

ROGUE[®]

SHAKESPEARE



www.rogueshakespeare.com

Rogue Shakespeare® is bringing an award-winning festival of modern verse to the Brighton Fringe!

London, February 5, 2024

[Rogue Shakespeare®](#) is bringing no less than 3 critically acclaimed plays by multi award-winning verse playwright, Ryan J-W Smith, to the Brighton Fringe Festival this May.

Smith's acclaimed 7th verse play, the award-nominated, [Pretty, Witty Nell](#), will be performed in the Rotunda Theatre (Bubble) from May 10th. While a unique and exciting double-bill of Smith's award-winning romantic comedy, [Love Labours Won](#), and his award-nominated verse farce, [Sweet Love Adieu](#), will be performed at the massive Brighton Open Air Theatre for 3 nights - May 23-25.

[Pretty, Witty Nell](#) is a new and original one-woman tragicomic history, written entirely in rhyming iambic pentameter, that tells the true story of Nell Gwynne, the famous actress/prostitute, and mistress of the wild British monarch, King Charles II. [Pretty, Witty Nell](#) is the first play about Nell Gwynne ever to be written in the style that made her famous - that of rhyming iambic verse.

"a standout solo show - perfect!" - Broadway World

★★★★★ *"Smith's writing is exquisite. Attfield was phenomenal... Simply put this play is a work of genius. Genius writing, genius direction and genius acting"* - Pink Prince Theatre

★★★★★ *"Reenacted intricately and with flair"* - First Night Magazine

★★★★★ *"This is impressive - there's a lot of enjoyment to be had from this kind of pastiche"*
- London Pub Theatres Magazine

"Engrossing from start to finish... worthy of tremendous praise... I can only marvel at Smith's craft"
- Mark Aspen Reviews

"Attfield perfectly plays our Nell. It's modern, enjoyable Shakespeare; with comedy, tragedy - the lot!"
- The Family Stage

"Pretty Witty Nell is a truly memorable production, a triumph" - Twickenham and Richmond Tribune

Smith's 3rd verse play, [Love Labours Won](#), is a fringe legend. Smith was initially funded to write the play by the Arts Council of England in 2005. Directed by Smith, Rogue Shakespeare® then produced the world premiere at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in 2006, where it astonished critics and audiences alike, and quickly became *"one of the most acclaimed plays ever to come out of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe."* - Broadway World.

Smith/Rogue Shakespeare® successfully revived the critically acclaimed show in Edinburgh the following year, this time with an all-female cast, gaining even more praise and countless more 4 and 5-star reviews. Later, Rogue Shakespeare® produced the show at the 2015 Hollywood Fringe Festival where it won 2 awards, including the highly coveted Hollywood Fringe International Award.

Winner – Hollywood Fringe International Award 2015

Winner – Encore! Producers' Award 2015

Pick of the Edinburgh Fringe 2006 & 2007

★★★★★ *“The best Shakespearean comedy not written by Shakespeare”* – Three Weeks

★★★★★ *“Funny, brilliantly acted”* – UK Theatre Network

★★★★★ *“a damned good romp”* – British Theatre Guide

★★★★★ *“his writing is amazing... Smith is one to watch”* – Fringe Review

★★★★★ *“mesmerising work”* – Hairline

★★★★★ *“astonishing...excellent”* – Broadway World

Smith wrote his first verse play, *Sweet Love Adieu*, whilst studying for his BA in Theatre Studies at Trinity College, back in 1999. After graduating, Smith formed Rogue Shakespeare® and produced, directed and starred in the world premiere in 2001 at the open-air Roman Theatre in St. Albans.

Since then *Sweet Love Adieu* has been produced many times internationally, by various companies, including at the Edinburgh Fringe; in New Jersey; North Carolina; Cleveland, and off-Broadway in Theatre Row on 42nd Street in New York.

In 2016, Smith completely re-wrote *Sweet Love Adieu* into an electrifying new version – *“a bawdy, saucy, filthy farce in five outrageous acts”* – which Rogue Shakespeare® premiered at the Hollywood Fringe Festival that year. *Sweet Love Adieu* delighted critics and audiences alike was nominated for the International Award (won that year by Smith for one of his other new verse comedies, *MacDeth!*).

Nominated – Hollywood Fringe International Award 2016

★★★★★ *“Definitely Shakespeare for a modern audience”* – UK Theatre Network

★★★★★ *“Takes one of Shakespeare’s greatest tragedies and turns it into a hilarious comedy”* – British Theatre Guide

★★★★★ *“Farcical, bawdy, a treat!”* – Three Weeks

“Great fun” – The Stage

“a comic delight” – St. Albans Observer

“HILARIOUS – GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!” – LA Stage Reviews

Pretty, Witty Nell® (55 mins) plays May 10, 11, 19, 30, 31 and June 1 @ 6pm, Rotunda Theatre, Regency Sq. Brighton BF1 2FG. Tickets: on sale now: via the [Fringe Office](#) and via the [Rotunda Theatre](#).

Love Labours Won (65 mins) & *Sweet Love Adieu* (90 mins) play as a double-bill at 6.30pm and 8pm respectively, at the Brighton Open Air Theatre, May 23, 24 & 25. Tickets: on sale now: via the [Fringe Office](#) and via the Brighton Open Air Theatre.

For more information please visit: rogueshakespeare.com

ROGUE SHAKESPEARE®

PRESENTS THE AWARD-NOMINATED & CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED TRAGI-COMIC VERSE HISTORY

PRETTY, WITTY **NELL**®

Written and directed by the multi award-winning verse playwright

Ryan J-W Smith

Written entirely in rhyming iambic pentameter, a one-woman tragicomedy about Nell Gwynne, the famous actress/prostitute and mistress of the wild British monarch, King Charles II.



“exquisite... a work of genius”

Pink Prince Theatre



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London Pub Theatres Magazine



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Mark Aspen Reviews



starring

Hannah Attfield

**BRIGHTON
FRINGE.**

ROTUNDA THEATRE
Regency Square
Brighton. BN1 2FG



6pm
MAY 10, 11, 19,
30, 31 & JUNE 1
(55 mins)

ROGUESHAKESPEARE.COM

ROGUE SHAKESPEARE®

PRESENTS THE MULTI AWARD-WINNING ORIGINAL ROMANTIC VERSE COMEDY

LOVE LABOURS WON

hopeless * fearless * selfless * true

WINNER
THE INTERNATIONAL AWARD
HOLLYWOOD FRINGE 2015

written & directed by

Ryan J-W Smith

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WINNER
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PRODUCERS'
AWARD
2015

"The Bard Mark II - Genius!" BBC

'PICK OF THE FRINGE'
EDINBURGH '06 & '07



"This is unmissable"

Three Weeks Magazine



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"Smith is one to watch"

Fringe Review



"astonishing...excellent"

Broadway Baby

TICKETS: ROGUESHAKESPEARE.COM

Brighton Open Air Theatre

Dyke Road Park, Brighton

(65mins)

MAY 23-25
@ 6.30PM



ROGUE SHAKESPEARE®

PRESENTS THE CRITICALLY-ACCLAIMED, BAWDY, SAUCY, FILTHY, OUTRAGEOUS FARCE

Sweet Love Adieu

verse * tights * cod piece * lights

from the multiple award-winning
verse playwright phenomenon

Ryan J-W Smith



*"Definitely Shakespeare
for a modern audience"*

UK Theatre Network



*"HILARIOUS - GET
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ROGUESHAKESPEARE.COM

Brighton Open Air Theatre

Dyke Road Park, Brighton

(90 mins)
+ 15min interval

MAY 23-25
@ 8PM

