

Jonathan Harvey and Pet Shop Boys to premiere 'MUSIK' at the 2019 Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

The cabaret show will star Frances Barber and include four new Pet Shop Boys songs.



Pet Shop Boys photo by Pelle Crépin



Frances Barber photo by Magnus Hastings

Writer Jonathan Harvey and Pet Shop Boys Neil Tennant and Chris Lowe are to present the world premiere of a new cabaret show at the 2019 Edinburgh Fringe.

'MUSIK' is a 50-minute, one-woman show with an outrageous book by Jonathan Harvey and six songs by Tennant and Lowe including four new ones written for this show. It will star multi-award-winning actress Frances Barber reprising her role as Billie Trix from the 2001 musical, 'Closer to Heaven'.

'MUSIK' will run from 5 to 24 August at Assembly Rooms (Bijou venue), 54 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 2LR.

Tickets go on sale Thursday 18 April via www.assemblyfestival.com

Pet Shop Boys said: "When we wrote 'Closer to Heaven' almost 20 years ago, we loved the compelling outrageousness of the character Bille Trix as written by Jonathan and performed by Frances Barber. We have all discussed for many years the idea of creating her own one-woman show which would give us the chance to write more songs for her as she looks back on her incredible career. We're thrilled that this show is finally happening."

Jonathan Harvey said: "It has been such a treat reconnecting and working with Chris and Neil on this, 20 years after our first foray into musical theatre writing. In 'MUSIK' Billie, dried up, drug-addled icon and rock star, tells us about her life and sings her biggest hits. I can't wait to see Frances Barber inhabit her again as she did so hilariously and so touchingly all those years ago."

Frances Barber is an award-winning star of stage, screen and TV. Her extensive credits include the films 'Prick Up Your Ears', 'We Think the World of You', 'Dead Fish' and 'Film Stars Don't Die in Liverpool'. Her numerous TV credits include 'The Street', multiple guest starring episodes of 'Doctor Who' as Madame Kovaria and 'Silk'. In the West End she recently played Mrs. Cheveley in 'An Ideal Husband'.

Pet Shop Boys have sold more than 50 million records worldwide and are listed as the most successful duo in UK music history by The Guinness Book of Records. Since 1985 they have achieved 42 Top 30 singles, 22 of them Top 10 hits in the UK Singles Chart, including four UK number ones and at the 2009 Brit Awards, they received an award for Outstanding Contribution to Music. They have also written a score for the classic silent film, 'Battleship Potemkin', a ballet, 'The Most Incredible Thing', and performed at the BBC Proms their musical work inspired by Alan Turing, 'A Man From The Future'.

Jonathan Harvey is an acclaimed playwright, novelist and TV writer whose work has earned many awards. His plays include 'Beautiful Thing', for which he won the prestigious 'John Whiting Award' and 'Babies' (National Theatre Studio/Royal Court Theatre), winner George Devine Award and Evening Standard's Most Promising Playwright Award. On TV he wrote the cult comedy series 'Gimme Gimme Gimme', starring Kathy Burke and James Dreyfus, 'Murder Most Horrid' and is a regular script writer on 'Coronation Street'.

'MUSIK' is produced by Cahoots Theatre Company.

LISTINGS INFO

MUSIK

Written by **Jonathan Harvey
& Pet Shop Boys**

Songs by **Pet Shop Boys**

Starring **Frances Barber**

Produced by
Cahoots Theatre Company

Assembly Rooms (Bijou venue)
54 George Street,
Edinburgh
EH2 2LR.

9.40pm (60 mins)

Monday 5 August -
Saturday 24 August, 2019

(except 12, August)

Tickets: £12.00 - £16.50

Book online at
www.assemblyfestival.com
or call 0131 623 3030

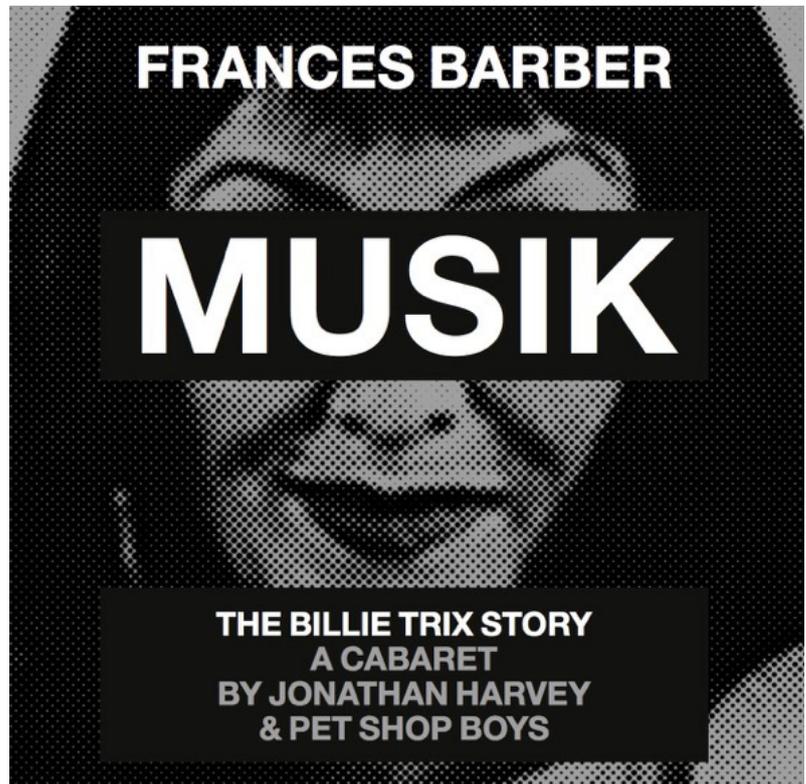
Sales also available via
tickets.edfringe.com
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