

## Poetry Hitch – Press Release

Is hitch-hiking dead? Is poetry dead? At a time of great social disconnectedness – and very little cash – performance poet Catherine Brogan tries to find out. She’s hitching to four performances in four days, taking with her, two hitch-hiking novices – to document the journey. Web episodes will be uploaded from the road with people encouraged to share their stories of hitching and poetry.

### The Plan

**To hitch** from **London** to **Manchester, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Cumnock** and back.

**4 days, 4 gigs, 939 miles**

Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	RAW @ Contact Theatre	Free open mic for poets and MCs, a fusion of hip hop, spoken word and poetry.	London - Manchester	202 miles
Tue 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Inky Fingers	Featured performance at The Forest Cafe <a href="http://inkyfingersedinburgh.wordpress.com/">http://inkyfingersedinburgh.wordpress.com/</a>	Manchester - Edinburgh	219 miles
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup> May	Monosyllabic - spoken word, Mono cafe	Featuring alongside musician Becci Wallace <a href="http://www.monocafebar.com/index.php?m=event&amp;c=view&amp;id=27:360">http://www.monocafebar.com/index.php?m=event&amp;c=view&amp;id=27:360</a>	Edinburgh - Glasgow	52 miles
Thur 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Stand up Poets - Cumnock	Cat Brogan, Sheila Templeton and Jim Monaghan. Compered by Robin Cairns <a href="http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=226617717352551">http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=226617717352551</a>	Glasgow – Cumnock (and back)	72 miles
Fri 27 <sup>th</sup> May	Small World	Hitching back in time to perform at the festival in Kent	Glasgow - London	394 miles

**To film** the journey, the poetry events and the poetry scene in each city. Giving a flavour of what it’s like to be a hitch-hiker, joining in on all the highs and lows of this low impact, low cost form of transport. The film makers, Owen Baker and Khanseng Mein, both love poetry and have made a number of films with poems and poets and they run <http://poetryandfilm.wordpress.com/>. The project combines their passions for poetry, travel and film.

**To share** each episode in as near to real time as possible, as often as possible during the hitch. A web-episode from the road will go up on Catherine’s website, [www.catherinebrogan.com](http://www.catherinebrogan.com) in the poetry hitch section. You can find out how far she’s got, if she’ll make the show and get a taste of what the poetry scene is like in the three cities she visits.

**To record** poets, poetry events and audiences in different cities.

You can also follow the journey on Catherine’s Facebook, Twitter and You Tube.

**To explore** the power of poetry and hitching to connect people.

### Media

[www.catherinebrogan.com](http://www.catherinebrogan.com)

[www.facebook.com/catherine.brogan](http://www.facebook.com/catherine.brogan)

Twitter: catherinebrogan

[www.youtube.com/cbroganperformance](http://www.youtube.com/cbroganperformance)

As well as the documentary going out ‘as live as possible’, there will be a short film produced at the end and the crew hope this will be the first of many Poetry Hitches.

About Catherine Brogan

‘Catherine is witty, wise and a great entertainer. Her poetry makes the personal political & the political personal’

Paul Burston, *Time Out*

Catherine Brogan’s performance poetry has appeared on **The Today Programme**, at Edinburgh Fringe, Cheltenham & Canterbury Literary Festivals and the Radio 4 UK Slam. Originally from N.Ireland, Catherine has supported Scroobius Pip and won lots of poetry slams.

[catbrogan@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:catbrogan@hotmail.co.uk)

07951287526