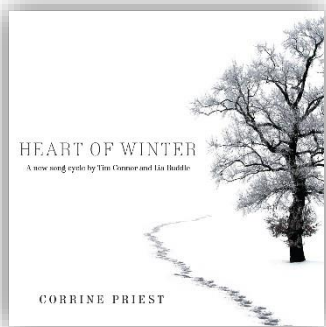


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Sondheim Society *Student Performer of the Year* winner, **Corrine Priest**, and Stiles & Drewe *Best New Song* finalist, **Tim Connor**, join forces for the studio recording of new song-cycle, ***Heart of Winter***

Auburn Jam Records is pleased to be releasing the premiere recording of new one-woman song cycle, ***Heart of Winter***. With music and lyrics by Tim Connor, and story and dramaturgy by Lia Buddle, the songs tell the funny, heart-warming and down-to-earth story of Kate, a primary schoolteacher in her mid-twenties, living up North. Her relationship of three years is over, and she is trying to adjust to her new life without Adam. With the help of her mum, her close friends and a large tub of Ben & Jerry's, she is battling the harsh reality of winter to find the new hope of spring.

Originating the role of Kate for this premiere recording is Corrine Priest. Corrine won the *Stephen Sondheim Society Student Performer of the Year Award* at the Garrick Theatre in May 2014. She made her professional debut in *GOD* at London Theatre Workshop to rave reviews, and has just made her West End debut as Lucy in *USHERS: The Front of House Musical* at The Arts Theatre.

"Occasionally, very occasionally, you see a newcomer perform to a standard that you could not imagine being improved upon even by a major star, such was the case with Priest."

- **Sondheim Magazine (Review of GOD, London Theatre Workshop)**

"Corrine Priest gives every indication of being a talent bound for very high rank. This young lady is in contact with every nuance of every line she sings... she is an actress first and singer second... the Janie Dee of the next generation."

- **Musical Theatre Review (Review of SSSPOTY, Garrick Theatre)**

"Corrine Priest stands out a mile with vocals and personality... she then absolutely brings the house down and stops the show as Priest absolutely nails every comedic moment."

- **The Stage (Review of SSSPOTY, Garrick Theatre)**

The recording will be released on November 30th, and will be available to download via all major online retailers including iTunes and Amazon MP3. A limited run of physical CD copies, an ideal Christmas gift for fans of new musicals, can be ordered now via the website heartofwinter.auburnjam.co.uk, where links can also be found to purchase sheet music and backing tracks to the songs (available from November 30th), perfect for performers looking for new audition material.

Tim Connor and Lia Buddle say of ***Heart of Winter***:

"We started to dream up Kate's story nearly ten years ago, as friends fresh out of university. We worked away in our shared flat, with Tim constantly asking Lia questions about what it was like from a girl's point of view at different stages of a relationship. He'd then turn his scribbles into songs, after which we'd tweak lyrics and narrative points together. As we both recently reached the milestone age of 30, we felt it was time to share our song cycle with the wider world. Listening back, it captures an important - and joyous - time in our lives. We're beyond thrilled that Corrine Priest agreed to record the piece with us. Her enormous talent and great sense of humour have brought a fresh perspective to our work"

Further Information:

About Corrine Priest (Kate):

Corrine is originally from Weston-Super-Mare in Somerset. Before attending London School of Musical Theatre Corrine gained a 1st Class Degree in Musical Theatre from Bath Spa University. Whilst training, Corrine's credits included Viv Nicholson in *Spend Spend Spend*, Ophelia in *Hamlet* (Excerpt), Girl 5 / Whore in *Les Miserables* (Workshop), Ru / ensemble in *Merrily We Roll Along* (Workshop), The Kolokolo bird in *Just So* (Musical), From Page To Stage at The Landor.

Corrine won the *Stephen Sondheim Society Student Performer of the Year Award* at the Garrick Theatre in May 2014 and made her professional debut in *GOD* at London Theatre Workshop and since then has appeared as Amy in *Girlfriends*, Union Theatre and most recently has been playing Lucy in *USHERS: The Front of House Musical*, at The Arts Theatre after a transfer from its successful run at the Edinburgh Fringe. She is soon to be appearing in *A Christmas Carol* as The Ghost of Christmas Past at Blackpool Winter Gardens Opera House this Christmas alongside Paul Nicholas as Scrooge. www.corrinepriest.com | www.twitter.com/CorrinePriest

About Tim Connor (Composer/Lyricist):

Training: The Bridewell Theatre, AMOS and MMD Lab. Shows: Music and Lyrics for *The Stationmaster* with librettist Susannah Pearse (receiving its London premiere at Tristan Bates Theatre in November 2015); *Heart of Winter* with story, dramaturgy and direction by Lia Buddle (Leicester Square Theatre and Union Theatre). Tim's songs have been performed by various West End singers in cabarets and concerts at established London venues including St James Theatre, Crazy Coqs, The Pheasantry, Soho Theatre and Wilton's Music Hall. His ballad, *The Little Match Girl*, was recorded by Janie Dee and was broadcast on Loose Ends for BBC Radio, and included in the 2014 *MAD for Christmas* album in aid of the Make A Difference Trust. Tim's song 'The 6:59' from *The Stationmaster* was performed at the Garrick Theatre as a finalist in the Stiles & Drew Best New Song competition 2014.

About Lia Buddle (Story/Dramaturgy):

Alongside writing with Tim, Lia works in theatre production and administration. Currently Artistic Assistant at English National Ballet, previous roles include Company Manager for the ENB 2015 tour to China and Singapore; Assistant to producer Michael McCabe at MMP and Joe Public Ltd (*Wicked*, *Million Dollar Quartet*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*); Administrator at Battersea Arts Centre. Lia took part in the Stage One Workshop for New Producers in 2011. Production experience includes: Producer for Amo Theatre's *Tartuffe* at The Space; Assistant Director for Pact Imagination Theatre's *Little Fish* by Sarah-Lisa Wilkinson at The Space; Producer for *Elegies for Angels, Punks and Raging Queens* at the European Student Drama Festival Acthea in France; Director/Choreographer of *The Musical of Musicals, the Musical!* for Throwaway Theatre, winner of an Edinburgh Fringe Sell-Out Award.

For any further information, to request a copy of the album for review or radio play, or to schedule interviews with Corrine, Tim and Lia please contact:

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