



Sean Devine / co-artistic director

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## RE:UNION

### available for touring

by Sean Devine

directed by John Langs + Sean Devine

On November 2, 1965 American Quaker Norman Morrison drives to the Pentagon with his infant daughter, a jug of kerosene and a box of matches. With Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara looking on, the young Quaker carries out a final act of witness against the horrors of the Vietnam War. Thirty-six years later, in the immediate aftermath of 9/11, his daughter returns to confront the aging McNamara, the memory of her father, and the costly legacy of sacrifice.



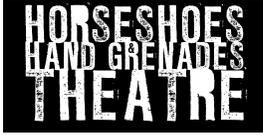
*"A compelling exploration of a small piece of American history. Devine proves himself a master of political theatre."* Gay Vancouver

*"A powerful and striking piece of theatre."* The Vancouver Courier

*"A moral and intellectual workout."* The Georgia Straight

*"Re:Union asks fascinating questions about guilt and responsibility, the need to take action against the unconscionable, and the price to be paid for inaction."* The Province

*"Intensely charged political drama...A political piece with a warm, beating heart."* The Ottawa Citizen



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### Production History

RE:UNION premiered in Vancouver in 2011, as a co-production by Horseshoes & Hand Grenades Theatre and Pacific Theatre. The script was published by Scirocco Drama in 2013. RE:UNION has had public readings in Seattle, New York City and Chicago. RE:UNION was programmed for the mainstage of the 2015 Magnetic North Theatre Festival.

### Tech Specs + Touring Information

RE:UNION is available for touring as of Spring 2016. Touring company: 5 (3 actors + 2 SMs). Additional company for tech: 3 (director, TD, 2 designers). RE:UNION can play either in a small-to-medium proscenium venue or a large black box. Minimum set-up time is 3 days leading to performance on 3<sup>rd</sup> night. Running time: two hours including intermission. Detailed tech specs available upon request at [sean@horseshoesandhandgrenades.ca](mailto:sean@horseshoesandhandgrenades.ca)



## **DAISY**

### **ready for production**

by Sean Devine

It's the Fall of 1964. Bloody turmoil over Civil Rights is spilling onto the streets. A fearful ideology is growing from the conservative right. The threat of nuclear war is palpable. And a little skirmish in the far-off nation of Vietnam just won't go away. With a Presidential election looming, a group of advertising men working for Lyndon Johnson unleash the most devastating political commercial ever conceived, the "Daisy ad". Based on true events, DAISY explores the moment in television history that launched the age of negative advertising, and forever changed how we elect our leaders. War was the objective. Peace was the bait. Everyone got duped.





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### Integration of Research + Media

The production of DAISY will incorporate several original media elements from the 1964 campaign, including rare archives collected by the playwright from the actual people who made the ad. To see the original 1964 “Daisy ad”, visit: <http://bit.ly/1erofS7>

### Development History

DAISY was commissioned by NYC’s Ensemble Studio Theatre / Sloan Projects. There will be a workshop of DAISY in Seattle at ACT Theatre in June 2016, followed by a workshop / public reading of DAISY in Toronto in November 2015, as part of Studio 180 Theatre’s “In Development” program. DAISY is scheduled to have its world premiere in Seattle at ACT Theatre in Summer 2016, and is also under consideration for an Ottawa production in Fall 2016. To inquire about production information or for a draft of the script please contact [sean@horseshoesandhandgrenades.ca](mailto:sean@horseshoesandhandgrenades.ca)



## **THE ICELAND PROJECT**

### **in development**

by Sean Devine + Emily Pearlman

Based on the historical economic and political revolution in Iceland that began with that country’s financial collapse in 2008. After the Kitchenware Revolution in 2009, the Icelandic people set out to reclaim their country’s “honesty and integrity” through the most democratically-inspired re-writing of a national constitution ever seen. But what began as a noble mission based on ideals soon fell into an all-too predictable travesty of corruption and mismanagement. As one Icelandic artist told us, “honesty and integrity have never seemed further away.”

Sean Devine visited Reykjavik in 2014 as the first research phase for a project that seeks to re-frame Iceland’s political upheaval into a new theatre project being created with HHG Theatre associate artist Emily Pearlman. We’re exploring ideas such as the challenging process of consensus building, as well as humanity’s failed pursuits for establishing Utopia.

We plan to do this through an interactive audience engagement process that seeks to enlist each performances’ audience in a consultation process that will determine the political and social agenda of a new micro-state. Each night’s audience will become citizens of this new state, and chart the course for its existence.

### Current Objectives

Sean Devine and Emily Pearlman will begin development of THE ICELAND PROJECT in Summer 2015 as part of Theatre 4.669’s Summer Lab. We’re presently looking for residencies and development partnerships to continue to create this new work over the next two years, as we aim to have it ready for a Canadian premiere in Summer 2017. For info contact: [sean@horseshoesandhandgrenades.ca](mailto:sean@horseshoesandhandgrenades.ca)



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## ABOUT HORSESHOES & HAND GRENADES THEATRE

HORSESHOES & HAND GRENADES THEATRE creates theatre that reveals the vulnerable heart and champions the brave idea.

Founded in 2004 in Vancouver, HHG Theatre has spent the past decade carving out an identity as a group of artists determined to use theatre as a powerful platform for social and political change. Over our history we've garnered numerous critical nominations and awards, and have become known as much for our process-driven, collaborative methods as for our provocative works themselves.

In 2014 we made the bold move of "expanding" our company into Ottawa as well as Vancouver, as we launch an experiment to create theatre in both cities, engaging artists from both cities, and performing for the communities of both cities.

Our production of RE:UNION at the Magnetic North Theatre Festival marks our first big endeavor in our newly adopted city. We hope that you appreciate it, and that you keep on coming back.



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**FACEBOOK:** [www.facebook.com/HHGtheatre](http://www.facebook.com/HHGtheatre)

**TWITTER:** @HHGtheatre

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