



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Crocodile Rock Comes to Cumbernauld Theatre At Lanternhouse**

Cumbernauld Theatre's production of the hit musical Crocodile Rock will run at Lanternhouse from Saturday 4th of June to Sunday 12th June, with the lead role once again played by River City's Darren Brownlie.

Andy McGregor's one-man musical, which was previously performed by A Play, A Pie and a Pint and screened on the BBC, has received substantial investment from Cumbernauld Theatre Trust to bring a reimagined Crocodile Rock to the audience of Cumbernauld Theatre at Lanternhouse. The production features an updated score of original music and a specially commissioned set and costumes.

Writer and Director Andy McGregor said: ***"I am really excited to be bringing Crocodile Rock back to the stage for Cumbernauld Theatre. It's a show that audiences really responded to when we first created it. It's funny, moving, absolutely Scottish and has a breath-taking performance at its heart. It's a real joy to be able to work on it again and breathe new life into it. I'm also more than excited to be working with Darren Brownlie once again, the skill, passion and sheer talent the man possesses boggles the mind! I hope that the people of Cumbernauld will come out and support their local theatre, I guarantee that there is something for everyone in this show, and it's absolutely theatrical - offering something totally different to what Netflix can give you!"***

The funny and often poignant story follows a teenage Steven McPhail on his journey to self-acceptance, while navigating life on the small island of Millport in the 90's. Steven knows that he doesn't quite fit in and that there must be more exciting things in life than Millport's rock painted to look like a crocodile! A chance encounter with an exotic drag queen one evening is the catalyst for him to begin to discover his true, authentic self.

The 85 min musical touches on a number of relatable themes including social exclusion, gender stereotypes, bullying and the often complex relationships we have with our families.

Lead actor Darren Brownlie said: ***'This is my second time playing the role of Steven McPhail, when Andy asked me if I was up for resurrecting Steven I***



*jumped at the chance. Steven's story is one a lot of people can relate to, including myself. I think when people see the show there will be elements of it that really resonate with them, it might even make them shed a wee tear. The new production of the show features an updated score which I have really loved getting my teeth into!*

The beautifully crafted tale of one young man's quest to find self acceptance is told through a series of songs that take the audience on an emotive journey.

Sarah Price, CEO of Cumbernauld Theatre Trust Lanternhouse said: '**Cumbernauld Theatre is proud to be producing this re-staging of Andy McGregors beautiful musical. Darren's performance quickly transports us to 1990's Millport and we are emersed in Steven's lifestory and what a story.. the music heightens our senses to the feelings he portrays with such intensity and passion, I didn't want the singing ever to end... I'm sure this will be a big hit with our audiences.'**

As part of Cumbernauld Theatre Trust's commitment to inclusivity, there will be a British Sign Language interpreted and audio described performance on Crocodile Rock on the 11th of June at 2.30 pm.

Located in the heart of Cumbernauld, on the Cumbernauld Academy campus, this state-of-the-art venue houses two performance spaces - a 270-seat auditorium and Studio Theatre, a dance studio, and a newly opened 84-seat cinema and café.

Tickets for Crocodile Rock are on sale now online at [www.lanternhousearts.org](http://www.lanternhousearts.org) and by telephone bookings to our Box Office: 01236 732887

**Download high res images via:** <https://we.tl/t-wtbJrn30bO>

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## **Notes to Editors**

### **Cumbernauld**

Cumbernauld Theatre Trust is a performing arts charity that produces and presents professional theatre, music, dance and comedy experiences for a community of 50,000 Cumbernauld residents and 100,000 North Lanarkshire population.

### **Theatre**

### **Trust**



Established in 1963, Cumbernauld Theatre is the only professional independent arts organisation in Cumbernauld and North Lanarkshire and serves a vital social, cultural and economic purpose in a community that is economically disadvantaged, with widespread material poverty and deprivation, low academic attainment and poor-quality built environment.

As an established, professional producing theatre, we are both community-led and community conscious with activity that responds to the needs of the local community, yet we deliver outputs that achieve national and international recognition.

We aim for our work to have relevance and resonate with our audiences and participants to achieve deep and lasting impact and change. This work is informed by place, by the opportunities our new arts centre provides and by a desire to deliver affordable access to culture for everyone at all life-stages.

Cumbernauld Theatre Trust is a key part of the infrastructure of Scotland's performing arts and is a Regularly Funded Organisation (RFO) within the Creative Scotland portfolio. We receive investment in support of our work from a range of sources including Creative Scotland and North Lanarkshire Council, Weston Culture Fund and Scottish Government's Empowering Communities Programme – Investing in Communities Fund.

Cumbernauld Theatre Trust is also supported by Screen Scotland, Equity Charitable Trust, Foyle Foundation, The Levenseat Trust, The Trades House of Glasgow Commonweal Fund, Land Trust, Robert Barr's Charitable Trust, Hugh Fraser Foundation, The Robertson Trust and Patersons Quarries, our Friends, and donors.

Lanternhouse is a privately-owned property built through Scottish Futures Trust (SFT) investment jointly operated by North Lanarkshire Council (NLC) and Cumbernauld Theatre Trust. The construction of Lanternhouse was financed via the SFT-managed hub community infrastructure programme for local authorities in support of the Scottish Government's National Infrastructure Mission to drive inclusive economic growth and build resilient places. For more information visit <https://www.scottishfuturestrust.org.uk/>.

**Creative Scotland** is the public body that supports the arts, screen and creative industries across all parts of Scotland on behalf of everyone who lives, works or visits here. We distribute funding provided by the Scottish Government and The National Lottery. Further information at [creativescotland.com](http://creativescotland.com).

**Scottish Government's Empowering Communities Programme** – Investing in Communities Fund supports a range of activity through a staged funding approach and aims to encourage a more holistic response in tackling poverty, inequality and rural disadvantage. It does this by recognising that such approaches to the design of



projects and services, which are informed by lived experience and are person centred, can deliver multiple positive outcomes.

**Weston Culture Fund** award supports the artistic and creative development of the company's live performance, community arts and engagement programmes in its new home and their accessibility to the community of Cumbernauld and North Lanarkshire. The Weston Culture Fund was created in response to Covid-19 and aims to support the cultural sector to restart its work, refresh activities and re-engage audiences following Covid-19 closures.

**Further information and contact details:**

For further enquiries, please contact Claire Collins:

Email: [claire@theroaragency.co.uk](mailto:claire@theroaragency.co.uk)

Telephone: 07958 355580

<http://www.lanternhousearts.org/> | [info@lanternhousearts.org](mailto:info@lanternhousearts.org)

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