

We're Not Strangers

By Rachel McLean

Rachel, I see you, the dwindling image on my phone as I scroll through Facebook.

Rachel, I see you, that wavy rippling face as I look into the filling bathtub.

Rachel, I see you, a glimpse of a shape as I walk by a shop or a high towered building.

Rachel, I see you, the silhouette in the mirror when the lights out.

Rachel, I see you, that small stretched out reflection on the doorknob.

Rachel, I see you, the figure trailing behind me when is the sun is bright.

Rachel Anne McNaughton McLean, I forgive you.

I'm a WARRIOR.

I'm not perfect

(Rachel stops for a moment and begins to walk forward as she continues to speak).

SILENCE

But I'm UNSTOPPABLE.

gracefully broken, but beautifully standing.

I am LOVE.

I am LIFE.

I am GRACEFUL.

And I am BRAVE.

(Rachel turns to face the mirror/wall).

We're Not Strangers- Final Performance

10th March 2020

New Atheneum- Black Box studio



Development Stage - Movement Piece Influenced By Pina Bauch



Movement rehearsal



Experimenting with projects

Wake, walk, she forgets even more,
Her name,
Neverland,
The garden,
Forgotten.
ent

We're not Strangers- Rehearsal





WE'RE NOT REALLY STRANGERS

Rachel Mclean

I am a dwindling image on your phone as you scroll through Facebook, a wavy rippling mirage as you look into the filling bathtub. I am a glimpse of a shape as you walk by a shop or a high towered building. I am the silhouette in the mirror when the lights are out. I am that small stretched-out reflection on the doorknob, the dark figure behind you when the sun is out. I am the result of looking into a mirror to fix your hair as you walk past me, heading out the door. I do that too.

In this digital age, we are so distracted by our phones, laptops and the algorithm of social media, that we forget the image staring back at us. We're Not Really Strangers explores one woman's experiences and existence, amongst the chaos of her twenty-one years of life, in order to find a sense of self-awareness, identity and self-acknowledgement. It is a series of dialogues that arises between the performer and herself, herself and her reflection in the mirror, her reflection and her conscience. A reflection on voices of past joy, old laughter and memory. We're Not Really Strangers presents the burdening questions and truths that storm within the performer; an eclipse of the mind and body with the woman who performs her.

Rachel Mclean is an introvert-extrovert, actor, writer and performance artist from and based in Airdrie, Scotland. Her practice is varied, and she is interested in using real voices and stories. Through her practice, she looks into herself and her history in order to explore the hidden issues within her community. Rachel is a neuro-diverse artist that enjoys conversation, she is fluent in Doric Scots and often displays her heritage in her work. She works mainly with text, objects, video and movement. Rachel hopes to use these combinations as a guide to make an audience think and start a conversation towards mass change.

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