

James Collyer - Producer
BA Philosopher (3rd Year)

Previous Experience -
Producing: The Skriker, Strangers (NNT)



It always amazes me just how quickly time goes by. It only feels like yesterday that Joe and I were holed up in his sitting room before Edinburgh sketching set designs and taking our first steps into deconstructing the play. But here we are with the curtains ready to rise. It's been a phenomenal journey which I cannot thank Joe enough for asking me to accompany him on – Joe is a brilliant director, an amazing friend, and I couldn't think of anyone else I'd rather be making plays with than him.

After Joe, I have to give a massive hand to all the cast. They have been absolutely fantastic, throwing themselves into everything that we've asked them to do, no matter how weird and crazy it may have been. We couldn't be more proud of the dedication and enthusiasm that everyone brought with them and I'm just grateful that I had the pleasure to work with them all on this show.

I know that what people usually remember about a play happens on stage, but there would be no show if it weren't for all the awesome work put in by the crew behind the scenes. Jess, Ronan, Ben, David, Sam M, Ranait, Sam L, and Jo – there aren't enough words to express my gratitude for all you've done for us.

And finally I want to thank the committee for entrusting us with putting the play on in the first place; my housemates for pretending to be interested in the show whenever I talked about it and for letting us film in the basement; and lastly, but by no means least, thank you to my girlfriend Charlotte for being a constant source of support and encouragement. I wouldn't have been able to do this without you.

Joe Strickland - Director
MSc Psychology Research Methods (4th Year)

Previous Experience -
Directing: The Skriker, Strangers (NNT)
Acting: The Master and Margarita (NNT)
Oedipus The King (Lakeside)
Producing: And Then There Were None, Brave New World,
Reservoir Dogs, Our Country's Good (NNT)



3 years ago I was looking for something interesting and different to put on, so I googled "controversial plays". Various shows came up but none as fantastical and original as Mercury Fur by Philip Ridley. The play was so over the top and gratuitous that I knew I had to put it on. At least that was my interpretation at the time. I revisited the play over the summer and was surprised that I could find a lot of room for both comedy and humanity within what was once a pure piece of gratuity for me.

We have had a ridiculously dedicated cast who have put in a huge amount of effort. Thank you so much for getting on board with the show, finding the humanity within each of the characters and giving it your all. I'm so proud of all of you. Thank you as well to my amazing crew. Ben has done an amazing job in choreographing the fights, practically building his own form of stage combat from the ground up. I would also like to thank Ranait and Ronan for their design and directorial assistance respectively and for helping lighten the load of the production from my shoulders. Finally I'd like to thank James and Jess. You've both been so patient and supportive and have kept pushing me to not tone down my ideas and to real go for what I think will work. When I've been doubtful you've reassured me and you've both helped me in more ways than you could ever know.

Thank you for coming to watch the show. I know we have thoroughly enjoyed making it.

I hope you enjoy it too.