; and running shows at the Fringe alongside the full Dance Base program at Scotland's National Centre for Dance. He has built four Fringe venues and was once Technical Manager for a 32-shows day: all good prep for helping James and *Ode to Joy* achieve the potential out of the kit, time and experience for this run at Summerhall.

Emma Jones – Lighting Designer

Emma is a Lighting Designer based in Scotland, working across the UK and abroad. Emma has lit shows for numerous companies including Dundee Rep Theatre, Perth Theatre, Derby Theatre, Scottish Dance Theatre, Stellar Quines, The National Theatre of Scotland, The Royal Lyceum Edinburgh, Catherine Wheels Theatre Company and The Citizens Theatre Glasgow. Recently Emma has started collaborating with music artist SHHE. Emma has designed the lighting for over 16 newly commissioned works for Scottish Dance Theatre, working with both established and emerging choreographers including Damien Jalet, Anton Lachky, Botis Seva and Henri Oguike. In 2020 Emma became an associate artist with Shotput Theatre Company. 2022 shows so far include: *LENA – The Lena Zavaroni Story* for Feather Productions, *Lightning Ridge* for Catherine Wheels Theatre Company, *Ray* for Scottish Dance Theatre and *The Emperor's New Clothes*, a co-production between Derby Theatre, Hiccup Theatre and Polka Theatre. Other shows at this year's Fringe include *Antigone*, *Interrupted* for Scottish Dance Theatre, *And* by Charlotte McLean and *DYRA* by SHHE.

Cleo Rose McCabe – Costume Designer

Cleo is an Edinburgh-based professional costume designer and maker. She has more than ten years' experience, specialising in dance, circus, masks, drag, cabaret and animal costumes.

Hana Eggleston – Wardrobe Assistant

Hana Eggleston is an aspiring costume maker and designer, halfway through an HND in Costume for Stage and Screen at Edinburgh College. So far she has made stagewear for drag queens, assisted on an international Whitney Houston tribute tour, and made a whole heap of period garments and fancy dress.

Stories

The logo for Stories Untold Productions. It features the word "Stories" in a large, bold, sans-serif font. Below it, the word "UNTOLD" is written in a smaller, all-caps, sans-serif font, centered within a dark, rectangular, textured block that resembles a piece of fabric or a brushstroke.**Stories Untold Productions Ltd**

Founded in 2021, Stories Untold Productions is a new Scotland-based production company focusing on work which promotes equality, inclusion and well-being in society.

Stories Untold Productions seeks to speak about the unspoken and highlight stories and voices which are not heard in mainstream spaces. They are creative producers who work collaboratively with artists to research, create, stage and tour work which challenges the systemic under-representation of particular artists and topics on local, national and international stages.

James Ley

Ode to Joy

(How Gordon got to go to the nasty pig party)

Salamander Street

PLAYS

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For Wayne Shelby

Characters

MANPUSSY

CUMPIG

GORDON

... means they don't finish what they're saying

/ means they get cut off by a line or an action

An intense techno set is playing in the turbine hall of Berghain nightclub – a mess of bodies, sex and sportswear.

*In the midst of it all is **CUMPIG** – joyously dancing and coming up on something. At the edge of the party is **GORDON** – nervous, sweating and dressed in office wear.*

*As the music becomes super-chaotic, **MANPUSSY** rushes in, wearing a riot of things he's bought at the airport and Irish jig shoes. He's holding a butt plug. He speaks to us:*

MANPUSSY: Ok...

So...

Fuck...

Ok...

So...

***MANPUSSY** puts the butt plug up to his lips and speaks into it. The butt plug successfully amplifies **MANPUSSY** but makes him German:*

MANPUSSY: So!

[So!]

Es war einmal!

[Once upon a time!]

Es war einmal!

He stops using the butt plug and shouts.

MANPUSSY: Once upon a time!

There was a beautiful narrator!

Called Man pussy!

Man pussy didn't get into Berghain tonight!

Oh fuck!

The music gets louder.

MANPUSSY: Manpuussy didn't get into Berghain tonight because he wasn't wearing sportswear, so he came in as the narrator!

And look, it worked!

Ta da!

(Into the butt plug.)

Hier bin ich!

[Here I am!]

Hier bin ich!

MANPUSSY *drops the butt plug and stretches out his arms.*

MANPUSSY: Here I am!

CUMPIG: Manpuussy!

MANPUSSY: Cumpig!

CUMPIG: What the fuck is going on?

MANPUSSY: I didn't get in.

CUMPIG: Well you're here now, that's the main thing.

MANPUSSY: I'm not here now.

I didn't get in.

I've had to come in as the narrator.

(Beat.)

How am I doing?

CUMPIG: You're fucking nailing it.

MANPUSSY: Yeah?

CUMPIG: Yeah, you're my favourite narrator.

MANPUSSY: And you're my favourite person.

CUMPIG: Come on!

Let's go and get fucked by strangers!

MANPUSSY: Wait!

Where's Gordon?

CUMPIG: I don't know.

He's... somewhere.

(Beat.)

Let's check out the 16-man piss pool.

CUMPIG *rushes towards the sex action area.*

MANPUSSY: Cumpig, no, I can't.

I'm the narrator.

I have to... tell the story.

CUMPIG: What story?

MANPUSSY: This story!

(To us.) Once upon a time a few days ago,

My husband and I are at a sex party in a hotel room in Malmaison.

CUMPIG: Are we?

MANPUSSY: Yes!

We've been here for days.

CUMPIG: We've been here for 22 hours max.

MANPUSSY: Who's Max?

'Me' says a voice in the corner.

Oh look, it's Max from Morningside getting fucked by everyone at the sex party.

Hiya Max!

CUMPIG: You go gurl!

MANPUSSY: I'm lying on the floor with a tube of Pringles in my ass.

Sour cream and chive.

CUMPIG: Why?

MANPUSSY: Because Gonz is putting a golf ball into it from the bed.

Gonz is standing on the bed, lining up a golf ball with his putter.

Gonz was here on business from Spain and was playing golf with clients.

Doggybagz, Federico and Hamish have taken a break from nipple torture to watch.

Cumpig was on his phone, or he would have filmed it.

Gonz putts the ball across the bed.

The golf ball lands on the coffee table,

And rolls along the spine of Gonz's copy of *Troubled Blood* by Robert Galbraith.

CUMPIG: What's with all the details?

MANPUSSY: Just kind of makes it more believable.

The ball spins off the edge of the table,

Passes the lip of the Pringles tube and drops inside me.

I'm a hole in one.

CUMPIG: Fuck yeah!

CUMPIG *snorts something off his finger and offers some to MANPUSSY.*

MANPUSSY: Where did you get that?

CUMPIG *shrugs and hands MANPUSSY a baggy. It's empty.*

MANPUSSY: Where's Gordon?

GORDON *turns. He's cunted and gurning*

GORDON: I am so sorry.

MANPUSSY: Jesus, Gordon.

GORDON: I'm sorry.

MANPUSSY: Save it.

Listen, Gordon, I didn't get in.

GORDON: Well you're here now, and that's the main thing.

MANPUSSY: I'm not here, I've had to come in as the narrator.

GORDON: Listen, I might go home.

MANPUSSY: You can't.

GORDON: I can, I'm scared.

MANPUSSY: No, you're excited.

You're walking along the corridor of the Malmaison.

It's a week ago.

You straighten your tie.

GORDON: I don't wear a tie.

MANPUSSY: Gordon!

GORDON: Oh, this tie!

GORDON *mimes straightening his tie.*

MANPUSSY: And action!

There's a knock at the door.

GORDON *knocks on an imaginary door.*

MANPUSSY: Cumpig goes to answer it.

CUMPIG *goes to answer it.*

MANPUSSY: Don't answer it!

Pages have been omitted from this book preview.

Gordon is homonormative and fears he might be pathologically boring until he meets Cumpig and Manpussy at a sex party in Leith.

When they tell him about Europe's biggest gay sex party in Berlin, Gordon obviously wants to go, but can he really transform into a sex pig?

A new LGBTQ play about love, friendship and Schokoladenkuchen from James Ley. First previewed on 21 July 2022 and presented at Edinburgh Festival Fringe as part of the 2022 Made in Scotland Showcase, by Stories Untold Productions Ltd.

'A filthy and brilliantly-paced joyride'

★★★★ The Scotsman on *Wilf*

James Ley is a playwright and screenwriter living in Glasgow. His plays include *Wilf* (Traverse Theatre), *Love Song to Lavender Menace* (Royal Lyceum Theatre Edinburgh, Summerhall, SoHo Playhouse, New York), *Emma and Gill* (Catherine Wheels, Lung Ha) *I Heart Maths* (A Play, A Pie and A Pint) and *Spain* (Glasgay!, Citizens Theatre). James was Writer on Attachment to National Theatre of Scotland in 2022 and he was selected for the 2019 Edinburgh International Film Festival Talent Lab and the 2019 Stowe Story Labs in Vermont, USA.

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