



MEDIA RELEASE

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New Directions for Portsmouth Poets

Tongues and Grooves at The Square Tower starts its year on Sunday 19th February with a unique celebration of dramatist and playwright Dennis Potter.

In their new performance piece, electro-acoustic duo Project Adorno present a contemporary interpretation of Potter, through original songs, and video and spoken word extracts from people who knew him and his work.

Also, making a rare appearance is acclaimed singer/songwriter Phil Jeays, described as 'Jacques Brel meets Jake Thackray', and 'the finest new songwriter I've heard for ten years' (Tom Robinson). The event is hosted by Tongues and Grooves' poet and founder Maggie Sawkins, who joins double bass player Dave Jordan to form 'WordBass'.

'We're delighted to have such talented acts opening our 2017 programme at the wonderful Square Tower,' said Maggie Sawkins. 'We're planning more events and opportunities in the run up to our fifteenth birthday in 2018. We particularly look forward to announcing our first International Prose Poetry Prize - to inspire new work from across our community'.

Meanwhile, Tongues and Grooves will continue to sponsor occasional open mic events to raise funds for its community work. 'It's been wonderful to be part of the growth in poetry and spoken word since we started in 2003. Back then we were probably about the only venue offering regular open mic spot opportunities to new and emerging talent'.

Sunday 19th February 2017, The Square Tower, Broad Street, Portsmouth, PO1 2ND
7.30-10pm / Doors 7pm / £5 / Bar & Café / Parking

- Platforms for poets since 2003
- Poetry and music events, competitions, readings, workshops, writing days
- Poetry for motivation, well-being and social inclusion
- Encouraging the 'quiet voice' and under-represented groups
- www.tonguesandgrooves.com