a theatrical requiem
written and directed by
Anna Furse

Craiglockhart Campus Chapel
Edinburgh EH14 1DJ

Sunday 18th November 2018
4.30 pm & 7.30 pm

Bookings: Napier.ac.uk/SHOCKS
Facebook: Athletes Of The Heart
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Athletes of the Heart
in co-production with
The School of Arts and Creative Industries,
Edinburgh Napier University
in collaboration with staff, students and graduates of
Edinburgh Napier, QMU + Edinburgh Lighting & Sound School

In World War 1 the Victorian stiff upper lip began to quiver – uncontrollably.
The misnomer ‘shell shock’ was applied to the condition of thousands of soldiers – on both sides – who came out of the trenches suffering not physical wounds but emotional and psychological breakdown.

This large-scale ensemble performance looks at this male hysteria as a psycho-physical protest. It brings in the voice of both the ‘shell shocked’ war poet, Wilfred Owen, and the pioneering doctor W.H.R Rivers, who substituted the barbaric practices of mental rehabilitation at the time with talking therapy. Sited at Craiglockhart, the former asylum for WW1 patients, including, famously, the poets Owen and Siegfried Sassoon, SHOCKS is a theatrical requiem that laments how battle takes a boy and births a broken warrior.