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# The Messy Magic Adventure: Kitchen Chaos!

By David Ladderman and Lizzie Tollemache  
Directed by Greg Cooper  
Presented by Rollicking Entertainment

Circa Two  
17 - 28 April - During the April School Holidays

Tues - Sat 11am  
\$10 - \$15



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In the lead up to opening his kitchen mess, magic and slapstick extravaganza, performer and writer David Ladderman talks about food and clowning around.

The kitchen was always the centre of our house. One of my earliest memories is of gathering around the mixing bowl with mum and my sisters, scooping up leftover cake batter with our fingers. I had to stand on a stool to reach the bench, and I remember the smell of the cinnamon and apple as it started to heat in the oven.

Everything in there had a real pull on us-even sticking your hands into a bowl of flour and fluffing it up into little clouds was exciting. The kitchen always felt like the only place where you WERE allowed to play with your food.

All our family legends are centred around food too- like when Auntie Joy put salt instead of sugar into the Christmas cake. That was 30 years ago and it still gets told every December!

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## Problems

A Counter-Revolutionary Comedy

by Joe Musaphia  
Directed by Gavin Rutherford  
Starring Simon Leary & Andrew Paterson

Circa One  
11 - 26 May

Tues - Thurs 6.30pm, Fri - Sat 8pm, Sun 4pm  
\$25 - \$52

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A World Premiere of the high energy, high anxiety New Zealand comedy by one of our countries finest writers. Featuring explosive performances from two of New Zealand's best & brightest comedy talents.

Joe Musaphia is back, premiering his latest hit comedy, *Problems*, in Gavin Rutherford's directorial debut for a fortnight of hilarity from the 11th to the 26th of May at Circa Theatre.

The Great Leader is having a nap. Boris and Stephan guard his room with revolutionary zeal. But wasn't he supposed to be awake by now? The Great Leader's Wife says 'wake him!' The Great Leader's General says 'let him sleep!' & doesn't The Great Leader sleep with a gun?

A witty, silly & relevant comedy with a bang in the tradition of Tom Stoppard, Armando Iannucci and Monty Python with a New Zealand twist.



Image: Anton van Helden

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My other great love as a child was being allowed to stay up late and watch an old movie with mum. To this day I think my two biggest influences are Donald O'Connor's "Make Em Laugh" clowning routine in *Singing In The Rain*, and Jack Lemmon as Professor Fate in *The Great Race*. Of course growing up in a small town it took me ages to discover that falling over in a funny way, balancing on top of weird objects and getting pied in the face was a valid career option.

After the amazing time that Lizzie and I had creating the first *Messy Magic Adventure* with a cleaning theme, it was obvious to us that the rich possibility of a kitchen was the next logical move. I can't wait to take the familiar objects and food these kids already know, and create magic with them.



Image: William Duignan

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*Problems* is a highly relevant hilarious high dive into a world of demagogues, mixed messages and Big Brother. Envisioned as a George Orwell '1984' inspired world of the Great Leader, we meet these 'Rosencrantz and Guildenstern' styled buffoons as they tackle their responsibilities and each other with twists, turns and surprises to shock & entertain you!

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