

Untitled Projects  
in partnership with KILTR,  
Citizens Theatre & Traverse Theatre

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# SLOPE

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by pamela carter

Paul Owen Whitelaw  
Mathilde Jessica Hardwick  
Arthur James Edwyn

Director Stewart Laing  
Executive Producer Louise Irwin  
Technical Director Nick Millar  
Videographer Anna Chaney  
Lighting Designer Mike Brookes  
Sound Designer Harry Wilson  
Live Sound Designer Julian Corrie  
Choreographer Ian Spink  
Fight Director Emma Clare Brightlyn  
French Language Coach Villy Karagouni  
Stage Manager Avalon Hernandez  
Costume Supervisor Kat Smith  
Associate Director Lou Prendergast  
Associate Producer Rhea Lewis  
Marketing & PR Manager Niall Walker  
Production Photography Tommy Ga-Ken Wan  
Publicity Photography Tobias Feltus  
Publicity Designer Neil McGuire  
Live Producer Erin Maguire  
Live Stream Partner KILTR

## — Projects

Untitled Projects made this 2014

'In the 2006 production of Slope, the set design preceded the commissioning of the play. The set was a fully functioning Victorian bathroom, with the traditionally 'missing' 4th wall reinstated and the audience watching the action from above, through the 'ceiling'. Access to this viewing position was by way of a 60 metre sloped floor, after which the play was named.

Since then, the filmed elements of our live performances have become increasingly more elaborate in recent years – and are integral to our narratives. On Paul Bright's Confessions of a Justified Sinner we worked with a professional film crew – including one of the leading cinematographers in the world, Chris Doyle – to create a 15-minute HD video that was a pivotal sequence in the show. It was an intoxicating period of creativity and we learned so much in an intense time frame. This thrill in exploring the possibilities of filmmaking led us to thinking of this dual-purpose edition of Slope.

Slope to me is a play of intimacy – both in the relationships between the 3 characters, and in the relationship between the characters and the audience. It feels right to play to a small audience. But as a company, we want as many people as possible to experience our work. So live broadcast feels like a way for us to increase our potential reach, in terms of capacity and geographic spread.

The challenge of live broadcast on Slope (and we like a challenge at Untitled Projects) is around addressing the differences between the media of theatre and film. This feels most pronounced in terms of acting – a live audience is very different to a camera lens – and from the actor's point of view this affects focus, scale and detail. When we first thought of live streaming Slope we were assuming a more traditional approach, a single performance filmed and broadcast live once we were up and running. But when we thought this through – and considered the acting style that might work better for the camera – we thought it made more sense to broadcast all the performances. This allows the actors to focus on a particular, hybrid style of acting throughout the run that might work both on screen and live in the small studio.'

Stewart Laing.

## Biographies:

Stewart Laing is Artistic Director of Untitled Projects. Directing work elsewhere includes *The Maids* at the Citizens Theatre in Glasgow, *Les Parents Terribles* for Dundee Rep, and *Home: Stornoway* for the National Theatre of Scotland. He has also designed and directed opera in Scotland, elsewhere in the UK and internationally. He designed Richard Jones' production of *Peter Grimes* at La Scala, Milan in 2012. Stewart won a Tony Award in 1998 for his design work on the musical *Titanic*.

Pamela Carter has written several Untitled projects including *An Argument About Sex* and *Paul Bright's Confessions of a Justified Sinner*. Other plays include: *Almost Near* (Dresden Staatsschauspiel, Germany; Finborough Theatre, London); *Skåne* (Hampstead Theatre, London; Theater Ulm, Germany; winner of the New Writing Commission at the Berliner Festspiele Stückemarkt, 2012); *What We Know* (Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh; Teatro Circulo, New York). She also works regularly with Swedish conceptual artists Goldin+Senneby (*The Nordenskiöld Model*) and *Vanishing Point Theatre Co* (including *Interiors* and *Tomorrow*).

Owen Whitelaw trained at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama. Theatre work includes *Paul Bright's Confessions Of A Justified Sinner* (Untitled Projects and National Theatre Of Scotland); *In Time O' Strife*; *Knives In Hens*; *Peter Pan*; *Mary Queen Of Scots Got Her Head Chopped Off*; *Our Teacher's A Troll*; *Cockroach*; *365* and *Rupture* [National Theatre Of Scotland]; *The Life Of Stuff*; *Cotton Wool And Nowheresville* [Theatre 503]; *Sleeping Beauty*; *King Lear* [Citizens Theatre]; *Wonderland* [Vanishing Point/Edinburgh and Naples International Festival]; *A Puff Of Smoke* [Tristan Bates Theatre]; *About A Goth*; *10,000 Metres Deep*; [Paines Plough/Óran Mór]; *Romeo & Juliet* [Óran Mór]. Film credits include: *Dying Light*, *What Would Ridley Do*, *Scoring, After Waiting, Score And 7/11 In Repeat*. Radio credits include: *Mclevy*, *The Second Mr. Bailey*, *Blindness* and *Acting Up* [BBC Radio Four]

Jessica Hardwick graduated in 2013 from The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. Previous theatre credits include: *Three Sisters* (Tron Theatre/Kings Theatre Edinburgh); *The Fair Intellectual Club* (Assembly Rooms, Edinburgh Festival Fringe); *Miss Julie* (Citizens Theatre); *Crime and Punishment* (Citizens Theatre/Liverpool Playhouse/Royal Lyceum Edinburgh); *The Possibilities* (Tron Theatre/King's Head Theatre/National Theatre Warsaw); *The Antipodes* (Sam Wanamaker Festival, Shakespeare's Globe). Radio work includes *The Pillow Book* (Series 7, BBC Radio 4). Jessica was the winner of the inaugural Billy Award for Best Newcomer at the Critics Awards for Theatre in Scotland 2014.

James Edwyn graduated from Goldsmiths, University of London in 2014 and *Slope* is his professional debut. Previous theatre credits include: *Romeo and Juliet* (The Cockpit Theatre); *Pope Joan*, *Ghost Office* (National Youth Theatre); *Oliver* (New Vic Theatre) and a rehearsed reading of *The Grandfathers* (National Theatre).

Nick Millar is technical manager for Untitled Projects and an artist working mostly, but not exclusively, with his partner Minty Donald. Nick has worked with Untitled since its conception and has a particular interest in the company's use of performance space and their experimental approach to performance conventions. His practice as an artist is multi-disciplinary and generally context-specific, focusing on the interrelations between human and non-human stuff.

Mike Brookes is an award-winning artist, director and designer, whose work has always bridged media. He co-founded the performance collective *Pearson/Brookes* with Mike Pearson in 1997, most recently co-creating their acclaimed *Coriolan/us* for National Theatre Wales and the RSC. He is currently developing a long-term collaborative practice with Spanish artist Rosa Casado and in 2007 he was appointed Creative Research Fellow within Aberystwyth University.

Anna Chaney is a Scottish artist and filmmaker. Anna graduated from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland with an Honours degree in Filmmaking. She works commercially as a filmmaker; her artistic practice incorporates film as part of site-specific installation and live performance. Anna has previously collaborated with *Fish and Game* on their 5 star reviewed 'Alma Mater' projects. These projects have toured internationally since their creation and debut at Charles Rennie Mackintosh's Scotland Street Museum. She worked on Untitled Projects' *The Salon Project* and *Paul Bright's Confessions of Justified Sinner*.

KILTR is a new media platform, which creates and shares content that is culturally relevant to the user. KILTR is all about community, promoting, sharing, collaboration and understanding via a common cultural bond. KILTR also creates its own original content and are experts in live-streamed transmissions. *Slope* is their first foray into theatre and they're extremely excited to be working with Untitled Projects and Stewart Laing again after a successful media partnership earlier in 2014 working on an interpretation of Alexander Trocchi's *Cain's Book*.

Untitled Projects is a Glasgow theatre company formed in 1998 by Stewart Laing. Untitled Projects makes ambitious and adventurous theatre on a large scale. They continually re-imagine what theatre can be: blending landscape, biography, novel, video, lecture, documentary, installation, interview, fashion, music, science and playwriting. Recent Untitled projects include *Paul Bright's Confessions of a Justified Sinner* (National Theatre of Scotland, Tramway and Summerhall); and *The Salon Project* (Traverse, Citizens Theatre and SPILL Festival at the Barbican). Other projects include *Cain's Book* by Alexander Trocchi; *An Argument About Sex* by Pamela Carter, a response to Marivaux's *La Dispute*; and the original production of *Slope* in 2006.

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