



Written by **Rob Gee**. Directed by **Ryan Gladstone**.

Performed by **Rob Gee** and **Jon Paterson**.

Sound design: **Rob Gee** and **Jon Paterson**. Lighting design: **Jon Paterson**

**Warnings:** adult language, drug references. **Audience classification:** Parental Guidance 14+

## Two old men escape from a care home and go to a metal festival...

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.

Leicester-based comic, poet and former mental health 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" Canadian Broadcasting Corporation ★★★★★) and *Forget Me Not: The Alzheimer's Whodunnit* ("Hilarious and heartbreaking" Victoria Times Colonist ★★★★★).

Vancouver-based **Jon Paterson** has worked in theatre for thirty years and performed at every major fringe festival in North America. He toured his first solo show *How I Met My Mother* last year, exploring his relationship with his mom 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."

**Ryan Gladstone** is artistic director of Monster Theatre and creator of numerous fringe hits, including *Til Death* and *Juliet: A Revenge Comedy*. ("A natural comedian" CBC.) He lives in Vancouver.

**AWOL** debuted at Winnipeg and Edmonton Fringe Festivals this summer, selling out all ten shows at a 140 seat venue in Winnipeg and the over two thousand tickets in seven shows in Edmonton. It proved particularly popular with older people and metalheads alike!

"Comedy gold... a pleasure to watch from start to finish." Edmonton Journal ★★★★★

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