

PRESS RELEASE

Youth Music Theatre: UK



Youth Music Theatre: UK announces London transfer for 5-star Edinburgh Fringe musical *Missing Mel*

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Youth Music Theatre: UK has announced that one of its eight Summer productions, *Missing Mel*, will transfer to London next month.

The show, which has been developed over three years and garnered 5-star reviews at this year's Edinburgh Fringe Festival, will open at the off-West End **Cochrane Theatre** on October 22nd.

Developed by members of the company alongside writer Kath Burlinson, with music and lyrics by Conor Mitchell, the production is directed by Pete Gallagher, who most recently worked as Acting Coach on the BBC's *Any Dream Will Do* and *Strictly Come Dancing*.

Missing Mel charts the impact on a group of teenagers when they return from the Summer holidays to discover that one of their peers has gone missing. Where is she? Where was she last seen? Who is responsible? And is everything quite what it seems in this very British high school musical?

Thirty of the country's most talented young performers - auditioned from over 1000 people - present high-energy routines and thought-provoking issues in a show that *Broadway Baby* called 'another superb production from Youth Music Theatre: UK', awarding it five stars. *One4Review* said it was 'magnificent', whilst *Edinburgh Guide* claimed that it 'blew the audience away'.

Jon Bromwich, Executive Producer of Youth Music Theatre: UK, commented "we are delighted to bringing another wonderful piece of contemporary new music theatre to London, following the success of *Frankenstein* at the Cochrane in March and of our eight productions around the UK in August. The transfer will allow this engaging piece to be enjoyed by those who could not catch it in Edinburgh".

Tickets for *Missing Mel* can be booked by calling the Box Office on 020 7269 1606. The performance dates are Wednesday 22nd - Saturday 25th October 2008.

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Notes to Editors

Youth Music Theatre: UK is a national charity whose principal aim is the personal and creative development of young people through the medium of new musical theatre. The company provides a wide

range of residential workshops across the country as well as a variety of outreach projects, working with hundreds of young people from all corners of the country.

This production of *Missing Mel* is supported NASUWT, the Teachers' Union.

High-resolution photos from the show can be downloaded from www.ymtuk.org/press

Listings Information

Missing Mel - developed with members of Youth Music Theatre: UK by Kath Burlinson and Conor Mitchell.
Wednesday 22nd - Saturday 25th October 2008, 7.30pm. Matinees at 4pm on Thursday 23rd and Saturday 25th.

Tickets: £10/£5 under 18s (eves), £6/£4 under 18s (matinees).

Directed by Pete Gallagher, Choreography by Tony Mills, Design by Mercedes Said.

Cochrane Theatre, Southampton Row, London WC1B 4AP

www.cochranetheatre.co.uk

Box Office: 020 7269 1606

Your press contact at YMT: UK is

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Hundreds of high-res, print-ready photos - and interviews with practitioners and young participants from all UK regions - are available to accompany this story