fail better
PRODUCTIONS

DIARY OF A MADMAN

after Nikolai Gogol

'Best Fringe Show 2007' - Time Out London

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after **Nikolai Gogol**

DIARY OF A MADMAN

A new adaptation celebrating the 200th anniversary of Gogol

Fail Better present their celebrated adaptation of Gogol's much-loved text in which one man's obsession tumbles towards madness and megalomania via letter-writing dogs, magisterial revelations and institutional torture. Exploring the boundary between sanity and selfhood, Diary of a Madman is re-imagined as a theatrical tour-de-force, influenced by Beckett, Pinter and Sarah Kane.

Axenty Ivanovich, a Russian titular councillor, finds he can no longer exist as a mere civil servant in St Petersburg. His failure to write begins a transformational journey that will take him either to the Spanish court or to a brutal asylum.

First seen in London two years ago, this critically acclaimed devised adaptation is revived by the original creative team for a two week run at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival 2009. This is Fail Better's fourth show at The Underbelly and coincides with celebrations around the venue's tenth anniversary.

Directed by **Jonathan Heron**. Designed by **Nomi Everall**

www.failbetter.co.uk

Performed by **Christopher Tester** - *'enchanting'* Time Out

Previous Critical Acclaim
'Best Fringe Show of 2007' Time Out London on Diary of a Madman
'Pure theatrical gold.' Metro on Phaedra's Love
'A devastating, abstract piece of cruelty... relevant and powerful.' Three Weeks on Head
'A well thought-out production... gut-wrenchingly effective.' The Scotsman on Crave
'Rigorously directed... it is challenging, gripping, creative and the acting is assured.'
The Stage on Echo and Narcissus

16th - 30th August 2009 @1.25pm (75 mins)
Underbelly Venue 61: Big Belly
56 Cowgate (entrances on Cowgate and Victoria Street)
Box Office: 0844 545 8252
www.underbelly.co.uk

Mon - Tues: £6.50
Wed - Thurs: £9.00 (£8.00)
Fri - Sun: £10.00 (£9.00)

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The CAPITAL Centre
Creativity and Performance in Teaching and Learning

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