# **COMING NEXT FROM PITCHY BREATH**

# No Place Like Home

A series of short plays about finding a place to call 'home'.

Everybody needs somewhere to lay their hat or pitch their tent.

How we get there and who we meet on the way ... there's always a story to tell. These plays explore the theme of journeys to find security and peace of mind.

# Would you like your script brought to life?

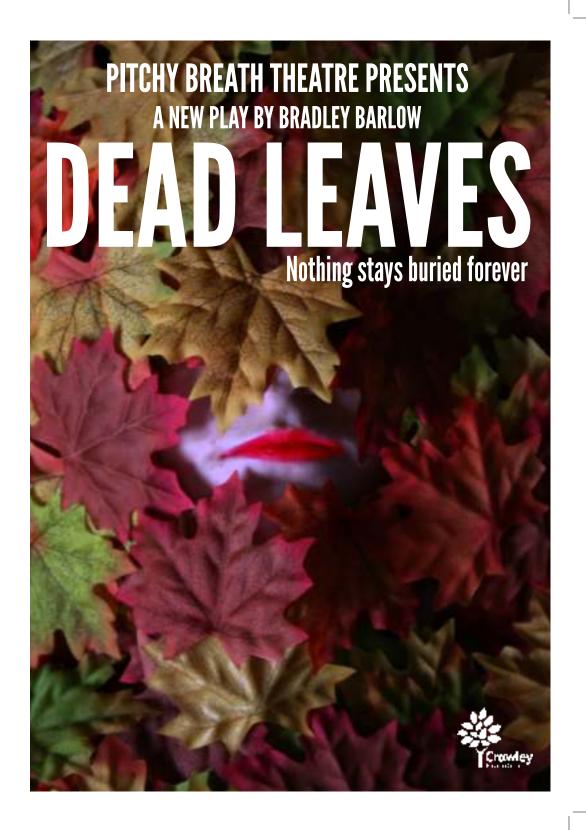
Community theatre company, Pitchy Breath is looking for new plays to produce as part of 'No Place Like Home'. The plays should have a minimal set, be no longer than 25 minutes and fit the above remit.

Pitchy Breath produces an amazingly diverse range of work featuring local actors written by local writers which always play to sell out audiences.

If you have an idea for a script you have nothing to lose and everything to gain by sending your work to jo.joseph@crawley.gov.uk

or c/o The Hawth, Hawth Avenue, Crawley RH10 6YZ by Friday 23 January.





## **Dead Leaves**

Written and Directed by **Bradley Barlow** 

## **Synopsis**

Melissa French is dead. After her body is discovered in the dark of the woods, and the police delve deep into her past, Melissa's family and friends begin to realise how little they knew her. As secrets are discovered and lies are revealed, Melissa's life begins to be unravelled. How much do you really know about the ones you love?

#### Cast

Harrison Calnan

Rachel Duke

Tim Fifield

Charlie Joseph

Jeremy Joseph

Sonia Moir

Tahrif Nagvi

Tom Paul

Alex Taylor

Amy Taylor

Sophie Waddington

# Stage Manager

Jo Joseph

#### Crew

Mandy Masters Annette Payne

## With thanks to

Tracy Alexander

(Director of Forensic Services, City of London Police)

#### Credit

Contains extracts of true accounts from the-invisible-men.tumblr.com

#### Note from the Writer/Director

My starting point for Dead Leaves was that I wanted to centre the play on a character that the audience never meets, forcing them to imagine her based solely on the thoughts, opinions and information provided by the people that knew her. As the investigation into the death of Melissa French progresses, we meet a total of about 60 different characters with most of the actors playing multiple parts. I'd like to thank the cast for their time and creativity in developing some hopefully memorable characters

Melissa's life is intricate and multi-layered and so too is the investigation into her death. There are twists, cliffhangers and red herrings at every turn and I encourage you to play close attention to the words of every character – not everything is as it seems. Feel free to share theories with other members of the audience in the interval and the conclusion and to put any burning questions to myself or the cast at the end.

I'd like to thank Jo Joseph and Pitchy Breath for giving me the opportunity to write and direct for them for a second time. I'd also like to thank the cast for having faith in the play from the outset – in order to avoid 'leaking' the plot, they read excerpts in the audition and were only allowed to read the whole play once they'd committed to being in it. I hope that initial trust has been worth it; I've enjoyed working with you all immensely and feel lucky that you have all been so dedicated to the production.

## **Playlist**

Dead Leaves and the Dirty Ground – The White Stripes

I Am a Man Who Will Fight for Your Honor – Chris Zabriskie

Boom Clap (Marcus Schossow Remix) – Charli XCX

Land on the Golden Gate – Chris Zabriskie

Turn Down for What (Club Stars Remix) – DJ Snake vs Lil Jon

Wasting My Young Years – London Grammar

Hunger of the Pine – Alt-J

Heliograph – Chris Zabriskie

Cylinder Three – Chris Zabriskie

Where the Boats Go – M83

Midnight – Coldplay

Sad Girl – Lana Del Rey