

# Nancy Poole PR press release

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Mark Murphy's V-TOL presents

## **OUT OF THIS WORLD**

Touring from 21 April to 10 June 2017

National press performance: Friday 21 April at Macrobert Arts Centre, Stirling

London press performance: Tuesday 2 May, Peacock Theatre

*Out Of This World* is action-packed theatre from acclaimed writer/director **Mark Murphy**. Set within a world of projected film and animation, it combines his signature mix of groundbreaking aerial choreography, explosive special effects and edge of the seat storytelling.

Part psychological thriller, part heart-rending medical drama, this is the story of a woman's descent into the depths of a medically induced coma. Once safely cocooned, she discovers a shocking truth that forces her to escape her subterranean safe house in a very real fight for life.

Mark Murphy is a groundbreaking theatre-maker, celebrated internationally for creating genre-defying work that combines an unusually broad range of skills. As director, writer, designer, filmmaker and choreographer, he has led ambitious, large-scale outdoor events and international ceremonies for audiences in excess of 70,000, including the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games closing ceremony (featuring 1500 Glaswegians alongside stars such as Kylie Minogue, Lulu, Deacon Blue and Dougie Maclean).

*Out Of This World* signifies Mark's return to making work for the stage for the first time in ten years. It combines the thrill of the explosive spectacles he has created in recent years with the environment in which he feels most at home. His company **V-TOL** was synonymous with all that was dynamic and crowd-pleasing about his work in the 1990s. This show marks the company's re-launch, now evolved to place Mark's work firmly in the world of theatre.

*Out Of This World* has been researched with a Consultant Neurosurgeon, a Consultant Anesthetist and the clinical lead for the West Midlands Air Ambulance, with a development period that has taken Mark from a neurosurgical operating room to aerial rehearsal rooms in Buenos Aires.

**Mark Murphy:** *'Out Of This World's heroine Ellen is not only the main character but, intriguingly, also the location for the show – as much of the action takes place deep within her injured brain. It can be a playful place although often it is terrifying; and ultimately it is revelatory. I think a profound truth lies in the revelation that the pain endured, the tests faced and skills acquired while she is deep under the heavy blanket of a medically induced coma demonstrate the extraordinary capacity of the mind to equip the human heart with all it needs to survive outside of this deep sleep. I want audiences to dive deep with her on this journey into herself and be thrilled and stunned by the action she and they encounter.'*

**Alistair Spalding CBE, Artistic Director & CEO, Sadler's Wells:** *'Sadler's Wells is proud that we can support British artists as they journey through different performative forms and Out Of This World is truly genre-defying. Mark's vision is bold, innovative and ambitious whilst instantly accessible, promising to be an experience for audiences that is quite different to anything else being offered – a rollercoaster ride for the senses.'*

**Julie Ellen, Artistic Director, Macrobert Arts Centre:** *'Hosting the making of Out Of This World and the world premiere with an artist of Mark's calibre is fantastic and we're so looking forward to sharing the experience with our audiences. This gravity-defying, imaginative exploration of the experience of someone with brain trauma will be the Conversation Starter for our summer season so there'll be lots of activities and opportunities built around the show and its themes, encouraging everyone to get involved, ask questions and be part of a bigger dialogue.'*

**Alan Rivett, Director, Warwick Arts:** *'I thought that UK theatres had lost the creative whirlwind that is Mark Murphy. Thrilling then, to hear his yearning for a return to mid-scale touring, bringing with him all that he's learned from his extraordinary work on outdoor, global spectacle. I can't wait to get it in front of an audience!'*

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## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

### **Creatives:**

Conceived, written and directed by Mark Murphy

Associate Artist: EJ Boyle

Co-Designer (set) and costume design: Becky Minto

Lighting: Lizzie Powell

Sound design and composer: Nathaniel Reed

Rigging design: Alex Palmer

Medical Research Consultants: Dr Nick Crombie, Dr Konstantina Karabatsou

**Cast includes:** Sarah Swire, Catherine Cusack, Itxaso Moreno, Anwar Russell

### **Mark Murphy:**

Mark conceives and creates world-class theatre, outdoor spectacle and international ceremonies. He is richly equipped to make thrilling work on a very large scale. Mark's recent credits include the prestigious Presidential Torch Lighting Ceremony for the 1st European Games in Baku, Azerbaijan; the much-heralded Glasgow Commonwealth Games Closing Ceremony, starring a cast of thousands; the Eventia Award-winning Opening Ceremony for the Global Education & Skills Forum in Abu Dhabi hosted by HRH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum and attended by Bill Clinton and Tony Blair; the creation of the Liverpool 08 and Turku 2011 European Capital of Culture opening shows, *The Preston Passion*—a live, Royal Television Society Award-winning broadcast for BBC1; *The Gathering* in Edinburgh Castle and many other high-profile productions.

### **Funders:**

*Out Of This World* is funded by the National Lottery through Arts Council England and Creative Scotland, The Foyle Foundation, Jerwood Charitable Foundation and Garfield Weston Foundation. Commissioned by Macrobert Arts Centre, Sadler's Wells London, Dance Touring Partnership, ART31 KENT, Warwick Arts Centre and Triggered at Warwick. Supported by Cold Mountain Kit, Bluman Associates, tube, Cuerda Producciones, All or Nothing and Beaconhurst School.

### **Listings details:**

Dates + time    Fri 21 + Sat 22 April, 7.30pm  
Venue            Macrobert Arts Centre, Stirling  
Booking         01786 466666 / macrobertartscentre.org

Dates + time    Tue 25 + Wed 26 April, 7.30pm  
Venue            Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
Booking         024 7652 4524 / warwickartscentre.co.uk

Date + time     Fri 28 April, 7.30pm  
Venue            Cast, Doncaster  
Booking         01302 303959 castindoncaster.com

Dates + time    Mon 1 - Wed 3 May, 7.30pm  
Venue            Peacock Theatre, London  
Booking         020 7863 8222 / sadlerswells.com

**Listings details continue overleaf**

Date + time	Fri 5 May, 7.30pm
Venue	Gulbenkian, Canterbury
Booking	01227 769075 <a href="http://thegulbenkian.co.uk">thegulbenkian.co.uk</a>
Date + time	Tue 9 May, 7.30pm
Venue	Grand Theatre, Blackpool
Booking	01253 290190 / <a href="http://blackpoolgrand.co.uk">blackpoolgrand.co.uk</a>
Dates + time	Fri 12 + Sat 13 May, 8pm
Venue	Nottingham Playhouse
Booking	0115 941 9419 / <a href="http://nottinghamplayhouse.co.uk">nottinghamplayhouse.co.uk</a>
Dates + time	Tue 16 + Wed 17 May, 8pm
Venue	Eden Court, Inverness
Booking	01463 234234 / <a href="http://eden-court.co.uk">eden-court.co.uk</a>
Dates + time	Fri 19 + Sat 20 May, 7.30pm
Venue	Tramway, Glasgow
Booking	0845 330 3501 / <a href="http://tramway.org">tramway.org</a>
Dates + time	Tue 23 + Wed 24 May, 7.30pm
Venue	Edinburgh Festival Theatre
Booking	0131 529 6000 / <a href="http://edtheatres.com/festival">edtheatres.com/festival</a>
Dates + time	Fri 26 + Sat 27 May, 7.30pm
Venue	Northern Stage, Newcastle
Booking	0191 230 5151 / <a href="http://northernstage.co.uk">northernstage.co.uk</a>
Dates + time	Tue 30 + Wed 31 May, 8pm
Venue	The Lowry, Salford Quays
Booking	0843 208 6000/ <a href="http://thelowry.com">thelowry.com</a>
Date + time	Fri 2 June, 8pm
Venue	G Live, Guildford
Booking	01483 369350 / <a href="http://glive.co.uk">glive.co.uk</a>
Dates + time	Tue 6 + Wed 7 June, 7.30pm
Venue	Oxford Playhouse
Booking	01865 305305 / <a href="http://oxfordplayhouse.com">oxfordplayhouse.com</a>
Dates + time	Fri 9 + Sat 10 June, 7.30pm
Venue	Hall for Cornwall, Truro
Booking	01872 262466 / <a href="http://hallforcornwall.co.uk">hallforcornwall.co.uk</a>