

METAL NEVER DIES...

AWOL

2 OLD MEN ESCAPE FROM A CARE HOME & GO TO A METAL FESTIVAL



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WRITTEN BY
ROB GEE

DIRECTED BY
RYAN GLADSTONE

FEATURING
ROB GEE
&
JON PATERSON

SOUND DESIGN BY
ROB GEE
&
JON PATERSON

LIGHT DESIGN BY
JON PATERSON



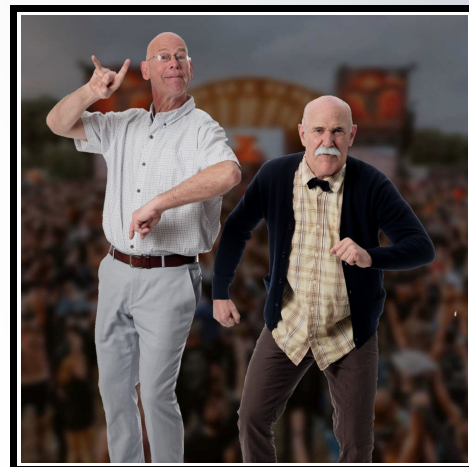
AWOL

RabbitRePublic Theatre
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Cyril doesn't like old people, which is a shame because he is one. When he learns his estranged granddaughter, Lily, has her big break with her thrash metal band, Abscess, he and his friend Neville are determined to show up and support her. Neither of them will ever be the same again. *AWOL* is a buddy adventure caper about two men who decide they've had enough of bland food, dull company and care home radio.

UK comedian, poet and former nurse Rob Gee wrote the show after reading a news item from Germany: "It turned out not to be true, but it inspired me to write a buddy movie-style adventure caper with a positive message about ageing. It's also a love letter to metalheads!"

Rob has performed over 100 fringe festivals across the world and won over twenty awards for his solo shows. Fringe hits include *SmartArse* ("Be prepared to be blown away" - CBC) and *Forget Me Not: The Alzheimer's Whodunnit* ("This is terrific theatre" - Vancouver Sun).



Jon Paterson has worked in theatre for thirty years and performed at every major fringe festival in North America. He toured his first solo-written show *How I Met My Mother* last year, exploring his relationship with his mother in the wake of her dementia ("Humorous, heartfelt and moving" - Orlando Sentinel).

Rob and Jon have been friends for sixteen years. Rob said, "I knew Jon would be perfect for this show and when Ryan came on board also, the three of us immediately hit it off. If we'd been at school, they'd never have allowed us to sit together."

Director Ryan Gladstone is the artistic director of Monster Theatre and creator of numerous fringe hits, including *Til Death: The Six Wives of Henry VIII* and *Juliet: A Revenge Comedy*. ("A natural comedian" - CBC).

AWOL debuted at Winnipeg and Edmonton Fringe Festivals in the summer of 2023, selling out all ten shows at a 140 seat venue in Winnipeg and 93% of tickets in a 310 seat venue in Edmonton. It proved particularly popular with seniors and metalheads alike!

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“Rob Gee and Jon Paterson are comic gold in this show, which is full of send-ups about both elder care facilities and metal music (Cyril’s granddaughter plays in a band called Abscess)... they bring genuine warmth to the satire, making it a pleasure to watch from start to finish.”



Edmonton Journal

“Very smart and funny... AWOL delivers on its premise with clever writing and eccentric performances, including jokes that will delight elders and those familiar with hard rock.”

Post Horn, Edmonton

“Hilarious... a cinch to be a fringe hit!”

Winnipeg Free Press

“Screamingly funny, with just the right seasoning of compassion and dramatic tension... I loved the script... we get to know and love the two men in their quest to escape not just their restrictive, hum-drum home, but their lone-lines and fears for the future... the performances, as one would expect from these two, are great.”

UMFM Manitoba

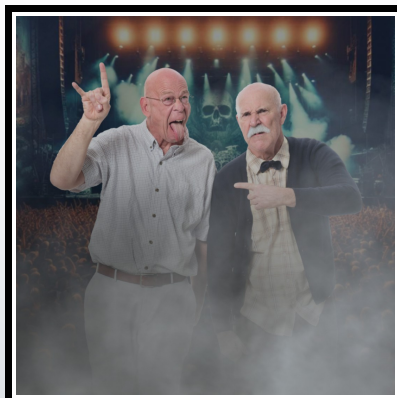
“A fun show by a very personable and able duo... Rob Gee and Jon Paterson play Neville and Cyril in this entertaining comic performance of two elderly gentlemen trying to have one last adventure. Also nicely woven in are some rhyming couplets in the dialogue.”

Jenny Revue, Winnipeg

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Jonathon Paterson – Artistic Producer

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