

THIS EVIL THING

WRITTEN &
PERFORMED BY
Michael Mears

Michael Mears
“One exceptional
man”
THE OBSERVER



“YOU CAN'T FORCE A MAN TO
MURDER
AGAINST HIS WILL!”

“Conscientious objectors still in prison in 1919”

★★★★
Inspirational and disturbing
FESTMAG

★★★★
A magnificent tour de force
SCOTSGAY

Tara Theatre
7–9 November 2019, 7.30pm

(matinee to be confirmed)

356 Garratt Lane, Earlsfield, SW18 4ES

Next to Earlsfield Station, 10 minutes from Waterloo

Tickets: £17.50 (concessions £13.50 / 16-25 year-olds £10)

Book on 020 8333 4457 or at www.tara-arts.com

**‘For God’s sake,
ask yourselves
– this protest of
yours ...
is it really
worth losing
your lives
over?’**



January 1916. Bertrand Russell is one of the greatest mathematicians of his time. Bert Brocklesby is a young schoolteacher and Methodist preacher. When military conscription is brought in, their worlds are turned upside down.

THIS EVIL THING is the compelling and inspiring story of the men who said no to war. From a chapel in Yorkshire to the House of Commons, from a cell in

Richmond Castle to a firing squad in France, the questions raised here are as relevant and urgent as they were 100 years ago – and for imprisoned conscientious objectors the war didn’t end in 1918.

Michael Mears, ‘the award-winning master of the one-man show’ (*The List*) portrays conscientious objectors and a host of other characters with breath-taking physical and vocal dexterity, in this highly original piece of storytelling – partly using verbatim testimonies, while interacting with a multi-layered sound landscape and vivid visual imagery.

Michael’s previous solo plays – *Soup*, about homelessness, and *Tomorrow We Do The Sky* – won critical acclaim and a Scotsman Fringe First Award.

He has also written and performed five specially commissioned solo plays for BBC Radio 4.

www.facebook.com/thisevilthing

**‘Michael Mears
is that rare
combination
of fine writer
and formidable
actor.’**

Bonnie Greer,
Time Out

Directed by
Rosamunde Hutt

Sound design by
Mark Noble

Set design by
Mark Friend

Lighting design by
Zoe Spurr

Produced in association
with **Room One**
(roomone.com)



LOTTERY FUNDED

‘A fast moving, inspiring, informative drama – first class’

Bruce Kent