

SOAKED



**Rosehill**
theatre

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



SOAKED - THE NEW PLAY BY EMMA RYDAL

Rosehill Theatre and La'al Marra Productions presents the premier of ***Soaked*** on **Saturday 30 September at 7.30pm** followed by a post show discussion. *Soaked* is the new play by acclaimed local writer and actress Emma Rydal and the first play co-produced by Rosehill Theatre after the £2.7m redevelopment of the venue. *Soaked* will then tour Cumbria and Manchester in the Autumn.

It's Wine O Clock! When do you stop? Imogen and Rich don't care if the glass is half full or half empty, as long there is wine in it that's what's important. That's how they unwind, how they party, how they deal with the stresses of life; young children, high powered jobs. But after twenty years of drinking to excess, Imogen is having second thoughts. She's tired of waking up with an unexplained bruise, tired of beating herself up when she's drunk too much, tired of being tired, but is it enough? When life has become so intertwined with the powerful nectar is it easy to break away, or do relationships start to unravel? Perhaps a wake-up call is all she needs?

Filled with humour and drama *Soaked* seeks to unnerve.

Emma Rydal who lives locally is a writer and actress who has had a successful career in theatre, television and radio. She burst onto the British film scene in 1999 with the BAFTA winning Brit flick *East is East* and has had a sustained a successful career ever since. Most recently Emma has been seen as regular 'Celia' in Sky One's *Stella*.

Emma Rydal's skill of finding comedy in the banal and everyday has been described as rather like a young Victoria Wood. Her first play *True* chronicled the relationship of a volatile mother/daughter relationship through the decades. It was nominated for a Manchester Theatre Award and won The Audience Award for Best Production and an Equity Award at Manchester's 24.7 Theatre Festival in 2011.

Soaked - the showcase already had favourable reviews and has received funding from the Arts Council England and Cumbria County Council. The play is directed by Peter McQueen, stalwart of the Theatre by the Lake. He has also toured with his one-man shows '*Old Herbaceous*' and '*The Professor of Adventure*'. The cast for *Soaked* comprises Emma Rydal, Toby Gaffney and Madeleine Joseph. Original score by local composer Nick Smith from Issi Noho and set and costume design by Emma Bayliss from Whitehaven.

Tickets are priced at £15 • £8 U26 and are available at rosehilltheatre.co.uk or on 01946 692422

It was a really great show, cant wait to find out what happens next. I found it increasingly uncomfortable to watch as it felt disturbingly familiar.

Elaine Wise - showcase audience

****ENDS****

For further information or interviews please contact:

Debbie Graham on 07803008416 or debbie.graham@rosehilltheatre.co.uk

Rosehill Theatre, Moresby, Whitehaven, Cumbria CA28 6SE • rosehilltheatre.co.uk

Notes to editor:

Soaked full tour:

Rosehill Theatre, Whitehaven • Saturday 30 September • 7.30pm

(with post performance discussion • rosehilltheatre.co.uk • 01946 692422)

Kings Arms Theatre, Manchester • Friday 6-7 October • 7.30pm

kingsarmssalford.com

Gregson Centre, Lancaster • Wednesday 11 October • 7.30pm

01524 849959

Coronation Hall, Ulverston • Friday 13 October • 7.30pm

corohall.co.uk • 01229 587140

Village Hall, Torpenhow • Saturday 14 October • 7.30pm

016973 71514

The Beggars Theatre, Millom • Thursday 19 October • 7.30pm

beggars theatre.co.uk

John Peel Theatre, Wigton • Friday 20 October • 7.30pm

wigtontheatre.org

Threlkeld Village Hall • Friday 27 October • 7.30pm

threlkeldvillagehall.org

Soaked has received recognition from alcohol support group [Soberistas](http://Soberistas.com)* on the issues that are raised in the production.

*Soberistas.com is an independent peer support website aimed at women with problematic drinking behaviours. There are thousands of people worldwide who belong to the Soberistas community; a non-religious, non-judgmental and completely anonymous online space for anyone looking for support in dealing with alcohol problems. A recent survey on Soberistas carried out by the University of Southampton showed that 47% of members had never accessed any other type of support before signing up to the website. Soberistas is aimed at women but not exclusively so - about 10% of members are men.



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