



I, Elizabeth

PRESS RELEASE

DYAD PRODUCTIONS

I, Elizabeth

Written & performed by Rebecca Vaughan

Directed by Guy Masterson

From Dyad Productions, the award-winning creators of *Female Gothic*, *A Room of One's Own*, *Christmas Gothic*, and *Austen's Women*.

I, Elizabeth: 1568: At a vital yet volatile 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 words – adapted from letters, speeches and writings – *I, Elizabeth* illuminates a fascinating moment of decision in the young monarch's reign. Defying the establishment by choosing to lead her country alone, Elizabeth forsakes 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.

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

Dyad Productions creates, produces and tours classic theatre with an innovative and contemporary emphasis. A regular fixture at the Edinburgh Fringe, their work has been a critical, 5-star, sell-out success since 2009. The other Dyad Productions, *Austen's Women*, *A Room of One's Own*, *Christmas Gothic* and *Female Gothic* have garnered five-star reviews and continue to tour across the UK and internationally. In 2018 Dyad Productions was awarded the prestigious Three Weeks Editors' Award for Cumulative Body of Work.

The Team: *I, Elizabeth* is written and performed by Rebecca Vaughan (writer/performer: *Female Gothic*, *A Room of One's Own*, *Christmas Gothic*, *Austen's Women*, performer: *Orlando*, *Jane Eyre*, *Dalloway*, *The Diaries of Adam and Eve*). It is directed by Guy Masterson (*Austen's Women*, *The Diaries of Adam and Eve*, *Female Gothic*, Olivier Award-winning *Morecambe*). Costume by Kate Flanagan (*Austen's Women*, *Female Gothic*, *Dalloway*, *Orlando*, *Christmas Gothic*, *The Time Machine*, *Bollywood Steps*). Sound design by Waen Shepherd (*The Unremarkable Death of Marilyn Monroe*, *The Diaries of Adam and Eve*, *Female Gothic*, *Crackanory*).

★★★★★★ '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' (*Whatsonstage*)

★★★★★ '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*)

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