

## **Lament**

There's a sense that things aren't what they used to be – that we've lost we've lost our way – that something's missing.

*Lament* is a poem for the theatre. Funny and touching, honest and playful, it examines the sadnesses and absurdities of the state we're in today – or, at least, the state we think we're in.

Asked for their favourite sad song, their dream future, their assessment of current global politics, the answers of Suspect Culture's five performers unfurl as a succession of scenes and snapshots: cowboys remember the burritos of Ruby Gonzalez, a tango teacher mourns the lack of passion in her students, a group of actors celebrate at the wake of a colleague, pretzels go astray in the Whitehouse, the quality of apricots is disputed in a refugee camp, Salvatore Salvatore finishes his long awaited novel.

The performers switch, stumble, and turn from scene to scene looking for the words which will articulate their longings. A haunting sound track of original music both recorded and played live weaves between their thoughts. And video footage of interviews with the performers, intimate and confessional, plays amidst the glare of hi-tech global communications and glossy images of cable TV.

What emerges is a show which occupies the very present space between the personal and the political and acknowledges the heartfelt nostalgia we feel today for a world that perhaps never existed.

Lament premiered at the Tron Theatre, Glasgow in April 2002 and toured to the Traverse Theatre in Edinburgh, the Royal Exchange Theatre in Manchester and Paisley Arts Centre.

Artistic collaborators: Graham Eatough, David Greig, Nick Powell, Ian Scott.  
Performers: Paul Blair, Callum Cuthbertson, Kate Dickie, Graham Eatough, Louise Ludgate, Nick Powell.

'extraordinary theatre – intimate and universal, local and global, and as indulgently heartwarming as the saddest song' The Guardian

For excerpts from the process diary, and press reviews please go to the Archive.

## **Information for promoters**

Size of company – 6 onstage, 8/9 on the road.

Minimum stage area – 7m wide x 5.5m deep x 3.5m high.

Suitable for small scale venues.

Type of work – new performance/new writing.

We are currently booking a UK/international tour for *Lament* from February 2003.

If you would like further information please contact Julie Ellen (General Manager) on +44 (0)141 332 9775 or [julie@suspectculture.co.uk](mailto:julie@suspectculture.co.uk)