OTHER PRODUCTIONS

Revolving Door is a 35 minute play about young male suicide. Martin is the coroner who conducts the inquest into the circumstances of his own death. Martin calls his mother, GP and a hospital nurse as witnesses and the play raises the question of whether his suicide could have been prevented

Cuckoo is a powerful 20 minute play which tells the story of the impact on a family of dealing with a child who is exhibiting challenging behaviour. The workshop stimulates debates about positive parenting.

Paperchase explores disability discrimination and mental health in the FE sector and in the workplace. It tells the story of Rachel and her struggle with Obsessive Compulsive Disorder and shows the obstacles she experiences to fulfilling her potential. The play is followed by an extended workshop in which drama methods are used to explore the reasonable adjustments organisations can make to reduce discrimination against people with mental health difficulties. Highly appropriate for staff development in employment and education contexts.

Straight Talking examines the service offered by Primary Care to people in same sex relationships. The subsequent workshop explores strategies for reducing discrimination against gay and lesbian clients and employees in the NHS.

HEARTH Educational Services

HEARTH works with statutory and independent agencies, and offers:

DRAMA: Professionally produced plays on health and education written to commission.

ROLE PLAY: Improvised sessions with professional actors for workforce development, eg disability awareness and diversity.

CREATIVE WRITING: Workshops by published writers to bring out the creative potential in staff and service users.

HUMANITIES IN MEDICINE: Awareness raising for professionals using published fiction and poetry.

For further information, please contact
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PRODUCTION

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HEARTH
PRODUCTIONS

WHEN TIME COLLAPSES

By Polly Wright

A play about one family's struggle with schizophrenia

When Time Collapses

On good days, Martin's Mum Audrey, thinks that Martin's just a normal teenager: He sleeps all the time; his room stinks; he turns his music up loud and leaves his clothes on the floor. All typical behaviour when you're nearly 18 years old. And their GP reassures her that it is normal – and that anti-depressants would help to shake off the mild depression she diagnoses.

But at other times, Audrey's not so sure. Martin has started acting very strangely towards his father whom he refers to as "The Devil". And when she listens at his door – which she knows she shouldn't do – she hears him talking to imaginary people about scary things like toxins and terrorism.

Martin is, in fact, experiencing early symptoms of schizophrenia – and without any help from outside – family life goes from bad to worse.

The Workshop

When Time Collapses looks at the worst case scenario for Martin and the workshop explores the question – *Does it always have to be like this?*

The workshop can be tailored to the requirements of the booking organisation, to explore what you would find most useful. We can explore alternative professional responses to those represented in the play – and the actors will remain in role – so you can experience immediately the difference that other approaches can make. We can adjust the workshop focus

Commissioned by CSIP/NIMHE[1] West Midlands and IRIS[2], When Time Collapses was written and developed by Polly Wright. Based on true life stories of people with schizophrenia and their families, it is a powerful portrait of what can go wrong when serious mental illness is not detected at its onset.

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[1]Care Services Improvement Partnership/ National Institute for Mental Health in England

[2] Initiative to Reduce the Impact of Schizophrenia

Questions and Answers

1. How long is the whole programme?
   - Play – 50 minutes
   - Workshop – duration negotiated

2. What sort of space is required?
   - We don't need a stage – just a large room and chairs for the audience.

3. How much does the programme cost?
   - The cost is subject to negotiation between HEARTH and the booking organisation.

4. What is the HEARTH Centre?
   - The HEARTH Centre is a centre for work in Health, Education and the Humanities animated through the arts.
   - The HEARTH Centre Director is Polly Wright.

".. impressive and very powerful in impact"

Professor Louis Appleby, National Director for Mental Health.