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LOCAL ACTOR RETURNS FOR WORK IN SCHOOLS

Fareham raised actor, Andy Silverwood, will return to the borough to perform to and talk with local students with a partnership he founded with James Grice (of Sutton, Surrey) whilst at Rose Bruford College of Theatre and Performance in Sidcup, Kent, Fragility.

After the success of Fragility's performance of "In Conversation" at Ashcroft Arts in November 2012, the team were approached by Caroline Bintley of Brune Park School, in Gosport, and encouraged to bring the work into the school to be seen by as many students as possible, after she felt some of the themes really resonated with students nowadays.

In Conversation tells an autobiographical narrative of two friends who reflect on their school days and deals with issues such as peer pressure, bullying, sexuality, sex, and accidentally stealing a Furby from Fareham Market (aged 9).

The group will perform to the students on March 1st and then answer questions about the work, about growing up, and about being an actor or a director in a professional and ever more ambitious theatre company.

On Monday 4th March, Silverwood will revisit his old school, Brookfield Community School and Language College, where he has been invited by Director of Drama and Dance, Kelly Kent, to visit GCSE students and talk about following their dreams and creating futures in performing.

Silverwood said:

"I've always been really proud of where I came from. Even though my career has taken me to a number of exciting places here and abroad, I will always have a home in Fareham and this is an excellent opportunity for me to bring something back to this special place"

And the company have worked extensively to bring work to communities at home and abroad. In 2012, the performance "Flying South" took on the subjects of 'divorce' and 'separation' and created a work suitable for 3-7 year olds. The slightly more adult "My First Ten



Sexual Failures and Other Stories About Growing Up” sold out at Prague Fringe Festival 2012 before going on to have two “off West End” shows in the centre of London.

In 2013, Fragility have confirmed two new premiers in the Czech Republic, and have also started negotiations with New York based “Built For Collapse”, but this work will require a large amount of money and donations ‘in kind’ such as flights, hotels or even props and costumes. Anyone capable of supporting this collaboration should email info@fragility.co.uk.

Andrew Silverwood is an actor, director and Homegrown Producer for Battersea Arts Centre in London. His career has seen him train both in the UK and Prague and work with companies including Future Cinema, Level 5, Farm in the Cave and 50 Letters.

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Words: 443

Further Information:

www.fragility.co.uk
www.fragility.co.uk/projects_past.html
www.facebook.com/fragility1
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www.about.me/andysilverwood

IMAGES: Attached Separately.

- 1) Andrew Silverwood Headshot. 2011, Paul Aitchenson.
- 2) Fragility, 2012, In Conversation by Gareth Rodgers