

I, Elizabeth

PRESS RELEASE

DYAD PRODUCTIONS

I, Elizabeth

Written & performed by Rebecca Vaughan

Directed by Guy Masterson

1568: At a vital crossroads in history a young queen steps from the shadows to unburden herself of her many troubles and reveal her innermost thoughts on marriage, succession, religion, war, and the challenges to her throne. But time is against her...

Elizabeth I: Queen at 25, political phoenix and famously unmarried, she was the most educated woman of her Age – but who was the woman beneath the crown?

Using only Elizabeth's own words – adapted from letters, speeches and writings – *I, Elizabeth* illuminates a fascinating and insightful moment of decision in the young monarch's reign. Defying the establishment by choosing to lead her country alone, Elizabeth has forsaken her own dreams and desires in order to steer England towards national and spiritual security. *I, Elizabeth* explores the struggle to reconcile the desires of womanhood with the duties of sovereignty to expose the royal heart of an iconic historical figure.

A five-star success in Edinburgh 2010, Adelaide 2011 and Edinburgh 2015, *I, Elizabeth* comes from Dyad Productions (*Austen's Women, The Diaries of Adam & Eve, Female Gothic, The Unremarkable Death of Marilyn Monroe, Dalloway, Christmas Gothic*), which creates, produces and tours classic theatre with an innovative and contemporary emphasis. It is performed (and adapted) by Rebecca Vaughan, and continues Dyad's collaboration with director Guy Masterson (Olivier Award-winning *Morecambe*). Authentic costumes are provided by Kate Flanagan (*Female Gothic, Austen's Women, Bollywood Steps*), and atmospheric sound design comes from composer/actor Waen Shepherd (*The Inbetweeners, Female Gothic, The Diaries of Adam & Eve*).

Elizabeth I: traitor, bastard, heretic or prisoner? Call her what you like. The rest is history.

★★★★★★ 'Riveting... a breathtaking creation' (*Edinburgh Evening News*)

★★★★★★ 'A truly breathtaking experience' (*Fringe Review*)

★★★★★★ 'A definite must see for history and theatre addicts.' (*Hairline*)

★★★★★★ 'A performance worthy of an Academy Award.' (*The Carrick*)

★★★★★ 'Spellbinding' (*Watsonstage*)

★★★★★ 'Rich with historical detail yet loses none of its white hot theatricality' (*The List*)

★★★★★ 'Wholly fresh and dynamic' (*Three Weeks*)

★★★★★ 'Captivating.... Rises to the challenge and easily surpasses' (*British Theatre Guide*)