

# THIS IS **NOT** A **SAFE SPACE**

BY JACKIE HAGAN

PRAISE FOR JACKIE  
"A hymn to those who are  
hanging on by their fingertips  
but refusing to let go."

THE GUARDIAN

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ENGLAND**



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a new solo show from  
Jackie Hagan  
**Available for touring from  
Spring 2018**

Benefit cuts are hitting disabled people the hardest. Half of people in poverty are disabled or live with a disabled person. The future looks grim, so how can we get people to sit up, listen and care and not keel over with empathy-fatigue? Award-winning poet and theatre maker Jackie Hagan's way has been to make a new solo show that features the real voices of proper skint disabled people she knows.

Jackie has conducted interviews with people from all over the country living on the fringes and the spaces in between. They are not sob stories, they are fully rounded lives full of the spiky humour and the complicated weirdness of being human. Jackie weaves these narratives together with poetry and anecdotes, celebrating the weird, the wonky, the unruly, and the resilient.

Expect audience interaction, DIY puppetry, poetic comedy, comedic poetry, and one underclass amputee steering the show.

produced by  **BIG FEAST**

# ABOUT JACKIE HAGAN

Jackie Hagan is a working-class queer disabled poet, performer and theater maker and a Jerwood Compton Poetry Fellow. Her work focuses on celebrating the experiences of people left out of the mainstream. Her most recent solo show *Some People Have Too Many Legs* (commissioned by Contact) won the 2015 Saboteur Award for Best Spoken Word Show and toured nationally to venues such as Hull Truck and Bristol Old Vic. She also received the Creative Future Literary Award for Poetry. In 2016 she was nominated for Gay Radio's Queer of the Year Creative Artist and was selected by the British Council to represent the UK at the international Literary Festival of the Urban Periphery in Brazil. She was commissioned by Graeae to write a new play *Cosmic Scallies* for the Royal Exchange.

Jackie's award-winning poetry has appeared in Magma, Citizen 32 and Asylum Magazine and she has published two full length collections with Flapjack Press. As a community artist, Jackie has delivered a number of projects for organisations like Commonword, 42nd Street, and the Wellcome Trust. She has been featured by an incredibly wide range of media outlets from Radio 4 to Chat Magazine.

## ABOUT THE SHOW

**Commissioned and supported by Unlimited, celebrating the work of disabled artists, with funding from Arts Council England.** Supported with funding from BlueSCI Wellbeing, Contact, and Full Circle Arts.

**Age Range/Suitability** 14+ guidance due to strong language

**Total running time** 60 minutes, no interval

**Technical** Suitable for studio spaces, rural venues and community spaces.

**Workshops** 2-hour workshop available

**Marketing & Audience Development Support:** A full marketing & development plan is available upon request, including top tips for engaging hard to reach audiences.. Bespoke wrap around engagement is available upon request.

**Trailer:** <https://vimeo.com/252342682>

**Full length video:** <https://vimeo.com/241050081> password - staringpeople

## ABOUT OUR AUDIENCES

Jackie's mainstream media profile and the subject matter for this show mean it's an **excellent opportunity to engage audiences who don't think theatre is 'for them'**, including:

- People in receipt of benefits
- Disabled people
- Care-leavers and young people
- People working in social care

The show will also **appeal to audiences** who enjoy:

- Solo theatre, especially autobiographical work
- Spoken word & performance poetry
- Politically and socially-driven theatre

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