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HOME  
2 TONY WILSON PLACE  
FIRST STREET  
MANCHESTER M15 4FN

+44(0) 161 200 1500  
INFO@HOMEMCR.ORG

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Greater Manchester Arts Ltd  
a company limited by guarantee,  
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No: 1681278

Registered office 2 Tony Wilson Place  
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## PRESS RELEASE

# World Premiere of new RashDash show to open at HOME this October



*RashDash - Don't Go Back To Sleep: The Lockdown Album*

*HOME, Manchester*

*Wednesday 21 October – Saturday 24 October 2020*

A hi-res version of the image can be downloaded by [clicking here](#)

The World Premiere live performance of a new album by RashDash will open at HOME on Wednesday, 21 October.

Part concept album, part documentary [Don't Go Back To Sleep: The Lockdown Album](#) takes the words of people in the middle of a pandemic and turns them into song.

# HOME

Sneak peeks of the 11 songs that make up the show can be heard online now with the full album available from 30 September, via Spotify.

The album features 18 participants from across 12 countries, including a mother in Milan, a professor in Britain, a student in China and a doctor in Sweden. RashDash have sampled these interviews and woven the text from transcripts into songs to shine a light on the personal and political, the anxieties, realisations, and moments of joy when we find ourselves confined to our own homes.

A pop, punk, folk, anthemic trip around the world and into the everyday human experience of 2020, the show asks 'Where have we found joy in this time?', 'How have our relationships with our families and loved ones changed?', 'What do we dream of doing when we have freedom again?', 'How do we make the most of this opportunity and stop ourselves going back to sleep?'

The award-winning trio RashDash are a company of performers, musicians and makers, comprising Abbi Greenland, Becky Wilkie and Helen Goalen. Working with music, dance and theatre, the trio are regularly nominated for awards including the Stage awards, Edinburgh Fringe First, the Off West End Awards and the Total Theatre Awards. 2016's *Two Man Show* won the Edinburgh Fringe First award and the Stage Award for Acting Excellence.

Their punk feminist takes on classics like Chekhov's *Three Sisters* and the fairytale Cinderella in *The Ugly Sisters*; original, experimental storytelling and no-holds-barred commitment to challenging the patriarchy has seen them build a loyal international fanbase. In Manchester, they were most recently seen collaborating with Unlimited for *Future Bodies* part of Manchester Science Festival 2018, and previously at the Royal Exchange Theatre, who co-produced *Three Sisters*.

*Don't Go Back to Sleep* is one of three World Premieres to be presented by HOME in their new season. David Hoyle's [A Grand Auction of My Life](#) (Friday, 27 November) will turn HOME's theatre into an auction room for the sale of memorabilia and memories. [The Earth Asleep](#) (Friday, 4 December & Saturday, 5 December), is an original live score and feature-length film, directed by Manchester-based visual artist Clara Casian (House on the Borderland) and composer Robin Richards (Dutch Uncles). This haunting new travelogue addresses the Oshika Peninsula earthquake and tsunami, and asks if our exposure to extreme live-trauma in the form of rolling news and citizen reportage has resulted in an inability to process grief at a manageable, human scale.

HOME last presented live performance in March before the venue was forced to close due to COVID-19, and reopened on 4 September after 168 days of closure, with its five cinemas, bar and restaurant the first to come back. During this closure period, HOME has continued to work online, presenting new artist commissions in theatre and visual art, hosting film streams and director Q&As, running a wide-ranging engagement programme and supporting artists through projects and events.



HOME's 500-seat Theatre 1 has been reduced to a capacity of just 120 to allow space for social distancing, but despite this tickets will be priced at just £10 to ensure as many people as possible have the opportunity to return to the theatre.

700 seats are currently being held off sale to allow for social distancing, and so the arts centre has also launched a new campaign, [Empty Seats](#), to highlight the £130-per-week cost of each unfilled seat and the effect that the ongoing coronavirus pandemic is having on arts venues.

For more information about HOME's upcoming programme, and the Empty Seats campaign, visit [homemcr.org](http://homemcr.org).

### **Note to editors**

For more information, images or interview requests, please contact Kat Harrison-Dibbits, Head of Communications at HOME, on 07833 523295 or email [Kat.Harrison-Dibbits@homemcr.org](mailto:Kat.Harrison-Dibbits@homemcr.org).

### **About HOME**

**HOME** is Manchester's centre for international contemporary culture. Since opening in May 2015, HOME has welcomed over two million visitors to its two theatres, five cinemas, art gallery, book shop and restaurants. HOME works with international and UK artists to produce extraordinary theatrical experiences, producing an exciting mix of thought-provoking drama, dance and festivals, with a strong focus on international work, new commissions and talent development. HOME's ambition is to push the boundaries of form and technology, to experiment, have fun, take risks and share great new art with the widest possible audience. The patrons of HOME are Danny Boyle, actress Suranne Jones, playwright and poet Jackie Kay CBE, artists Rosa Barba and Phil Collins, filmmaker Asif Kapadia, and actress and author Meera Syal CBE. [www.homemcr.org](http://www.homemcr.org) | @HOME\_mcr | Facebook HOME\_mcr

### **Don't Go Back To Sleep: The Lockdown Album**

Lyrics, concept and interviews by Abbi Greenland and Helen Goalen

Songwriting by Becky Wilkie

Produced, mixed and arranged by Matt Randall

Performed by Becky Wilkie, Helen Goalen, Abbi Greenland and Matt Randall

Project produced by Andrew Hughes

Good Solid British Common Sense written and performed by Reuben Johnson, with additional vocals and arrangement by RashDash

Supported by Slung Low, Paines Plough, HOME, Allan Wilson, and anyone who donated to the crowdfund set up by Charlotte Bennett - thank you.

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Made from interviews with:

Christina Catechis - USA



Meropi Papastergiou - Greece  
Kgomotso Kiggy - South Africa  
Alvin Liu - USA  
Elsie Bura - Kenya (but stuck in Texas)  
Michael Awiti - Kenya  
Hanif Sama - India  
Juan Manuel Miron - Argentina  
Leif Stille - Sweden  
Lisa Birchall - New Zealand  
Lynn Sweeting - UK  
Matthew Watson - UK  
Seki Lynch - UK  
Simona Cretaro - Italy  
Anonymous - China  
Anonymous - Iran  
Noreen Clarkson - UK

Members of the Newington's Chill Club in Ramsgate: A poem written by Annelise, Jake, Hannah, Jordan, Lacey, Demi, Chardonnay, Madison, Summer, Lilly, Jamie, Ella, Alicia + artists and support workers Nova Marshall, Sue Rumsey, Chris Divers, Symone Crouchman & Lisa Payne.

Creation of the BSL song:

BSL song created and performed by: Nadia Nadarajah

BSL song translated by: Siobhan Rocks

Interview translated by: Lisa Faragher

Thank you to people who helped us put this together, advised us on the interview process, put us in touch with people, lent us equipment and helped us record remotely: Tom Cantrell, Tom Penn, Sebastian Hinds, Penny Greenland, Ian Heywood, National Youth Theatre of Kenya, Vicky Gould, Allan Simpson, James Blakey, Jack George, Fran Bradley, Siobhan Rocks, Charlotte Bennett and anonymous supporters / translators.

The title of this show is taken from a poem called Don't Go Back To Sleep by Rumi, which Seki shared with us in his interview.

#### FUNDED BY:



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Did you know that HOME is a charity? We need your support to bring the best film, theatre and art to Manchester and inspire the next generation. Get involved at [www.homemcr.org/support](http://www.homemcr.org/support)

