

Sat 22 June 2024
7.45pm

Me Without You

Mella Faye & Emily Levy

HOWARD
ASSEMBLY
ROOM



Artists

Mella Faye

Writer/Director

Emily Levy

Composer/Performer

Performers

Fionn Cox-Davies voice, dance

Tara Franks cello, voice

Mirabelle Gremaud voice, harp, dance

Preetha Narayanan violin, voice

Tom Penn voice, double bass, violin

Production

Sal Pittman Visual Artist

Tom Clutterbuck Visual Technician

Simon Booth Sound Engineer

Sam Halmarack Videographer

Jackie Newbould Senior Producer

Katrina Pike Assistant Producer

About the making of the show

As part of the making of this piece, we've been around the country, having conversations with people about their experiences of loss and how their lives have been shaped by the people they love who are no longer here. This active listening has been our creative driving force, recognising the value of sharing stories and being heard, and it is these stories that make the framework for our piece.

This ethos of listening also gives us a performance language to work with as our cast move fluidly between singing, instrumental playing and dance, whilst interacting with recorded speech and live and filmed visuals by Sal Pitman. The goal is always to creatively amplify the voices and stories at the heart of the piece.

We all carry with us the people that we miss, and the impact on us of their lives and their death. This can be something that we talk about often or hold close as a very private part of us. *Me Without You* is a recognition of and testament to this part of all our lives and we have striven to create something that is hopeful as well as sad, playful as well as serious.

Accompanying the live performance is an online archive or scrapbook of stories and responses to our theme and the initial questions that we used in our conversations all over the country. This is an open resource and we warmly welcome anything you wish to contribute, whether it's text, voice memos, videos, artwork, photos or anything else. These can feature names or be completely anonymous, it's entirely up to you. Please visit www.mewithoutyou.co.uk for more information.

'I'm still a sister. Your sister. Though it's more like a secret over time. I catch myself looking for the empty places inside other people. It's a way of not letting you go.'

Emily Levy, Composer

Artists' biographies



Emily Levy is a singer and composer with particular interest in voice, sound design and narrative. Her musical influences range from medieval to classical, folk to jazz, and the format ranges from solo projects, small and large ensemble, radio soundtrack, theatre and co-creation in many settings.

'Dazzling, immediate and seductive'
The Stage

'Persuasive, timeless and haunting'
The Guardian

Artists' biographies



Mella Faye is a multi-award winning writer-director with a passion for celebrating the creative and sensual chaos of the female gaze. She is Artistic Director of Pecho Mama, makers of radical gig-theatre that reclaims the myths from the contemporary male perspective. Mella regularly works with other artists as mentor, script consultant, director and dramaturg.

'A truly breathtaking theatrical experience'
Culture Fix

'Thrilling and entirely original'
The Stage

Partners

Supported by **Arts Council England** Project Grant

Co-Commissioners: **Britten Pears Arts, Opera North, Spitalfields Music**

With support from Sound and Music for initial research & development

Links

<https://www.mewithoutyou.co.uk/>

 @mewithoutyoushow

 @MWYshow



Howard Opera Centre
8 Harrison Street
Leeds LS1 6PA

0113 243 9999

info@operanorth.co.uk
operanorth.co.uk

Registered Charity N^o 511726
Company N^o 1550778



opera
north



Supported alongside Leeds by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

Principal Partner

 UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

Major Supporter

 THE KEITH HOWARD
FOUNDATION

Major Education Supporter

 THE LIZ & TERRY BRAMHALL
FOUNDATION



UK Government

**LEVELLING
UP**

West
Yorkshire
Local
Authority

 Tracy Brabin
Mayor
of West Yorkshire

arts@leeds

 Leeds
CITY COUNCIL