



June 2014

Queensland Theatre Company in association with Brisbane Festival present

The Button Event

At the push of a button, a deeply personal and true story of one man's search for connection in chaos

A Queensland Theatre Company & Brisbane Festival production

Devised by the multi Greenroom Award-winning artist Todd MacDonald and critically acclaimed director Bagryana Popov, ***The Button Event*** is the inspirational true story of one man's fight to hold up his family in the face of the impossible. This 'work of heart, devastation and success' opens on September 18 for a two-week world premiere season at Queensland Theatre Company's Bille Browne Studio as part of Brisbane Festival.

It's the story of one man searching for connections in chaos. It could be any one of us ... Life's daily juggle of home, work and family comes to an abrupt halt for this man, when one of his twin daughters is diagnosed with Tuberous Sclerosis Complex and the stakes are raised.

In the time it takes to push a button the future of his family hangs in the balance between beauty and fear, faith and science.

Fused with physical performance, wry humour, raw emotion and a few hundred tennis balls, the messy things that life hurtles are put under the spotlight with Todd MacDonald a one-man-tour-de-force onstage.

According to Popov, this is a deeply personal and fearlessly honest work which ricochets between medical minefields, acts of faith and family counselling. "It's a story of success - we catapult into a world of sleep deprivation, seizures, medication, trampolines and home renovations. Life is big. It's about being human. It's about rising up. It's about what it takes. It's about success," she said.

"This is a work everyone should see."

Bagryana Popov is a theatre maker, director and choreographer who has an interdisciplinary practice, intricately combining theatre and dance languages. She has collaborated with highly skilled professional artists and with communities. She is passionately interested in how artistic practice can speak about social and political reality in new and poetic forms. She holds a PhD and lectures in theatre at La Trobe University.

Todd MacDonald is a celebrated actor and director and is Artistic Associate at Queensland Theatre Company. His recent theatrical works as Director include *Kelly* (2012) and *The Mountaintop* (2014), among others and his acting television work includes *The Secret Life of Us*, *Blue Heelers* and *Neighbours*.

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The Button Event

18 September to 4 October at Bille Brown Studio, QTC

Performer: Todd MacDonald

Director: Bagryana Popov

Sound Designer: Guy Webster

Lighting Designer: Ben Hughes

Design Consultant: Kevin O'Brien

Stage Manager: Yanni Dubler

Tickets \$27.50 - \$30 (including booking fee)

1800 355 528 or queenslandtheatre.com.au