**PAUL TAYLOR MILLS PRESENTS – A QUEER SEASON ON THE
WEST END**

***BLOODY ELLE*AND *BOY OUT THE CITY***

**RUNNING AT THE LYRIC THEATER
FROM 27 – 30 September 2023**

This September, the Lyric Theatre will host two new

**BLOODY ELLE**

Elle meets Eve. Her eyes are green like guacamole, she has posh-hair and a freckle on her chin and when she touches Elle’s arm…the world spins off its axis. This loud, proud love story is heart-warmingly honest and belly-achingly funny.

Stuffed full of those stomach-flipping-time-stopping moments that everyone will recognise. Bloody Elle is a gig musical full of searing original music performed live on stage.

It’s brutal. It’s beautiful. It’s a “moment moment.”

**BOY OUT THE CITY**
Created out of writing from his own private journals, **Declan Bennett**,*EastEnders’* Charlie Cotton, reflects onsurviving the streets of Coventry in a NAF jacket, discovering the Gay scene in 90s Soho, and confronting his Catholic school days.

After moving out of London to wait out the final months of the pandemic initially with his boyfriend, Declan unexpectedly finds himself alone in the Oxfordshire countryside. In his isolation, he is forced to face the demons of his past on a messy journey through the turbulent world of toxic masculinity, homophobia, and men’s mental health. From the lonely aisles of Hobbycraft to the bright lights of New York City, this is the story of a man in desperate search of identity when confronted with sudden unexpected solitude.

*A raw autobiographical play exploring
toxic masculinity, homophobia, and mental health*

**NOTES TO EDITORS**

**Declan Bennett** is an actor, songwriter and playwright having gained prominence as a member of the 1999 band Point Break before going on to perform in the West End, Broadway, and national and international tours, as well as a plethora of television and film roles including Charlie Cotton in *EastEnders* and Jonathan in recent detective drama *The Long Call*.

Bennett’s previous work as in theatre includes Boy George’s *Taboo* (2002, West End); *Rent* (2006 – 2007, United States tour, 2007 – 2008, Broadway); *Once* (2013, West End); *Jesus Christ Superstar* (2016, Open Air Theatre Regents Park) and *Moulin Rouge!* (2022, Broadway).

*Boy Out The City* premiered in 2021 at Westival Music and Arts Festival followed by a London premiere at the Turbine Theatre.

**Paul Taylor-Mills** is the Artistic Director of both The Turbine Theatre at The Battersea Power Station and The Other Palace Theatre, London. He has worked as Advisory Producer to Andrew Lloyd Webber and The Really Useful Group.

Stage credits include: *My Son’s A Queer (But what can you do?)* (Turbine Theatre, The Garrick and Ambassadors Theatre – Olivier Nominated, Best Entertainment or Comedy Play).
At the Turbine Theatre - *Halls; Eugenius!; But I’m A Cheerleader, My Night with Reg*, *MTFestUK 2021, 2022 and 2023*, *Cinderella: The Socially Distanced Ball,* *Hair (*part of the Turbine on the Jetty Season), *Torch Song, High Fidelity* and *Cat In The* Hat.

Elsewhere, *Heathers the Musical* at the Theatre Royal Haymarket, currently running at The Other Palace and on a UK and Ireland Tour (winner of the WhatsOnStage Best New Musical Award), *Murder For Two* at the Watermill Theatre and The Other Palace, *Cake* the UK Tour, *The Wild Party* at The Other Palace, European Premiere of Disney’s *Peter and the Starcatcher* at the Royal & Derngate, Northampton, *Side Show* at Southwark Playhouse, *The Last Five Years* at the St. James Theatre (winner of the WhatsOnStage Award for Best Off-West End Production) *End of The Rainbow* on UK Tour, *In The Heights* at Kings Cross Theatre and Southwark Playhouse (winner of three Olivier Awards), *Casa Valentina* at Southwark Playhouse, *Carrie The Musical* at Southwark Playhouse (winner of The WhatsOnStage Off West End Award), and Associate Producer on *The Importance of Being Earnest* starring David Suchet on UK Tour and the Vaudeville Theatre.

**LISTINGS**

**LYRIC THEATRE** 27 – 30 September 2023

***BLOODY ELLE*Directed by** Bryony Shanahan
**Written and performed by** Lauryn Redding

***BOY OUT THE CITY*Developed and directed by** Nancy Sullivan
**Written and performed by** Declan Bennett

**Performance Schedule:** Wednesday 27 Sep - **6pm** - Bloody Elle // **9pm** - Boy Out The City

 Thursday 28 Sep - **3pm** - Boy Out The City // **7.30pm** - Bloody Elle

 Friday 29 Sep - **6pm** - Bloody Elle // **9pm** - Boy Out The City

 Saturday 30 Sep - **3pm** - Boy Out The City // **7.30pm** - Bloody Elle

**Running Time:** Bloody Elle:85 minutes // Boy In The City: 60 minutes

**Ticket Price:** From £10

**Age Restrictions:** Bloody Elle: Suitable for ages 14+ // Boy Out The City: Suitable for ages 16+

**Content Warning:** Contains distressing themes, strobe lighting, strong language/swearing

**Artwork:** Available to download **HERE**

**Website:** thelyrictheatre.co.uk

**Socials:**

**Twitter/X:** @bloodyelle\_ // @boyoutthecity

**Instagram**: @bloodyelle\_ // @boyoutthecityplay

**Facebook:** @bloodyellemusical // @BoyOutTheCityShow